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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

TUESDAY, 8TH JULY 1952

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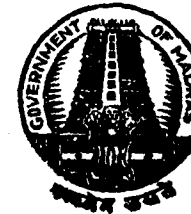
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**MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DEBATES**

OFFICIAL REPORT

WEDNESDAY, 9TH JULY 1952

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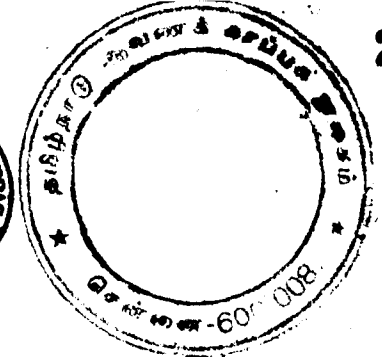
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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DEBATES

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OFFICIAL REPORT

MONDAY, 7TH JULY 1952

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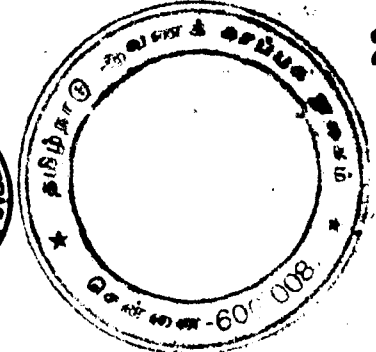
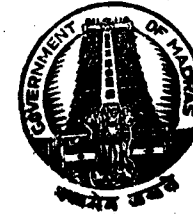
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DEBATES

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MONDAY, 7TH JULY 1952

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 7th 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.

Seizure of lands from the occupation of landless poor.

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

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints that lands formerly in the occupation of the landless poor had been "seized and assigned to Congressmen";

(b) whether the Hon. the Chief Minister advised Congressmen at Salem who had been assigned lands to consider voluntary surrender of such lands; and

(c) whether any "political sufferers" have surrendered the lands assigned to them in Salem district; and if so, the number of such persons and area surrendered?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“(a) When the scheme for assignment of land to political sufferers was given effect to before this Ministry took office, some complaints were received and they were examined and disposed of on their merits. Instructions have been issued to see that no assignment of the nature referred to is made, that would deprive any landless poor person, or Harijan or Ex-serviceman of the land in his possession as sivoijamadar.

“(b) Yes.

“(c) Two persons have surrendered 15,60 acres of land assigned to them as political sufferers.”

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—“In view of Articles 294 and 298 of the Constitution, will the Hon. the Chief Minister consider the question of taking legal advice whether the assignment of lands made after the 26th January 1950 does not contravene the said Articles of the Constitution? I shall explain the position to the Hon. the Chief Minister. Articles 294 of the Constitution says that all property which immediately before the commencement of the Constitution vested in His Majesty, shall vest in the State or the Union Government as the case may be and Article 298 says that no property shall be assigned or granted except in accordance with the law. In view of this, will the Hon. the Chief Minister consider the question of taking legal advice, whether assignments made after the 26th January 1950 are against the said Articles?”

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I shall consult legal advisers."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know whether the instructions have been issued about the landless poor not being deprived of their lands due to these assignments, after some 10,000 assignments have been made?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Instructions were given as soon as the present Government's policy was decided upon. The number of applications or assignments which occurred before the policy was decided upon, may be any number. But there was no delay between the formulation of the policy and the issue of the instructions."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know, whether assignment of lands to political sufferers has been made since the date of the general election during the period when the Caretaker Government was in charge?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"If statistical information is required with reference to particular periods such as is mentioned by the hon. Member, namely during the period of the Caretaker Ministry and before the present Ministry took office, notice must be given."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"In view of the scanty response to the appeal made by the Hon. the Chief Minister for voluntary surrender of lands assigned to political sufferers, have the Government under consideration any legislation to undo the mischief done during the previous Ministry?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I have already answered that. Sir, apart from the mischief and all that which are assumptions to which I do not wish to be a party, I have already said that any question of taking away lands which had been legally vested in a private party would have to be accompanied with readiness to pay compensation therefor and that is why, the Government will have, under the Constitution, to consider whether legislation will be possible. At present his advice will mean taking the lands and giving compensation therefor through the taxpayers' money and I do not know if that would be feasible; but if the hon. Member would draft a Bill, I should be very glad to examine it."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"It will not be my duty to draft a Bill until the Chief Minister and I exchange positions. May I know if it is one of the conditions of the grant of land to a political sufferer that he should continue to belong to the Congress Party; not only should he have taken part in the Independence movement, but he should continue to be a member of the Congress party?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I am not aware of any such conditions having been stipulated in the assignment. As far as I am able to guess, such a condition would have been quite inappropriate, so inappropriate that it could not have been made."

[7th July 1952]

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"In view of the answer given on the floor of the House on the 22nd December 1949, I would like to know whether this policy which is now enunciated by the Hon. the Chief Minister is a new policy or whether it is the old policy of the then Government? On the 22nd December 1949, Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao asked whether it was one of the conditions of the assignments that the political sufferer should continue to belong to the Congress Party and the Hon. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi answered 'Yes'. And this is what happened afterwards? I shall read the relevant portion from the proceedings of the Council."

JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that this Government on the floor of the House said, some time back, that even though people do not at present belong to the Congress, they would nevertheless get assignment of lands if they are political sufferers?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Subsequent to that, or previous to that—I do not remember when—orders were passed saying that they must continue to belong to the Congress organization."

"Then the Hon. Minister made the following statement in reply to Janab Abdul Latif Farookhi's question whether the Government had stated that lands would be assigned even though they did not belong to the Congress party and there was then no question of continuance of loyalty to the party."

"I believe I made that statement soon after my assuming office. Probably, I made a mistake then. For some time after that, or I believe, even before I made that statement, there was an order which said that a man would continue to be loyal to the Congress party before he qualified himself as a political sufferer to get an assignment of land to him. Sir, if my previous statement had caused a misapprehension on the matter, I take this opportunity to clearly state that it is necessary that a political sufferer should continue to be loyal to the Congress party to get an assignment of land to him."

"In view of the categorical statement made on the floor of the House, may I ask whether the policy now enunciated by the Hon. the Chief Minister represents a change in policy?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"The hon. Member knows that the policy, the details of which he has referred to is dead and it is no longer in force. If what has been read truly represented the policy of the Government, I do not know under what circumstances the Minister concerned was led to make such an answer; but so far as I am concerned and this Government are concerned, there is no such policy and I cannot explain things done by the previous Ministry, with reference to a policy which is no longer alive."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"In that case, will the Hon. the Chief Minister reconsider all these applications which were rejected on the ground that the applicants did not belong to the Congress party? It was stated on the floor of the House that Mr. E. V. Ramasami Periyar who was one of the applicants was not given an assignment of land for the reason that he did not belong to the Congress party though at the time he was in the movement he belonged to the organization. Will the Hon. the

[7th July 1952]

Chief Minister reconsider all such applications including that of Mr. E. V. Ramasami Periyar?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"With due deference to the hon. Member, I do not think that these are all supplementary questions; he is intelligent enough to know that we have decided not to make any such assignment and so, there is no question of reconsidering old requests on the basis to which he has now referred. It is merely a debating point and the hon. Member must rest content that whoever may apply now, under the present policy, even if the member belongs to the Congress party twice or thrice over, he cannot get it and there is no question of reconsidering orders of rejection."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I ask, Sir, what the use is of saying that they will not get any assignment now so long as 11,000 assignments have been made and they are left undisturbed? So long as these assignments are allowed to remain in the hands of these political sufferers, he will be taken by the public to acquiesce in the lands passing into the hands of Congress political sufferers."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I am grateful for the observation of the hon. Member; but I have not heard any complaint regarding that."

Community Projects in the rural areas.

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

(a) whether any Community Projects are proposed to be carried out in the rural areas of this State and if so, how many such projects are proposed to be commenced and at what centres;

(b) what the estimated cost of the schemes is and what part of the cost is proposed to be borne by America and what part by this State Government; and

(c) what the details and particulars relating to each of the Community Projects in this State are and how long the Projects will take to be completed?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" (a) Six Community Projects are proposed to be executed at the following places:—

(1) Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal Area (Kurnool, Sirvel, Nandyal, Nandikotkur and Koilkuntla in Kurnool district and Cuddapah, Proddatur and Jammalamadugu in Cuddapah district).

[7th July 1952]

(2) Coimbatore (Gobichettipalayam, Erode, Bhavani and Dharapuram).

(3) Malabar (Palghat).

(4) East Godavari (Kakinada, Ramachandrapuram, Peddapuram and Pithapuram).

(b) South Kanara (Karkal, Mangalore and Coondapoor).

(6) Madurai (Nilakottai, Melur and Mathurai).

" (b) According to the draft outline of the Community Projects basic type, each project is estimated to cost Rs. 65 lakhs during the first three years. The Government of U.S.A. have agreed to contribute a sum of Rs. 50 million dollars for the execution of all the Projects in India which are 55 in number. The share of expenditure on each project by the State Government is estimated at about Rs. 12 lakhs for the first three years.

" (c) The work is now in the preliminary stage of survey of existing amenities and facilities in the selected areas. Schemes have to be prepared on that varying basis. The projects are to be completed within a period of three years from commencement."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know whether the State Government have heard anything from the Union Government as to what the United States of America expect by way of return for the money expended by them?" 4-15 p.m.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"There is no question of communication, Sir. They expect no return."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"In that case, may I know, how this giving away something for nothing by the Americans is to be reconciled with their principle that the greatest motive force in the world is self-interest?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I do not think Sir, you will ask me to answer that question."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Have the Government considered the desirability of informing the Government of India that these Projects had better be stopped with a view to prevent charges of ingratitude later on, if this country did not take kindly to the American way of life?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"This matter, Sir, is totally outside the scope of this House and if the Policy of the Government of India does not please my hon. Friend, he is entitled to correspond with the Prime Minister of India on the subject."

[7th July 1952]

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—" May I know whether this Government have informed the Government of India that it hurts the self-respect of the people of this country to accept charity from other countries? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" If the hon. Member had doubts as to our own self-respect in this matter, I would have thought he would have begun with it instead of charging the Americans with inconsistency with their own doctrine.

" As regards our self-respect, Sir, it is a matter that may be left to the two Governments and, I am sure, the self-respect of both the Government of India and the Government of Madras will be carefully guarded by the respective Governments in charge."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—" The Hon. Chief Minister just now said that each scheme would cost Rs. 12 lakhs to this State. May I know how much of it will go towards salaries to officials? There is a Director put in charge of Community Projects who is paid about Rs. 2,000 a month and the whole of the expenditure on that Director is payable out of State revenues."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" The hon. Member will be entitled to go into all the expenditure when the scheme is ready but I may inform him straightaway that all Governmental efforts in any department of welfare must involve expenditure on the human material that is employed for running the efforts and any payment made for human effort is not a waste. If we analyse any scheme, everything will come to payment for human services."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—" I find from the Budget Estimate that provision has been made for a Director of Community Projects on the scale of Rs. 2,500 with a special pay of Rs. 200. How does the Hon. Chief Minister justify such a big salary for a person who, after all, is supposed to be in charge of Rural Community Projects? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" This is not a demand for information. It is a demand for my opinion. That I did it is enough to show that I justify it."

Appointment of the Deputy Director of Medical Services.

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

(a) the previous appointments held by the present Deputy Director of Medical Services and his total service in the department;

[7th July 1952]

(b) whether there are any seniors to him in the State Medical Service and if so, the circumstances under which their claims were overlooked in making the appointment; and

(c) whether the Madras Public Service Commission was consulted in the matter?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (a) The History of Services, a copy of which is available in the library of the House, will give all the information.

" (b) & (c) Promotions to selection category posts of which the post referred to in the question is one are made on the basis of merit, seniority being taken into consideration only when the merits of the competing candidates are approximately equal. Such promotions within the service are outside the purview of the Madras Public Service Commission and so no reference to it is necessary.

" The Government consider that it is not in the public interest that promotions within the service are discussed in the Legislature."

Abolition of the reserved seats in the City Corporation Council.

* 23 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to undertake legislation for the abolition of the reserved seats in the Madras City Corporation Council?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—" There is no such proposals at present."

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW:—" Will the Government consider such a proposal because, as a matter of fact, the Madras Trades Association and the Chamber of Commerce are small bodies with small members and they get a seat in the Council? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—" We are not abolishing it and all reservations are there and they will be there as they are."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—" May I know whether the Corporation electoral rolls will be revised and brought up-to-date before the elections? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—" They must be rearranged according to divisions."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—" The House will now resume general discussion of the Budget."

[7th July 1952]

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

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1952-53—cont.

SRI Y. MAHABALESWARAPPA:—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to offer a few remarks opposing the Budget proposals of the Government. The Budget of this State as prepared by the Government really gives a gloomy picture for the rich and the poor alike. So many taxation proposals in so many spheres have been proposed for providing amenities, which are in my opinion insufficient and cannot satisfy the people. Sir, the various branches of administration ought to have been properly provided with finance and much relief ought to have been given to the tax-payers.

“ Now, Sir, I come to Prohibition. To keep up the sentimental prestige of the party in power—I am sorry to say that it is an unfortunate thing—the Prohibition policy has been pursued with a vengeance. It is wrong on the part of the Government to continue it any longer and thus lose a considerable revenue to the tune of about Rs. 20 crores. In persisting with Prohibition, the Government are pursuing a will-o-the-wisp. Sir, it is impossible to achieve success in Prohibition and this has been admitted by foreign experts and their verdict has been published in the Press recently. Sir, if Prohibition is scrapped, as has been the case in regard to food-grains, the Government can save some money. By decontrolling food, the Government effected some savings. So also in the case of Prohibition, the Government can not only get back the money they have lost but can also stop all expenditure over the enforcement of Prohibition.

“ Sir, the Government can also remove control on textiles. If the Textile Department is abolished, there will be some saving to the Treasury. Also, if the posts of Regional Transport Officers are abolished, the Government can save a lot of money. With the savings thus effected, the Government can balance the Budget instead of resorting to further taxation.

“ Sir, I now come to surcharge on land revenue. This move to levy surcharge on land revenue ought to have been put before the public at the time of elections and as the party in power has not put forward such a proposal at that time, they ought not to have thought of bringing such a measure in such a surprising manner. Already the ryots are suffering on account of a diminishing turnover of agricultural produce and the recent slump conditions in the commodity markets of this State, and the international markets have created new difficulties for them. It is impossible for a ryot to pay more money in the shape of land revenue for his holdings. The Government themselves have admitted that large uneconomic holdings are held by big ryots. I wish to emphasise this point that it is an uneconomic enterprise, as the landlords have to depend on rainfall and a good market for their commodities in

[7th July 1952] [Sri Y. Mahabaleswarappa]

the home and foreign markets. There is no certainty that they can have regular rainfall and a good market and that their cattle wealth will remain the same. When such is the condition of the ryots, how can the Government levy surcharge on land revenue in the manner proposed. This proposal seems to be really very serious and shocking. I request the Government to drop this proposal in view of these facts and also in view of the famine condition prevailing in various parts of the State in general and in Rayalaseema in particular. If it is not possible to do so, I suggest that instead of adding to the tax burden on the ryot, the Government may as well take away one or two or three per cent of his holdings. You should not expect the ryot to pay more taxes which ultimately he cannot pay. It is a well-known fact that about fifty years ago, agriculturists gave up cultivation of their lands and surrendered their lands to the Government as they could not pay the land revenue due to the Government—at that time the land tax was even less. They also found that it is an uneconomic enterprise. If it is not possible for the Government even to take away some percentage of a ryot's holding, let them levy this surcharge only on nanja (wet) lands and the punja (dry) lands should be exempted altogether.

“ Sir, last Saturday Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar referred to the method of collection of tax and explained how it should be like the extracting of honey and *makarandam* by the bee. The one sweet thing that he said is that there should be no further taxation on agriculture. I think, there is going to be a change in the method of levying this surcharge. In fact, several members of the Congress Party have spoken against this surcharge and several parties were also invited by the Congress Party yesterday to consider this matter.

“ Sir, in the Ceded districts—which I have the honour to represent here—drinking water and even shady trees are a luxury. The Rayalaseema is still in the grip of famine. Sri Ramaswami Reddiar while referring to famine, said that we came to know of it only in 1945. I most respectfully submit that it is not correct. Famine in this State in general and in Rayalaseema in particular could be traced even to the 14th century. Famine conditions are recurring in this area from time to time. The existence of several historic big tanks and ‘Vakkaranies’—known as water reservoirs—constructed as long back as 1452 or thereabout by the then Rulers and philanthropic persons to store and preserve water, whenever Nature is pleased to give rains so that people and cattle can drink water and cultivate lands, reveals that famine conditions were prevailing in those days also. Thus it could be seen, famine conditions are not new to the public of this State. Now the same conditions are rearing their hideous faces in this State and also in other parts of the globe. When conditions are such, I do not know why the Government want to tax agriculture still further.

[Sri Y. Mahabaleswarappa] [7th July 1952]

4-30
p.m. "Then, Sir, I wish to say a few words about the enhancement of Sales Tax. In 1937, the Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachari, while introducing tax on sales for the first time, said: 'This tax is only a flea-bite to the public.' Now this has proved to be a snake-bite to the public and it is being levied in such a venomous manner. The Officers who are put in charge of this Department are unsympathetic to the people. They harass the merchants. They even go to the extent of issuing notice of prosecution if a merchant commits even a minor offence or if there is a small defect in the matter of presenting the Sales Tax return. I had been also one of the victims of this merciless Department and a summons had been issued unnecessarily by this Department. I suggest that an Advisory Committee should be constituted for each district for advising this Department in the matter of administration of Sales Tax as was done in the case of Rationing. If the sales tax could not be abolished, for God's sake, I would request Government not to enhance it. I can only pray that this tax may be abolished and Government make necessary changes in the revised Budget and earn the gratitude of the masses."

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are all grateful that the Budget has been presented to us by the Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachari and our Finance Minister. Of course, the Budget is not a very happy one for social workers; but social workers are large-hearted and they can stand on their own legs without any grant. May I congratulate the Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachari and the Food Minister on their very bold step in decontrolling food. We, social workers, had opportunities to move and mix with the rank and file of the people and listen to people of all parties, and more so to listen to the poor, on whose behalf so many people speak here in this House. We have listened to the people expressing in unmistakable terms their gratitude and sense of relief at the momentous step taken by Government."

"Sir, I am glad to see that Government have given to our hospitals a few more grants this year. I think, Sir, you know of the Welfare Fund and that it is of great service in many districts for starting more and more tuberculosis hospitals and sanatoria. I am glad that Government have come forward with improvements to hospitals. We have seen that through the Welfare Fund and through the support of the Government, many new hospitals are being built for tuberculosis patients. Unfortunately, this is one of the worst scourges in our State and we cannot do enough to meet it. But I must say that when donors come forward to offer a bed or provide some amenities, the Government regulations are very stringent and are not conducive for the donor giving the gift. For example, in the Tuberculosis Ex-patients' Colony at Tambaram, a Recreation Hall had been offered but the Government rules in regard to the responsibility for the future maintenance of the Hall are not such as would inspire confidence in donors. The red-tape of Government does not permit Government taking over complete responsibility for the management of the Hall. I spoke to the

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Hon. Minister for Public Health a few days ago about this red-tape not guaranteeing the maintenance by the Government of the gift. I think Government should relax their rules and assure the people of their responsibility for future maintenance. Only then will people be encouraged to come forward with their gifts and donations. You will then find many more donations for providing beds, wards and for other services to suffering humanity. It was Sri C. Rajagopalachari who laid the foundation stone of this sanatorium when he was the Governor-General of India. The Tuberculosis Ex-Patients Colony was built with funds raised by the Provincial Welfare Fund and was supervised by a special committee appointed by the Government. It was handed over to the Government on 3rd March and was opened by Sir Archibald Nye. Already 24 ex-patients are in the colony and the Printing Press is ready and there are orders pending, but work has not been started, as the Government have not taken over the Press. I would ask Government to look into the matter and have the work started at an early date.

"We know our hospitals are overcrowded, but still there can be improvement and there can be better attention given to individual patients. While other hospitals are on the way, I regret to say that there is no cancer hospital yet. I am sure the Hon. Member, Dr. Mrs. Muthulakshmi Reddi, who yesterday pleaded for this cause would see to it that it is established soon. The Women's Association has been pressing Government in this behalf and we are grateful to the Government for the promise of land and other facilities. Cancer is taking a toll of several lives in this country. I am sure, if I am not mistaken, it is a more dreadful disease than tuberculosis and is taking a greater toll of lives than tuberculosis. I hope early steps will be taken to open a cancer hospital in our State."

"I congratulate the Government on building the new Nurses' Quarters. But I would request them to improve the amenities to nurses. The nurse occupies—as I have repeatedly said—an important place in the healing of the patient. The doctor gives the treatment. There are several doctors in this House including the Hon. Chairman and I am sure they will agree with me that however good the doctor's treatment, the after-care and follow-up of the treatment are the nurse's. The salary of nurses is not adequate. In our tours in other States, we see nurses of our State in their hospitals and one feels proud to see them and hear of their work. But, at the same time, we have a dearth of nurses and we would like to see them serving in their own State; and that can be done only by giving them better status and better salaries here. I have heard it said that South Indian nurses are the best, and we feel very proud. But, we feel very sad that their pay is not sufficient. More attention should be paid to their salary, more attention should be paid to their recreation and more attention should be paid to their other conditions also. I would request the Hon. Minister to

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appoint a small committee to improve their status and conditions. It has to be borne in mind that formerly more Anglo-Indians and Indian Christians came to this profession, but now several Hindu girls are joining this profession. So, the food offered should be that which would be conducive to the health of all. If they are not fed well and satisfied they cannot work well. So, if we are to attract more girls to this noble profession, it is up to us to improve their standards.

" May I congratulate the Government on starting family planning clinics? Since the days of the post-war reconstruction committee, we have been saying that the object of these clinics is not to stop the birth of children, but to teach people the spacing of children. I am glad Government Hospitals as well as civic bodies which feel the need for this are encouraging it.

" Now, turning to Monégar Choultry, I have referred to this choultry in the previous Budget debates. The old people are as important as the young to the country. The young are growing and need to be nurtured and trained. The old in the sunset of their lives, have also to live and therefore, it is the duty of the Government who are in charge of this choultry to also think of the spiritual and mental needs of the old patients. Why do these people find their way into these homes? Because, in a country like India, the love of family and family ties are stronger than in any other country. In other countries, the families live separately, and the old, if they do not find homes with their children, find excellent homes to live in provided by Government or private agencies. There are homes—both private and Government-owned and they are run on model lines and they provide all the wants of the old people. But here in India only extreme cases find their way into the choultry. They are either paupers or have nobody to support them. I do not blame the administration for this. I feel Government should give a grant to this institution and go into the matter of improving this home. Please do something for this home. I am not only asking for their physical needs but also for their mental and religious needs. The Hon. Chief Minister and I had a talk about this subject some time back and I appeal to him to change the atmosphere of the home and make it a real home for the aged, poor people of our State. There is room for much expansion here.

" I am glad to note that the Government are on their move to encourage and preserve the beauty spots in our State. I am glad that a Committee has been appointed to improve the facilities for the tourist. The Nilgiris is my home—I was born there and I was always wondering why Government had allowed this beautiful and popular hill station to be neglected. This is a place worthy of any tourist's visit, but we lack the publicity and the facilities for the tourist. I had told the then Minister in charge of this portfolio that there are many ladies and gentlemen in the State who would be interested to assist the Governmental Committee with

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suggestions and ideas to improve and popularise places of interest. Our beautiful temples, our seafront, our arts and crafts are our wonderful assets; our mosques and many other beautiful things in Madras State are an attraction to tourists. So we should provide facilities for the ordinary visitor to visit them. I know Government have started a Tourists' Bureau. But it does not fulfil the need entirely. The other day an American visitor was here. She came down to Madras only to visit Mahabalipuram. Her dollars, like ours when we travel abroad, did not permit her to hire a motor car just for herself. She was seeking an opportunity to travel with 2 or 3 other travellers. She waited for 5 days but there was no tourist company which could arrange the visit. I know there are bus services run to Mahabalipuram on Saturdays and Sundays, but it is not every tourist who could wait here till Saturday and Sunday. When I travelled in the United States last year, His Highness the Maharajah of Bhavanagar asked me to visit the beauty spots and places of interest in America and see the publicity and facilities offered to visit these spots and the excellent arrangements to suit everybody's taste and mind. I feel we can provide the necessary facilities also. Perhaps, Government may turn on me and say, 'Oh, Americans have cars and have facilities to go.' Yes, but we have buses and we can make use of buses for this purpose. We have so much to show these tourists, and learn so much from them! If only the Hon. the Finance Minister will help us with finance, we can organise voluntary service, for private agencies can be found for this venture.

" We thank the Government very much for the support they have given to the State Women's Food Council and we are deeply grateful to them for the facilities and encouragement given to us, more so in our desire to serve the Members of the State Legislature. Our desire is to produce wholesome food and teach people in making non-rice preparations. Ever so many people come to us in search of work. We use them as serving boys and cooks. We would like to start a catering department, where we would like to train willing people, not only in serving and in preparing food but also in discipline and so on. If Government will give us a grant we will do something worthwhile for the employment of these people in domestic life.

" Turning now to playgrounds, the Corporation of Madras has to be congratulated on the playgrounds it has for the under-privileged children. I would ask the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue to place some lands which are available in the crowded and congested areas of our City to be used as playgrounds for our children of the slums. One hon. Member said they are living on pavements. I say they live, sleep and die on the pavements. Why should we not give some facilities to those children to build their bodies? The facilities for their health, study and mid-day meals are a charge on the Government. For, we should remember that children are our greatest asset.

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"Now, Sir, I come to juvenile courts. This House, will perhaps feel, I am always talking of experience of juvenile courts. You will forgive me, Sir, for, for 18 years I have seen and worked with young children who come before me. The children who come before me do so because they have no parental care, no love, and are exploited and maltreated. What one learns in these courts makes one very sad. Now what do you think, is happening to these children under Prohibition? When I say this, I should not be misunderstood as speaking either for or against Prohibition. I am only saying these young children are being utilized in the preparation and sale of illicit liquor. It is imperative to stop this exploitation of the young children. I have asked the Hon. Minister for Prohibition to come to the juvenile courts and see things for himself; and he has promised to do it. He is busy but his daughter sits along with me and she, I hope, conveys to him what she sees. I am glad that decontrol has come in. I am sure hereafter there will be no necessity for people to prepare fermented rice. This is a dangerous thing. I would ask a committee to examine this matter and take some action on it.

"While talking of Probation, I should say a word about Probation officers. They are doing excellent work. They fulfil a useful need in taking care of delinquent children whose parents are unable to exercise control over them. A Probation officer has to take charge of something like 70 or 80 cases of supervision plus investigation into forty cases a month.

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p.m.

"Sir, the Government gives them a travelling allowance of Rs. 25, while a Sub-Inspector of Police gets Rs. 31, though these people have to cover a much bigger division than the Sub-Inspector of Police. All these men and women are doing humanitarian work and are helping many families that were broken up to become friendly again. They should be given better salaries or they should at least be given the same travelling allowance as a Sub-Inspector of Police.

"Then, Sir, as regards Scouts and Guides the Minister of Education in 1946 said that if the three organizations joined together he will increase the grant. Sir, in spite of its implementation the grant is still the same and we are receiving only Rs. 21,000. There are 40,000 Boy Scouts and 8,000 Girl Guides. Scouting is one of the finest institutions there ever was. It creates comradeship, friendship and understanding. It has no caste or creed or prestige. You do voluntary work. The child does it for the love of the work; he does his good turn every day. Besides this comradeship we are training disciplined young people. But, Sir, the grant that is given does not cover the cost of the staff. It is a voluntary effort and we certainly need to have more camp sites. A Camp Committee was appointed by the Government of Madras several years ago. We have beautiful camp sites around here and we gave our findings—very modest findings—to the Government. The Minister for Education is a very kind-hearted and

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understanding gentleman and I hope he will find some means by which we could have these camps and take our children to them; and the staff would also have the facility to join these camps and guide the children so that they may get some healthy out-door exercise and training.

"Sir, turning to my pet subject, social welfare work, I am very sorry that we do not get the encouragement that the other States get for social welfare work, and looking specially at the Hon. the Chief Minister, I am pleading with him. I do not know, Sir, whether the Hon. Chief Minister is aware how much voluntary workers and social workers are doing in this State for the prestige of good work. Large sums of money are being spent as they should be spent on roads, dams, etc., that are essential. Good social work is also essential, to understand the people and bring contentment to them. Political leaders bring to the Hon. Chief Minister the peoples' discontent. We can also bring to him their discontent but we alleviate their discontent. We understand them and are able to make them understand us. Now, Sir, with regard to two volunteer institutions which now Government are running, specially the Vigilance Department, now a department of the Chief Inspector of Certified Schools, is doing good work and it was so even before it was provincialized. I remember going to Rajaji when he was the Chief Minister on a former occasion for some further grants. He said that his Cabinet was then resigning and that I might try elsewhere. The Government have now taken it over. This Vigilance department is dealing with the important work of the rescue of young girls who are going astray or may go astray. Mrs. V. T. Lakshmi, the Chief Vigilance worker, has turned out excellent results. I have had the honour to preside over the All-India Moral and Social Hygiene Conference in Raj Bhavan, Calcutta. Ours is the only State where the Government takes care of rescued women. We have done wonderful reclamation work and we should see that any money that is spent on this work is not wasted and the rescued girls who are placed in a cramped place should be provided with better accommodation.

"Sir, the Women's Welfare Department, of which I was one of the founder members, has now become a government department. When a thing becomes governmental, the governmental people make it so very governmental that they do not want the voluntary worker. We are no more in these agencies. All I can say is this 'Why do you do away with the voluntary workers in such agencies?' I am very sorry to see that in all the districts where the volunteers took an active part, they are no more there and it is all in the hands of the governmental Department of Women's Welfare. The Women's Welfare Department and also other volunteer agencies have done wonderful work for Rayalaseema.

"Sir, for so many years we have been pressing on the Government the need to start a school for social work. In all other States in India such schools have been started and many people have

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written to us asking us to send some workers to get trained as Madras people are so intelligent and have turned out excellent welfare work. But, we are not able to comply with these requests. Many intelligent boys and girls come to us and ask us to train them. The Government appointed a Committee in 1946 and various schemes were drawn up but the Government did not proceed with them. We then pressed on the Minister for Education and we prepared a very modest scheme with a non-recurring grant of Rs. 20,000 and a recurring grant of Rs. 19,000. At one time we were hopeful that the scheme would come into being but somehow it was dropped. But now, Sir, we are going ahead on an entirely voluntary basis and we hope to start the school next week. I thank the Government for having given us the support of their advisers and I hope it will not be long before the Government will give us some recognition. Sir, there is a sort of security in Government organisations and we have been promised many other helps from other agencies and one gentleman has promised us a handsome donation if Government recognise us. And I hope, Sir, the Hon. Minister for Education and the Hon. Minister for Finance will listen to my pleadings.

"Sir, I have been to the neighbouring State of Hyderabad. They have got a Social Welfare Minister, a twenty-three year old gentleman. He is so keen on social work that he is coming here to study some of our activities. I think, Sir, that in some other State also further up in the North they have appointed a Social Welfare Minister. We have requested our Government also to have a Social Welfare Minister. If the Hon. Chief Minister does not think that a lady is more suited for this portfolio, I may mention, there are many social workers among the Ministers. Some of them have been my colleagues in social work. I know they are good social workers. Many agencies are getting large grants from Government, though one, the Guild of Service, works on a voluntary basis. How nice it would be to have one Minister with the portfolio of Social Welfare to look after these things instead of going from Minister to Minister and from Secretary to Secretary. It would help to go to one person. I think, there is still an Honorary Director of Harijan Welfare. If the Government do not think that social work is so important as to have a separate Minister then they could at least have an Honorary Director of Social Welfare to provide the necessary encouragement to social welfare agencies.

"Social welfare workers in other States are already getting a lot of money from their Government. Now, Sir, what I am going to suggest for raising money may not be liked by many. I am a royal beggar. I beg from morning till night for some cause or other. You cannot always patronise dramas. We may love our artistes but we cannot be asking the public to see the same artistes again and again nor can we go over and over again to the same people to sell Rs. 100 or Rs. 50 donor tickets. Permit us, Sir, to have carnivals. The Provincial Welfare Fund ran a carnival.

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We were having lucky prize tickets and gave very nice prizes donated by generous donors. Sir, we were also having darts and rings. You cannot make people just pay without giving them some pleasure. Suddenly, the Police came and said that it was illegal and stopped it. Again, Sir, I am quoting the case of the State of Hyderabad. Ten days ago they were running a motor car raffle and under the aegis of the Government they have raised a large sum of money for relief to Rayalaseema. Nearly Rs. 5 lakhs was raised earlier by them for social welfare. I am not a gambler and I am not interested in gambling. I would only request you to consider this question and to give us facilities for a raffle as you do know, Sir, that our work is expanding more and more and we do need more and more money. The rules may kindly be relaxed.

"Before I conclude, Sir, I would like to mention two more things. Sir, I would like to support very much what my hon. Friend, Sri Venkatachalam, said about art and culture. A thing of beauty is a joy for ever. However busy one may be, it is a pleasure to see beautiful things of art and we enlarge our knowledge through our eyes because what you see with your eyes is very much registered in your mind more than what you continuously study from books. I hope much more encouragement will be given to our famous artistes and the Government will take steps to pay these artistes to give free performances in our public parks and similar places where every man and woman will have the advantage of listening to the music of beautiful artistes and see their dances.

"Lastly, Sir, let us do something about this beggar problem. You cannot go to any shop, or stop at a bus stand or tram stop without these beggars worrying you. You cannot travel in a train up to Guntakal or to Vijayavada without these urchins getting into your compartment and abusing you and very often trying to rob you. There are a number of voluntary agencies who will undertake the running of homes for these beggars. Please let us have a committee to go into the ways and means position. Let us go slow. They will employ only the minimum staff but they will be of immense help. I hope, Sir, these requests from a social worker will meet with some consideration and some thought from our Hon. the Chief Minister. Great man as he is, I shall say he is a greater social worker. I thank you, Sir."

* SRI V. RAMAKRISHNA:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I take this opportunity, on behalf of my party, to congratulate the Hon. the Leader of the House on his food policy. Decontrol of food-grains by Rajaji will go down in the history of this country as one of the greatest and most courageous acts of statesmanship. Controls, as hon. Members are aware, have been the cause of most of our corrupt practices, blackmarketing and disrespect for law. With the abolition of controls, I believe there will be a steady improvement in moral standards and they will be restored to their former

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levels. Decontrol has also helped the agricultural producer. We have had a raw deal since the introduction of controls during the regime of the Advisers; especially the Andhra producer was badly affected. The price fixed for rice in this State was sometimes as low as 60 per cent of that prevailing in the neighbouring States. Andhra which is a predominantly exporting area with an annual surplus of about 3 lakhs of tons has suffered a great deal. At last at the hands of one, who is supposed to be anti-Andhra, the Andhra agriculturists have received a fair deal. Even my hon. Friend, Sri T. Prakasam, has failed to give the same deal which Rajaji has today given them. Sir, the stand taken by my party in supporting Rajaji's Government has been fully justified by his acceptance of one of the fundamental planks of our programme, namely, decontrol of foodgrains. I agree, Sir, with my hon. Friend, Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiyar, that the greatest need of the hour is a strong and stable Government under Rajaji's leadership. Rajaji is one of the best and ablest Congress leaders in this country. He is also the greatest living Gandhian. May I, therefore, appeal to him to form a Government representative of all the democratic forces in the State who believe in the Gandhian principles of non-violence and truth?

5 p.m. "The two most important problems which are today agitating the minds of the Andhras are the formation of the Andhra State and the utilisation of the waters of the Krishna and the Godavari rivers. I am afraid, Sir, there is no proper lead from most of the Andhra leaders in regard to the formation of an Andhra State. If an Andhra State is to be formed without the City of Madras, which I understand is agreed to by the Communist Party, the new Andhra State will be a bankrupt State. It would have a deficit of about four to five crores of rupees every year. I am sure, Sir, that no thinking Andhra would ever agree to the formation of a bankrupt State like the proposed Andhra State. Nor would it be fair to our Tamilian brethren that we should ask them to part with the Madras City and saddle themselves with a deficit State. That part in which the Madras City is included would be a State with a balanced budget. And the other part to which the City of Madras is not added would be a State with an unbalanced budget, and this part will not be able to carry on even the police functions of the State, let alone the welfare activities of a modern State.

"If we have an Andhra State, to-day, without the city of Madras, what will be the consequences? The two major projects which are now under construction—Tungabhadra and Machkund projects—cannot be completed by the new Andhra State, and a further Rs. 20 crores would be required for their completion. An Andhra State which has a large element of Communists will not be able to borrow money either from the Government of India or from the general public."

SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO:—"We will confiscate."

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* SRI V. RAMAKRISHNA:—"My hon. Friend thinks that Andhras have large amounts of money. It is not correct. The revenue derived from sales tax in the Andhra portion of the State is about Rs. 3 crores; and about 12 crores, being the balance of the revenue derived from this tax, is derived from the rest of this State. This is a clear indication of the ability of Andhras to help their State. Let my hon. Friends take heed of this fact that we are poor, and that we have no taxable capacity. A bankrupt Andhra State will only be helpful to my Communist friends for their propaganda purposes and it may serve them as a spring board from which they will be able to conquer the rest of India.

"Sir, something must be done to satisfy the legitimate aspirations of the Andhras. I think, Sir, administrative division of the State with political unity will be the best transitional solution in the existing circumstances. I would suggest, the same Legislature and the same Governor may function; and the Ministry may have two sections, the Andhra section presided over by a Deputy Chief Minister if the Chief Minister happens to be a non-Andhra. This would satisfy not only the political aspirations—aspirations for office—of the people but also provide a machinery which will be able to devote more of its attention to the problems in the respective parts of the State. Administrative division of the State is not difficult to achieve. We have already in several departments, a Director and a Joint Director, a Registrar and a Joint Registrar and so on and so forth. At present they have functional jurisdiction. All that we have to do is to give them territorial jurisdiction and we need not spend any more money in increasing establishments. We may also build up a convention whereby the revenues collected in the several parts of the State will be spent in those parts with a proportionate share from the surplus accruing from the City of Madras on the basis of population. A further convention may also be set up, providing for the employment of Andhras in the Andhra area wherever possible and practicable. If these things are done, I am sure, the great majority of Andhras, leaving aside the idealists and careerists, would be willing to accept this solution. This solution will satisfy the legitimate aspirations of the Andhras and save us from bitterness, bankruptcy and possibly political suicide.

"Turning to the utilisation of the waters of the Krishna river and the Godavari river, it is most unfortunate that the previous Government should have put up proposals for the sanction of the Krishna-Pennar scheme. It has created bitterness among the Andhras. It has helped political propagandists and interested parties to tell the people that the project is primarily intended for the benefit of the Tamilians. Therefore, Sir, in planning we must take into consideration political reactions also apart from purely economic and national aspects. If the same project were to be developed at Nandikonda instead of at Siddheswaram as was proposed by the previous Government, it would serve the interests of the country well, as a whole, by producing large quantities of

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food. It would also provide irrigation facilities for Nellore, Guntur, Krishna and parts of Kurnool districts. It would supply all the power required for developing lignite deposits in South Arcot district, which are the greatest single source of national wealth we have in the Madras State.

"Sir, lignite deposits cannot now be extracted as they are underlain and overlain with streams of artesian water. Recent investigations have shown that these artesian waters take their origin mainly from the Cauvery delta. The Cauvery delta, as most hon. Members are aware, is suffering from bad drainage which seriously affects the production of food. If we can develop the lignite deposits and pump the artesian water by producing power at Nandikonda and transmitting it to South Arcot district, we can not only develop our lignite deposits but also utilise the water pumped for irrigation purposes in South Arcot and Chingleput districts and for supplying the City of Madras with its necessary drinking water.

"Sir, this scheme also would help us in the defence of our country. To-day we are mostly depending for our petrol supplies either on Muslim countries or on other foreign countries. Sir, in the event of a war or any trouble, we can easily be starved out of petrol and we will not be able to defend ourselves. Sir, the only way of saving this country from any such calamity will be to produce the petrol required by us by installing synthetic oil plants. By producing power at Nandikonda and transmitting it to the lignite deposits in South Arcot district, we can produce lignite, provide water for South Arcot and Chingleput districts and the City of Madras and also put up a synthetic oil plant with a capacity of 50,000 tons per annum. Sir, I would respectfully submit for the consideration of this Government that they should give the highest priority for the development of lignite deposits.

"There is one other aspect. There can be no further industrial development in this State because of the failure of the railway system to handle our traffic. Unless the railway line north of Madras is doubled, the present railway system will not be able to handle any more traffic. The only solution to that problem also is to develop the lignite deposits of South Arcot. To-day one-third of the entire rolling stock and engine capacity and the entire line are being utilised for the transport of coal from North India. All these can be saved if we develop our lignite deposits. Not only that, it would also enable us to earn a lot of foreign exchange by selling lignite to countries like Japan, Malaya and Ceylon.

"Now turning to the Budget, Sir, I believe there is a lot of scope for retrenchment. I would suggest for the consideration of the Government the appointment of a Retrenchment Committee. I believe, Sir, with the existing expenditure, we can double the amount of work turned out by the existing establishments, and

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thereby increase not only the efficiency but also all the functions of the Welfare State. We are spending a lot of money on buildings. I believe, Sir, that by adopting different standards of construction and constructional materials, as in other countries, we can easily cut down our expenditure, which we are now incurring in constructing new buildings and in erecting electric transmission lines and poles in our electrical undertakings. I would suggest, Sir, for the consideration of the Hon. Finance Minister, that the Government should, in the best interests of the administration, appoint a Committee which would not only go into retrenchment of staff but also suggest measures for effecting economy in constructional methods and materials. Unfortunately or fortunately, our long association with the British has made us adopt standards of construction which are unnecessary and out of date.

"I would suggest to the Hon. Minister for Industries that it would be very unwise to go on with the running of the Vanaspathi Factory. There is a provision of about a crore of rupees for running that factory. My hon. Friends who have any knowledge of either business or industry know well that embarking on purchase and sale of groundnut oil or groundnuts either for conversion into Vanaspathi or refining at the present time is a very hazardous task. I would suggest that the Government should leave it to some private individual to run the factory and pay the Government as much as possible. Even if I were running that factory, I would not hesitate at the present juncture to close it down and wait for better times. Especially where a Department of Government is concerned, they are tied down to so many rules and regulations and they would have no freedom to buy materials at the lowest price and sell them when the market is good. Any delay would be fatal and so, I would suggest that we defer the running of the factory for the time being until better times come or lease it out. I believe one of the objectives of starting the factory was to train men, but I may tell him that very few Vanaspathi factories are running to-day in the State and there is really no demand for trained personnel for Vanaspathi factories and this objective will not also be vitiated.

"As regards the new taxation proposals, I would submit that they should be referred to a Joint Select Committee who might go into them. But one submission I would make with regard to the surcharge on bus fares. Instead of levying it, I think it would be better to sell the right to run the buses in public auction. I know that it could not be done without an amendment of the existing Act. Even if we want to levy this surcharge, we will have to do the same thing. But if we adopt the other course, we will not only get Rs. 2 crores which the Hon. the Minister for Finance wants but we might get double the amount.

"Regarding motor transport, I would suggest to the Hon. Minister in charge that it would be much better to denationalise it. I am sorry to confess that I am one of those who wanted to nationalise motor transport. Possibly, I had a larger share in

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nationalising than any single individual in this State but experience has shown that unless these institutions are run by men who have knowledge and experience and who can act without official red-tape, there is little chance of making any business running as a Department of Government a success. It would, therefore, be in the interests of the finances of the State that even the State Transport should be transferred to private enterprise provided we get a satisfactory increase in income.

"As regards land revenue surcharge, may I suggest that until the question of limitation of holdings is decided, it might not be very wise to levy this surcharge. Unless the exemption limit is raised to Rs. 150 to Rs. 200, its incidence might fall very heavily on agriculturists. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that this question might be deferred till the question of land tenure reform is decided.

"Turning to betterment levy, I consider it very necessary for the development of the country but I am sorry to observe that the scheme as proposed is not scientifically planned and I would suggest that the whole question be referred to a Joint Select Committee who might go into the whole question profiting by the experience of other countries and evolve a system which would serve the needs of the case."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"Hereafter I would prescribe a time-limit of ten minutes for each Member."

* SRI K. SURYANARAYANA:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome the policy of the Government in respect of decontrol of foodstuffs and suspension of assignment of lands to political sufferers. The common man feels relief for extricating him from the resultant evils of controls and procurement, for which the Government deserve congratulations. I am gratified to find that the tone of administration too is gradually improving after the assumption of leadership by Sri Rajagopalachari, but I am constrained to say, Sir, that the local Congress bosses in some places are still over-riding and intimidating the officers to go out of the way and do things arbitrarily, to meet their evil ends. For instance at Amalapuram, the brother-in-law of Sri Kala Venkata Rao often interferes, accompanied with threats, with the due discharge of the duties by the officers. If such sort of bossing is allowed to continue unchecked in the day-to-day administration, the people have to curse themselves for enthroning the Congress. It is such undue interference in time and out of time with the day-to-day administration that was mainly responsible for the rout of the Congress in the recent elections.

"The Budget proposals as they stand at present do not infuse any confidence or hope in the common man. Especially the taxation proposals in respect of surcharge on bus fares will certainly hit hard the lower middle classes and labour classes. The minimum limit of exemption for surcharge on land revenue has to be

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raised to Rs. 100 so that the lower middle classes possessing five or six acres of land may not be made to bear the extra burden.

"With regard to Local Administration, it is pertinent to examine the nurseries of democracy, namely, the municipalities in our State. The elected representatives in the municipal councils have no privileges or powers to provide amenities to the rate-payers. The executive functions, which are very important, so far as the day-to-day administration is concerned, are not vested in their elected head, namely, the Chairman, but are vested in the Government-appointed and Government-controlled agency called the Executive Authority. The other departmental heads such as the Municipal Health Officer, the Civil Engineer and the Electrical Engineer are appointed and controlled by the Government through their respective departmental heads. The elected council is responsible to its electorate while the Chief Executive Authority and other departmental heads are responsible to the Government. Even in the deliberative field, the decision of the elected council is not final. It can be vetoed or modified by the State Government. If an elected person is competent to exercise executive functions, in the State Government, and even in the district boards, how does it stand to reason that he is not a suitable agency to exercise executive functions in the municipal administration of this State? If this queer theory is correct, then there is no need for the Council of Ministers in this State. It is enough if they can pass enactments from time to time and lay down policies which can be executed by permanent Secretaries. What necessity is there to discriminate between municipalities and district boards? There is a growing feeling among the public that the Government are hesitant to abolish the posts of Commissioners in the present form due to the personal interest on the part of some of the bigwigs in the Commissioners. It is not open to any Government, much less a democratic Government, to take away the powers that are inherently and constitutionally vested by the electorate in their representatives and transfer them to an authority super-imposed upon them. It is repugnant to democracy. It is deplorable that such an undemocratic Act should still find a place in the Sovereign Republic of India. The present Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, completely deprived the elected representative of his initiative and reduced him to the position of a mere advisory body—an advisory body in some cases and an approving authority in some others.

"Even the much-boasted Village Panchayat Act recently enacted by the previous Ministry runs parallel to the District Municipalities Act and reduces the elected President to the position of a figurehead.

"The Chamber of Chairmen, sponsored by the then Minister for Local Administration met many times and made many suggestions, and the Government too have appointed an investigation

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Committee under the Chairmanship of Sri C. S. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar and they submitted their report long ago, but no action has yet been taken by the Government.

"If the Government really mean business and if they really want the towns and the villages to be training centres and nurseries of democracy for the future administrators, the recommendations of the Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar Committee should be implemented without further delay.

"The burning topic of the day is Prohibition. I was as much in favour of Prohibition as any other Member who claims to be in favour of Prohibition, but in spite of the fact that I am a teetotaler and an advocate of Prohibition for the last 30 years, I am constrained to change my view and observe that Prohibition is a thorough failure. Illicit distillation of arrack has become a cottage industry. Even members of the communities that are religiously prohibited or hitherto not professed to trade in intoxicants have resorted to illicit distillation. Almost every alternate house has been converted into an illicit distillery. Now that illicit arrack, though injurious to health, is available in houses; even women and children get addicted to drink resulting in the failure of their health, thus weakening the strength of the nation.

"Respect for law and order is just now waning. Illicit distillation is going on everywhere with impunity of course with the connivance or approval of the Prohibition and Police departments. I hail from that unfortunate community of tappers, the Settibalija community in the Circar districts, and as such, I am in a much better position to probe into the malpractices with an inner sight, and so I may be allowed the indulgence, if I claim some weight to my observations. Sir, you may not be surprised if I say that the proprietors of illicit distilleries are openly selling their produce as if they are owners of licensed arrack shops, of course each one paying a nominal contribution of only Rs. 400 or 500 for each shop according to the volume of the business plus free drinks to the employees of the Prohibition and Police departments. The Prohibition staff, just to show that they are vigilant, are able to get cases almost by quotas and turns, just as consignees of yarn quotas get theirs, of course with the willing co-operation, consent and support of illicit distillers. In addition, they book only the miserable underlings who are presumed or proved to be unprofitable.

"On account of pursuing this unenforceable and futile policy of Prohibition, the Government have been not only losing considerable revenue, but are also maintaining the huge paraphernalia of the Prohibition department costing crores of rupees every year, jeopardising more important and beneficial schemes aimed at the well-being and progress of the country at large. Under these peculiar circumstances and when it is apparent that it is an utter failure, Prohibition, though introduced with a pious motive to improve the social habits and economic position of the masses,

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deserves scrapping. If the Government say, Excise Revenue is tainted money, then why are the Government collecting sales tax from the beggars and sanyasis even on their daily necessities of life?

"Consequent upon the introduction of Prohibition, the ex-tappers and their families are put to untold privation for no fault of theirs. The Government have failed to discharge their elementary duty of providing alternate employment or granting subsistence allowance or doles to the ex-tappers forcibly thrown out of employment. Government orders were issued for the assignment of waste lands, but it appears that not even a single cent of land was assigned to these unfortunate and miserable ex-tappers. The ameliorative department with the Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies in charge in the districts, is content with opening a very few milk co-operative societies here and there and, very recently, a few palmyrah jaggery societies. Last year just on the eve of the elections, licences for tapping sweet toddy were ordered to be issued at a few selected places in the East Godavari district, and even that to a favoured few to attract votes. The representations made even before the introduction of Prohibition enumerating the resultant consequence were not considered, and the result is the miserable plight of hundreds of thousands of ex-tappers. In order to solve unemployment and improve the lot of the unwanted and uncared for ex-tappers, I suggest that licences to tap sweet toddy be issued liberally with permission to sell 'Neera' till 10 a.m., and without collecting any tax for the trees in the Government lands."

* Dr. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, 5-30 p.m.
when I rise, I rise to support the Budget which has been placed before this House for consideration, by the Hon. Finance Minister and the Hon. Leader of the House. While doing so, I bring to the notice of this House that when we met last time during the last session here, we were enveloped by drought conditions all round and the City of Madras and several districts in our State were faced with acute water scarcity. Thanks to Providence and by the prayers of our Premier and also the prayers of others, we had rains in plenty and the water scarcity which was threatening the City of Madras has been solved, but for which, I think, many of the hon. Members who have now come to the City from the mufassal would have had a taste of it themselves.

"Now, Sir, coming to the Budget, I should congratulate the Hon. Finance Minister for, when there are large demands from every quarter and from every party, he is able to satisfy them by taking up large schemes in these hard days and at the same time present a good Budget, though a deficit one. At the same time, he is able to satisfy most of us. My hon. Friend on the other side, Sri Chakkarai Chetty yesterday gave an analogy that many of the families are spending more than their income and yet they are able to manage. It is not an apt analogy but I consider it an

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apology for an analogy. Yesterday, we were sufficiently educated by our Premier how the Budget should be framed. The budget which is to be framed for a family is quite different from the budget that is to be framed for the Government. When we frame a budget for a family, we take into consideration the incomes first and then expenditure; we cut our coat according to the cloth. But in the case of the Government, the reverse is the order of framing the Budget. First of all, we have to take into consideration the expenditure that the State has to incur and then we have to take into consideration the income. If the income is more than the expenditure, then we have a surplus Budget. If our income is less than the expenditure, it is a deficit Budget, as it is the case now. Here the question arises whether we are cutting the coat according to the cloth we have. I think, before purchasing the cloth, we have to take the measurements, then purchase the cloth and then cut the cloth according to the measurements we have made. That is the simple proposition which learned Members on the opposite side should understand and I think, the hon. Member Mr. Chakkarai Chetty started on a wrong assumption and naturally that led him to a wrong conclusion, and so he could not support the Budget.

"Sir, in the Interim Budget for 1952-53 the revenues had been estimated on the then existing basis of taxation. Revenue, as shown in the present Budget, is Rs. 6,176 lakhs as against Rs. 6,390 lakhs in the Interim Budget. Expenditure on the Revenue Account in the present Budget is Rs. 6,535 lakhs as against Rs. 6,476 lakhs in the Interim Budget. The Finance Department had taken into account the actuals from April 1st to November, when they prepared the Interim Budget. Subsequently they had to consider several expenses and so the present Budget naturally would give them a deficit Budget. Another big mistake that is committed by our people is the asking for a reduction in the capital expenditure. Our people—both sides I should say—are making a deliberate mistake in confusing the capital expenditure with the revenue expenditure. Now is it possible for people to effect reduction in the capital expenditure? At the time when Congress came to power for the first time, it had a revenue of Rs. 18 crores which has now gone up to Rs. 60 crores. When the revenue was Rs. 18 crores, the expenditure was also about the same figure and the population then was not as much as it is to-day and so they were able to present balanced budgets in those days. When the revenue has gone up to Rs. 60 crores, I think, expenditure should correspondingly rise. At present it is about Rs. 60 crores. Sir, we must move with the times and with the demands. Unfortunately during the previous regime, the ex-Minister Sri Gopala Reddi, was in charge of Finance and he became unpopular because of his taxation proposals. There is no use blaming him, for when demands were made from so many quarters, and more particularly from the Opposition parties, he had to meet their demands somehow or other and present a balanced Budget.

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"Sir, after the inception of the new Constitution, the Hon. Sri Subramaniam has become the Finance Minister under the able leadership of our Premier, Rajaji, and, I am sure, Sri Subramaniam's name will be on the lips of everybody because there are some fresh taxation proposals put before us for balancing the Budget. However much he tried, he could not balance the Budget. Therefore, he has presented a deficit Budget in the face of great demands from all quarters. People have been asking for new irrigation schemes, new social activities, community projects and the like. How is the Hon. Finance Minister or the Government to meet those demands unless there are sufficient funds in the Government treasury? Unfortunately for us, famine has visited us and thanks to the Government and to the Central Government for the immediate relief they gave us—in this connection I should express my thanks to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and his department for the immediate relief they gave us by doing splendid work in the famine-stricken areas—we have staved off famine. Though we have drawn money for meeting these expenses from our reserves in spite of the liberal donations given by our Prime Minister of India, we had to meet certain difficulties. I think, the difficulties of the Finance Minister are very many and it will not be possible for anybody in his place—even from the Opposition side—to present a balanced Budget. I challenge, let anybody from the opposite side placed in his position present a balanced Budget. It will be humanly impossible for anybody from the opposite side to present a balanced Budget. I am giving my opinion. The Government have to consider very many problems and they have given their mature consideration and finally they have come to the conclusion of presenting, no doubt, a deficit Budget. If you are really interested in the welfare of the country and in sponsoring various schemes—irrigation schemes and the like—you must really vote for this Budget.

"Sir, I was really very much pained when I heard the Members on the opposite side talking about reduction in the Police department. Well, whatever may be the defects in the Police administration and whatever may be the commissions and omissions on the part of the Police, it is our duty to realise that they have a hard task to perform. Police is a very important department. You can effect retrenchment in other departments to any extent but not in the Police department. But for the Police department, I do not think anybody is safe in our country. I know my hon. Friends on the opposite side may take exception to what I say but I cannot help it. You might have read in the papers of the atrocities committed by the Communists on the borders of Hyderabad State and in several other places (interruption). Well, I know Communists are committing atrocities in the garb of Police people. What more do you want? They dress themselves as policemen and they threaten and rob the people of their money and belongings. I know of several instances. I can give one or two graphic instances. In my place in North Arcot district, murders have been committed. In the Gudiyattam taluk, when the people

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were going in buses or cars, they were waylaid by people and actually stabbed and robbed of their moneys and that is the state of affairs. I now understand why our Communist Friends want to do away with the Police. If there is no Police, they will have a free field where their ideologies can be implemented and where they can thrive. I know where they thrive. The Hon. Finance Minister has ably put it on the day when he replied on the motion of thanks to the Governor. Their ideologies thrive where ignorance prevails, where illiteracy prevails and where people are poor and gullible. Therefore, it is no surprise for me to hear my Communist Friends saying that they want to do away with as many policemen as possible. I request the Hon. the Chief Minister who is in charge of the Police portfolio not to reduce even one policeman but on the other hand increase their number. Sir, I know a case where a Police Sub-Inspector who went for a raid in connection with a Prohibition case was beaten black and blue and he was so beaten that he was not able to identify the criminals and the case filed against the criminals had to be withdrawn.

5-45 P.M. "Sir, when you take an organization or an institution to see whether it is placed on a sound basis, you take into consideration its liabilities and assets. Now, when we do so with regard to our State, I see, on going through the Budget presented to us by our Finance Minister, that our liabilities as they stood on March 31, 1952, amount to Rs. 42 crores, while the assets held on the same day under Capital and Remunerative assets come to Rs. 131 crores. Therefore, Sir, this is proof positive to show that our State is being run on very sound lines. I may tell you, Sir, we got our Independence ten years earlier than we expected, and we are glad that we are faring better than can be expected of one in our position. Here I must tell you that the whole world is watching us with admiration and it will not be long before world leadership will be thrust on us. That is the position that India is occupying in the comity of nations to-day. So I request our Friends to make common cause with the Government and support it, so that we may not be found wanting to take up the leadership of the world when the occasion arises.

"Then, Sir, I wish to say a word about elementary education. Elementary education should be free and compulsory. That should be the primary concern of the State. In fact, it should be the first charge on the Government's purse. Then with regard to the partiality that is now shown as between the secondary grade teacher employed in elementary schools and the same secondary grade teacher employed in secondary schools, I think the scales of pay are different. The salary of the secondary grade teacher employed in elementary schools is less than that of the same grade of teacher employed in secondary schools. That sort of difference should be done away with. Not only that. Government have deprived the secondary grade teacher employed in elementary schools of his birthright. That is, he cannot exercise his franchise

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in the elections. That is a great handicap for this grade of teacher. We must take steps to see that the teacher's profession is made as attractive as possible so that proper kind of men can come forward to take to this profession to teach and to mould the character of the future citizens of our motherland.

"Then, Sir, there are about 42,000 students declared eligible for collegiate course in the recent S.S.L.C. examination. About fifty per cent of them may seek admission into colleges but there is provision only for eleven or twelve thousand students. So I am appealing to the Government and to the University to allow students to appear privately for the University examinations without insisting on the attendance at lectures. The University of Nagpur and a few other universities, I understand, do not insist on such attendance, except in regard to technical subjects. If this is done also in our University, Government would save a good deal of expenditure on expansion of buildings and appliances. I hope Government will give this matter their earnest consideration.

"Coming to Public Health, I may tell you, Sir, Government have not granted for Public Health as much as they have granted for Education. Education, of course, is the primary concern of the Government. But all the same, Public Health has not been provided for adequately. I thank the Government for opening the tuberculosis ward in our district hospital. Tuberculosis carries away thousands of people annually in our State. It is a disease which manifests itself when the body resistance goes down. When such is the case, do you think that the people would be maintaining their resistance power during the days of rationing? So the incidence of tuberculosis must have been on the increase during the days of ration. So the best preventive is to provide people with nutritious food. This is a good case for decontrol. Now that decontrol has been effected, I hope our people will be eating to their hearts' content.

"Then, Sir, with regard to tuberculosis work, in spite of what we have been doing, poor patients are now not receiving adequate treatment. In this matter, I suggest to Government that they should start two mobile medical units in each district, a big van equipped with an X-ray plant with all the up-to-date appliances needed for this purpose, to travel from village to village, take the X-ray photo of suspected cases of tuberculosis, put them into contact with the nearest hospital and give them proper treatment. It is only in that way the disease can be properly tackled. Another thing I would commend to Government is the introduction of mass X-ray, just as is being done in the Continent. Every taluk headquarters hospital or district headquarters hospital must be able to take X-ray photographs and those photos should be studied by the doctor and if they detect tuberculosis in any form, the patients should be once placed under treatment. I know of several cases of patients being put on the waiting list for admission as in-patients and by the time they receive their admission cards their condition becomes worse and beyond recovery.

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"With regard to cancer treatment, Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi ably put the case. It can be kept under control if only adequate and timely steps are taken.

"Then, with regard to rural medical dispensaries, it is a well-known fact that for want of doctors those dispensaries are not manned. Why? The subsidies given are not adequate. I understand, Sir, from reliable quarters that Government are introducing a shorter course in medicine. In this connection, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that when the Congress Government was first formed in this State under the leadership of Rajaji, the then Minister for Public Health, Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, was approached by the general medical profession to do away with the Diploma course in medicine. We demanded that it should be mended or ended. Prior to that there was a distinction made between L.M.S. and M.B.B.S. And the Diploma course was ended. Therefore, Sir, you cannot make a difference between a man living in a village and one living in a town. The human system in both cases is the same for treatment. What is the use of sending doctors who are not well qualified, to villages? In fact there is a case for sending good doctors only to the mufassal, as it is not possible for the poor people in the mufassal to go to towns for medical treatment. Therefore, it is necessary that Government should send only the best qualified medical men to rural parts.

"Then, Sir, one word with regard to firka development. This scheme came in during Mr. Prakasam's Ministry. With a view to give a fillip to cottage industries and to make the village self-sufficient, the firka development scheme was started. Let me examine the scheme a little. I am not at all satisfied with it. Our Finance Minister is true in his observation that the result of firka development is not spectacular. It is quite so; it is not spectacular. Just take into consideration the person put in charge of the firka development. He is a non-technical man. All the same, he has got to do teaching work and engineering work and so on. The travelling allowance drawn by the inspecting officers is more than the salary earmarked for them. I suggest that firka development may be entrusted to the Rotarians in each district. Every district has a Rotary Club and it may be asked to carry on community service. At present the men engaged in firka development are working under the Collector of the district. I suggest the work may be entrusted to the Rotary Club. Our Chairman was once a Rotarian. He was the Governor of the Rotary Clubs for some years. We all know what wonderful and splendid work the Rotary Clubs have done in the cause of community service. So I commend to the Hon. Chief Minister that firka development may be entrusted to the Rotarians, as the results achieved so far are not spectacular. The Rotary Club consists of specialists in every department, specialists in engineering, specialists in medicine and so on. It is a Club which consists of officers only, and so in its actual working there will not be any trouble. So I strongly commend my suggestion to the Hon. Chief Minister.

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"Then, Sir, so far as agriculture is concerned, extension of electricity has to be done quickly. I know several schemes for extension of electricity are ready for execution but they could not be proceeded with for want of materials. North Arcot is a dry district and I urge Government to provide the materials required by the department for these schemes. I know that the Madras Government have got 1,500 oil engines and that they have been lent on hire purchase. But one-fifth of that number has gone to Chingleput. I do not know why this preference should be shown to one district. I want the Hon. Minister for Industries to see that equal distribution is made of them.

"Sir, I shall finish very soon. I now come to the question of handloom weavers. We are all familiar with their present predicament. One or two years ago, I led a deputation to the Minister in charge of Industries then, and placed before him the difficulties the weavers were undergoing. He promised to give us support and he really did give us support. In those days, doles were granted. But doles cannot be a panacea for the ills of the weavers. I say, alternative work should be given to them. I know the Centre has a hold on this industry. I know of late they have relaxed control over the finer counts of yarn and over coarser cloth to be produced for the use of the poor people. But even the coarser kind of yarn, still two-thirds of it is under control; the remaining one-third of it is not under control; and it is this one-third of the coarser yarn the mill-owners are selling at low prices. The two-thirds of the controlled yarn is sold at higher rates. So there is stagnation of yarn. The handloom industry has suffered a great deal. Before controls were introduced it enjoyed a good market outside India, like Indonesia, Pakistan, Burma, etc. Now it is not able to find a market there. I request Government to find ways and means of capturing the overseas market to this industry. That will solve the problem of the handloom weavers.

"With regard to Prohibition, I am not prepared to say anything 6 p.m. because it is really a matter of faith with different people. If it had been properly enforced, I know it would have been a success. Unfortunately, it has not been properly enforced and so it has become a failure. It is no doubt a fact that every man, woman and child is now drinking. This is due to a lack of proper check over these people. I should say, Sir, that proper enforcement of laws would make Prohibition a success and, I am sure, this will be considered by a Committee.

"Sir, over-population in India is a matter of great concern. When I just take a survey of our House, I find most of the Members are on the other side of 55 and therefore this Council has been rightly called the House of Elders. Sir, I therefore, put to this House 'Why not you advocate self-control?' I know, Sir, some section of the public will be opposed to it. As Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar has said in the World Health organization even the Catholics were objecting to it. You will hereby not only solve the anti-Indian problem in Ceylon but also

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the apartheid problem in South Africa. I therefore request, Sir, this House of Elders to give due consideration to this problem and see that you advocate self-control to bring the surplus population within limits."

* SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR:—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the fag end of the day, if you are not going to permit any other speaker, I would like to take as much time as possible."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—" There are many more waiting to speak."

* SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR:—" Sir, you therefore expect me to finish as quickly as possible. I want to begin my observations by expressing my own personal confidence in the Ministry because I belong to the Independent Party—it can be the only party where everyone is independent of all other parties. I want to express my confidence in the Ministry headed by our Chief Minister. I think under his wise and statesmanlike guidance things in our country would shape well. With these remarks, I want to make my observations on the Budget that is presented by the Hon. the Finance Minister and introduced here by the Hon. the Chief Minister's statement. There are four things upon which I would like to congratulate the Ministry: The first is the decontrol policy. The incidence of that policy has been already explained by many Members and I do not want to go still further into it. It is a very risky policy. There is every chance of a rise in prices if the situation is not properly dealt with. I welcome the move by some mirasdars in a Tanjore village that they would sell rice directly to the consumer instead of to the middlemen. Thereby they want to see that prices are not increased by the middlemen. It is a very good move and I would advocate that move for adoption by mirasdars in other villages. If all of us co-operate with the Government in seeing that prices are kept at a low level and that sufficient quantities of rice and paddy are available, this problem of decontrol would be successfully dealt with in our country.

" I want also to congratulate the Government on their policy of giving relief to the handloom industry in our country. The Hon. the Finance Minister in his speech has said he would give relief to the industry at any cost. Of course the cost of the relief has not yet been investigated by him and, if it is very great, it will swell the deficit still further. Even at the risk of swelling the deficit, the Finance Minister says that he will deal with this problem of giving relief to the handloom weavers. I know very well that the handloom weavers are employed in a very ancient industry. Our country has always been very famous for its looms and in ancient days, the looms of India had a great reputation throughout the world. The Dacca muslins are proverbially famous. Therefore, we would like to see that the handloom industry does not die in our country. As has already been pointed out, one in every thirteen is a handloom weaver and he cannot be allowed to die for want of work and for want of a means of subsistence. It is

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therefore perfectly right on the part of the Government that even at a great cost they should try to give relief to the handloom weaver.

" The third thing on which I congratulate the Government is their giving concessions to non-gazetted officers in the matter of the education of their children and also in the matter of giving free medical aid to their children. These two will be of great help to the non-gazetted officers. The concession has also been extended to the teachers and they will be thankful to the Government for this great help. The teachers whose salaries are below Rs. 300 have been given this concession but I want to point out for the consideration of Government that there are teachers in colleges also who are getting salaries below Rs. 300 and they should also be included within the scope of this concession. I know there are very many teachers in the colleges who are earning a salary of a hundred or hundred and fifty rupees and who will have to serve for more than 20 years before they get Rs. 300. It would therefore be very good if the Government will give the benefit of this concession to college teachers; I know it might increase the cost, but it will not be very much. At least, that is what I fancy would be the case. The Hon. the Finance Minister has said that more than four lakhs of people are given this concession and the cost might go up to Rs. 25 lakhs or even Rs. 50 lakhs. There is justice in this suggestion and I make this appeal on behalf of the college teachers who are getting less than Rs. 300. Then, Sir, there are the cases of the absolutely destitute orphans in our country for whom Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi pleaded so eloquently the other day. I think they should also be given this concession. The answer might be given that just as we plead for these orphans and destitutes we might plead for various other people. I think we should stop with this. The danger in leaving these destitutes without any help is that they will be taken care of by other people and they may even be brought up in faiths different from their own. This is one of the chief considerations which ought to be taken into account as regards the granting of educational concessions to orphans and destitutes.

" I then want to congratulate the Government on their thinking about Community Projects also. A doubt has been expressed whether these Community Projects will be dealt with properly and proper steps will be taken for implementing them but we may rest assured, Sir, that with your able and wise guidance and also by hastening slowly, as I would put it, from step to step, from village to village and from firka to firka—we need not hurry at all—we will be able to see that the expenditure is properly made and that results are brought about from the particular expenditure for which we are responsible. On these matters, I would like to congratulate the Government.

* Sir, there are some other matters on which I cannot equally congratulate the Government and on which I have got some doubts. I therefore want to express them before I am asked to

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conclude. The first thing that I want to say is that I am rather afraid, and I am doubtful about the wisdom of starting irrigation schemes, all at the same time. Unfortunately this was started by the previous Ministry. Rupees 1,986 lakhs is the provision that has been made for the purpose of irrigation and electricity projects. The difficulty, therefore, lies in controlling the expenditure and seeing to the proper utilization of our monies under these schemes. Unfortunately that is the heritage of our past. But, still with some courage as the Government have shown in the matter of decontrol, even though it may be a little unpopular, I would suggest to the Government that they should slow down these irrigation schemes to suit the purpose and the finances of our country. The Hon. the Finance Minister has also said that from Rs. 43 crores our reserves have come to almost Rs. 59 lakhs and we have overdrawn on the Reserve Bank to the extent of Rs. 442 lakhs at the beginning of this year and it may be higher in the course of the year. Even though we may be thankful to the Governor of the Reserve Bank, Sri B. Rama Rau, for giving us some concessions regarding advances, it will not be really proper that we should tax the Reserve Bank to any extent at all. I would therefore plead with the Government, even at the risk of becoming a little unpopular to proceed slowly and cautiously in this matter. It is very important where lakhs of rupees are spent on irrigation schemes that we should be very careful. There are already talks about the mismanagement of the Damodar Valley Project and the Hirakud Project. Expenditure on irrigation projects should be properly controlled. I find in the Budget Memorandum that there is large disparity of about 3 to 4 lakhs in about 10 to 15 crores between the estimates and the actual expenses. How could there be so much difference between the original estimate and the present estimate? They decide upon one thing after going into the matter and on going closer into the matter they find that the expenses are increasing. I know of a case where they first decided that five spans of a bridge should be destroyed and rebuilt. They now say that the whole bridge has to be rebuilt and therefore the original estimate of 5 to 4 lakhs of rupees has now become 7 or 8 lakhs of rupees. This therefore is the difficulty in the case of these capital outlay works."

THE HON. SRI O. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"That is the technique of getting sanction."

6-15 p.m. SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR:—"It may be so, Sir, but I am anxious that we should not embark upon more schemes than we could afford to spend upon during the particular revenue year and that is why I am dwelling upon this aspect of the matter. There is one other point so far as these irrigation projects are concerned. Nowadays we are all very anxious that huge machinery should be imported for the construction of these irrigation projects. We find it very difficult to import the machinery required for our projects. It takes a good deal of time. Even if we get them, there is nobody here to repair them when they go out of order. Therefore I suggest that the Government may follow what the Hindu Rulers

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had done in the past, namely, utilizing the large man power which we have got for the execution of our irrigation projects instead of importing machinery from abroad. I believe, I brought this matter to the notice of our ex-Public Works Minister Sri Bhakthavatsalam. I plead also the same thing with our present Public Works Minister, the Hon. Sri N. Ranga Reddi. My idea may appear to be an old-fashioned one. But I would ask whether our Hindu Rulers in the past had not built huge canals and temples without utilizing any machinery at all. In the district of Tanjore, there is a big channel (Veerashola canal) dug by Veeramarayana Chola, irrigating thousands of acres. There is also an advantage in utilizing manpower instead of machinery on such schemes. We are giving relief to a large number of people by usefully employing them. That is why, during famines in Rayalaseema, large famine works were started for giving employment to the people. That is how huge temples like those, in Chidambaram, had been constructed in the olden days. Our present engineers even to-day cannot explain how those huge rocks used for the construction of the temples at Chidambaram had been brought without using cranes or lifts. (The Hon. Chief Minister: "It took a hundred years to construct such temples.")"

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"The hon. Member's time is over."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR:—"Sir, I may be allowed to finish my speech by 6-30 because I have got some more useful things to say. I am new to this Council and I am making my first speech on the Budget. There may be other Members, Sir,—more experienced people—who can give more points for the consideration of the Government. As I am a new Member, Sir, I wish to tell the Government what all I feel on these matters. Let me, therefore, be allowed to continue, Sir."

"In the matter of capital outlay schemes, we must not be carried away by the fashions of the day and we must execute them according to the genius of our people. I hope and trust that our Minister for Public Works Department will give due consideration to all the points that I have mentioned."

"I wish to deal next, Sir, with my own particular fad—development of indigenous medicine. Unfortunately, the Hon. Minister for Public Health is not here. But there is the Hon. Chief Minister, who will communicate to the Hon. Minister for Public Health whatever things he wants. The Government of Madras have been committed to a policy of encouraging Indian medicine, from the days of the Raja of Panagal, i.e., from the year 1924. We are now in 1952. Nearly 28 years have elapsed. Still the Government have not pursued a bold policy of encouraging indigenous medicine. After 28 years, the Government have now decided to establish a College of Indian Medicine in the City of Madras. During the last 25 years, they could have established colleges at four or five places. They could have established hundreds of rural dispensaries giving indigenous medicine, and could have encouraged lakhs of Vaidyas. Unfortunately the Indian System of Medicine

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called the 'Indigenous System of Medicine' has been condemned as unscientific. If science means experimentation, observation and inference, our Indian Medicine is the result of centuries of experiment, observation and quite a logical inference from observation and experimentation. I fail to see, how it can be called unscientific. Unfortunately during the British rule, we were guided entirely by our allopathic doctors. The allopathic system is sometimes called the Western Science. Western Science does not deal with allopathy alone. It also deals with homœopathy. But allopathy is the only thing which the British are acquainted with. Along with British rule, allopathy also came to India. Unfortunately the British people did not know anything about our indigenous system of medicine, and they condemned it as unscientific. The doctors in India who were trained according to the principles of allopathy also inherited to some extent the same feelings against the indigenous system of medicine. There are, of course, some doctors who have got great sympathy for the Indian System of Medicine. I am thankful to the Government for having appointed Dr. Guruswami Mudaliyar as the Honorary Director of Indigenous Medicine. I plead very strongly with the Government that the indigenous system of medicine is a cheap, effective system which is suited to the genius of our people and which is also very popular among the people. Ninety-eight per cent of our people resort only to the indigenous system of medicine. I know many cases of diseases which have not been cured by allopathic doctors but have been cured by doctors trained in the indigenous system of medicine. Because I plead strongly for giving relief to the people through the indigenous system of medicine. I should not be misunderstood that I am against the western system of medicine. I welcome knowledge from all parts of the world for the purpose of giving medical relief to the people of our country. What I suggest is that the indigenous system of medicine which has been keeping the health of our people for centuries may also be given a very good trial by our own National Government, at the present juncture. I appeal to the Government to start four Colleges of Indian Medicine and a number of rural dispensaries and to encourage Vaidyas. In this country allopathic doctors, unfortunately, do not feel that all systems of medicine are welcome and they look askance at the indigenous system of medicine."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"The hon. Member will please use the mike."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"It is a modern system."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR:—"I am not used to this modern system as fixed in this Council Hall. I am used to speak before a mike but not in this very difficult way in which I have to speak before the mike here."

"Our Budget should be so framed as to see that there are no large deficits, and for that purpose, our Hon. Finance Minister

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has improvised new taxation proposals. I would like to say something about those taxation proposals. Unfortunately I have not got much time. Therefore I will mention only important points. Let us first take the question of the levy of surcharge on land revenue. In our country, land revenue is at its highest level at the present time. This fact has been accepted by everybody. The Taxation Enquiry Committee which went into this matter in 1924 said that the principle of progression should not be applied in the matter of land revenue. When the Government go on levying surcharge on land revenue, they are collecting really not land revenue but something like a kind of agricultural income-tax without the incidence of agricultural income-tax. In the matter of collection of income-tax, Government collect income-tax from people who have income of Rs. 3,600 and above. But here the surcharge is proposed to be levied on people with an assessment of Rs. 50 and above. The rates of levy proposed, four annas, eight annas, twelve annas and sixteen annas on each rupee are much higher than those recommended by the Subramaniam Committee. I also want to refer to the report of the Special Officer Mr. Raghavendra Rao who suggested that more than four annas levy of surcharge was very high. He also wanted that if there was to be surcharge it should not be levied on pattadars with an assessment of Rs. 250 and below. I attach much importance to that report.

"So far as the deficit itself is concerned, I find that it is not covered even with all these taxation proposals. I find, if the actuals regarding the expenditure to be incurred on educational concessions to the children of non-gazetted officers, on the Community Projects and other things such as relief to handloom weavers, which the Hon. Minister for Finance has stated that he will give, at any cost to the Government, are all taken into account, the deficit will be of the order of one thousand lakhs of rupees or to put it lower, will be of the order of about 500 lakhs of rupees, instead of Rs. 359 lakhs as now budgeted. I fail to see how the Government are going to balance the Budget unless they limit their expenditure on irrigation works. We have to go slow on these works in the interests of the country as a whole. If all the irrigation projects are to be taken at the same time, the difficulty I feel is, that all our cash securities and reserves will be spent away. Even with the new taxation proposals, only a portion of the deficit will be covered. The Hon. Finance Minister hopes that there will be no need for the postponement of land revenue collections. I feel, Sir, reading through newspaper reports, that the south-west monsoon is not going to be better this year."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Good men should not say these things. They should wish for better times."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR:—"I wish, Sir, that we get the south-west monsoon at least for your sake and for your Government's sake, Sir, and for the sake of our people."

"The taxation proposals are going to hit hard the poor people. That is the difficulty. The poor pattadar with an assessment of Rs. 50 does not get from his land more than Rs. 500. That works

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6 p.m. to Rs. 30 or Rs. 40 per month. He is much worse off than even a postman who gets Rs. 70 or Rs. 80 per month, as salary and dearness allowance. The question of the high cost of living has also to be taken into consideration. All commodities are selling at high prices and if in keeping with it paddy also sells at a somewhat high price, his profit will be a little. But we do not want the poor to suffer on account of that and we want the paddy prices to go down. But the Chief Minister will well remember how in the old days when the price of paddy went down, the Government of the day, of which Sir Norman Marjoribanks was the Member in charge of Revenue announced a revenue remission of Rs. 75 lakhs. It was given solely for the reason that the price of paddy was very low and without that it would be difficult for the cultivators to get on. But now what about the cost of commodities; it is very high. Cattle fodder is selling high and cattle, with the help of which the ryot is to carry on his agricultural operations, is selling at high prices. In fact all the necessities for cultivation have become dear. That is why the hon. Member Sri Chakkarai Chettiyar was saying that somehow or other in these days the pattadars were living on low incomes when the prices of commodities were high and somehow they were living in spite of debt hanging round their necks and that is why he suggested that the Government also should programme for high expenditure and low incomes; but I do not wish that the Government of Madras should do so. In whatever manner it may be, they should think of wiping out the deficit. I think I have said enough to the Government to show that the surcharge will hit the poor very hard and still more difficult to bear will be the betterment levy. From my own experience, I can tell the House how the definition of irrigation will include works undertaken to improve drainage facilities which the people have been enjoying for fifty and hundred years; such facilities will also come under the mischief of these provisions and the ryots will have to pay betterment fee. The State is under a statutory obligation to remove these difficulties. I, therefore, submit that the provision for the levy of betterment contribution must be modified to a considerable extent. Regarding the surcharge on bus fares, I wish to submit to the House that it will also hit the poor people hard and there is this further difficulty, namely, a distinction is made between the City and the mufassal. That is why our revered Ramaswami Reddiyar was saying that they were making distinctions between the urban and the rural parts of the State; the village it is that contributes towards the revenues of the State but the amenities are provided mostly in the towns. Regarding that particular matter, I wish to bring to the notice of the Government that there was a memorandum submitted by the Motor Trade in which they have suggested some other alternative for this kind of levy. I submit to the Government that that scheme should receive their earnest consideration."

Mr. CHAIRMAN:—"The House stands adjourned till 4 p.m. to-morrow, the 8th July 1952."

The House then adjourned.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 8th 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.

Outbreak of fire in the offices of the Co-operative Department.

* 23-A Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to make a statement to the House on the fire incident in the offices of the Co-operative Department at Chepauk, Madras, on 5th July 1952 and furnish details of the precautionary steps taken for the storage of propaganda films in the building and the probable loss and damage caused by the fire?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—“ On the morning of the 5th July at 10-30 a.m., the clerk working in the Office of the Chief Auditor of the State Trading Scheme, heard the noise of an explosion in an adjoining room belonging to the Co-operative Department. On running into the room, they found flames emanating from one of the steel almirahs in a corner of the room. They immediately telephoned to the Fire Service.

“ Seven fire engines under the command of the District Fire Officer arrived at 10-35 hours at the scene. The fire was tackled and brought under control within 30 minutes; it was completely extinguished in another hour. The fire could have been extinguished much earlier, but, it was necessary to save as many of records as possible from water damage. Therefore, as soon as the fire was brought under control, the burning records were handled carefully and the fire was put out with buckets of water. Two hundred and seventy-five reels of unburnt films were recovered from an adjoining room.

“ As to the extent of the damage, the four rooms which were affected were inspected soon after and it was found that 177 reels of cinematograph films, office furniture, records, some photographic and electrical equipments were damaged seriously; besides the windows and walls including the electric fittings of the rooms were also damaged seriously. An inspection by an officer from the Public Works Department revealed that the rooms were in a dangerous condition and the area has therefore been cordoned off. There were no casualties and the damage sustained is estimated to be about Rs. 20,000.

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"Preliminary examination shows that the fire was probably caused by the spontaneous combustion of the films stored in the steel almirah. The almirah is stated to have burst when the films stored inside had exploded into flames. There is no reason, so far as we can see now, to suspect any mischief.

"There was no failure or neglect in the storage of the films. It is gathered that the storage method was similar to the methods adopted for the storage of war-propaganda films in the past. The films were kept in separate, air-tight closed metal containers and these were locked up in two fire-proof steel almirahs."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—"May I know, Sir, if there are any definite rules regarding the storage of films in Government buildings?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I am not aware if there are any rules but there are certain precautions which are observed and the methods adopted here were exactly the method adopted after experience with the war propaganda films in the Defence Department. As I said, the films were kept in separate, air-tight closed containers and these were locked up in two fire-proof almirahs."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—"May I ask Sir, when the almirahs were purchased and if they were really fire-proof, how did it happen they were damaged by fire?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"They were said to be standard fire-proof steel almirahs. I am not able to say when they were purchased but that does not matter because they do not deteriorate. As regards the question how, when they are fire-proof, they were affected by the fire, it is not so absolute as you may infer from the term 'fire-proof'; it is generally proof from outside fire. But here it is a different matter because the fire started from spontaneous combustion of the films inside."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Chief Inspector of Explosives periodically inspects buildings where Government films are kept and whether he certified the arrangements in this building to be satisfactory?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"As I have answered, an enquiry has been made and regarding the rest, we might await further investigation."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—"May I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister whether in view of this experience, adequate measures would be taken with regard to the storage of films in the other Departments of Government, namely, the Public Health Department, Agricultural Department, etc., where they have large stocks of propaganda films?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Always misfortune makes us wise. All precautions found necessary will be taken."

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"May I know from the Hon. the Chief Minister whether the films have been insured against damage by fire or any other cause?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I should not venture to answer this question without making an enquiry; I think, no, Sir."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"Government property is not usually insured."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"I believe there are rules framed by the Corporation of Madras according to which only in buildings certified by the Corporation as fit for storing films, could films be allowed to be stored. May I know whether this building has been certified by the Corporation as a proper building for the storage of films?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Rules and practices with reference to Government property are necessarily different from private properties or the properties of Corporations. An insurance company does not insure its own property; there is a point at which we have to stop and the Government is supposed to be the highest insurance institution in the State and there is no meaning in the Government insuring its own property with its citizens. As I said at the outset, I am not sure if it was insured. I am only answering on the basis of a general principle."

Provincialization of municipal hospitals and dispensaries.

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

(a) whether there is any scheme for provincialization of Municipal Hospitals and Dispensaries;

(b) whether any such municipal institutions have been taken over by the Government during the last three years; and

(c) whether the Vaniyambadi Municipal Council has proposed that the Municipal Hospital be taken over by the Government and whether the proposal has been sanctioned?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (a) There is a scheme for the gradual taking over by the State of Taluk Headquarters Hospitals, whether local fund or municipal. The scheme was first introduced in the year 1928.

" (b) The answer is in the negative.

" (c) The municipal council has applied for the provincialization of the hospital but the proposal has not yet been sanctioned."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR:—"May I know what are the hospitals that are proposed to be taken over by the Government during the current year?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"There is a provision to take over three hospitals this year."

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SRI S. RAMAKRISHNIAH :—" May I know if the Hon. Minister is aware of reports in certain newspapers that the presidents of certain district boards and Commissioners of some municipalities took away ballot papers from the teachers working under their management on pain of severe punishment and handed over the same to their favoured candidates? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I had not the advantage of looking into those newspapers."

SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" I would like to say a word by way of personal explanation with regard to certain observations that fell from the hon. Member Sri Purushothama Mudaliar. In one of my speeches, I only said that according to the postal system of voting, there was a good deal of irregularity but I never said that there was corruption or anything like that."

Special concessions to political sufferers.

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

(a) whether it is a fact that special concessions were shown to political sufferers in granting permits for purchase or sale of iron and steel;

(b) if so, what the nature of the concessions is and when did the concessions come into force; and

(c) how many permits for iron and steel quota were granted to political sufferers during 1948-49, 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (a) & (b) In 1948 a few political sufferers were exempted from the condition that they should have been in the trade prior to 1946. The concession came into force from 1948-50.

" (c) A statement showing the details indicating the categories and the quantities issued from 1949-50 to June 1952 is laid on the table of the House."

4-15 P.M. SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether it was also a condition that they should continue to belong to the Congress Party before they qualify themselves for these special permits? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I do not think so, Sir. The records do not show any such thing."

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW :—" How many permits were given to others including ex-military men? "

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THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" No such permits were granted during 1948-49. Permits were given in the following years as shown below :—

During 1949-50—5.

During 1950-51—37.

During 1951-52—56.

After 31st March 1952—22.

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know whether political sufferers who were granted assignment of lands were also given these iron and steel permits? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I am not aware of any such instance. If the hon. Member gives me the name of the persons, I shall certainly tell the House if they were given."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Was there anything in the rules preventing a person who has been assigned lands also being given a permit under this scheme? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I do not know what the hon. Member means. But so far as the permit for iron and steel was concerned, there was no such condition."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know whether there is any change of policy with regard to the granting of permits for iron and steel to political sufferers, just as in the case of granting assignment of lands? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" At present the policy is definite that persons in the business for some years only will be given permits. It is not intended to cancel permits enjoyed for two or three years already."

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW :—" Is there any other permit of this kind in respect of any other controlled material given to political sufferers? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I should like to have notice of that question."

Madras Children's Bill.

* 27 Q.—MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state whether a Madras Children's Bill is under preparation and if so, whether the Government have any proposal to appoint a Committee of members, who are connected with this work, for its consideration before its presentation to the Legislature?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The Madras Children's Bill, 1950, was prepared and published in the Fort St. George Gazette for the purpose of eliciting opinion. The Government had already appointed a Committee to consider in detail the provisions of this Bill and the report of the Committee is under consideration."

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MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—“ Is the Hon. Minister aware that people who are already working this Act are not on the Committee to give their advice or suggestion? ”

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ The Government are not aware of it but on further consideration if it is found a new Committee is to be formed, the Government will consider that.”

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“ Questions over.”

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

II.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. CHAIRMAN *RE* ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO THE STATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“ I have to announce to the House that the following candidates were nominated for election to the State Library Committee :—

- (1) Sri Alexander Gnanamuttu, M.L.C.
- (2) Sri E. H. Parameswaran, M.L.C.

“ As more than one member has been duly nominated, the House will proceed to elect a member by ballot. The election will be held in the Deputy Secretary's room between 11 a.m. and 1-30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 9th July. After getting his ballot paper, each member is requested to record his vote and deposit his voting paper in the ballot box provided for the purpose.”

III.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1952-53—*cont.*

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“ I must inform the House that many hon. Members wish to speak on the Budget. Therefore, I request hon. Members to be as brief in their observations as possible and there are only two days left for general discussion.”

* JANAB MAHOMED USMAN :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, I should like to take this opportunity to offer my congratulations to the Hon. Chief Minister on the policy of decontrol of foodgrains which he introduced soon after he assumed office. Sir, at one time we had thought that controls would become a permanent feature of the administration. When I was a Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, control was introduced. At that time there was a great deal of hesitation and a great deal of doubt whether control would ever be a success in a country like India. Of course, during war-time it was necessary to have controls but after the war was over these controls ought to have been removed. Sir, we all know what amount of corruption there has been on account of controls. It is a matter for congratulation that control has been abolished and decontrol has been introduced. I am glad to say, Sir, that the policy which has been inaugurated by Rajaji has been followed in other States. I think, Bihar has decontrolled foodgrains. Yesterday, we read in the papers that Mysore has also decontrolled foodgrains.

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It is a good thing that the Government have removed controls. But for the presence of the Hon. the Chief Minister in the Government this would not have been possible. If the Congress Party had been returned with an over-all majority in the Assembly in the recent elections, most probably they would have elected a leader from among themselves and he would not have had that boldness and courage, as was shown by Rajaji, to introduce decontrol. Therefore, it is a matter for congratulation that Rajaji's services have been requisitioned by the Congress Party because they rightly thought that he, and he alone could form a stable Government. It is also a matter for congratulation that Rajaji has formed a stable Government. After decontrol has been introduced, there is now a free flow of rice in the market. There is a tendency for the prices to come down. It has been pointed out that in some districts, decontrol has not been a complete success and that it has caused some difficulties and hardship to the people. Sir, no great movement can succeed without certain difficulties. But, I am sure, the Government will look into this matter and see that they are properly tackled so that ultimately decontrol may succeed.

“ Now, Sir, I come to Prohibition. There has been some criticism with regard to the policy of Prohibition. Some hon. Members said that Prohibition has been a failure. I do not think, Prohibition is a failure at all. A great majority of people like Prohibition. We know that there has been illicit distillation and corrupt practices. All these corrupt practices will go with the present generation which has been brought up in that alcoholic atmosphere. Of course, there may be some people who may be adopting some surreptitious means to get drinks. But these things have to be put down. I am sure, these things will not last long, for the next generation will be brought up in a purer atmosphere free from drink. Therefore, whatever may be the difficulties in implementing the policy of Prohibition, I am sure, no Government should ever consider the question of abolishing Prohibition at all.

“ Now, Sir, I come to a very important matter. As we all know, Madras had experienced very great difficulties this year on account of water famine. Of course, due to the recent rains, a great relief has come to this City and we have staved off the water famine. But we must not rest content with that. On the other hand, we must take some positive measures to see that such difficulties do not occur again in the future. Various schemes have been put forth and, in my opinion, the only scheme that is possible and which will be able to supply water throughout the year, is the Krishna-Pennar Project. I was rather astonished to hear the argument advanced by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramakrishna, yesterday that the Andhra people will object to the execution of this scheme on the ground that their waters are being diverted to Tamil areas. I do not understand the cogency of this argument. Of course, it is quite possible that this water from the proposed Krishna-Pennar Project may be used in Madras by non-Andhras who constitute about 60 per cent of the population in this City. But it is common knowledge that in this City there is a considerable percentage of Andhras—say

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about 40 per cent—and certainly they will not grudge taking water from the Andhra areas. I do not think the Andhras will be so ungenerous as to deny to their brethren in this City water to drink. Therefore, I do not see anything in the argument of my hon. Friend, Sri Ramakrishna. I hope the Government will see to it that the Krishna-Pennar Project becomes a reality.

“ Now, Sir, I come to the Children's Aid Society. I have been taking interest during the last 25 or 30 years in the working of this Society in Madras. I see in the Budget that about Rs. 10 lakhs has been provided for Certified Schools, etc. As President of the Madras Children's Aid Society, I am grateful to the Governments—both the past and the present—for the generous grants that they have given to the Children's Aid Society. As you all know, this Society is running Homes in this City for the uplift of the uncared orphans, destitute children and juvenile offenders. In the whole of this State there is only one Children's Aid Society and that is in Madras. I think, more such Societies should be encouraged in the State to come forward through the non-official agency. Also, unless and until the Government make up their mind to spend larger sums of money, I think, there is no hope for them to come forward. If anybody cares to visit the Homes run by this Society, he will see what amount of humanitarian work the Society has been doing to these unfortunate children to prevent them from falling into crime.

“ Coming to the Budget proper, I must say that this budget is one that has been specially prepared for the advancement of the welfare of this State. Some may object to this budget but on the other hand, I welcome it. Of course, new taxes have been proposed in this budget. People must know that these taxes are intended for the good of the country. Therefore, nobody should grudge paying extra taxes. People should be prepared to sacrifice for the good of the country. Sir, I am glad to read from the newspapers that the Hon. Finance Minister has assured the other House that he would look into this matter again. I do not know what he meant by that. In connexion with the Taxation Bills, I think it is better to have a Select Committee consisting of members belonging to all parties so that an agreed solution might be found possible. Sir, for all taxation measures, there must be an agreed and reasonable solution. I do not want to take much time of the House as the Hon. Chairman has told us that many members wish to speak.

4-30 p.m. “ Sir, I should like to say one more thing. As has been pointed out by Sri Ramaswami Reddiar, we must have a stable Government to carry on the administration of this State. Now a dangerous movement is coming into existence and the Government should see to it that they not only carry on the administration but also protect religion and godliness in this country. Sir, we have been hearing a lot about the Communist menace for the last so many days. We do not want them in our country. We have heard of their misdeeds and their irreligion. India is a land of religion. There is no place in it for irreligion. India is famous for its spirituality. India is

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famous for having produced so many famous religious teachers. It has a distinct holy past of its own, and it is but proper that we preserve those traditions and keep our country as religious as it had been in the past. So all those who believe in religion and God should combine and support the Government.”

* SRI V. BHASHYAM AYYANGAR :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, there has been so much discussion and that from so many differing viewpoints with reference to the revised budget proposals brought forward by the Government that I propose to content myself with making only a few observations on them.

“ At the outset, Sir, I would like to associate myself most heartily with the congratulations offered to the Hon. Chief Minister and the other Hon. Ministers as regards three or four important orders that they have passed in the short period they have now been in office. The first and foremost of them is, of course, the abolition of rationing of foodgrains and along with it procurement. This reform has put an end to a large amount of corruption in the ranks of the Government staff who were in charge of these functions. It has also removed the hardships of the general public in getting their supplies of food as well as the necessity to which most of them had been put, namely, resorting to blackmarketing and other objectionable tactics. Derationing has given very great satisfaction to all and has earned deserved popularity to the present Cabinet. There has been no opposition to derationing from any party, but in one or two quarters there was a tendency to minimize the importance of the reform by saying that it was nothing great or extraordinary. I venture to think, Sir, that no Government, not presided over by such an able, bold and gripping personality as Rajaji, would have had the courage to effect it, especially in the face of the famine conditions which stared and still stares the Government in Rayalaseema and other parts of the State.

“ The second beneficial act of the Government which deserves appreciation is the grant of substantial relief to the non-gazetted officers, employees of local bodies drawing Rs. 300 and less per mensem, as well as to the aided school teachers, by way of full-fee concessions for their children in elementary and lower secondary schools and half-fee concessions in high schools. One can realize the value and the importance of this concession, if one remembers that it is estimated to cost Rs. 50 lakhs and perhaps more for this year. I have no doubt that, as hoped for by the Government, the beneficiaries will feel thankful to the Government for this generous measure of relief to them in these hard days.

“ Then, Sir, I consider that the immediate stopping of assignment of lands to political sufferers, as such, very much deserves our appreciation. I happen to know personally that many poor people were deprived of their sivoijama lands for granting them to political sufferers. But I shall not dilate on this subject in view of the definite statement made by the Hon. Chief Minister in this House yesterday that the whole policy of assignment of lands to political sufferers is now ‘dead’.

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"I may then congratulate the Government on the reliefs provided to the handloom weavers who have been hard hit, and also on the other benevolent measures started by them within the short time they have been in office. The general public greatly appreciate the present policy and tone of the Government and I have every hope that everything possible will be done for the welfare and prosperity of the people of this State during the period the present Ministry continues in office. I appeal, Sir, to all Members and parties in this House and in the Assembly not to put obstacles in the way of a good and stable Government. They should on the other hand strengthen the hands of the present Government, with Rajaji as its head, in all directions, to enable them to achieve the lasting welfare and prosperity of this State within the shortest period.

"Now, Sir, coming to the budget which has been placed before us, it has been said that it only follows the usual routine and that there is nothing extraordinary in it. But, Sir, nobody seems to have claimed that this was an extraordinary budget. Nor is it necessary, Sir, that there must be something extraordinary in a budget. What then is the purpose or meaning of the criticism that the budget only follows the usual routine? It may be remembered in this connexion that the provisional budget for the year was framed by the previous Ministry. The present Ministry have only made it up to date and finalised it. The Ministry had difficulty in making the revised proposals in view especially of the urgent demand for relief rendered necessary by the severe famine in Rayalaseema on the one side and the recent slump in industry and trade which has gone to reduce substantially the receipts expected from the sales tax on the other side. The revised estimates have been drafted as carefully as possible, and the Ministry deserves our congratulations for the same.

"Now, Sir, I shall proceed to make a few suggestions for the consideration of the Government. My first and foremost suggestion is that greater efforts should be made for the betterment of our villages by providing them with greater facilities and convenience, in respect of agriculture, which is the main occupation of the villagers and with useful cottage industries to suit local conditions, so that the villagers may make the best use of their enforced leisure (when there is no agricultural work) and make a subsidiary income to keep themselves above want. I know there is a department called the Department of Agriculture intended to advise and help the agriculturists. But this department has not been able to help the villagers to a satisfactory or appreciable extent. The agriculturists are simply driven from post to pillar and from pillar to post, for getting their necessary requirements, for the cultivation of their lands as for instance, the iron needed for their ploughs and cart tyres.

"The Firka Development and Cottage Industries Departments are also working for the benefit of the villagers. But I cannot say that the work that is done by these two departments is commensurate with the large expenditure incurred on them by the Government. There is much room for improvement in the working of

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these two departments. Firka Development Scheme has been introduced only in certain specific firkas and the work which has been done there is not very striking. I have visited many firkas in which this scheme is worked. I am not satisfied that the departments in question have been able to achieve results worth appreciation. I would suggest to the Government respectfully that the improvement of the villages and firkas may be taken up as a general question not merely in selected firkas but in the whole State so that everybody may know what is being done for the benefit of the villagers. I would suggest that the ordinary revenue officials themselves be put in charge of what is now being done for the development of villages, by the firka development and by the department of cottage industries. It may be said that the revenue officials are already over-worked and it will not be possible for them to look after this work also. In that case, I would suggest that the districts be divided into a larger number of divisions with a responsible officer for each division. In that way it will be possible for each officer to look after the needs and requirements of the residents of the division in his charge. At present there are a number of departments in every district, of which, most of us are not even aware. There are officers by various names. Only two days ago it was mentioned here that there are officers called efficiency officers. Few of us knew the existence of such officers or their functions or work. The Government have stated that they were considering the abolition of these efficiency officers. There are a number of officers working in the district, whose designations many people do not know and whose functions they are not aware of, notwithstanding the reports which those officers must presumably have been submitting to Government periodically about the work turned out by them. I suggest to the Government that their administrative machinery may be placed on a simpler and more satisfactory basis. Government should take up this work and find out at least now, how many departments may be abolished and how many officers may be dispensed with in the interests of economy, without impairing efficiency. It is better to have a single officer to whom the villagers may look for the redress of their grievances and to supply their wants. At present if a villager wants anything to be done he is generally in the dark as to whom he should approach. If he goes to one officer, he is asked to go to another officer, who directs him to go to a third officer and so on. From this one can imagine what amount of expenditure and difficulty an ordinary villager is put to. I know that ordinary agriculturists have been put to serious difficulties to get the most necessary things required to carry on their occupation. I think it must be possible for the Government to do away with the present system which is so complex and so expensive. Simplification of the Government machinery will, I think, result in great saving to the Government. There was a proposal some time ago to abolish the cadre of Tahsildars and have only Deputy Collectors in the districts with smaller divisions. I submit it is worthwhile for the Government to go into this question now and find out whether Tahsildars are necessary at all and whether the system of having Revenue Divisional Officers

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in direct charge of divisions making them smaller, if necessary, will not be better. The Divisional Officers will be able to give more effective help to those who come to them and pass final orders without delay. There is also the costly establishment of the Board of Revenue for the abolition of which agitation has been carried on for many many decades. I know that recently in answering a question the Government said that they had considered the question and decided to retain the Board of Revenue. I think, Sir, there is need for a further consideration of this matter. With the Collector in charge of each district and the Government and the Secretariat at the head, I do not see why an intermediary office like the Board of Revenue is necessary. The Board of Revenue was established during the days of the British rule and I think the circumstances under which it was established have now ceased to exist and it is high time that the Board of Revenue is abolished altogether and the Government take direct charge of the work in the districts through Collectors and Deputy Collectors. This will be a great reform in the machinery of the Government and also a measure of economy.

"Then, Sir, I will mention a word about primary education and education in general. Of course, Sir, the system of education which we have been following for so many years has prejudicially affected the conditions of our villages. It is the chief cause for the ruination, if I may say so, of our villages. If you go to our villages now, you will find that all the intelligent, capable and able persons have left the villages and a large number of houses in them are deserted. Those left behind are generally the inefficient and the infirm. That is the position of the villages now. Not long ago, even as recently as about fifty years ago, I know the condition of the villages. If a comparison is made between the state of the villages about fifty years ago and now the comparison will be all against the present conditions. The villages have ceased to be prosperous and poverty is rampant. They have got into a vicious circle. Cultured and intelligent people do not find it worthwhile or possible to go and settle down in the villages with the result that the condition of the villages is getting worse and worse. Something must be done to remedy these defects. As the late Father of our Nation used to say, our country consists of villages and our prosperity lies in our villages. There was a time when our villages flowed with milk and honey but now you cannot find a drop of milk, not to speak of honey, because all the milk flows into the towns nearby and there is no milk left in the villages and the village children are starved. The physical condition of the villagers has been deteriorating from year to year and from day to day. It is curious to see that whereas milk is brought down from the mufassal to Madras, milk powder is being sent from Madras to the villages in order to make the powder into milk and give them to the villagers. One can understand it if the surplus of milk in the villages is sent to the towns or cities nearby but starving the villagers of this necessity of life, especially the children, and sending it away to the City is the real position as it exists now. It is high time indeed that the Government did something at once to advance the condition of the villages and make the villages more prosperous.

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As regards elementary education, I do not know how far basic or craft centred education, for which Gandhiji claimed that it could pay a substantial portion of the expenses incurred has progressed in this State. When the Father of the Nation was alive he was propagating that idea and doing a great deal to popularize it. I know that, in fact, in some States like Bihar basic education has made great advances but in Madras I do not think it has yet been taken up earnestly. I would suggest to the present Government to take up this question actively. The problem of elementary education or universal elementary education cannot be solved unless some system by which the cost of the primary education can be very much reduced is adopted. We may spend crores but under the existing system more and more crores of rupees will become necessary. The teachers have to be paid and their demands are becoming greater and greater—I am not blaming them—on account of the conditions of modern life. They have to earn more in order to keep themselves above want. The present system of primary education, I say, is unnatural and ought to be put an end to and the alternative system of craft-centred education introduced in its place. They say it will pay either the whole—Gandhiji claimed that it would pay the whole cost of it in six years—of the cost or at least a good part of it if properly organized. There is no doubt about it. The system of education by which the villages were served in former days has gone. In my village I first began my education in a pial school which cost nothing. The teacher was fed and looked after by the villagers and there was therefore not much expense, to the Government or to anybody for maintaining a school. The education given in the pial schools was practical and benefited the pupils in later life. Now, the child in the village as soon as he finishes his fifth or sixth year has very often to go to a town or an equally important place, at some distance, even to have his primary education which has also become costly. I think this question of basic education deserves the serious consideration of Government.

"Then, Sir, one word about the social service organizations. After the New Constitution, as everybody is aware, the Government have become a Welfare State. They have to look after the social welfare of the people. The Government have to elevate the social position and condition of the people. But, Sir, the Government by its own unaided efforts will not be able to solve the question of social uplift. There are many respectable organizations which are working for the social welfare of the masses both in the City and in the mufassal. There are organizations which have also branches and do excellent work both here and in the districts. I would appeal to the Government to take note of such of the organizations as are doing useful work in the field of social welfare and take them into their confidence, assist them with their advice and help them. Government must give them all encouragement so that they could do more and more devoted work. Now-a-days there are a number of people who are forthcoming and willing to sacrifice the whole or part of their time and energy in

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order to do this service to humanity and it is the duty of the Government to avail themselves of it. Unless the Government give them encouragement and advice, take them into their confidence and consult them upon the social work that ought to be done, I think the problem of the social uplift of our masses will never be satisfactorily solved. I want this point to be borne in mind by the Government. There are some very well known social organizations which have been working for a number of years—for decades—in the cause of social uplift, and I would ask the Government to give them opportunities for extending their work. I do not want the Government to give an opportunity to anybody and everybody who says or who claims to be a social welfare worker. Let them look into the antecedents and the work that an organization has been doing and, if they find that it has been doing substantial good work and where people who are well-to-do and well connected are doing some unselfish work or are sacrificing their time and energy, it is up to the Government to take their help, help them in return and encourage them in their social work. This is one of the points which I would press upon the Government.

"I come next, Sir, to the question of the additional taxation that has been proposed in the Budget. In connexion with these proposals for additional taxation, it has been suggested that Prohibition should be scrapped and the income which it might bring should be used to meet the deficit in the Budget. With reference to this, I would strongly urge on the Government not to yield to the suggestions made from the other side that Prohibition should be scrapped. Prohibition is one of the subjects on which the Father of the Nation held very strong opinions. In an article which was written in 1937 before the introduction of Prohibition the Father of our Nation said:

'Let it be remembered that this drink and drugs revenue is a form of extremely degrading taxation. All taxation to be healthy must return tenfold to the tax-payer in the form of necessary services. Excise makes people pay for their own corruption, moral, mental and physical. It falls like a dead-weight on those who are least able to bear it. The revenue is largely derived, I believe, from industrial labour which together with field labour the Congress almost exclusively represents.

'The loss of revenue is only apparent. Removal of this degrading tax enables the drinker, i.e., the tax-payer to earn and spend better. Apart, therefore, from the tremendous gain, it means a substantial economic gain to the nation.'

I would request all those who claim to represent the masses to ponder over these observations and consider whether the Government should get money through drink to spend it on any other purpose.

"Again, he says:

'The cry of great expenditure in preventing illicit distillation is thoughtless where it is not hypocritical. India is not America. The American example is a hindrance rather than a help to us. In America drinking carries no shame with it. It is the fashion there to drink. It reflects the greatest credit on the determined minority in America that by sheer force of its moral weight it was able to carry through the Prohibition measure, however short-lived it was. I do not regard that experiment to have been a failure. I do not despair of America.

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once more returning to it with still greater fervour and better experience in dealing with it. It may be that if India carries out Prohibition it will hasten the advent of Prohibition in America. In no part of the world is Prohibition as easy to carry out as in India, for with us it is only a minority that drinks. Drinking is generally considered disreputable. And there are millions, I believe, who have never known what drink is.

'But why should prevention of illicit distillation cost any more than prevention of other crimes? I should make illicit distillation heavily punishable and think no more about it. Some of it will go on perhaps till Doomsday as thieving will. I would not set up a special agency to pry into illicit distilleries. But I would punish anyone found drunk though not disorderly (in the legal sense) in streets or other public places with a substantial fine or alternatively with indeterminate imprisonment to end when the erring one has earned his or her keep.'

'This, however, is the negative part. Voluntary organizations especially manned by women will work in the labour areas. They will visit those who are addicted to drink and try to wean them from the habit. Employers of labour will be expected by law to provide cheap, healthy refreshment, reading and entertainment rooms where the working men can go and find shelter, knowledge, health-giving food and drink and innocent fun.

'Thus Prohibition means a type of adult education of the nation and not merely a closing down of grog shops.'

I respectfully submit that it is a very wrong thing for people who claim to espouse the cause of the masses to try to reopen this question of Prohibition.

"I shall now say a few words about the taxation proposals 5 p.m. of the Government. I think, Sir, the Bill to provide for the levy of a surcharge on land revenue assessment, as has been published, is open to grave objections. I will not profess to speak about the condition of cultivators and landholders in delta areas; but I can speak about their condition in dry areas with some knowledge. I am myself a small landholder in the Chingleput district. I can say without any hesitation that this Bill will practically 'kill' the cultivators. I know cases of people giving away their lands being unable to pay taxes due to Government. However, if the Government must levy a surcharge on land revenue, I suggest that they be satisfied with the recommendations of the Subramaniam Committee which itself has gone far enough in all conscience in the matter of the rates and the stages at which the surcharge on land revenue should be levied. I would respectfully appeal to the Government to accept the report of that Committee, at least as a sort of compromise, so that they may get some revenue and at the same time they may not put too great a burden upon the poor cultivators.

"Sir, there are one or two other proposals for additional taxation. There is a Bill to provide for the levy of a tax by way of surcharge on fares paid for being carried in buses. There are many complaints from the travelling public that they will be unable to pay the excess levy. I understand that a person paying a bus fare of Rs. 1-8-0 now will have to pay at least Rs. 2 if the additional charge proposed in this Bill is levied. This means an increase of about 33 per cent over the present rate. If it cannot be avoided, I would agree even to this increase in bus fares; because if a person is unable to pay the increased bus fare, it will at least be open to him to escape from it by avoiding the bus.

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'walking out the distance.' Therefore I will not strongly oppose this increase although I may not support it. But so far as the surcharge on land revenue is concerned, I would strongly plead against it. Personally for the last seven years, I have been paying kist on my lands to Government getting nothing out of them. This may be due to the bad seasonal conditions we have had, but even in normal days it is very difficult for agriculturists at least in dry areas to make both ends meet. Therefore, I would earnestly request the Government at least not to go beyond the recommendations of the Subramaniam Committee."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I shall not spend the little time at my disposal by offering congratulations to the Ministers for having decontrolled foodgrains or for having made concessions to the Non-Gazetted Officers. But I should like to refer to one or two matters with regard to decontrol of foodgrains which should not be overlooked. This decontrol policy of the Government has received a magnificent response from the people themselves. The cultivator now feels a sense of freedom and relief. He has received this policy with great pleasure. He is now more or less induced to grow more food with a feeling that what he grows is his own. Hitherto he has been feeling that he is growing food, not only for himself but also for the Government. He has now got the feeling that he is growing it for himself. As a result of this policy I expect that there will be an increase in the production of foodgrains in this State. There has been otherwise also an upsurge of moral feeling in respect of this matter. I understand that a movement has been started somewhere in the district of Tanjore by mirasdars to sell paddy to consumers only at the rate of not more than five kalams of paddy at a time so that all persons who are really in need of paddy may get it. If such a feeling spreads all over this State, I think it will be possible for the people to get food as cheaply as possible. The present satisfactory state of affairs ought to continue. I do not know what will be the position of the persons who are out for exploiting the situation in about six months from this date. I do not know whether they will take advantage of the situation that may be created in six months and raise the prices of foodgrains. It is up to the Government to watch the situation very carefully and see that unscrupulous persons do not take advantage of the situation and raise the prices of foodgrains to the general disadvantage of the public.

"I consider that the Non-Gazetted Officers deserve the concessions granted by the Government. This concession in respect of education must be widespread and must be given to all persons who are too poor to pay the school fees of their children.

"Sir, I strongly support the plea made on the floor of this House that a rural bias should be given to the Budget. It is a matter, Sir, that is worth consideration. People from the villages come to the towns because they have not got the necessary amenities or facilities for schooling their children. Therefore I strongly appeal to the Government to take early steps for

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the purpose of what I would call 'urbanizing villages', by providing the necessary amenities to induce the people to remain there. Even persons who are hereditary cultivators send their sons out with ambitions to secure for them jobs in Government service. Therefore the village is suffering by depletion of capacity and talent, and it is necessary to stock the village with fresh talent. It is hardly just to ask young men in their youth to go back to villages sacrificing all their ambitions and giving up their little pleasures in cities. Therefore I should like the older people to take up this burden. I suggest, Sir, that the pensioned Government officers must be induced to settle in villages. I think it is possible to do that by giving them a small allowance, called 'village allowance.' Persons who are living on pensions owe a duty to the Government. Though they have done their duty by serving the Government for 30 years, still in the evening of their lives they may devote some portion of their time for village work. It must be done and it can be done, if possible, by giving them inducement. Somehow it must be made possible for them to live in villages. I know there are also difficulties. A friend of mine went and settled in a village. There were two factions in that village and in a quarrel between them, as an arbitrator, he had to decide in favour of one party. Subsequently, he was involved in a big case started by the other faction and he had to leave the village. I should like to point out to the Government that they should take steps for the rejuvenation of all villages. I should like my suggestions to be considered by the Government if they really feel that there is something in them.

"I should also like in this connexion to refer to the Firka Development Schemes and Community Projects which are now being worked out. They may go a little way in helping the villagers to stand on their own legs. As regards the Village Firka Development Scheme, a Revenue Inspector or an official is appointed by the Government to carry out these schemes though he is not the person who can do the work properly. These schemes require persons who believe in village work. The officials now in charge live in villages for a few months or years, always looking ahead for their own promotions in the service to which they belong. And when they are transferred on promotion, all the experiences gained by them are lost.

"This work must be taken up by people who have some enthusiasm for village uplift. It may be difficult to find such persons but there are persons with a predilection for this sort of work. There are also persons retired from service who have no promotion to look to and they can devote themselves exclusively to this kind of work.

"I should like to refer to the administration of Justice. 5-15
Arrears, especially in the High Court, have mounted up. I had p.m.
the figures with me but I have not got them now, but from memory, I can tell the House that there are 3,133 first appeals pending, 6,000 odd second appeals and 3,000 odd civil revision applications pending. These are accumulations which have

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mounted up during the course of the last three years. It is not as if the Judges are not doing their best. They are sitting in the Courts from 10-45 a.m. to 4-45 p.m. but with all their best work, they are not able to dispose of cases equal to the number of cases instituted. There is also another question which has recently arisen. There is a new jurisdiction that has been conferred upon them which entails a lot of work. Writs are filed and one Judge has to sit at it all round the year and he is not able to cope with the work. I also foresee a time when there will be many appeals coming before the High Court under the Estates Abolition Act. It would have to be disposed of by a Bench because that is what is required by the statute. If two Judges are taken out of their other duties on account of these appeals, the general work will certainly suffer and I should like the matter to be looked into. My suggestion to the Government is that there is a provision for the appointment of *ad hoc* Judges for the disposal of certain kinds of work; they will have really to be selected from the retired Judges, not retired long ago but recently, so that they may not be out of touch with Court work and they may dispose of the special kind of work, namely, the writs, and the appeals under the Estates Abolition Act, etc.

"I would like to make one small suggestion to the Hon. the Minister for Finance. The Court Fees Act is an old Act and attempts have been made from time to time to amend the Act. A special officer, Sri R. Satyamurthi was appointed to go into the question and submit his Report. His Report, an excellent Report of 300 pages, is before the Government. The Report was referred to the High Court for their opinion and it has been obtained. The Board of Revenue were consulted and their views are also there and some senior Collectors were also asked about it and everything is ready. Very good suggestions for the purpose of suitably amending this Act are before us. I am not suggesting that the fees should be enhanced or things like that. Already, there is very heavy expense involved in litigation and I will not suggest any increase, but I would suggest that there is much room for levelling up inequalities. I can assure the Hon. the Finance Minister that by that means the finances of the State will not suffer but, on the other hand, it will be benefited to the extent of a few lakhs of rupees. For that purpose, I suggest that a small committee must be appointed with a view to see that ambiguities and anomalies are removed. If such ambiguities and anomalies are removed, then a lot of time of the courts will be saved and the Government for their part will also be benefited. The courts will be saved from the bother of going into the question whether a particular fee paid is all right or a higher fee is required and the court will be free of the bother of going into such questions if we go into the matter.

"As the Hon. the Minister for Finance has observed, there is a deficit of about Rs. 3½ crores and as a Member belonging to the party in power, I should certainly support the proposals put forward by the Government to meet the situation caused by a

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deficit. In this matter, we, sitting in this House, are under certain limitations. We have no right of moving any cut motions or making any proposition how taxes should be levied or altered. But the general discussion of the Budget by us affords us an opportunity to make helpful suggestions to the Government and I think it is equally incumbent upon the Government to take note of them and give them their earnest consideration. It has been suggested on the floor of this House and elsewhere that the only escape from these taxes is the cancellation of Prohibition. I know some people have been saying that there is a lot of evasion of the Prohibition law and it has not been properly and strictly enforced and therefore it should be scrapped. Let me tell the House, Sir, that I strongly believe in Prohibition. Evasions, let me tell the House, there are in any criminal law. Take the Indian Penal Code or any other criminal law; there are the Magistrates and the Police, but still offences are being committed to the extent of lakhs but do we say on that account: 'There are so many thefts, so many dacoities, so many murders in spite of this law and therefore, we have not been able to prevent them'. Therefore can we say: 'Let us abolish the criminal law altogether?' No. So also here, that there have been evasions is not a sufficient ground for thinking of abolishing Prohibition. The only thing that we have to do is that we shall have to be somewhat careful in the matter of selection of personnel for the enforcement of Prohibition. I know there is a certain section of the people who ridicule Prohibition and for that purpose take advantage of any report of transgression that is published in the newspapers, as though by that they prove that the generality of people commit Prohibition offences. But that is not the case; only nine or ten per cent who are old addicts and who could not do without it commit the offences. The number of those that drink has been considerably reduced. My suggestion in regard to this matter will be for the appointment of a small committee to consider the question of the relaxation of rules, something in the nature of exemptions or permits for them, at least for the purpose of rationing out drink to such persons as cannot do without it. Then all the difficulties will be solved. A committee of this nature can surely devise ways and means for accomplishing this purpose. Everybody is agreed that Prohibition is good. Ask any woman and she will tell you it has done her family a lot of good. Men may hold different views but the women are all in favour of Prohibition. No relaxation should be made except to the limited extent I have mentioned. I do not want to go into the moral aspect of the question as I am only considering the practical aspect of what steps should be taken to make Prohibition a success.

"About the question of retrenchment, it must be very welcome because that would give lakhs of rupees for putting through our social work. It will not really help if we abolish a few posts of peons and other lower grade posts here and there. Two or three things must in this connection be considered by the Government. One concerns the question of compulsory retirement at the age of fifty-five. Now in these days when there is so much of scientific

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advancement and when the standard of life has been considerably improved, it is possible for persons beyond the age of fifty-five to continue to give good service, till they attain sixty years of age. The conditions of service for retirement was laid down by the British Government because they wanted to go back home and it was considered that what was good for the European officers was good for the Indian servants also. As a matter of fact, we see quite a number of superannuated people going about their jobs. If we continue them in employment, there are two advantages, one is that the treasury will be considerably relieved of its commitments; it has now to pay not only the pension but also the pay of the incoming individual whereas if we continue such a person in service, the State will have the advantage of the accumulated experience that the person had gained during his long period of service. That is one thing which has to be taken into consideration. At the outset, there will be some opposition that promotions are hampered but after a time, things will adjust themselves and there will be no room for complaint. It is my sincere view that if all the Government servants will conscientiously and sincerely do their work from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. half the number will do. Supervision is not proper and there is no real grit on the part of the officers and because of this a large staff has become necessary. I should like better and rigorous supervision and I feel that if really people put their heart into their work and give the best of their energy for the purpose of Government work, not so much of staff will be necessary and considerable retrenchment could be effected. And that must be done in spite of unpopularity.

"About the question of surcharge on land revenue, it has to be remembered that agriculture at best is not a profitable concern and it does not yield much to the cultivator and when you are going to levy a surcharge upon Rs. 51, it will hit the poor and people of the middle classes. While I would agree that it may be there as a temporary remedy to enable us to tide over a difficult situation, it ought to go at the end of the year. It is unscientific and has been levied irrespective of the people's capacity to pay. The more scientific levy will be the agricultural income-tax where there is a free slab. But here it has been taken up probably as it is easy of collection along with the land revenue. Being unscientific, I would like it to be given up at the end of the year and steps should be taken in a vigorous fashion for bringing in the agricultural income-tax. The pie on every mile of bus travel will certainly hit the middle classes; it will not touch the rich as they will be having their cars nor the poor as they would walk. But the surcharge, being small, it may be pardoned. But this also must, if it could not be helped, be kept for a year only and must not be a precedent for carrying it on for the next year just as was done in the case of the sales tax. Unpopular and unwelcome taxes ought to disappear as early as possible and the Government must see if they cannot find any other expedient to replace them at the end of the year.

5.30 p.m. "Sir, as regards the Betterment Tax, I support it because persons who derive benefit should pay for it.

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"As regards enhanced tax on petrol, those persons who use motor cars should pay it and there is no difficulty about that.

"Now, I come to the expenditure side of the general administration. A pretty large amount of expenditure to the tune of Rs. 11 crores is incurred on general administration. An effective way of reducing this heavy expenditure is to decentralize the administration. An ambitious attempt was made in 1946 by the then Government to decentralize all governmental activities by constituting District Administrative Councils. According to this scheme, these District Administrative Councils will be left in charge of collecting revenues from the districts. They will have their own executive officers, engineers, medical men, etc. The only thing the State Government may be asked to do is to send their advisers or consulting engineers whenever any difficulty is experienced by the district administration. As regards revenues collected by the districts, one-half will be taken over by the districts and the other half will go to the State Government for maintaining police, engineering experts, etc. Sir, this scheme is nothing new and it is not original. It is modelled on the lines of the County Councils of England. I do not think this scheme will present any difficulty. A beginning has already been made in the Village Panchayat Act. In that Act, panchayats are given police powers and they can utilize a portion of the revenue collected by them also for making improvements in the villages. If the District Administrative Councils are constituted and given wide powers, there may not be any necessity to have 15 Ministers. Five or six Ministers will do. Also there will be plenty of savings. Therefore, I respectfully ask the Hon. Minister in charge to see if he can shape something out of the file on record. Sir, some of my suggestions may appeal to this House and the Government and some may not. Still I feel I have suggested something for the purpose of helping the Government."

* SRI P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI :—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Budget is a very presentable Budget and any Government can feel proud to have presented such a Budget. It provides for irrigation facilities at many places. It also provides for more beds in hospitals, more schools, more accommodation in schools and many other things which are the crying need of the hour and as such the Hon. Finance Minister can certainly feel proud of it.

"Sir, decontrol of foodgrains has made the people happy and they have nothing but praise for the present Ministry headed by the Hon. the Chief Minister.

"As it is, I cannot but speak about the various items mentioned in the Budget. The activities of the various departments are reflected from the amount of receipts and expenditure to the State and if expenditure exceeds the receipt, the Government are not able to balance the Budget without further taxation. In this connexion, I am just reminded—when I was a young boy—of what Prof. Winclair who was connected with the Zamorin College for some time used to say as a joke. It was like this. A gentleman

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from Kozhikode who came to Madras visited a number of places walking along the streets of Madras. When he returned to his place, he was asked by his friends to give his impression about the City of Madras. He said (in Malayalam): 'How many houses does the "To let" Sahib own?' (Tolet Sahibக்கு). எத்தனை வீடுகளை. I hope my Malayalee friends will forgive me for saying this. In those days, when there was no housing shortage here, some of the houses used to have 'To-let' sign-boards. This gentleman from Kozhikode mistook it for the name of a gentleman living in the house and so told his friends that a gentleman by name Mr. Tolet had so many houses in Madras. That joke can very well be applied to this case, for everywhere we see expenditure and most of the expenditure is consumed by the various departments of the Government. Of course it is a heritage of the past and you cannot shake it off so easily. If, for the first time, anybody or for that matter, any intelligent person is asked to frame a Budget, he will frame an acceptable Budget. I do realize that as it is, encumbrances are there; difficulties are there; discontent is there; and the Government have to overcome all these things.

"Sir, I want to say one or two things about the Budget proper before I come to the main theme of my speech to-day. My hon. Friend Mr. Balasubramania Ayyar—who is sitting next to me—wanted that the capital works should be slowed down and that the expenditure relating to it should be met from the revenue account. It is impossible to do anything in this country if you depend upon your current income alone and a poor country like ours and especially the Madras State cannot do anything in the course of even a generation. Therefore, I say all capital works must be done with borrowed capital and not by resorting to taxation.

"Now, I come to the betterment levy. This levy was proposed by the previous Government and this Government have taken it up for execution. It is proposed to levy a betterment tax not only on the benefit already derived but also on benefits to be derived hereafter. I think, it is not fair to levy tax on the benefits to be derived later on because the question of betterment comes only after the actual benefit is derived. It is quite possible that the benefit may come after 10 or 15 years hence. If this tax is levied on the benefits to be derived hereafter, it will cause great hardship to the tenants.

"Sir, some hon. Members criticized the Budget. I can only say that we can criticize any Budget framed by anybody. There is no difficulty in criticizing anything and we all know that no two minds agree. The great Tiruvalluvar said:

‘சொல்லுதல் யார்க்கும் எளிய அறியவாம்
சொல்லிய வண்ணம் செயல்’.

It is easy for anybody to criticize and to say things but it is difficult for anybody to do as he says. Therefore no purpose is served by merely criticizing others and you must mean what you say.

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"Now, I come to my main theme, namely, village reconstruction. I do not want facilities for the villages. I am a villager myself and therefore I am in direct touch with the village people. The villagers do not want the amenities that you are likely to provide and it is also impossible for the Government to provide amenities to the innumerable villages in our State. What is wanted is the reconstruction of villages. Village reconstruction must be based on the formula that a ten-square mile area will constitute a village. Villages must be replicas of a small republic. They must have all the powers of the Government concentrated in a few villagers, headmen, or panchayats or some authority in the village. They must exercise all civil, criminal and judicial functions. They must also be entrusted with the powers of collecting taxes and spending half of the revenue for their benefit and giving the other half to the Government. If this is done, they will not expect any dole from you but on the other hand you must expect a dole from them. Also, villagers do not want your experts. They can do many things themselves. There is 'kudimaramath' and people are willing to put their shoulders to the wheel and do things. They are far superior to your officers. They can construct earthen dams without any help from your officers. Sir, if this programme is adopted the Government can reduce the huge expenditure on administration.

"Now, I want to say one word about the Judiciary. In this connexion I am just reminded of a case where a coconut tree overhung the compound wall of the next house. The two neighbours quarrelled over the damage caused by the coconut tree and the case finally came up before the High Court. An Indian High Court Judge before whom the case came up for hearing, declared 'I am ashamed that vakils should appear to argue in a case of this kind. I want this case to be compromised', and the case was compromised within three days. So, I say it is not a question of laying down law for all generations. We are anxious to go to the High Court even for trivial matters. My hon. Friend Mr. Bhashyam also referred to this matter and said that thousands of appeals are pending as arrears before the High Court for disposal. We can prevent the filing of appeals in the High Court if we change the law. Villagers should be asked to settle the disputes among themselves. Village headman or a group of men respected by the villagers and considered to be impartial men should be appointed as arbitrators. Then village quarrels will cease to exist. Also, if you like, you can group a number of villages into one administrative unit. Let this be a replica of the Indian republic.

"Sir, I want that big cities and towns should be depopulated as there is overcrowding. Unnecessary things are concentrated in the cities. There are so many mills in Madras, Madurai and Coimbatore. Why do you want mills in cities only? You can have mills in places far away from the cities and thus reduce the population in the cities. Sir, in this City all Government offices are here. All the colleges are here. Why do you want all the colleges here? They can be scattered in different places. I can

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understand the Legislative Council Chamber being here. I can also understand the Legislative Assembly being here but I cannot understand the Office of the Inspector-General of Registration being here. It can be located somewhere outside the City. Also, why should more hospitals be located in Madras? I am not saying that there should be no hospitals in Madras. Why not some of these hospitals be located in places like Gudiyatham which is 100 miles from Madras. Why do you want to deprive Gudiyatham of this medical facility? Because you concentrate all important things in one place like Madras, Chingleput and North Arcot districts have been depopulated and this has led to the impoverishment of the people there. There is no use asking the people to go back to the villages. Nobody would go. If you shift some of the offices, mills, colleges and hospitals to places in the mufassal, then people will automatically move.

5-45 P.M. "Then, Sir, before I sit down I have to say one or two things more, and that is with reference to Prohibition. There are two aspects regarding Prohibition. One is that it is a vice and you ought not to tax vice and use it and the other is, that we are using compulsion to prevent people from drinking. We are taxing vice if we scrap Prohibition; we do not want that tax and that tax should not be used for any purpose. I have to mention now that ever so many people have taken to drink. I do not say it has become a cottage industry; but, I say that it has become a great vice in the villages. Hitherto men alone were drinking; now even women and children have begun to drink. It is not as if they are all going to the shop, purchase liquor there, bring it home and drink. It is not so—but it is so easy to get a drink, as it is prepared at home now. I am quite unfamiliar with the method of how it is being prepared at home. I do not know the ingredients of that drink. I hear the barks of trees and shells of coconut are boiled and a juice is extracted from them and it becomes an intoxicant, though it is of a bad and crude type and very harmful to health. You want to use compulsion to prevent people from drinking. These people are the people of whom Tiruvalluvar, the great poet, has said:

இருமனப் பெண்டிரும் கள்ளும் கவறும்
திரு நீக்கப்பட்டார் தொடர்பு.

Those that do not want prosperity, namely, those spurned by Goddess Lakshmi, take to prostitutes, drink and gambling with avidity. So, Sir, we can never obliterate drink. All the same, we can try to wean them from the habit by propaganda and through films showing how the human body is wrecked and falls a prey to several diseases. If the villagers unite together and make a united effort to see that drink does not raise its ugly head Prohibition can be enforced more successfully than now. They will be able to control more effectively the people who misbehave.

"Now, Sir, I have only one other matter to state and that is about the palmyra trees in the Tirunelveli district. I am told, and I believe it is true, that palmyra tree is taxed only in Tirunelveli

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district. If this is true I would request the Hon. Minister for Finance to abolish this tax. The palmyra tree is known as 'Karpaka' tree. It gives all the things which a family requires for its existence. If a man owns 100 such trees, provided they are all fruit yielding, he can get on in this world without any other means of livelihood. This tree gives juice which is drinkable. If the tax is removed then the poor people can take to this drink freely. I hope the present Ministry will abolish this tax on palmyra tree in Tirunelveli district.

"Before I sit down I wish to know what has become of the library cess that Government have been collecting all along. To my knowledge, no library has been opened, nor has the Director for that been appointed. I doubt whether that cess has been utilized at all."

* SRI E. H. PARAMESWARAN :—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to make a few observations on the Budget that has been presented by the Hon. the Chief Minister. At the very outset, I feel it my duty to say that on a review of the several actions of the Government during the last few months and the proposals contained in the Budget, we have every reason to congratulate the Government. I also feel that any unbiassed person will have no doubt in declaring that he should be proud of the achievements of the Government during the last few months that it has been in office.

"First and foremost, come the measures adopted by the Government to combat the famine in Rayalaseema. We are very glad that the great crisis produced by the famine in Rayalaseema has been tided over by the very prompt measures taken by the Government and also by the combined efforts of non-official agencies and the people of the locality. Now that the crisis is over, Sir, people are likely to forget that it was something unprecedented in its nature and intensity. The Hon. Finance Minister has pointed out that on a rough calculation about six crores of rupees have been spent on relief to the famine-stricken people in Rayalaseema. He has also explained that but for the unexpected expenditure of six crores there would have been no deficit Budget and there would have been no need to think of additional sources of taxation.

"Here, I wish also to say that the Government have taken time by the forelock to rush to the help of weavers. I remember, that at the last session of the Assembly and the Council, many hon. Members referred to the precarious plight of the handloom weavers and said that unless something radical was done by Government, this great handloom industry would go to ruin. We are very glad that the Government have taken prompt and adequate measures in consultation with the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, and now many weavers feel that there is hope for them. The Hon. the Finance Minister has said that irrespective of the cost, Government are prepared to implement the proposals and they are prepared to bring forward a supplementary Budget later on. I am glad Government have taken prompt measures.

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"Another matter on which several members have congratulated Government now is the food policy of the Government. I remember when the Hon. the Chief Minister first announced through the radio that they have at last decided upon decontrol, there was a thrill of joy and satisfaction throughout the country. All classes of people, rich and poor, land-owner and merchant, all combined in offering their congratulations to Rajaji on his far-sightedness and statesmanship. Millions of people to-day feel an inexpressible joy and they feel as if they have gained a new freedom. All the same, I am conscious of the fact, that here and there voices of protest have been raised and, I remember, how a distinguished person like Pandit Kunzru characterized the reversal of the food policy of the Madras Government, as having been based on political opportunism divorced from all logic and economic facts. Pandit Kunzru has also very vehemently criticised it as what he called the intuitionist economics of our leader, Rajaji, and as a gamble with the lives of the people. I can only say to a leader like Pandit Kunzru, 'please go to the slums of the urban area, please go to the thousands of villages in the State of Madras and see with your own eyes the great jubilation among all classes of people.' I can say with due deference to Pandit Kunzru and other people who have criticised the food policy of the Madras Government that no single measure during recent years has been universally welcomed by all classes of people as decontrol of foodgrains.

"I have always felt that our leader Rajaji is noted for his courage and for the lead he gives to the country on various occasions. I am reminded of his act in the matter of accepting Ministerial Responsibility under the Government of India Act, 1935. I am also reminded that it was he who gave the lead with regard to Prohibition. Hon. Members have expressed their opinion regarding Prohibition. I do not want here to go into the fact whether it is a success or otherwise. Then, it was he who gave the lead with regard to the levy of the sales tax. And now, I feel supremely happy he has adopted decontrol of foodgrains. It is being followed by State after State now all over India. I hope all classes of people will co-operate with the policy of the Government, and that the confidence placed by the Government on the people and the trade will be eminently justified.

"Now, Sir, I wish to say one or two words with respect to Malabar. The hon. Member, Mr. Govinda Menon, the other day, made an appeal to the Government to see that fair price shops in Malabar and in the Nilgiris are kept running throughout the year. There is always a mentality to make profits when foodgrains are in short supply and therefore it is we say that fair price shops should be run in the deficit districts throughout the year.

"Then, I wish to congratulate Government on their policy with regard to major schemes of irrigation. We have been assured by the Hon. the Finance Minister that major schemes like the Tungabhadra Project, the Lower Bhavani Project, the Malampuzha Project and the Manimuthar Project will not be slowed down. The

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common people all over the land feel that Government will be committing a great mistake if they slowed down these schemes now; because large sums of money have already been spent on them, the officers and machinery are already there, and so there is no meaning in slowing down those projects already started. We are glad to find the Government of India have allotted the maximum amount of one crore to the Malampuzha Project. I hope Government will see to it that not even a part of the grant is allowed to lapse.

"Another subject on which I wish to congratulate Government is the concession given to non-gazetted officers, local board employees and to the teachers in aided elementary schools and secondary schools. Hon. Members will remember that while speaking here on the last occasion, I made an appeal to the Government to extend the concession given to non-gazetted officers, to all teachers also. I am very glad that as a stroke of statesmanship Government have extended the concession to teachers working in elementary schools and secondary schools. It has produced a great psychological satisfaction among teachers. I hope this is a step in the right direction and I also hope that this is the first step in the implementation of the policy of free and compulsory education for all children of the land between the ages of five and fourteen as contemplated in Article 45 of the Indian Constitution. Even if the Government give this concession to other children in schools, it will be only implementing this Article of the Constitution.

"While thanking Government for giving fee concession, I have to make one or two requests. While they gave the fee concession to the children of teachers in local board employ, they forgot all about the children of teachers in special schools, training schools, Montessori schools, in schools for the deaf, dumb and blind and the basic educational schools. I take it that this concession will be made applicable to the teachers working in those schools. I request Government to make it clear that the concession applies to them also. I would also appeal to the Government earnestly to make the concession available to all children of teachers working in aided colleges. Probably it was not brought to the notice of the Government that the tutors, demonstrators, assistant lecturers, etc., working in aided colleges are drawing very low salaries. Their salaries are very poor and they also deserve the benefit of this concession. Sir, the teachers working in the special schools and the colleges need and deserve this concession and I would request the Government not to mind the small extra sums which would be involved in extending the concessions to them also.

"I thought of saying something about elementary education, but as the time at my disposal is very short, I will try to be as brief as possible. Elementary education is under the control of local bodies and private managements and the South Indian Teachers' Union has been feeling that local bodies are not given adequate funds by the Government, and private managements which are in a precarious condition will not be able to do anything, I, therefore, request the Government to have a definite plan with

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regard to elementary education. Thirty-eight lakhs of children are in elementary schools to-day and about 35 lakhs have to be put into schools. Only if about 3 to 4 lakhs of children are brought into the schools every year according to a definite plan, we can think of implementing the programme contemplated in Article 45 of the Constitution. The South Indian Teachers' Union at its provincial conference at Coimbatore in May 1952 passed a resolution that a committee may be appointed to go into the question of agency, finance, supervision and control with regard to elementary education. I am not suggesting that the Government should take up the whole of elementary education but the time has come, Sir, for reviewing the whole question and the Government can have a departmental enquiry or appoint a Commission to go into the whole matter. So also, with regard to secondary education, I was thinking of suggesting the appointment of a committee but the Government of India have already appointed a Secondary Education Commission and we are very glad and very proud also that our distinguished countryman, Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar has been appointed as the Chairman of this Commission. With regard to the secondary school teachers, I feel, I cannot congratulate the Government though I have congratulated the Government with regard to several other matters. Time and again, Sir, we of the South Indian Teachers' Union have drawn the attention of the Government to the steady deterioration in the quality of persons seeking admission to training schools and colleges and to the fact that good and capable teachers are leaving the schools for good because they have not been able to make both ends meet from their meagre income. This is a danger spot and a warning to the Government. The South Indian Teachers' Union, therefore, on the 25th December 1951, made a special appeal to His Excellency the Governor requesting him to go into the question of the scales of salary of the secondary school teachers and requesting that at least the scales of salary of the lowest paid teachers might be looked into and something done. The Hon. the Minister for Education from several platforms gave assurances in February and March 1952 that this question was being looked into. I remember, Sir, the Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty, speaking as the Finance Minister, saying on the floor of the Legislative Assembly that the revision of the scales of salaries of teachers was under active consideration. So, teachers in elementary schools and secondary schools were eagerly expecting that something substantial would be done for the amelioration of their lot.

"Now, Sir, calmly and coolly and with very great courage, the Government have said that they have come to a decision not to revise the scales of salaries of teachers because of the very difficult financial condition. They have also in a communication addressed to the South Indian Teachers' Union said that the Government are considering and exploring how relief could be given to the teachers in other directions. The teachers are very disappointed. There is acute disappointment and a sense of frustration among them. This

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sense of frustration is certainly a danger to education. As it is getting late, I would content myself with suggesting to the Government that pending a general revision of the scales of salary of all teachers, the Government may kindly consider the following:—

- (1) Abolition of the invidious distinction in the salary scales between teachers working under different managements;
- (2) adoption of the Government scales of salary for teachers in aided institutions and local bodies;
- (3) revision of the scales of pay of teachers in elementary and secondary schools;
- (4) grant of house-rent allowance to teachers in urban areas; and
- (5) security of tenure to elementary and secondary school teachers.

Security of tenure is not a thing which will entail any expenditure on the part of Government. It is a very important matter. Every teacher working in a college, high school or elementary school should always feel secure that the authority of the Government is behind him and that no manager will be able to send him out at the end of the year. I have been told by a number of teachers, even as recently as yesterday, that when they went to the school after the reopening they were told that their services were not required. I have got their letters with me even now. I would therefore request the Government to pay attention to the security of service of teachers.

"I do not want to speak anything about the Budget proposals because several hon. Members have already pointed out that the Budget has to be balanced though some hon. Members said yesterday and the day before that the Budget need not be balanced and the deficit need not be covered. Just as the credit of an individual depends upon balancing his income and expenditure, the credit of the Government also depends on balancing its Budget and the credit of a Government is an important matter. The Hon. the Chief Minister has pointed out the importance of maintaining the credit of the Government. Taxes have, therefore, got to be levied and I will only request the Government to consider whether the surcharge on bus fares could be changed into something else, for example, collecting a tax from the owners of buses according to the seating capacity of the buses.

"With regard to land revenue, I feel that the exemption limit of Rs. 50 is too low. It should be raised to Rs. 150 or at least Rs. 100.

"Finally, Sir, I feel that a stable Government is necessary for the prosperity of the country. We feel very glad that the Legislative Assembly has voted the motion of confidence by a strong and clear majority and given sanction to the Government to go ahead with its various beneficial schemes.

[Sri E. H. Parameswaran] [8th July 1952]

"Sir, I wish to say one thing about the Preamble to the Constitution. Our Constitution is something unique. Liberty, Fraternity and Equality were the watchwords of the French revolutionaries and these formed the basis of the French Constitution. These three also formed the basis of the American Constitution but our great Constitution has gone one step further because our Preamble says we have established a sovereign democratic republic to secure justice, social, economic and political along with Fraternity, Liberty and Equality. Let us always remember this ideal of justice in everything that we do, in framing our educational policy, in framing our Budget and in framing our taxation proposals. I appeal to the Government, to the Opposition and to the Members of this House to remember in everything that we do this ideal of a Welfare State and that we should fulfil our objective to secure to all the citizens justice, social, economic and political."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have risen to speak on this occasion with a view to make this House understand and also the country outside this House understand where the people of this land stand to-day and what their position is economically and politically and what their duty is in dealing with the present situation. I may request the hon. Members of this House to consider the economic situation of the country as a whole and of this State in particular. Can it be said that the present economic situation can be improved and the present economic distress can be removed by Sri Rajagopalachari and his Cabinet or by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and his Cabinet? Where are the people, where are the rulers to-day and where are the opportunities for the people to set right matters and get control over their own affairs? I am speaking, Sir, not with a view to launch some attack against Sri C. Rajagopalachari for the position he has taken in this State to-day. I am appealing to him, to his associates and to others to consider where this country is to-day economically and whether there is any chance for him or for those who are above him to get justice for the people? Some hon. Friends remarked some time ago 'Why did Mr. Prakasam come through the backdoor?' Prakasam has come through the backdoor because he has been anxious to do service to his country even through the backdoor and even with the little opportunities he might get. He has not come through the backdoor with a view to get some office, to get some job for himself or for his comrades although he is said to be leading a party. As he has all along been standing for, Prakasam stands for getting justice for the people. He is not standing for getting justice done for himself or for his own comrades."

"Constitutional issues had arisen in the past, Sir, when the right of speech, the right of tabling resolution before the Assembly were denied by the Congress High Command and also by the Government. I was a victim myself and not anybody else."

6-15 p.m. "To-day, Sir, a crisis has arisen in the country. That crisis relates to the right which the people of this State claim to have

8th July 1952] [Sri T. Prakasam]

under the Constitution. Can anybody say now, Sir, that the present economic position of the country can be solved? Can Sri C. Rajagopalachari or Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru or his advisers and experts say that the economic position of the country can be solved and poverty of the people removed by them, under our Constitution as it is, and on the lines on which they are now proceeding? I have been asserting that it is not possible for a million Jawaharlal Nehrus or a million Rajagopalacharis or a million experts to solve the problems relating to the poor people of this country unless the whole system of Government and all their policies are changed? I do not ~~grudge~~ the congratulations given to Mr. Rajagopalachari. I am one of those who was very glad when Mr. C. Rajagopalachari announced the policy of decontrol. I am glad, Sir, that Mr. Rajagopalachari had made a statement saying that after he announced the policy of decontrol, he could see the liberty of the people with his own eyes. Freedom is a thing which is sacred to every one of us. Freedom is a thing which cannot be purchased for any value in a market. I do not take that Mr. C. Rajagopalachari or his comrades had the opportunity to know the value of freedom in relation to controls. I was in charge of a Ministry, for a short time no doubt. Even after I went out of office what did I see with regard to the operation of controls? There was no freedom anywhere. On one occasion, Sir, I was travelling in a train, and I saw at a particular railway station a large number of policemen with guns in their hands ready to pounce upon people carrying small headloads of rice. I saw some women getting down the train feeling that they would be safe in getting down there with their headloads of rice. Immediately the police pounced on them and removed from them the bundles of rice. One small girl travelling with me put the bundle below her and sat upon it. Even that girl was forced out of the train by the Police. Immediately I got down from the train, went to the Police Officer in charge and asked him as to why they were behaving like this. He said 'That is our orders.' That is the sort of Government going on under the control system. Mr. C. Rajagopalachari did not know how people were suffering. Doing away with the control on foodgrains is not the only thing that is wanted. People must become free at some time or other. Controls were introduced during the war for war purposes. After the war was over, there was no need for the controls to continue, even for one or two years. For seven long years these controls were continued in this State after the war was over, and all kinds of offences were committed by the officers. Therefore it is natural that people should feel glad that controls were removed by Sri C. Rajagopalachari. We were also watching how this step was taken. One day suddenly the Minister in charge of Food, Mr. Kidwai, came to Madras and had consultations with Sri C. Rajagopalachari. They had discussions about the position of rice and wheat. Somehow Mr. Kidwai left it to Mr. Rajagopalachari to deal with the situation. Mr. Rajagopalachari dealt with the situation because the situation warranted it. The situation

[Sri T. Prakasam]

[8th July 1952]

impressed upon him that this was the only way in which relief could be given to the people.

"I have watched the economic situation of the country for a good number of years. Why have the prices of all commodities fallen recently? The Hon. Finance Minister is laughing at my statement. I have not stated anything against Sri C. Rajagopalachari or against him. Did the Madras Government reduce the prices? Did the Government of India headed by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru move its little finger to reduce the prices? The prices fell because they could not continue to stay any longer at that artificial level, at which they were kept by the Government. The prices had gone to the highest limit and could not go beyond that limit. Naturally they had to come down. Can anybody say that the common people were allowed to enjoy the benefits of reduced prices? I am charging the Government with the fullest responsibility, and the Government of India as well, for what they had done, soon after the prices fell. The Government at once applied artificial methods to lift the prices of foodgrains. That is why the whole trouble started in Bombay and in other places. The Government are criminally responsible for the methods which they have employed to raise the prices to the detriment of the interests of the common man. I have, therefore, come here through the backdoor to explain to you and through you the millions of people outside these things. That is my duty. I do not grudge any praise to Mr. Rajagopalachari. We had worked together, we had worked against each other. We had worked to destroy each other. Only we did not succeed in all these matters. This is the first point I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Members of this House, particularly to the Hon. Mr. C. Rajagopalachari and his Finance Minister Sri C. Subramaniam. Where is the country now? How can you expect this country to come out of the trouble unless and until the debt created by this Government or through the negligence of this Government is cleared? I am a man who is trying to understand things from a practical point of view. In this country from 1861, for 53 long years, we were having no currency trouble on account of the rise in prices or fall in prices. In 1861, there was the Paper Currency Act. Under that Act, only four crores of rupees were exempted from the operations of that Act. Those four crores related to Government securities. Whatever paper currency was issued there was metallic security for it. That was the position of the Government and the people then. That was how the people's interests were protected.

"What is a paper currency? At the end of every month, we receive a certain number of currency notes as our salary for sitting here and doing this business. In the currency note it is written, 'I promise to pay the bearer on demand the sum of Rs. . . .'. It is a Government note. They guarantee that if we present it at a bank, it will give us silver or gold whichever we prefer.

[8th July 1952]

[Sri T. Prakasam]

"For 53 years from 1861 onwards, the circulation of notes was only 44 crores of rupees. And that circulation could not be disturbed and it continued for 53 long years without any disturbance. I have lived long enough in this world; I have seen poor people getting low salaries of Rs. 8 and Rs. 10, either from the Government or the zamindar, living without any grumbling. People got on because there was no fraud committed upon them; there were no fluctuations; the markets and the prices were steady . . ."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—"I think the hon. Member could continue his speech to-morrow."

SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"Yes, I have no objection, Sir."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—"It has been represented to me that the time announced for the election to the State Library Committee, namely 11 a.m., is not convenient to hon. Members. I have, therefore, changed the time to 2 p.m. to 3-30 p.m. to-morrow for the polling.

"The House stands adjourned to meet again to-morrow, the 9th July 1952 at 4 p.m."

The House adjourned.

[8th July 1952]

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 26 asked by Sri S. B. Adityan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 8th July 1952, page 206 supra.]

Statement showing the details of permits for iron and steel granted indicating the categories and quantities issued to the political sufferers in the Madras State from 1949-50 to June 1952.

Serial number and name of the political sufferers who were registered as fabricators in the Madras State.	Permit number.	Date.	Particulars of materials issued.	Quantity issued.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
ARCOOT (NORTH) DISTRICT.				
1 V. R. Krishna Pillai & Co., Vellore.	65981 12430	1st November 1950.	H.C. squares 1½"	2 0 0 0 1 10 0 0 (returned).
2 A. Kulandaivelu Pillai, Vellore.	ISC/ICM/ J5/50.	2nd February 1950.	B.P. 24	1 10 0 0
	ISC/ICM/ J5/50.	26th March 1950.	Rods 1½"	0 10 0 0
	ISC/ICM/ J5/50.	29th March 1950.	Sheets	.. ..
	ISC/ICM/ J5/50.	Do.	Sheet 18G	0 10 0 0
	18G/6809/ J5/50.	21st July 1950	Sheet	1 0 0 0
	65260	28th August 1950.	B.P. 26	0 10 0 0
	65956	20th September 1950.	B.P. 24	1 10 0 0
	2431/13286/ J5/50.	5th October 1950.	P.C.R. C.A. sheets	2 10 0 0
	2769/151139/ J5/50.	22nd November 1950.	B.P. sheets	2 10 0 0
	35/8	22nd June 1951.	B.P. sheets 24	1 10 0 0
	1715	16th March 1951.	B.P. 30	1 10 0 0
	1723	3rd April 1951 ..	B.P. 30	1 0 0 0
	3581	10th August 1951.	B.P. 14	1 0 0 0
	5138	17th October 1951.	B.P. 104	1 0 0 0
	26676	18th February 1952.	B.P. 24	1 0 0 0
	29325	20th February 1952.	B.P. 20	2 0 0 0
	2238	28th April 1952.	B.P. 26	0 10 0 0
KRISHNA DISTRICT.				
1 Sri Peetha Nageswara Rao, Masulipatnam.	30276 65057 2114/111351/ J5/50.	14th June 1950. 26th July 1950. 21st August 1950.	B.P. sheet 12 B.P. sheet 12 Rods 4"	1 10 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 6 3 8
	2115/11184/ J5/50.	12th September 1950.	Rods 4"	1 5 0 0
	704	15th February 1951.	Flats	1 15 0 0
	76293	17th July 1951.	Rods	2 0 0 0
	2853	25th July 1951.	Plates	1 0 0 0
	12541	12th January 1952.	Squares 2"	1 0 0 0
	26418	Do.	Flats	1 0 0 0
	20707	2nd March 1952.	Do.	1 0 0 0
	7428	14th May 1952.	....	2 17 3 11

[8th July 1952]

Serial number and name of the political sufferers who were registered as fabricators in the Madras State.	Permit number.	Date.	Particulars of materials issued.	Quantity issued.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
MADRAS.				
1 Messrs. Kalyan Stores.	21791 6559	28th January 1951.	G.P. sheet 24G	1 0 0 0
	6137 1309	26th February 1952.	G.P. sheet 22G	0 10 0 0
2 B. S. Babu	5002 26903	24th April 1952.	G.P. sheet 22G	0 5 0 0
		6th May 1952 ..	Rounds 3/8"	0 4 0 0
		5th October 1951.	B.P. sheets cuttings.	1 0 0 0
		22nd October 1952.	B.P. sheet 24G	0 10 0 0
	29652	24th March 1952.	Do.	1 0 0 0
	7320	16th May 1952.	Do.	1 10 0 0
	12150	6th June 1952.	Do.	1 10 0 0
3 Sri Ramadoos	29642	6th March 1952.	B.P. sheets 24G	1 0 0 0
	124/J5/52	13th March 1952.	G.P. sheets 24G	1 0 0 0
	29651	24th March 1952.	B.P. sheets 24G	1 0 0 0
4 Messrs. Surya Iron and Steel Fabrica- tion Works.	25806 2659 12117 2643 3096	11th April 1951.	B.P. sheets 14G	1 0 0 0
		18th April 1951.	Do.	1 0 0 0
		13th June 1951.	B.P. sheets 12G	1 0 0 0
		6th June 1951.	Round cuttings 3/8"	0 5 0 0
		20th October 1951.	B.P. sheets 6/24G	1 0 0 0
	29900	22nd February 1952.	B.P. sheets 24G	0 10 0 0
	6563	26th February 1952.	G.P. sheets 22G	0 10 0 0
	2124	24th April 1952.	Do.	0 5 0 0
	7306	9th May 1952.	Rounds 2/8"	0 4 0 0
5 A. S. Ramalingam.	520	14th February 1951.	B.P. sheets 24G	1 10 0 0
	3556	10th April 1951.	B.P. sheets 11/14G.	1 0 0 0
	3940	7th June 1951.	Round cuttings	0 5 0 0
	5035	20th October 1951.	B.P. sheets 6/24, 13/18G.	1 10 0 0
	5435	3rd January 1952.	B.P. sheets 24G	0 10 0 0
	5964	12th February 1952.	G.P. sheets 24G	0 10 0 0
	6564	26th February 1952.	G.P. sheets 22G	0 10 0 0
	2123	24th April 1952.	Do.	0 5 0 0
	7305	9th May 1952.	Rounds 3/8"	0 4 0 0
	924/F/52	13th June 1952.	G.P. sheets 24G	0 10 0 0
6 S. Govinda Swamy.	ISC/13kn/ J5.	10th August 1950.	G.I. Wire 12G	0 5 0 0
	M.K.N./ J5/50.	16th August 1950.	H.B. Wire 9G	0 5 0 0
	M.K.N./ J5/50.	2nd August 1950.	H.B. Scrap	1 10 0 0
	1231/J1	25th September 1950.	G.I. Wire 7 and 8G.	0 5 0 0 (returned).
	25182	24th January 1951.	B.P. sheets 24G	0 10 0 0
	2655	19th April 1951.	Do.	0 10 0 0
	5018	7th October 1951.	Scrap 12G	0 5 3 0
	21794	24th December 1950.	B.P. sheets 24G	1 0 0 0
	5431	3rd January 1952.	Do.	1 0 0 0
	5491	19th January 1952.	G.I. Wire 12G	0 2 2 0

[8th July 1952]

Serial number and name
of the political sufferers
who were registered
as fabricators
in the Madras
State.

Permit
number.

Date.

Particulars of mate-
rials issued.Quantity
issued.

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

TONS.
CWT.
LBS.

MADRAS—cont.

6 S. Govinda Swamy—cont.	6054	26th February 1952.	B.P. sheets 24G ..	1 0 0 0
	2726	4th June 1952 ..	G.I. Wire 8G ..	0 5 0 0
	12129	Do. ..	B.P. sheets 24G ..	1 0 0 0
7 P. E. Raghava- chetty.	..	1950 ..	....	5 0 0 0
	..	1951 ..	....	9 5 3 17
	..	1952 ..	....	2 14 0 0
8 Messrs. Yasoda Industries.	9	1950 ..	....	5 10 0 0
	11	1951 ..	....	14 17 0 0
	8	1952 ..	....	7 10 0 0
9 P. Doraiswamy Nayagar.	7	1950 ..	....	2 15 0 0
	6	1951 ..	....	5 18 0 0
	4	1952 ..	....	1 9 0 0

NELLORE DISTRICT.

1 Sri Kunohala Sub- biah, Swatantra Bharatha Cottage Industries, Kan- dukuru.	J/550	30th March 1950.	B.P. sheets cuttings, ISC/TCM.	1 0 0 0
	37105	28th April 1950 ..	Galvanized iron wire 16G.	0 10 0 0
	37106	12th May 1950 ..	Mild steel rounds 1/2".	0 5 0 0
	96808/J5	19th July 1950 ..	B.P. sheets cuttings 24G MUN.	1 0 0 0
	98565	21st July 1950 ..	B.P. sheets cuttings 24G.	1 0 0 0
	65610	29th August 1950.	Galvanized plain sheets 24G.	1 0 0 0
	1224/J1	27th September 1950.	Galvanized iron wire 16G.	0 5 0 0
	65645	18th January 1951.	Black plain sheets 24G.	1 0 0 0
	218/J5	10th February 1951.	G.P. sheets cuttings 24G.	0 10 0 0
	65678	12th May 1951 ..	B.P. sheets 24G ..	1 5 0 0
	12242	26th June 1951 ..	Do. ..	1 10 0 0
	12639	7th September 1951.	Do. ..	1 0 0 0
	29183	31st March 1952.	Do. ..	3 0 0 0
	7164	16th May 1952 ..	Do. ..	2 1 3 10
	7624	27th May 1952 ..	Do. ..	2 10 0 0

TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT.

1 M. Lakshmanan, Tuticorin.	65300	23rd August 1950.	G.P. sheets 24G ..	1 0 0 0
	2121/114/	....	Rounds 1/2" ..	0 5 0 0
	285/J9/			
	50.			
	65929	31st August 1950.	B.P. sheets 14G ..	1 0 0 0
	76986	4th January 1951.	Rods 1/2", 5/16" ..	0 0 1 8
	25269	7th February	G.P. sheets 24 and	1 5 0 0
	and	1951.	G.P. sheets 22.	and
	25243			0 10 0 0
				respectively.
	17	14th February 1951.	Rods 5/16" ..	0 10 0 0

8th July 1952]

Serial number and name
of the political sufferers
who were registered
as fabricators
in the Madras
State.

Permit
number.

Date.

Particulars of materials issued.

Quantity
issued.

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

TONS.
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Qr.
LB.

TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT—cont.

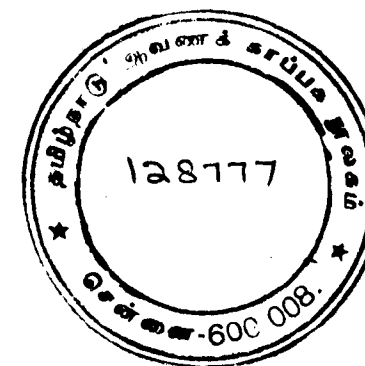
I. M. Lakshmanan,
Tuticorin—cont.

25996	18th June 1951 ..	B.P. sheets 10 × 12G.	2	0	0	0
26000	19th June 1951.	B.P. sheets 10G ..	2	0	0	0
12463	7th September 1951.	Do. ..	2	0	0	0
21097	6th November 1951.	B.P. sheets 14G ..	1	4	2	20
5186	1st December 1951.	B.P. sheets 24G ..	1	10	0	0
21689	5th January 1952.	B.P. sheets 10 and 14G.	0	3	2	14
26367	25th January 1952.	G.P. sheets 24G ..	0	10	0	0
29280	19th March 1952.	B.P. sheets 12G ..	0	16	1	14
29388	27th March 1952.	B.P. sheets 2G ..	0	10	0	0
7242	15th May 1952.	G.P. sheets 24G ..	0	10	0	0
7940	6th June 1952 ..	Rods 3/8" ..	0	2	0	0

VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT.

I D. Bangara Raju,
Visakhapatnam.

....	8th January 1952.	Flat ..	0	8	1	14
26444	1st February 1952.	G.P. sheets 24G ..	0	19	3	16
29760	7th April 1952 ..	Do. ..	1	0	0	0
26110	17th April 1952.	Flats ..	0	10	0	0
6743	24th April 1952.	Rods ..	0	8	0	0
2685	9th May 1952 ..	B.P. sheets 10G ..	0	10	0	0



V211, 32/NS2

NS2.2.5-8

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3859
Wednesday, the 9th 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.

House-rent allowance to the menial staff in the Government Estate.

* 28 Q.—SRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether separate house-rent allowance is paid to the menial staff employed by the Public Works Department in the Government House Estate; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—“(a) The conservancy establishment and the gardeners employed in the Government Estate, Mount Road, who have not been provided with houses, are drawing a house-rent allowance at Rs. 7 per mensem each. The mazdoors and sweepers employed for the maintenance of the Rajaji Hall have not been sanctioned a separate house-rent allowance; they are paid a consolidated salary at market rates for similar labour.

“(b) As the mazdoors and sweepers employed for the maintenance of the Rajaji Hall have been employed on a fixed salary of Rs. 33 per mensem inclusive of all allowances, no separate house-rent allowance has been sanctioned to them.”

Supply of muskets, revolvers and handcuffs to the Prohibition staff.

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

(a) whether muskets were purchased and supplied to the Prohibition staff and if so, (i) the number of such muskets and (ii) the cost of such muskets during the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52;

(b) whether revolvers were purchased and supplied to the Prohibition staff and if so, (i) the number of such revolvers and (ii) the cost of such revolvers during the above period;

(c) whether handcuffs were purchased and supplied to the Prohibition staff and if so, the number of such handcuffs during the same period; and

[9th July 1952]

(d) whether the muskets, revolvers and handcuffs were put to effective use in enforcing Prohibition?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“(a) to (d) It is not in the public interest to give a detailed answer to this question as the law-breakers will take advantage of the information.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“Although detailed information need not be given in respect of the muskets, revolvers and handcuffs, may I know under what circumstances and for what reasons it became necessary to purchase these terrible weapons, about which details could not be given?”

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“In public interests, I am unable to disclose the reasons.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“May I know at least whether it is a fact that public support and co-operation are not forthcoming for Prohibition as in the earlier days?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“The co-operation is not forthcoming from the criminals concerned.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“May I know whether the Government have given up persuasion and propaganda as useful weapons in the policy of Prohibition; have they been given up in favour of muskets, revolvers and handcuffs, etc.?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“The Government have not given up persuasion nor are they intending to give it up; in fact, they appeal to all sections in the House to co-operate in the matter of persuasion. But the question is whether those who have broken the law could be persuaded to go to the Police lock-up without these things. It is different from persuasion in respect of abstinence; so far as the crime is concerned, it is a different branch and a different psychology altogether.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“May I know, Sir, how much money has been spent from public funds for the purchase of muskets, revolvers and handcuffs?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“Sir, that should be addressed to the Finance Department and fresh notice in respect of it should be given; the Prohibition Minister could not be asked on a question of finance.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to appoint a Committee to enquire and find out the volume of public support now forthcoming, whether it is necessary to purchase and keep these weapons and to review the Prohibition policy in general?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“The Government will await the end of the Budget debate when there

[9th July 1952]

SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO:—“There will be opportunities to understand the opinion reflected in the House and then everything that has to be done will be done.”

SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO:—“The Hon. the Chief Minister has said that it is not the public support that is not forthcoming but it is the co-operation of the criminals or those that disobey the law that is not forthcoming. May I know, Sir, if the Hon. the Chief Minister has received recent information which I am going to read here. It is from the Prohibition Officer, Krishna, and he said he would send this information to the Government. He gave this report to the Prohibition Advisory Committee and it is a written report and I will read out an extract—

“During the quarter, 193 cases were acquitted; all these cases relate to the Masulipatam circle because the muttadars turned hostile and consequently, the cases were acquitted. The village officers have deliberately turned hostile in several cases and their conduct has been brought to the notice of the Collectors. These acquittals are due to want of public co-operation.”

May I know if the Government have received this information from the Prohibition Officer of Krishna and whether they will take action?”

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“Generally reports given to Advisory Councils are not copied out and sent to the Government but I take it for granted as the hon. Member has read out from the report. But the language used by the Prohibition Officer is subject to the correct interpretation in the context of what he means by public support. It is that the village officers and the witnesses did not support the prosecution. Steps are taken to meet such cases and such difficulties. It does not mean that the public support for the policy of Prohibition is not forthcoming whenever a crime is committed. I have seen want of public support in forgery and murder cases if public support means the support of the village officers and the witnesses concerned.”

SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO:—“I am sorry the Hon. the Chief Minister wants to give this kind of interpretation. The Prohibition Officer has clearly stated in the Report that distillation is going on in the open before everyday's eyes and nobody has reported to the Government. May I know if the Government are ready to get the information from the Prohibition Officer concerned?”

THE HON. C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—“The Government cannot afford to yield to such lapses on the part of people here and there. There will always be such lapses. Even robbery is an open form of theft but we do not yield and we have to fight against criminal tendencies. Of course, if the entire population refused to help, we will throw up our hands and for that we have to wait.”

SRI V. GURUNANDAN RAO:—“May I know, Sir, if the Prohibition staff is also given training in the use of firearms before they are entrusted with those weapons?”

[9th July 1952]

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" Weapons are not issued unless their proper use on the part of the staff is ensured."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—" What happened to the proposal to appoint propagandists? I think the Hon. the Chief Minister is aware of the fact that a Committee was appointed to recruit propagandists and that Committee consisted of the Secretary of the Tamilnad Congress Committee and two others and they recommended names for appointment as propagandists for Prohibition. May I know what happened to the proposal and were any persons recruited as propagandists as a result of the labours of that Committee? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" In fact, for any such question, I should ask for notice but the hon. Member must have more knowledge of these things than I have because he was with the Government at that time."

SRI B. V. SUBRAHMANYAM:—" Does the Hon. the Chief Minister mean to suggest that unless the Prohibition staff is armed with muskets, revolvers and handcuffs, they are not able to face the particular kind of criminals that are involved in Prohibition offences? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" I am surprised at the hon. Member's question; this is not a new thing at all. From time immemorial, policemen who have to deal with crimes are armed with weapons of this kind and also in raids by the Abkari people, from time immemorial, they have been armed because there is great risk in these kinds of cases and arms are necessary against anti-social elements during all periods, whether before or after Prohibition."

SRI B. V. SUBRAHMANYAM:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Police staff were having muskets and revolvers before or are they having them for the first time now? I mean the Prohibition staff and also the policemen in charge of Prohibition work? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" It takes some time for the criminals to arm themselves. In the beginning, when the Prohibition Act was passed, they had no arms but by and by, they have been encouraged to gather together and they have weapons and these things grow in a vicious circle."

Bill to amend the Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act.

* 30 Q.—MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state whether the recommendations and amendments of the Special Committee, appointed by the Government for amending the Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, have been considered and, if so, when an amending Bill will be ready for presentation?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—" The recommendations and the amendments suggested by the Committee are under consideration."

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MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that immoral traffic is very much on the increase due to many lapses in the existing Act? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—" That is why, Sir, an amendment is sought for."

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

II.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. CHAIRMAN.

ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO THE STATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—" I have to announce to the House that the following persons were nominated for election of one member by the Legislative Council to the State Library Committee:—

- (1) Sri Alexander Gnanamuttu, M.L.C.
- (2) Sri E. H. Parameswaran, M.L.O.

" As the number of candidates nominated exceeded one, an election was held to-day between 2 p.m. and 3-30 p.m. After the election was over, counting of votes took place. The result of the counting was as follows:—

- (1) Sri E. H. Parameswaran, 34.
- (2) Sri Alexander Gnanamuttu, 9.

Invalid papers, nil.

" I hereby declare Sri E. H. Parameswaran duly elected to the State Library Committee."

III.—GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.

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

SRI T. PRAKASAM (continued from the previous day, 8th July 1952):—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, yesterday I was mentioning that it would not be possible to secure any economic recovery in the country unless and until the debt that stands against the Government is discharged. There is no chance of that debt being discharged under the present system of Government with its present economic policy. As I mentioned yesterday, the first Paper Currency Act was passed in 1861. Long before that, the British people who had taken possession of this country started an exchange ratio business in or about 1801. As that went on, in 1861, the British Government passed the Paper Currency Act. Under that Act, Rs. 4 crores worth of Government securities alone were exempted and the rest should be backed by metallic securities—gold and silver. In that way Rs. 44 crores was put in circulation through currency notes and that state of affairs had continued for 53 years when the first World War broke out in 1914. One could imagine how during the whole of that period of 53 years, there was no economic trouble in the country on account of paper currency or exchange ratio or any of those things to the extent to which they

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started thereafter. The first World War broke out in 1914. It lasted five years till 1919. During those five years, Rs. 44 crores worth of currency debt rose to Rs. 120 crores, although the Paper Currency Act provided that there should be metallic security for the whole amount. During the war, without any sanction, they went on printing currency notes to the tune of Rs. 120 crores without providing any metallic security for that amount. At the end of the war in 1919, the Paper Currency Act was amended in such a way as to provide metallic security only for 50 per cent and not for the whole amount. This was done because they were not able to provide metallic backing like gold and silver. Sir, that state of affairs continued till the second World War broke out. It lasted six years and at the end of the sixth year, the war debt rose to Rs. 1,500 crores, out of which Rs. 600 crores was spent by the British people for war purposes. For Rs. 900 crores, they went on printing currency notes without any security and without any sanction. The whole of that amount has been thrown on this country as debt due from the people of this country while really they have to get it from the British people who committed forgery of the currency notes to that extent without any metallic security. It is the people that have to suffer on account of currency notes which were printed and issued by the British people. Therefore, it is a liability which is outstanding against the people of this country even to-day. Sir, by the time we attained Independence, this paper currency debt rose up to over Rs. 1,200 crores. I ask you, Sir, and the hon. Members of this House to imagine how Rs. 44 crores which endured for 53 years rose to Rs. 1,200 crores. There is no metallic security for this amount as it had been done away with in 1931. When the British people saw the trend of events, they found that it was impossible to maintain the gold standard and they decided to go off the gold standard and then they went on printing notes as they liked and according to their convenience and by the time the British left this country, the debt came to Rs. 1,200 crores. The British people did not leave this country out of love towards us. When the debt came to Rs. 1,200 crores, they found that they could not cope with it and it would be impossible for them to continue the administration in this country. Therefore they said they would go away to their country and asked us to take charge and carry on the administration. At the same time they had taken particular care to see that certain pieces of legislation were passed in the House of Commons to the effect that they would not be liable for any liability here. They went away and what is the result so far as this country is concerned?

“ Sir, the Budget has been presented here, and over Rs. 61 crores is shown as income, and expenditure is also shown. Year after year, we have been carrying on the administration without making any attempt to show to what extent this country is in debt. No such attempt will be made by the present Government as it is constituted to-day. I do not mean this Government but the Government as it is constituted in Delhi. They have not said how they are going to reduce the debt or discharge the debt. In the circumstances, can

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anybody say that they will be able to get full control over the economic condition of this country? Why is this country not self-sufficient in food and clothing when they are available in plenty in this country? As I pointed out to you, the paper currency debt is responsible for this situation. When the British left this country, they asked our people to pay for the currency notes that they issued when they were here. I ask, wherefrom will this money be given? Wherefrom money will be given by the Madras Government? Wherefrom will Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru be able to meet this currency note debt? I may tell you, Sir, after the first World War, Germany became bankrupt and England became very nearly bankrupt. Germany put up a notice board at the premises of their State Bank, asking the people not to present currency notes as there was no money in the Treasury and that they had to pay back to Americans the old debt that they incurred. Whereas in England each pound in the foreign market was reduced to 8 shillings from 20 shillings. That was the condition in which those countries were placed during that crisis.

“ Sir, after the Second World War, when a Budget is presented one would naturally expect the Government to tell the people how much they have borrowed and when they are going to discharge their debts. No such attempt has been made either here or elsewhere in this country. Therefore, this Budget, as it is presented to-day, is not the Budget which the people wanted and this is not the Government which the people wanted to present this Budget. Sir, fifteen years ago, I happened to be the Revenue Minister and Mr. Rajagopalachari the Chief Minister. When I presented the Budget then, I had stated that I was not responsible for what was written in the Budget speech and that somebody prepared it. Sir, this is not the Budget that our people want from this Government. The Budget that the people expect now is a village-war Budget giving details of the income and expenditure of each district. I want that such a type of Budget should be presented. Fifteen years ago I made that speech. I have not changed my mind and you all know, my hon. Friend Mr. Rajagopalachari has changed. He has presented this Budget on the British lines and on the same old system. How can the people expect food and clothing if my hon. Friend is to make a defence of every item made here, on the old lines of the British rulers? The Britishers prepared a form in which the Budget is to be presented and that form is being continued. I ask, is it a mere jugglery of figures? Sir, it is better to know in what stage the country is, and the debt is. Until the debt is discharged, it is difficult for any Finance Minister or even a Prime Minister to make both ends meet in the real sense of the term. Look, Sir, during the last few years, how were the foodgrains purchased from other countries? I stated already that in 1947 one hundred crores of rupees of the poor people were paid for purchasing foodgrains from outside. In the next year, 150 crores were paid for purchasing foodgrains, and in the third year 250 crores of rupees were paid; and in that way, in the space of five years, one thousand crores of rupees of the poor people were paid to purchase foodgrains from outside. That being so, will any reasonable man

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expect or believe that this Government will be able to discharge this debt? No. I will state here, what an Ambassador of the United States, now at Delhi, said. In his speech, he stated, referring to the purchase of foodgrains (his name is Mr. Chester Bowles) 'if only India eliminates the purchase of foodgrains, she could save six hundred to eight hundred million dollars every year and the industrial development can be carried on in this country itself.' This is what he said a few weeks ago. So, Sir, how can this Government justify its position with regard to the purchase of foodgrains? One thousand crores having been paid already and over one thousand crores due on account of currency note inflation! That had been the legacy left by Great Britain, which they are bound to discharge. Sir, I put this question in Parliament, when I happened to be there. The Finance Member and others were coming and going to England with a view to negotiate the business there; but not one person could raise the real question there. Therefore, Sir, it is not possible for any one to say that this is a Budget which should be swallowed by the people. The people wanted a different Budget altogether. Sir, Mr. Rajagopalachari was the first disciple of Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi gave a constructive programme to the country. For 25 long years, he built and ran a parallel Government, as it were, as opposed to the British Government. Therein he established as many departments as there were in the administration of the British Government. He started from the very beginning; he taught them how they should work, how they should carry on, how they should produce their own food and so on. All these things, for 25 long years he taught us. Then what happened? Soon after the British people went away, non-violence turned into violence, rivers of blood flowed in North India on account of conflict. Then, Mahatma Gandhi was invited to go to the affected areas to pacify them. This was organized by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and others there. But he declined to go there. Why did he decline? He was asked why he declined to go, when he was the Father of the Nation and when he was responsible for securing the freedom of the country; he said, 'Well, Prakasam, what did they expect me to go and see there? I carried on the administration of the Congress for 25 years peacefully, we carried on the fight against the British people for 25 long years and the British people voluntarily left this country; and now after they have gone, I am floating on the crest of a river of blood; what am I to do there?' That was what Mahatma Gandhi said. I for one had my own part in the struggle to drive away the British people from this land and establish a Government of our own people for the benefit of our own people. I never wavered in my mind about my duty to the country. I was then practising in the High Court when this Gentleman (the Chief Minister) came in. I took some little time to wind up my work there; for it was not easy to break of the connexion there. I joined this Gentleman (the Chief Minister); he was very good and kind; he was the first disciple of Mahatma Gandhi; and so he introduced me to Mahatma Gandhi. In that context, one morning, he was staying in Mylapore then, Mahatma Gandhi put a very inconvenient question to a few of us

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who had been there, to Mr. Rajagopalachari and some others who were under the influence of Mr. Rajagopalachari. He said, 'Well, Sir, I have been appealing to the people of this country with regard to wearing of khaddar, spinning and weaving. My appeal has not reached the heart of the people. I would like to say now that we are wearing unnecessary cloth on our body, we shall shake off all these cloths, we will go only in a loin cloth, so that all that cloth may be available to the poor people.' He wanted a reply for that. He waited for five minutes. I waited to see whether my great friend or anybody else present there would reply. But no reply came from anybody. Then myself, being bolder than the rest, told Mahatma Gandhi, 'If you wear loin cloth you will be loved by the people. But if you ask us to wear loin cloth and if we go about in loin cloth, we will be laughed at by the people, because people do not believe that we have got the merit of yours.' He did not take the decision then; he went further South, and there, he announced his decision to go about in loin cloth, but he did not expect his followers to go about in loin cloth. That was the beginning of Mahatma Gandhi's work. He has done that for the last twenty-five years. He trained the people in constructive work. The only man who was cleverer than all others was Mr. Rajagopalachari. He was able to manage both Mahatma Gandhi and the people of the country. Then what happened? Mahatma Gandhi's programme was in full swing. Mahatma Gandhi was imprisoned. In the second year of his imprisonment, that programme was relaxed by Mr. Rajagopalachari by giving permission to Pandit Motilal Nehru and Mr. C. R. Das to suspend Gandhian movement for three months. It was done in order to enable them to go to the country to convert the country to their view. Their view was that Gandhian programme has failed. Mind you, they went to jail only for six months. After their return, they wanted to change the Gandhian programme to secure the vote of the people. My friend obliged them. I was put on the Working Committee as a precaution on his recommendation. For I was an unruly man at all times to all people. When this Gentleman (the Chief Minister) yielded to these two people in regard to the change in the Gandhian programme in a most heartless manner, this was only the thin end of the wedge; it is not suspension for three months; it is suspension for ever; for Gandhian movement was sure to be killed."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" Your time is up."

SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" If the time is up, you will have to extend the time. (Laughter.) This is a longer story than Ramayana. (Laughter.) The story is longer than Mahabharatha and the performances of my great friend are longer performances than that of the other two great men. Now that was the first thing.

" The second attempt of Sri Rajagopalachari was to get a civil disobedience committee appointed, in which he was a member. There were others also in that committee. For what purpose was that committee appointed? With a view to see that the programme

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of Mahatma was not continued. They all came to Guntur. I was the President of the Provincial Congress Committee. I had no garlands to present to the Members who came there. They came a little bit late; I presented them a garland of 100 volunteers ready to be sent to jail! Because I was feeling that the committee was going to destroy the spirit and courage with which men, women and children were working the Gandhian programme, and also the national Satyagraha movement. This is what happened at the second stage. Now to the third stage.

“ In the fourth or fifth year, there was the Belgaum Congress. My friend has stated that he wanted a vote of confidence in the Ministry; this, he said in the other House. What did Mahatma Gandhi do when the struggle arose between himself on one part and Mr. C. R. Das and Mr. Motilal Nehru on the other. There was the Congress held at Belgaum. For that Pandit Motilal Nehru and Mr. C. R. Das came bringing with them three carriage load of delegates to support their side. We all attended that session of the Congress. In spite of all their efforts they were defeated; they did not succeed. Gandhi himself succeeded. Now about the result, you should know what Mahatma Gandhi said. He said, ‘ Though I have succeeded, this is not a success for me. This is not the kind of working I want. I have succeeded by a narrow majority and they are defeated by a narrow majority, I will not like it as a success for me. I will ask them to take charge of this Congress and carry on the administration.’ But, what has this Gentleman done who wanted a vote of confidence? How did he get the vote and how did the people vote? I will grant it that they all feared him especially when Rajagopalachari came as an Avatar of God himself and claimed to have a sway over this country with a view to save the country from chaos and asked for a vote of confidence to enable him to carry on the administration. Now, we will see, Sir, whether they will arrive on top of the chaos and whether they will be ruling over the people of this country. As I have already pointed out, Sir, false currency notes that were issued to the extent of Rs. 1,200 crores are over the heads of the people. The Government do not care a tuppence for this loan. They do not know how the people are oppressed to-day. Control has been removed. By whom, I ask? Control has been removed by Providence. I mean Providence in the sense that just as all other commodity prices were falling down from the high level at which they were maintained by artificial methods, the prices of these foodgrains were also falling and my Friend, Sri C. Rajagopalachari, decontrolled the foodgrains and gave his blessings to it because there could be no trouble on account of decontrol as prices were falling. Decontrol is a thing that could not be accomplished by any single person.

“ Mahatma Gandhi gave a programme under which all the troubles arising out of inflation and rising prices and deflation could be levelled down and controlled. After managing the whole thing for nearly 25 to 30 years Mahatma Gandhi handed over the administration to us after the British had gone away. What did we do? We went there, Sir, to Delhi to sit in the Constitution House for

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framing a Constitution for the benefit of the people. Sir, all the persons who were in charge there including Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and the great Sri C. Rajagopalachari put their faith in the British system of administration which they introduced here and copied verbatim as it were the whole of their system in our New Constitution. The New Constitution is only a copy of the 1935 Government of India Act that was prepared by the British people sitting in England without coming here and when we were agitating against the British people. This Act has been bodily embodied in our Constitution by our great leaders. I was also a fool for some time because I did not protest against it at the proper time. Dr. Ambedkar was in charge of the Drafting Committee and after some progress in framing the Constitution had been made I got up and said ‘ For whose benefit are you framing this Constitution, Dr. Ambedkar? Who got the freedom of this country? Was it not Mahatma Gandhi that got the freedom of this land? Was it not the people of India who made the biggest of sacrifices in the world to secure this freedom? Did not Mahatma Gandhi say that the panchayat system must be introduced in the country? ’ Under the panchayat system, I believe, the people will get the benefit of real swaraj and they will have the opportunity to get the money into their own hands to carry on the administration. That is how this Constitution must be framed, and that is what Mahatma Gandhi also said. When I pointed out all these things there was a discussion over it and most of the Members said that what Mahatma Gandhi said must be carried out now. By way of a compromise, Sir, as Sir B. N. Rau and others said that we cannot go back after two years, for it will take another five years for the Constitution to take shape, I agreed to the clause in Article 40 of the Constitution of India that the panchayat system must be introduced in every district after the Constitution comes into force. There has been an administration going on here, Sir, but has the panchayat system been introduced? No, Sir, there is no panchayat system. Allow me to tell you, Sir, I happened to be elected as the leader of the Congress Party in 1946 and I was asked to take up the reins of administration. I tried my best to introduce the constructive programme of Mahatma Gandhi in the working of the provincial Constitution itself. I prepared draft proposals how the whole Constitution should be worked out by us according to the dreams of Mahatma Gandhi. I sent an I.C.S. Officer specially with my proposals to Mahatma Gandhi. He made some modifications and sent it back and I started my Government on that basis and was carrying on the Government. The only mistake I made at that time was that I did not present these proposals to Sri C. Rajagopalachari before I sent them to Mahatma Gandhi. I failed to do it. Anyway, Sri C. Rajagopalachari has not been concerned with the programme of Mahatma Gandhi. Can he say now, I will ask him, whether any of the items dear to Mahatma Gandhi have been carried out or been proposed to be carried out by him? The 1935 Act was introduced into the Constitution and it is only in pursuance of that Constitution that we are assembled here to-day.”

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MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The hon. Member's time is up. I cannot give him more than another five minutes."

SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Sir, you must give me some more time. I am telling you, Sir, in particular because I am the only man competent to speak on these matters. I am here, Sir, with a view to educate all those outside this House and also my Friends here wherever such education is required."

" Now, Sir, that Government that was built up by me with the approval of Mahatma Gandhi was broken up before the year was out. It was broken up. I put the question, Sir, ' At whose instance, for what reason and for what purpose?' I say, Sir, this Rajagopalachari was primarily responsible for the breaking up of that Government. I say so, because his friend sitting as Commerce Member or some other Member in the Government of India, made proposals to me when I was Premier here that I should take into my Cabinet four or five members of his group. He is a very good host and a very good friend in all other respects. Everything was done in the presence of Sardar Vallabhai Patel. I said ' I will only make a fool of myself if I took four or five members from this group and expanded my Cabinet '. But I made an offer to Sri A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar of Madurai who was the leader of Rajaji's party or group in that wretched House all these five years. I made the offer to him. He came at midnight to my house and said ' Prakasam, please do not put me in. We have not decided to accept office yet.' So, I did not do it. By the time a few months were over and the progress that was made was noticed by my esteemed Friend, he wanted his own men to be introduced in the Cabinet but he met only with refusal. Well, Sir, he got annoyed and there was a vote of no-confidence here in this City, a vote of no-confidence by Rajagopalachari's disciples. One disciple of Sri Rajagopalachari who headed the no-confidence vote came and told me ' Well, Sir, we have no confidence in you and we are going to move this resolution against you.' It was the same disciple who, while speaking on the floor of this House, asked that power should be given to Sri C. Rajagopalachari for at least five years more to carry on his administration. Now, this is the way in which my Government was broken up. Afterwards another friend came in and what all happened my Friend, Sri C. Rajagopalachari, did not know. He laughs quietly as if nothing has happened in this world. Yes, I am very glad it is his habit. Files were stolen."

5 p.m. THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" My friend is in utter delusion. It is all I can say."

SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" A short answer, ' utter delusion '. Yes."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I have given the hon. Member more than one hour and I will not be able to give more time."

SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are a new man. Allow me to tell you, you must be able to distinguish which is which . . ."

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MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I have done that."

SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" You have not done that." (Cries of ' Order, order ' from Congress Benches.)

SRI B. V. SUBRAHMANYAM :—" May I intervene and make this suggestoin, Sir. You were pleased to grant me time this evening to speak. If the hon. Member Mr. Prakasam is willing to avail himself of it and if you permit him to do it, I have no objection to give a portion of my time."

SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Nobody need come to my rescue. I want to say one or two words to Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, about the vote of confidence secured by him in the Legislative Assembly by a 50-vote majority. Fifty Members supported him over and above the 151 Members of the Congress Party. These fifty Members are persons who succeeded against the Congress candidates at the General Elections. By what stretch of imagination can Mr. C. Rajagopalachari say that they have given their vote of confidence to him? I can read the names of the 151 Members of the Congress Party one by one and show that they are not Congressmen. Is the Hon. Mr. Manickavelu Naicker a Congressman? How did he become the Revenue Minister? For what purpose did Mr. Rajagopalachari appoint him as Revenue Minister? What about the K.L.P. Friends who were very anxious to support the Hon. Mr. C. Rajagopalachari? You are very impatient, Sir, and I cannot take you into the history of the K.L.P. Party. I am trying to be brief. K.L.P. Party people are not Congressmen. Is it not a fact that two Members of the K.L.P. Party were not present in the House at the time of the Vote-of-Confidence Motion and had proceeded to Nidubrolu to meet their leader Prof. N. G. Ranga and bring him to Madras in order to put the other Members of the K.L.P. Party in their proper place with regard to their duty? I want to say this thing finally. Mahatma Gandhi has taught us all that it makes no difference whether the rulers are English or Indians and they should be pulled down if the people do not like them. Unfortunately Mahatma Gandhi is not now alive . . ."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I must now ask you to finish your speech."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" The hon. Member is finishing."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" Let Mr. Prakasam say."

SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Don't you think, Sir, I am anxious to finish? Don't you think, Sir, I am anxious to maintain order? I am telling Mr. C. Rajagopalachari that he should not be carried away by the vote of confidence which he has secured, with the help of independents. It is the people who will have to decide. Mahatma Gandhi carried on a struggle against the English with the help of the people patiently for 25 years and sent them out, and people are ready to adopt his methods. People are ready to

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carry on a big fight against this Government which is ruling them. I shall myself lead an army of Satyagrahis when the time comes.

“ With regard to this matter I feel very much that such things should have taken place, after five years of experience and after the electors have dismissed most of the Ministers at the polls. Mr. C. Rajagopalachari is the protector of the Congress Ministers when charges were pending against them. Therefore I am telling him that this matter will not stop with the vote of confidence.”

*DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, it used to be said at one time that the Budget discussions allowed freedom for Members to wander from China to Peru. But in view of the quick transport available, the analogy will no longer hold good. One can probably say that they may wander from the earth to the moon travelling around all the satellites of those bodies as well. Sir, having listened to the discussions of this House, having sat for five long years in the House, I do feel that there are certain very important changes that one has got to note. For one thing, I feel a little embarrassed, with the huge new spacious hall into which we have been suddenly thrown from the small narrow Chamber where Members and visitors could almost talk with each other. Now I find the physical proportions of this House are very much bigger than what I had anticipated. But it is not only in regard to the physical atmosphere that I feel the change. I think a greater change has been felt by some of us in the intellectual atmosphere that has been surrounding this House for some time. For what reason that intellectual atmosphere has changed, whether it is for good or for worse, I shall not anticipate an answer at present.

“ Mr. Chairman, before I proceed to the Budget, may I offer one remark about a matter that has elicited great praise on the one side and some amount of criticism on the other. The policy of decontrol that the Ministry has so boldly come forward with has been given the greatest amount of praise and on the other hand there are not wanting people, particularly people outside this State, who have not hesitated to say that this policy was determined on account of political expediency, on account of various other factors unconnected with the policy in the matter of food. With your permission, Sir, may I refer to the speech that I delivered at the general discussion on the Budget in 1951-52, on the 5th March 1951 and I may be pardoned, Sir, for quoting from the official report of the speech.

“ I said: ‘ One of the great difficulties that people experience at present is in regard to those articles over which the Government exercise control. Not only do the controls mean a great deal of expenditure and the establishment that is necessary to work them, but the controls themselves have come to such a pass that unfortunately the people have begun to feel that these controls are rather engines of oppression than of benefit. What does this control lead to? It leads to corruption, dearness allowance,

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probably both, and black-marketing with increased prices, and the spiral goes on till inflation occurs in the country and in fact, our chief trouble at present is that this inflationary trend may perhaps ruin the economy of the country completely. Wherever controls have been imposed, black-marketing and corruption have thriven

“ ‘ During the term of the first Ministry, cloth control was imposed and there were debates in this House when it was complained that even four to five yards of cloth were not available for purchase. But within two or three weeks after the removal of cloth control, the people came hawking to your very doors and begging you to purchase the cloth that was available in plenty. There was no scarcity of cloth whatsoever. Everybody got what he or she wanted.

“ ‘ Take the control over firewood. There also we see the same situation. There was a great deal of blackmarketing in firewood also. The Government passed an order that firewood should not be obtained by felling trees in compounds. It almost appeared suddenly in this land where firewood had always been plentiful that there was no firewood at all. The control was removed and today nobody complains of firewood shortage.

“ ‘ Take again the control over Bengalgram and pulses. As long as the control was there, the commodity was exceedingly difficult to obtain. Take petrol and kerosene. You will remember how queues were kept standing before the depots where kerosene was being given under the permit system. What happened after the controls were removed? The companies that are responsible for the sale of petrol are to my knowledge asking these bunks to give more and more of petrol and sales in their accounts show that there is more and more of petrol in these bunks. Let us come to the control we had over motor vehicles. Questions were asked and a list of names of those to whom permits were given for purchase of motor vehicles was furnished. A great deal of shady transaction was said to have taken place and I know motor cars could not be purchased unless an amount was paid in the shape of indirect purchase tax, shall I say. Since the moment control was removed, motor cars have been available and there is no difficulty now. Take a commodity which is so essential for house-building as cement. There was a good deal of trouble about it. But to-day, cement companies are spending a lot of money to the benefit of the newspapers in advertising that cement is available for sale.

“ ‘ My point, Sir, is that it is an unfortunate experiment, which a Government will never be in a position to carry out successfully, to impose controls. Trade must flourish, barriers must be removed, free exchange of commodities must be allowed, and you will find that there is a much healthier spirit in the nation; corruption will be rooted out; blackmarket will become white market and the people will thank you for it.’

“ Sir, having quoted it, I feel I can sincerely congratulate this Government and thank them for the removal of controls. I see

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that many other States are following this example and I believe, in giving credit where it is due, we shall not be departing from any just laws. To talk therefore of this policy being a policy directed by ulterior motives, is, in my opinion, to be guilty of hitting below the belt.

“ Now, Sir, I come to the Budget proper. In trying to understand and to give my views on the Budget, I cannot afford to forget some of the essential parts behind the preparation of this Budget. I do not think it will be fair to say that the Treasury Bench is responsible for this Budget. They had inherited a Budget that had already been presented to the Council and the Legislative Assembly although it was called a four-month Budget and that Budget had to be taken note of and could not possibly be suddenly rooted out or changed. I know something of the methods of the preparation of a budget. With that fact is added the fact that there was only one Member of the old Cabinet in the present Cabinet and that there are only two Members, the Hon. Chief Minister and the Hon. the Health Minister who knew anything of the preparation of the budget—and I mean no disrespect to their colleagues on the Treasury Bench, but I know, however, that there were hardly half a dozen Members accustomed to Budget proceedings, debates and answering questions on the Budget on the Treasury Bench, when this Government came to take power; I feel Sir that I have to withhold some of the more important and perhaps severe criticisms that I would have otherwise laid at the door of this Budget, had it been prepared with due deliberation and the time factor that ought to be taken into consideration. Having said that, not as an apology, but as a matter of fact, I should take note of it myself in addressing myself to the details of the Budget, let me now come to the fundamental factors connected with the Budget. Sir, the total revenue of this Province during 1945-46, the year preceding the assumption of office by the popular Government was Rs. 47.98 crores and if out of that amount, we take out the Excise revenue of Rs. 16.09 crores, the revenue of this State was Rs. 31.89 crores. The revenue anticipated in the present Budget year, for 1952-53 by the Hon. the Finance Minister is Rs. 61.75 crores of which a sum of Rs. 33 lakhs is expected as revenue from Excise. So the revenue expected in 1952-53 excluding the amount under Excise is Rs. 61.42 crores. If to this amount is added the amounts to be realised by way of the additional taxes proposed from the measures that have been suggested by the Treasury Benches, the whole amount will come to about Rs. 65 crores; in other words, taxation measures within the last six years have yielded an increase of revenue from Rs. 31.89 crores to Rs. 65 crores; in fact the amount of taxes within these six years has more than doubled.

“ In connexion with these taxation proposals, I have always felt that we must take note of two other factors. The time of the Budget, namely, the end of February, was a time when some people, not all people, had to be looking forward with anxiety on their faces not because they do not want to pay any taxes that are

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levied justly on them, but because they do not know wherefrom the bolt from the blue will come. It must be conceded that those of us, especially living in big cities, have to look forward to measures of taxation of the Central Government, the taxation measures of the State Government and also the taxation measures of the Corporation of Madras with which you have been so long and so honourably connected. This three-pronged attack on one and the same person has to be borne in mind and this fact was brought to my notice much more when my Friend Sri Gurunandan Rao the other day asked: ‘ Why is the Sales Tax so low in the case of motor cars? It is only nine pies in the rupee now; can we not make it 24 pies in the rupee? ’ I believe if my memory serves me aright, that is the figure that he suggested. There is nothing wrong and nothing preventing the Treasury Benches from enhancing twenty-four pies to even 240 pies for a rupee. But does he realise what a motor-car owner has to pay? He has to pay from 60 to 65 per cent of the cost of the car to the Central Government in the shape of customs duties before it is received by him. But that is a taxation of the Central Government and my esteemed Friend Mr. Deshmukh will not take a pie out of that because the State Government is going to increase the Sales Tax upon it. Let me also state another fact and my Friends sitting here may also take note of it. We all want that the common man must be benefited; we have liquidated kings, we have liquidated the Maharajas, we have liquidated the Rajahs and the last of that category, we have also liquidated the zamindars and also the inamdars and we have come to the next stage of liquidating other classes. At an interview this morning, I asked a student what his father was and he said that his father was a landlord and I suggested to him: ‘ For God’s sake, do not use that expression; the landlords are going to be liquidated, whether they are landlords or any other lords ’. Leaving apart any attempt at joke, let us take the income-tax and see how it is collected. The Hon. the Finance Minister of the Centre in the course of a speech said that the number of income-tax payees in the Union is not more than 0.25 per cent of the total population, it is a quarter per cent as against 40 per cent of the population in the United Kingdom and 45 per cent in the United States of America. I wish this fact should go down our throats and heads so that we may really know what is the total number of persons who can be tapped again and again for purposes of State revenue, the Central Revenue and even the revenues of the local boards. If it is realized that all these persons earning Rs. 3,600 or over in a year are subject to income-tax—I do not say that those who are liable to pay income-tax escape it or escape a part of it but my point is no single person can really escape the income-tax in these days—what is the rate of income-tax? The Department does not take into consideration as in the United Kingdom or the United States of America the fact whether the assessee is married or unmarried and how many children he has and so on. In England, for every child, the assessee gets an exemption and when I was there for a year on leputation, I paid no income-tax whatever because some exemption was given because I did not live there for full six months and

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because my children claimed some exemption on account of educational concessions. Without any exemption but applying the rule of the thumb in a mechanical manner, the Income-tax Department of the Government of India and the Hon. Finance Minister of the Government of India have taxed everybody possible in a population of 350 millions and with all that he is able to get under his thumb only 25 per cent of the population and it is from that 25 per cent that some of our Friends sitting behind me and with me probably, are thinking of taking money by means of such measures of taxation as are necessary for the benefit of the common man. I wish them all joy but let them remember that there is such a thing as killing the goose that lays the golden eggs and perhaps when they have killed the goose, they will miss the golden eggs.

" But let me take another tax. The bulk of the revenues of this State comes from what is known as the Sales Tax. The Hon. the Premier was responsible for that tax but I will take no sort of umbrage at the introduction of the sales tax except to say even now it would be far more to the point if you make it not a sales tax but a purchase tax. In England, it is called the purchase tax because it is not the salesman that pays it but the buyer, the person who has been foolish enough to make the purchase. I do not mind what incidence of taxation there is in the purchase tax but I would request the Government to seriously consider some aspects of this taxation. It was a pleasant surprise to me when I was in England to find that if I bought some goods there and had them handed over to me at the plane, I escaped the purchase tax. What is the principle behind it? Does not the Finance Minister know that the tax will dwindle and it will become stereotyped and small in course of time unless you take note of the fact that trade must flourish and the people in the State must not be handicapped as compared with the people outside. In fact for the goods which are to be sent out and which really form the wealth of the nation, you should revise the policy behind the purchase tax. In England exports are in every manner encouraged and it is because of this encouragement given to the export trade that what little they have been able to recover after the war, has been possible. There is what is known as the dollar earning factor in exports. We are struggling, we go to several conferences and committees and we discuss many matters. But I wish to know whether we take at least some of the few good points that we may get; I do not want the bad points to be taken. I would request the Hon. the Premier and the Hon. the Finance Minister to take note of this.

" I am sorry my Friend Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiyar is not here. He referred to the rural and urban incidence of taxation but I am not able to know even after a very careful reading of the Budget for a few days, exactly what the incidence of taxation is between the rural and the urban areas. It is because we have not got a scientific approach to taxation proposals and it is because of that I made the special appeal on the last occasion when the Budget was discussed in 1951 that a Committee should be appointed to go into the whole system of taxation both in the State

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and the Centre. I was pleased to see from this morning's papers that the Centre contemplates the appointment of a Committee of this nature and I would request the Hon. the Premier to take note of that and to appoint a State Taxation Enquiry Committee as well which will take note of State taxation as well as taxes imposed by corporations and municipalities. My object is not to defraud the Government of such revenue as they may be able to get by these taxation proposals but I submit that the law of dwindling returns will operate on you unless you take note of economic factors and unless you are able in a reasoned and scientific manner to help make the people richer and richer every day.

" I would like to tell my Hon. Friend the Hon. the Finance Minister that his role as a tax-gatherer is an antediluvian role and that was all right in the days of the Merchant of Venice and of Shylock but the Finance Minister of today is not merely a tax-gatherer but is also a wealth producer in the State and by applying reasonable laws and by demanding reasonable payment from the people by way of taxation, it is for the Hon. Minister for Finance to prove himself to be the Finance Minister of what we are now pleased to call a Welfare State and increase the wealth of the country. They say that before Christmas, they fatten the turkeys and I want the Hon. the Finance Minister to fatten the resources of the people of the State before the Budget dawns upon them.

" Regarding the new taxation proposals, I have no doubt they will be looked into very carefully; they include a surcharge on bus fares, the levy of betterment fee, a levy upon foreign liquor and a surcharge upon land revenue.

" I wish to state categorically that the whole policy in regard to land revenue administration requires a thorough re-orientation not on the lines on which some people are speaking, not even on the lines on which the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition is contemplating. It has been often said that we are short of food and we have been short of food and everywhere there is a talk that there is no food and just at that period what did the Government do? They abolished the zamindari system just by one stroke of the pen and it was broadcast everywhere that the zamindari system has been abolished and they wanted to claim that as a great victory even perhaps as a Field-Marshal will claim the annihilation of the armies of his enemy as a great victory and I asked this question repeatedly in this House: 'What did we do; were other things done to take the place of the man whom you had taken away?' I was a Member of the Select Committee appointed for this particular purpose and I know something of the possible consequences of the abolition of that system. I repeatedly asked: 'Can you show facts and figures to show that food crops, after the abolition of zamindaris have improved and will you dare deny my statement that the production of food has been seriously curtailed after the abolition of this system?' I am not questioning the wisdom or otherwise of the abolition of the zamindaris. But was it ever recognized that the zamindar had a part to play in the scheme of agriculture in the State; he had large pieces of land, no doubt, but he gave to the tiller of the soil those things necessary

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without which the tiller was not able to carry on his agricultural operations. He had bullocks and he fed them and kept them in good condition to be given to the ryot during the on-season and he had seeds and these he gave to the ryot during the on-season for sowing purposes. Now he has gone and what is it that the Government have done? Have they in any way taken the place of the zamindar? I say they have not and, if I am contradicted, nobody will be happier than I. I know that sooner or later most of these classes will have to go and I am not sorry for their exit and the only thing is where that liquidation level will stop. I only ask are we in a position to assure the public with facts and figures that consequent on the abolition of the zamindars or the janmis according to the Malabar Tenancy Act, the Government are supplying the things which the zamindar and the janmi were supplying to the ryots? Are you in a position to do that? If you do it and if the answer to my question is in the affirmative, my apologise for putting the question.

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p.m.

“ I have mentioned that the revenues of this State have more than doubled within the last six years, an unheard of thing in any State. Madras is the most heavily taxed State in the whole of India—I am credibly informed by responsible economists—and it can compare very favourably with any other State in the world. I realise that there are people now who are examining the finances of our State and who are going to report. I am not canvassing their support when I make this statement. I want people to realise that Madras at present is the most heavily taxed taking into consideration the poverty-stricken condition of the people. If I, therefore, plead that this State—unless a scientific examination is made—is not in a position to add to the taxes and contribute by way of additional taxation, you may ask me: ‘What is it that you want us to do?’ There are many things that I want you to do. Every time I go abroad and come back—unfortunately for me there have been rather frequent trips—I come with a feeling of utter depression at the condition of my country as compared with the condition of other countries. The very necessities of life are not there—no water-supply, no housing, no proper sanitation—certainly no environmental sanitation worth mentioning—no public health control, no control over such devastating diseases as malaria, cholera and many other water-borne diseases which, we know from our experience and knowledge, are responsible for the death of many human beings. In spite of all this, what is it that we are going to do? Merely criticising the Treasury Benches and pouring invectives on them and merely fighting the great battle of Mahabharatha—as if there are Kauravas on the one side and Pandavas on the other side—will not give the common man one more morsel of food than he is able to get today. I may assure the hon. Members on the Treasury Benches and the hon. Members behind me that my conception of the Government is, that it is not carried on by the Treasury Bench but by the legislators—those who are on and behind the Treasury Bench and those who are sitting opposite to them for one reason or another. It is we that contribute to the Government. It is only we that contribute to the success or failure of the Government. While

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I have never hesitated to criticise the Government where I felt that criticism was necessary, I shall not be a party to such moves as walks-out and walks-in which might have been once spoken of with some amount of pleasure when some foreign Government was in charge of the Government. Sir, I believe that we have all to get down to the rock-bottom of our finances, by realizing that what is wanted, is better and more combined and more sustained effort on the part of everybody. We have to work harder, whatever position we occupy.

“ I will ask the Hon. the Chief Minister whether there is any country in the world where people enjoy the number of holidays that we do? Are you aware that, in the United Kingdom, the State gives only four holidays? Are you aware that even for Christmas Day, they do not have a holiday, whereas we give a holiday for every festival. For what purpose? I made this suggestion on a former occasion but it was a cry in the wilderness as it always has been the case during the last five years. Let us increase the amount of casual leave by five more days. Let us give an individual 20 days—if you like—if he is so very devoted to the religion that he professes to practise. I do not want to speak of God and religion here. But, Sir, come to my house and you will find that I am not so irreligious as people may believe. I do not feel the necessity of a holiday for religious purposes. Trained in the medical profession for 40 years, I have to work day-in and day-out and I know no Sunday or holiday. Do you like me to take a holiday when a woman is in labour and wants my services? That is why when you proposed in the Shop Assistants Act that people should work for four hours and then take rest for one hour and then work for another four hours, I asked the then Minister-in-charge, Dr. Rajan, whether that Act could be applied to the nursing profession and, if so, what would happen if a nurse working in the operation room says: ‘Here is the clock. From 8 I have been working and it is now 12. That is, I have worked for four hours. I am going away.’ There was no answer to that question. That brings me to the position that I wanted to say. During the last five or six years we have passed a number of measures which, not even in 25 years, have been passed in the previous Legislatures. The one accomplishment of the previous Ministry is the number of legislative enactments that they have passed. As to their merits or demerits and as to their legalities and illegalities, I must leave them to my hon. Friends belonging to the legal profession. Even some of us, unknown and unknowables so far as legal matters are concerned—were in a position to point out pitfalls which were not always accepted.

“ Sir, there is another point I should like to state in regard to legislative measures. I am particularly addressing the Hon. the Finance Minister. When you bring a legislative measure, do you ever consider its effect upon finance? I have cried in vain that every measure, that is brought in, should be vetted by the Finance Department as to its financial implications. You brought the Shop Assistants Act; it is costing the exchequer today Rs. 25 lakhs or more. You introduced and passed the Village Panchayats Act; perhaps in obedience to Article 40 of the Constitution. I am

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very glad that Act has been shelved—an Act full of meandering ways and full of pitfalls which, in actual working, will become patent by and by. The effect of putting that Act into force would mean an additional taxation of Rs. 4 crores. An army, a regular army—not even a battalion—of people have to be engaged to work that Act. So also in the case of the Zamindari Abolition Act, survey has not yet been completed but a crore of rupees had to be spent. From whom does it come? Does it come from the zamindars? Does it come even from the tenants who are supposed to have been benefited? It is you and I who have never had the fortune or the misfortune of being a zamindari tenant, that have to foot the Bill. My point in bringing this to your notice at present is, if you are getting any measure passed by this House, side by side with that measure, you should give us an estimate of the expenditure that will be involved in putting into operation such a measure. It is only then that we can have a correct evaluation of our financial position and what it means.

“ Sir, a great deal has been said about the handloom industry. But who is responsible for stifling this industry, the one great industry of this State? We were dictated to by the Centre and, I am afraid, we continue to be dictated to by the Centre. I am too loyal to my Constitution to fight that Constitution. But I am loyal to this State sufficiently to resist any undue, unnecessary, unwarranted interference from any other source. This morning, I saw in the papers that the purchase tax—or the sales tax—is to be Centralized. I ask, what is the justification? I do not see any difference between the Treasury Bench sitting in the Centre and the Treasury Bench sitting here. They are of the same mould. According to the hon. Leader of the Opposition, it may be a wrong mould. But I say, they are of the same mould. I do not see any reason whatever, why taxes which, according to the Constitution, have been definitely given to the States, should ever be tampered with. Sir, my feeble voice will always be raised whenever the limitation of the State Legislature in regard to these fields is ever attempted. It is for that reason that I somewhat impetuously resisted—my hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition may probably know about it—and opposed in the last Council the Resolution of the Government seeking to empower the Central Government to levy estate duty on agricultural land. Sir, it is one of the very few taxation measures that have been left to the State. You (Sri Prakasam) were in the Constituent Assembly. I was far away in the wilderness and my voice was again a voice in the wilderness when that debate took place. The previous Ministry wanted to hand over the estate duty to the Central Government because they got a circular from the Finance Minister, Government of India, asking them to hand it over. Sir, I want to say this with all humility. The fact that you belong to the same political party in the Centre and in the State should not, by any means, permit you to forget the fact that the State is different from the Centre and that while the utmost co-operation should be given to the Centre, we should never surrender our judgment nor our independence where that independence has been granted to us by the Constitution itself.

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“ Now, Sir, let me come to some of the proposals. I said that we should work harder. We cannot afford to increase establishments. My hon. Friend Mr. Bashyam, having thundered away yesterday, perhaps, feels somewhat indisposed and is not able to attend. I was listening with great interest when he said that the way in which you should promote rural welfare is by seeing to it that pensioners go back to rural localities. I happen to be a pensioner myself and I was trembling as to what would happen to me. I was waiting to hear from him if he would say that all lawyers who have ceased to practise or about to cease practice should go to the villages where, I am sure, they will also have some practice. They will be far more useful there than here. I know it is a very dangerous proposal. All these proposals arise out of a totalitarian mentality and not out of the democratic way of thinking. Sir, I ask again: ‘What is the remedy for this?’ A great deal has been said about Rural Welfare. My hon. Friend, the ex-Chief Minister referred to it. Now I come to a proposal which is a compliment to the hon. Leader of the Opposition and I hope he will listen to it. In 1946-47, he earmarked a sum of Rs. 4 crores for Rural Welfare and Harijan Uplift. You earmarked a sum of Rs. 1 crore for water-supply. I find from the Budget today that in this year of grace, 1952-53, there is still a balance of Rs. 1 crore and 75 lakhs and the present Government that you are criticising are going to spend for village uplift and Harijan Welfare. It is there because the Government never came forward with any suggestion; it is not we, the legislators, who are responsible. Talking about Rural Welfare, may I say this? A great deal is said about Rural Welfare but we are not talking the same language. A report was submitted by a Committee which is known as the Bhore Committee and in that report it was stated, the only proper method of improving the conditions of the villages, is to improve their amenities by way of good roads, water-supply, etc. It was suggested that a group of villages should be taken as a unit and in that unit a centre should be established. It is something much more than a primary health unit. You must have in the same unit co-operation, industries, medical relief, social welfare, public health and all those things that go to make the life of people full and happy whether they be in the cities or in the villages.

“ Sir, often and often, I have been asked the question, why don't the doctors go and settle in the villages and is there anything fundamentally wrong in their mentality? Sir, there is no profession in the world which has given you so much of honorary service as my profession has given. Today the Government are holding up their head and state that they have given so many hospitals and so many amenities. Could all these have been possible but for the honorary system of medical relief? So far as the villages are concerned, have you ever thought of constructing a little hut for a doctor to sit in and have his practice? Sir, you post doctors to villages if some District Board Presidents more influential than others and even more dogmatic than others—perhaps whose influence one cannot resist and it may be for a good cause—ask you to start a dispensary. The whole

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8-45 p.m. system has not served well, judged from any rough and ready standard. I am not criticising this Government. When the Hon. Minister, Mr. Shetty, took charge of medical relief, he appointed two committees. Please do not think I am trying to boast my own performances. Fortunately I happened to be in every one of those committees and you, Sir, happened to be the Chairman of one of the committees. These committees were asked to report on medical education and to report on public health. The committees, after several sittings, submitted their report. The committees were composed of the Surgeon-General, the Director of Public Health, Mr. A. V. Raman, Dr. Tirumurthi, Dr. Sadagopan, Dr. Bhaskara Menon and Dr. Kini, with whose names the public of this State are quite familiar, and so there is no gainsaying the fact that the committees were composed of men of the best medical talents available. As I said, the committees submitted their report. But at the time when they submitted their report there was a change of portfolio, for some mysterious reason, which I am yet to know. Then all these reports were safely consigned to the archives of the Secretariat, and I have no doubt they will be left safely there for many many days to come unless something special happens to disturb them from that snug place! Then, another committee was appointed. I am sorry I have to refer to it, for somehow or other, I happen to have my finger in every pie. This was to report on the public health affairs in the State and to review the work done by District Health Officers, for it is necessary to know how to reorganize our hospitals, and to know whether the appellation 'District Health Officer' is right when the District Health Officer does very little of a district officer's work.

"Here let me congratulate the Hon. the Chief Minister, for he has done the wisest thing in appointing a non-medical man as the Minister of Public Health. When, in the time of Lord Goschen, the question of assigning a portfolio to Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, who had retired as Superintending Engineer, arose, Lord Goschen, himself a Parliamentarian and in addition to that, being the son of a great Parliamentarian, who was Finance Minister for some time, declared that those who are intimately in touch with a particular department should never be given that portfolio, and so, an engineer should not be put in charge of the Public Works Department. I am glad my Friend Dr. U. Krishna Rao, is in charge of some other portfolio. Because once they become Ministers of their departments, the heads of the Departments become head clerks, if not, steno-typists. That is why I objected in this House once to the appointment of Dr. T. S. S. Rajan as the Minister for Public Health; not because I am opposed to his appointment. I know Dr. Rajan was a capable Minister; he always acted with sagacity and pertinacity; but on principle I then said it is not correct to appoint him as Minister for Public Health.

"Now, Sir, I go with some trepidation of heart to the Hon. Minister for Education. No doubt he has had some interest in Education in the past. We have been hearing of late of the grievances of teachers, and rightly so, in no uncertain terms.

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In this House, now, there are representatives of the teaching profession, and by their presence here, they have taken away some of my responsibility; for from my knowledge of their performance here, I feel they are in no way less vocal than anybody else. (Laughter.) But the fact remains today that though the teacher's profession is the noblest of professions, it remains the sorriest of trades. Wherever you may go in this State, you do not miss to hear of the resignation of a teacher or his withdrawal from his profession of primary school teacher. It may be in other provinces their position is worse today. But there is no gainsaying the fact that the primary school teacher today is in such a predicament that he can hardly show that energy, enthusiasm and intellectual vigour necessary to teach young children. What was their case thirty years back? I think my esteemed Friend over there will remember those days. From my own experience of the past fifty years, I should say, more than fifty years, for I am much older now, (laughter) than I really think, I know, in those days, the boys were asked to sit on the pial of the teacher's house; the teacher came and gave them sums to be worked; a Muhammadan gentleman he was; he had other avocations to attend to; so he came after some time with a cane in hand to see how the students had been faring in his absence. Now, I do not advocate those things today. Sir, the finance of this State is such that the State will never be able to meet their demands, even their just demands. So Government must think of giving them some further occupation. In what way should this be? I do not wish to say that now, though I have got my own suggestions regarding that. The primary school teacher probably may be asked to devote some hours in the morning to some other profession. We may remember what all things he attended to in the village in the olden days. Was he not the village priest, was he not the village statistician, was he not the village letter writer, was he not attending to similar one hundred and one things, in those days? So for God's sake, do something to see that his position is improved. Let us not harp on State finance, let us think of other methods. Now as a result of decontrol, a large staff has been thrown out of employment. I want all of us to realize, whether we are on the Treasury Bench or not, that unemployment, forced unemployment, or unemployment after some employment is the greatest friend of the type of people who are ready to utilize them for their own purpose. Therefore, Government should have a planned method of absorbing them. Train many of them as school teachers and give them employment, according to their qualifications. When the demobilised army came back to England, the soldiers were at a disadvantage. Most of them had no higher education or University education. So, the Government started hundreds of schools and absorbed them after giving the soldiers the necessary training. Sir, I had intended to speak on secondary education; but on second thought, in view of the recent announcement, I have chosen not to deal with it on this particular occasion.

"Sir, so far as University education is concerned, I think, even before I begin to speak I shall be credited as one too much interested in this education and therefore too importunate in my

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demands on Government. I am not going to make any demands on this occasion. I welcome any grant that is given to any of the Universities, that will help only the student. But I want to state this: all of us sit quiet till the day admission to colleges begins. Then come a number of telegrams after telegrams. I wish the charges of these telegrams are credited to the revenues of our State than allowed to go to the coffers of the Central Government. (Laughter.) Mahazars are sent, petitions are sent, and what is very interesting, the Bar Council becomes suddenly active (laughter) and resorts to Titanic activities and passes resolutions declaring that admissions should be increased, that students should not be deprived of collegiate education and so on. Now, who does not know it? Do you mean to say after having been for 27 years in touch with collegiate education and after having enjoyed for ten long years the privilege of being the Vice-Chancellor of the University, I do not know what the students need? We, in the University, know what the students want, though we may not be broadcasting it! During the five-year period from 1947, 26 new colleges have been opened, of which, one is a State college, still (the Hon. Sri Ranga Reddi will speak to it) in the embryonic stage, and one college is in Mercara. Besides these two colleges, 24 colleges under other auspices have been started. That I take it, is proof positive to show that we do not impose difficult conditions on the management before they open new colleges. We do not ask the management to provide palatial buildings or the most up-to-date scientific equipment and so on. We ask for ventilation, we ask for accommodation, we ask for students' amenities, we ask for hostels, where these poor struggling students may study in comfort so that they may not be exposed to the dangers which we, of the older generation, were faced with. Now, I ask, what is wrong in asking for these conditions? From the fact that we have opened 26 new colleges in the last five-year period, is it not proof positive, that the conditions are neither impossible nor difficult of fulfilment.

"Sir, you will pardon me if I address the House a few minutes longer. There are a number of State Trading schemes. There are also a number of State enterprises. I have been carefully looking into the Budget of these schemes and enterprises and I have not been able to disentangle the mysteries connected with their profit and loss account. I ask, why cannot it be possible for the State to give us the returns of these ventures exactly as it is done in companies which they are bound to do under the Indian Companies Act. Why cannot we function like that? Why cannot the State Trading schemes and State enterprises function in the same way as private schemes are functioning? Let us know the facts about these enterprises; let us also know in what way they are defective, so that we may improve them. I think it is quite material to know them. At present, whatever be the kind of control exercised by the Government over them, now that our Hon. Chief Minister is here, I hope he will look into them. The schemes are already there, and my blessings are there. If they are not working on right lines, I suggest they should be made to do so.

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"Sir, a good deal was said about the Public Works Department. I would like to state that the Public Works Department of this State has done more meritorious service than the Public Works Departments in other States. The expression used by the Hon. Chief Minister (laughter) may not be wholly justified."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I said it in affectionate terms." (Laughter.)

* DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In that case I wish I could come into that category at some time also. (Laughter.) I want a committee to be appointed to go into the working of the Public Works Department. It is not as if there are no lacunae in that department. I referred to these in my speech last year and suggested that something should be done in this direction. When original estimates amount to Rs. 2 lakhs, in the revised estimates they become Rs. 5 lakhs; when original estimates for the construction of quarters to Police staff—which can hardly be called anything but hutments—for Rs. 70,000 and Rs. 80,000 rise under the revised estimate to three lakhs, I submit, there must be something rotten in the State of Denmark! I would draw the attention of the Hon. Mr. Ranga Reddi to this, for he was present in the Council when I made my speech last year, though in a different capacity. Now that he is the Minister for Public Works, I would request him to go into the question of the working of the Public Works Department, because there is something wrong there. It is necessary to know how things are being done, how far the system of departmental house construction is necessary and whether it is justifiable; and if so, what are the tests to be imposed; how far the system of contract exists; how far variations between original estimates and revised estimates could be improved; how far the person who is responsible for supervision of the work should be also responsible for check-measurement. I have been hoping that it will be possible for the Government to look into this, not in the sense that the P.W.D. is in the dock, for they have inherited traditions from an old system, and I hope the committee will be set up so that we may see where the system may be changed for the better.

"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for the indulgence you have shown me by allowing me sufficient time to deal with all these points. I have said, I come here from a tour, from a Western tour, not from a holiday tour, but from a tour of some responsibility. Let me tell you this: the world is moving fast apace. When we discuss small affairs of our State here, we hardly know what is taking place elsewhere. Let us realize the world forces that are arrayed against us. Let us realize that larger issues are at stake. The sands of time are falling fast; the water is leaking fast into the vessel. This is not the time for us to be set against one another; this is not the time to forget the revised version of the words of Lord Macaulay, one may say 'Now Indian is to an Indian more hateful than a foe.' I appeal to the Members, to the Members on the Treasury Benches and to the Members opposite here, to realize that their duty is by the common people and not in

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getting into a wrestling match with each other on all occasions. Mistakes there may be. Let us criticise the Government. People have spoken about a stable Government. A stable Government in a democracy is a contradiction in terms. We speak of good Government and I hope that good Government will be also a stable Government. It is in that hope and with that expectation that I wish this present Government with the Hon. Members on the Treasury Benches to be a stable Government. So far as I am concerned, it will be my endeavour to express my innermost feelings at all times, to criticise the Government when necessary and to give that just meed of praise, not in the handsome manner in which my hon. Friend, Mrs. Clubwala, will exchange bouquets, but in a gentle manner. Thus only and then only would we be able to discharge our duties as legislators."

* SRI B. V. SUBRAHMANYAM :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am new to the Legislative Council, and newer still to a Budget debate, but I have been learning things. One thing peculiar to this debate which I have learnt is that I should follow the norm of congratulating the Chief Minister and his colleagues on the policy of decontrol which they have initiated even before this House and the other House met this time. I do not make a point of it that this policy was taken up before this House met or before the two Houses met and without the permission of the Houses of the Legislature. I do not think that I should make a serious complaint, or that the party to which I belong should make a serious complaint, about the fact that this very wise policy, in my view, however courageous it is, has been taken up in the manner in which, or at the time at which, it was taken up. But I must add this. Courage always implies some risk. With five lakhs of tons of foodgrains in one's hand, this is a risk that could very easily be taken. The risk is the same as always was there ever since scarcity started during war time, namely, that blackmarketers, who in my part of the country at least are mostly mill-owners, will again take into their own hands the grains which must, in a contingency, be taken by the State, for its own replenishment of the five lakhs of tons that must in a critical stage go to certain critical areas. I would have been happier if this policy of decontrol was combined with some other policy on behalf of the State to gather itself or to have agencies to gather for it the grains as they come from time to time in a manner to meet contingencies that are very likely to arise in a State like ours which is famine-ridden very frequently. What I have in mind is this. In 1947 or 1948 or thereabouts the Ministry of Mr. Prakasam started a scheme of producer-cum-consumer societies. Mr. Prakasam, whatever else he is and whatever else he is not, is a great believer in two things. I am not here to praise him and bury others, but I must say this for him, and I say it with the utmost humility. He has great faith in certain institutions and certain functions which are at the very rock-bottom and are at the very basis of our life in this State. He believes, for instance, in the co-operative movement which has a future in our State if only the leaders of our State know how to make use of it. He has great faith in the village republics. The Constitution no doubt says the

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same things, and puts the same faith in certain Articles of the Constitution but the emphasis is wanting, I fear, in our administration so far as these go. I find that in my part of the country—I come from the East Godavari district—the enthusiasm that was roused for the producer-cum-consumer societies was suddenly chilled, not merely chilled but murdered! And that, by the succeeding Government which possibly saw in these schemes a desire or an intent on the part of Mr. Prakasam to strengthen his own political hold on certain peoples. Now, Sir, there is the danger always in the co-operative movement that it may not go into the right hands, but this does not mean that the co-operatives should not flourish or that the Government should not give its complete support to the growth of the co-operative movement. I find, Sir, that this scheme of producer-cum-consumer societies had not been allowed to grow as it was growing at one time, and I also find from the speech of my hon. Friend, Sri M. P. Govinda Menon, that in his part of the country, in Malabar the producer-cum-consumer societies have thriven in such a manner that even to-day, they can be a source of help and energy to the State. Because of the murder of these institutions by the Ministry that preceded the present one—and I am very glad that this Ministry has nothing to do with that Ministry—I find, Sir, that blackmarketers and anti-social elements all around the villages have grown in strength in such a manner that they are a menace to-day at the stage of decontrol. I suggest, Sir, to the Hon. the Finance Minister, who was responsible for decontrol largely, in the shape in which it has come, and I suggest, Sir, to the Hon. the Chief Minister, whose brain and intellect were behind every one of these schemes, that, instead of leaving it to the ordinary merchant to collect the grain and to save the situation on critical occasions, this Government and this administration should take on hand the growth and the flourishing of these producer-cum-consumer societies, or whatever their present name might be, not merely for the purpose of collecting the grain and keeping it on hand for any contingencies, and not merely for the purpose of having an agency in one's hand which will work for the collection of these grains as against the anti-social elements, but for a larger purpose which I would leave for certain other friends of mine who are more in the co-operative movement than I am to expatiate upon. I am a Director of the Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank, and I know something about how these co-operatives function, but I leave this aspect to some other Friends like Sri N. Satyanarayana who are very very able men, who have worked in the co-operative movement for a large number of years, and who, Sir, know the ins and outs of this movement, and who can give suggestions, and help us in the matter of the growth of the co-operative movement. I say this, Sir, because the growth of the co-operative movement is the only answer we have for the problem posed to us, that we are functioning in this country, as several other countries near and around us are also functioning, as a mere capitalist State. It is easy to complain that everything that is happening, even an impetus to the co-operative movement, is happening, as a capitalist State's endeavour, but a capitalist State is sometimes merely a name that is given in order to find

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fault with the particular administration that is at hand. A State need not be capitalist always and in all things, and no party is merely capitalist always and in all things. It is true that this party which is now in power and this State now governed by it can be called a capitalist State because it cannot think of any other way of managing things except by keeping the *status quo* as it is.

"Sir, when I look at the Budget, the first thing that I find is that it does not deal with any change in the social order or contemplate anything that would bring about certain relevant and necessary changes which we are waiting for. One of the changes for which we are waiting, as I have already said, is the growth of the co-operative movement. What, I ask, has this Budget to say about this? I find that with respect to the item of expenditure, 'Co-operation' so small a sum as 70 lakhs is provided for. Whereas, what is it, Sir, that we spend on the Police? It is considerably more, ten times and more. It is true that it can always be pleaded that there is 'chaos' in the State, and the Police are needed to face it, but the chaos is something that we must understand as a thing within the social order or outside it and not as the same thing whether it is inside or outside. I will make myself a little clearer. There is such a thing as administrative chaos, a chaos which is brought about as a result of certain inner difficulties which have not been met and the State is unable to meet them and therefore this chaos springs to the surface."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Inherent chaos."

* SRI B. V. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"I will take the word 'inherent chaos' to describe that sort of thing. There is the other type of chaos which comes merely as a measure of one party or one individual trying to wrest power from another party or another individual. I can understand, Sir, several crores being spent by the Manchurian or the big Chinese War Lords in their fight against other War Lords but when the expenditure on the Police multiplies itself from time to time and from Budget to Budget in a democratic State, I say, there is something wrong with the conditions in that State. It is true, Sir, that a friend of ours on the other side of the table was yesterday exhorting the Chief Minister not to reduce the Police cadre even by one policeman. (Interruption.) Sri Rajeswara Rao says the hon. Member even wanted an increase in the Police force. The necessity, as such, for increasing the Police force is itself not merely an indication of what is external chaos, the chaos that was once visible between War Lords in China, but is also a symptom and a sign of inherent chaos. Why is it that people have become disorderly? Why is it that people give trouble like this? Why is it that people are not standing up to law and order in the manner in which we expect them to stand up?"

AN HON. MEMBER:—"Lessons from Russia."

* SRI B. V. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"Lessons from Russia are the same as lessons from any other country which administers itself in the manner it best likes. It is the same everywhere."

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"Now, Sir, as far as this country is concerned, the chaos that the administration is thinking of is really inherent chaos. But when it calls it chaos and when it fights it, it fights it not as inherent chaos but as surface chaos, as if the chaos was a war between two war lords."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"The difference between allopathic and other treatments."

* SRI B. V. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"Sir, I do not know the difference between allopathy and other treatments but I know that, unless we go into these internal problems, we will not be able to find an answer for the problems on the surface. Now, Sir, looking at this Budget, as I already said from the angle of social order and social justice, I find that it has no angle of vision at all, and continues the old tradition of treating every man as one man and treating every problem as just that problem, instead of treating the problem as one in a series of problems, and treating the social order itself as much more important than any single aspect of it."

"For an instance, I shall come to the subject of Prohibition. It is true that drinking is an evil. (An hon. Member: 'Individually?') Yes. Drink is an evil if a man overdrinks. It is also however, very probable that, if a man is left to drink, he will go on drinking, but that may only be an assumption again. Let us take it that drink for an individual is an evil. Let us quite suppose that drink is an evil. But the habit is something that comes not merely because there are drinks to drink, but because a man has not got enough to do, has not got enough to satisfy his mind and soul in this life, and the drink habit comes only as a symbol of that dissatisfaction. The thing to tackle is this dissatisfaction, and not the habit of drinking. It seems to me that in our social order the people who drink more are the people who are the most impoverished in this State, and the poor people who have so little to think of doing in their life. The life of the poor people in this State is something which requires investigation. Why is it that to-day, in spite of so many years of Prohibition, there are still so many crimes, and so much of the Police Budget has to be intended to fight Prohibition offences? I may even venture to say, that, as one of the 'good' results that flow from out of decontrol, the Chief Minister is probably thinking of transferring this Police force for controls straight into the Prohibition chamber in order to fight Prohibition offences and see that, according to his view, the offences come down. But, will they? That is the question. Prohibition in my view and in the view of the party to which I belong, has been a failure, not so much because drinking is good or drinking is evil—that is irrelevant—but because it is impossible to tackle the problem of drink unless you tackle the much larger problem of the men themselves; the problem of their not having enough to do, the problem of their not having enough to eat and the problem of their not belonging to a social order of which one can say that it is a reflection of a sense of social justice. Now, as far as the problem of Prohibition in this State is concerned, unless it is possible for us to say that hereafter people will not drink because we have got so

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much of the Police and so much of the Act to wield against them, unless you can say that, with the fear of the Police and the Magistracy, drink is going down as a habit of the people, it is no use trying to argue that the forces of the State to fight drink should be enlarged or increased in strength, and that we should wait to see what the result of that would be. If the Hon. Ministers belong to rural areas, and have ever travelled in rural areas, and been there for some time—I claim that I have been spending, year after year, two months in a particular rural area, living in a hut of my own—they will find, as I have found, that, as far as certain elements of the rural population are concerned, and these are always the worst drunkards, these people still continue as drunkards. I hope there is some difference between my district and the other districts, because in my district, the state of affairs is very very bad. I have often asked myself, why is it so? And the answer, according to me, is that Prohibition can never succeed as a measure which is merely punitive, and propaganda will not avail where men have not in the social order found their place in the scheme of things. Now, why is it that we should try to tackle the problem of Prohibition only from the punitive side? Why is it that we think that man is drinking less? It is because it suits us to think so and because we have not lived in the rural areas or followed the lives of the people who are accustomed to drink. These people, in the districts I know, are mostly members of the two communities, Mala and Madiga. I do not know if even one per cent of the persons who are present in this House and even five per cent of the persons who are present in the Legislative Assembly have intimate contact with the lives of these two communities or their counterparts in the other districts. They have continued to live as they have always been living, and, if the things they want are things like drink, they have been going for them in the manner in which their own impulses lead them. The Prohibition Police, I am sorry to say,—I do not mean that every Prohibition Policeman is a scoundrel, far from it,—have been acting in a manner that is not conducive either to their own good or to the good of the community. The Prohibition Police are not always restricted to that one department. I find that these Police are again drafted to other departments. These police are so corrupt that they become engines of corruption in other departments. It is true that we have been praising the policy of decontrol because it brings or might bring honesty to certain departments and certain officers. If these corrupt officers go to other departments, whether the other departments might also get corrupted, in the same manner as the Prohibition police are corrupt, we cannot foresee at the moment. Some Prohibition staff are not willing to bring into the open all the offences that have come to their knowledge. If they do, they will be very good civil servants, but they will not be serving themselves in the manner in which they seem to wish to serve themselves. Therefore, I suggest, that this scheme of Prohibition should be scrapped; and the policy of dealing with the people who are addicted to drink should be not to remove the drink from the man but to remove the man from the drink, in a manner that is consistent with all policies of honesty and fair-play to human beings.

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That is why I say that, as long as Prohibition is left to play a lone role for itself in the manner in which it has been playing havoc with the economies of our State, our State will continue to be, by a vicious circle of spending and losing, a State which is always deficit.

“Forty crores of rupees of reserves have disappeared. We are promised that the balance of fourteen and a half crores of rupees will not be there by the end of the year. And what in return have we got? What are the large schemes that this State has undertaken for the benefit of the people in a manner to counter-measure the forty crores disappearance? I find, Sir, that it is consistent with the policy of Prohibition of this Ministry that the production of wealth in this State is equally ignored by this Ministry. Why is it that this Budget or any other Budget prepared by this party when it was in power in the earlier years has not provided for the production of wealth in the manner in which the productive forces of this State require to be marshalled, and in the manner in which the productive wealth of the country and the wealth of this State in particular, should be increased manifold? To-day, for instance,—again I am referring to my part of the State, the Andhra area—we find that two schemes, two river valley projects, have been shelved. Why? Because both the rivers have become political rivers! The Krishna-Pennar and Godavari Projects have become projects that are associated with certain parties and certain peoples, and each is fighting for his project, and each is placing his project over the other, without considering either the engineering side of each or the financial side of each and without any other basis except a political basis and a political bias. What do we find? We find that certain moneys fifty-eight thousand and odd of what were reserved for the Ramapadasagar project, have been taken back. We find that the Krishna-Pennar project is considered to be no better for the economy of the State than to deserve a provision of one lakh of rupees in the Budget estimates. Now, Sir, it is common knowledge, at least for the ordinary people who understand things with their commonsense, that the Krishna River, if there is to be a project like the Krishna Pennar project, cannot convey waters down South, to the extent to which it was intended to convey waters, unless the waters of the Krishna are replenished by the waters of the Godavari. To replenish the waters of the Krishna in a manner to bring the waters of the Krishna down South, it is necessary to harness the waters of the Godavari by a dam on the Godavari. The two schemes are not rivals of each other. Everybody should know that when I say the Krishna-Pennar, I mean the project which tries to bring the waters of the Krishna down to Nellore district and to the Ceded districts in whatever way it is intended to do so. I would even go further and say that I, as an Andhra, would have no objection if there is plenty of water in the Krishna and the Godavari, to allow that water to flow down further South in the way that our friends of the South require it to flow rather than find it useless for ourselves and allow it to run into the sea provided the men of those valleys and those deltas have their rights of first and second crops ensured. It is no

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use trying to say that the waters of the Krishna should be allowed to drain and lose themselves, through seepage and evaporation, into the Southern districts, and that either the Krishna delta or the Godavari delta or the regions of the Krishna and Godavari which have a preferential right, as I have already said, for first and second crops, should be deprived of that water. I put this question to the Hon. Minister for Irrigation, 'What has been done to implement these river valley projects in Andhra?'

"The production of wealth is the first duty of a State. Without the production of wealth, if you start taxing you will have to think of schemes, as my hon. Friend, Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar stated, that will tax the same man over and over again from different directions, and the whole process of taxation will become a mere vexation and will not serve its own purpose. That is why, I say there should have been a fundamental change in the Budget outlook of the present Ministry which I think is not a continuation of the old Ministry. There should have been some provision in the Budget for much larger schemes than the schemes they are contemplating for the production of wealth in this State. It is true that it is the Central or Union Government that is largely responsible, under the Five Year Plan and things like that, to produce the wealth of the State in the manner in which we contemplate such production. But this State is not powerless, and ought not to be powerless, and ought not allow itself to remain powerless, in the matter of bargaining and getting from the Centre all that is required for the production of wealth in this State. That is why, Sir, I also say that this provision about Sales Tax is merely trying to get wealth for the exchequer from the already taxed people. Sales Tax should not be merely encouraged to grow from point to point as if the sole object of the Government was to find enough money to run its administration. What is this administration doing? It is merely running itself. Sometimes when I contemplate the actions of the Government here, and think of the 'Law and Order' that this Government wish to maintain as the prime object of their continuance, the analogy strikes me of some dainty old maiden aunt, with a passion for neatness trying to dust the furniture even when the furniture is on fire. Law and Order are not everything. Law and Order must mean that they will preserve something that they ought to preserve. What is it that we have done to the social order which requires such preservation? How could there not be some elements fighting for their own rights in the manner in which they should fight, and proclaiming that this Government is not based on social justice, and that it must change, that its whole outlook must change, and that it must change its whole policy in order to conform to its duties and to its responsibility towards the representatives of the people and towards the people? Now, as far as this Administration is concerned, the only thing that it has done is decontrol. Decontrol, one must know, is but putting the State back in the stage in which it was in 1945. Now, 1945 is not such a glorious year, and does not represent such a glorious era that we should want its coming back, as if

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1945 was Ramrajya. Decontrol by itself does not mean anything, unless it is followed up by certain policies which mean the betterment of the people.

"Coming to the other features of the Budget, I find that, as far as irrigation and education are concerned nothing is done that is spectacular. Not merely spectacular but, also, nothing is done that is really a change from the routine of the years. It is true that the non-gazetted officers have been benefited to a small extent by the educational concessions given to them. What is it that has been done to make primary education compulsory throughout the State? Already five years have passed since Independence came into being. Is there any step taken by way of an amendment of the Panchayat Act or any contemplated measure with respect to education to see that every child in the State gets educated at least up to the minimum standard? What is it that you are doing except trying to find seats in educational institutions for people some of whom do not deserve seats? What is it that you are doing except sending out people abroad and finding them coming back without the use or the necessity for such people in our midst because we have no industries? Industrialisation—production of wealth—all these would require a bold and venturesome policy, that will not think merely in terms of money and of balancing the Budget and spending on mere administration. My Friend, Mr. Balasubramanya Ayyar, was saying that because we could not balance the Budget—if I understand him aright—we ought not to have any big projects at all or any of these big schemes. Now that is a very wrong way to look at things."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR:—"I did not state anything of the kind."

* SRI B. V. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"I am sorry if I have misquoted him, and if he has not stated what I have said he stated. I am very glad, he has not said what I thought he said. As far as these schemes are concerned, we should give them top priority, irrespective of the balancing of the Budget, which is not the main thing. Unless we give top priority to these schemes, our Budget is a failure, and it merely means the continuance of the *status quo*. And, therefore, I plead that as long as this *status quo* is what is sought to be preserved by the law and order that this Government and this Administration prize as the highest object in the land, they will be doing neither their duty to themselves nor their duty to the citizens of the State."

MR. CHAIRMAN:—"I now adjourn the House to meet again at 4 p.m. on Thursday, the 10th July 1952."

The House then adjourned.

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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

THURSDAY, 10TH JULY 1952

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 10th 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.

Raising the limit of tax exemption under the Madras General Sales Tax Act.

* 31 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there is any indication of a general rise in prices of all goods at present as compared with the prevalent rates in 1939 when the Madras General Sales Tax Act was first passed; and

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to raise the limit of tax exemption under sub-section (3) of section 3 of the said Act with reference to the rise in prices?

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—“(a) Yes.

“(b) No.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—“May I know, Sir, if in the light of answer to clause (a) of the question, it is not fair to expect that petty dealers would be affected and not have the benefit of the exemption contemplated under the Act if the exemption limit is not raised.”

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—“I am sure it is the opinion of the hon. Member and it cannot be taken as a general rule.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“May I know, Sir, if the Government have under consideration any proposal to raise the limit of tax exemption at least in the case of foodgrains and salt?”

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—“There is no such proposal, Sir.”

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—“May I know whether a copy of the new Bill under contemplation in the Centre has been received here and whether the proposed legislation in the Centre would affect in any way the working of the Act in this State?”

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—“I read that news item in the newspaper and I have no idea beyond that.”

[10th July 1952]

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

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1952-53—cont.

* SRI M. SITHARAMA DASS:—“అధ్యక్ష మహాశయ, నూతన రాజ్యాంగములో ప్రథమముగా మన మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రానికి కాంగ్రెసు ప్రభుత్వము ఏర్పడి, రాజాజీ ప్రధానికిగా వచ్చిన వెంటనే ముఖ్యముగా శ్రమలను అందోళనపరుస్తూ స్వయంపటి అహార పదార్థాల కంట్రోల్లను తొలగించినందుకుగాను నేను నా నియోజకవర్గపు ప్రజల తరఫున మనఃపూర్వకముగా వారికి అభినందనలు తెలియపరుస్తున్నాను. సగుణాత యీ ప్రభుత్వము తయారుచేసినటువంటి బడ్జెటులో కమ్యూనిటీ ప్రాజెక్టులను గరించి ఆనగా మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రములో ఏ అహార కొరత అయితే రాష్ట్ర ప్రజలను పీడించివేస్తుందో అటువంటి అహార కొరతను వెంటనే ఆనగా కొద్ది సంవత్సరాలలోనే తొలగించే ఉద్దేశముతో ఏర్పాటుచేయబడినటువంటిది, ఏటికిగాను బడ్జెటులో అనేక లక్షల రూపాయలు కేటాయించినందుకుగానూ ప్రభుత్వాన్ని కొనియాడుచున్నాను.

“అయితే ఆర్థికదేశములోని ఏ నెలెటర్ జిల్లాలలో అహార పదార్థాలను అధికంగా ఉత్పత్తిచేస్తూ సర్వము ప్రాంతాలని అందించుకొంటున్నారో, ఆ నెలెటర్ జిల్లాలకు ప్రాజెక్టుల సౌకర్యములు, యితర యిన్ఫ్రాస్ట్రక్చర్ సౌకర్యములు ఇచ్చుటలో ప్రభుత్వము సహజ తల్లిచూపు చూస్తున్నందుకు విచారించు. ఈ విషయాన్ని గురించి కొంత ముగిసినప్పుడు కొన్ని సలహాలు ఇస్తున్నాను. పశ్చిమ గోదావరి, కృష్ణా జిల్లాలు అహార విషయములో యిప్పటికి స్వయంసమృద్ధి జిల్లాలు అని అందరకు తెలిసిన విషయమే. అయితే ఆ ప్రాంతాలలో బుడమెరు, తమిళేరు, ఎర్రకాల్య మొదలగు కాల్యాలను అక్కడభున్న భూములపైడి వాటిని ముంచివేస్తూ ఆ విధముగా అనేకవేల యేకరాల వంటి నష్టము చేయుచున్నది. దీనిని తొలగించడానికి ప్రభుత్వము ఇంతవరకు ఏమి శ్రద్ధచూపకుండా ఉన్నది. ఈ కాల్యాలకు చిన్న చిన్న రిజర్వాయర్లు కట్టినట్లయితే తక్కువ కొన్ని వేల ఎకరాలు కొత్త భూమి సాగులోనికి వచ్చి యొక్కవ పంటను యిచ్చును. మరియు ముంపురాకుండా భుంతుంది. అటువంటి ఎక్కువగా ఫలసాయాన్ని ఇచ్చేటటువంటి భూమిని ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఎంచుతే సవరితల్లి చూపుతో చూస్తున్నారో నాకు అంధ పడడములేదు. దీనిని వారిదృష్టికి తీసుకురావలసిన ధర్మము మా మీద ఆనగా రెజిస్ట్రే టరులమీద ఉన్నది, గనుక దీనిని వారి దృష్టికి తీసుకువస్తున్నాను. కనుక ఈ నెలెటర్ జిల్లాలకు ఈ చిన్న చిన్న రిజర్వాయర్లు కట్టించినట్లయితే ఎక్కువ ఫలసాయము లభించ గలదని వారికి సలహా ఇస్తున్నాను.

“తరువాత యిప్పుడు బడ్జెటులో కొత్త పన్నులు సూచించారు. ఇప్పుడు రైతులకు ఉండే కష్టపరిస్థితులలో ఇప్పుటికే పన్నులు భరించలేకుండా ఉన్నారు. కనుక ఈ పన్నులను తాత్కాలికముగా నిలుపుదల చేయవలసిన ప్రజల తరఫున నేను మనవి చేయుచున్నాను. అంతేకాకుండా మనము దేశముయొక్క స్వాతంత్ర్యము కొరకు సంవత్సరాల వర్యంతము పోరాడి పోరాడి ఇప్పుడే స్వాతంత్ర్యమును సంపాదించుకో గలిగాము. ఇప్పుడు స్వాతంత్ర్యము వచ్చిన తరువాత ఇండియన్ యూనియన్లో ప్రథమముగా నూతన రాజ్యాంగము ప్రకారము అడల్టు ప్రాంతైక్ ద్వారా ఎన్నికలు జరిగి రాజాజీ నాయకత్వాన కాంగ్రెసు ప్రభుత్వము ఏర్పడి ప్రజలు ఎంతో ఉత్సాహముతో ఉండేటటువంటి సమయములో ఇప్పుడు కొత్త పన్నులు విధించడం అంటే ప్రజలకు చాలా నిరుత్సాహంగాను వాదగాను ఉంటుంది. అదిగాక ఈ పన్నులను వారు భరించలేదుకదా. దేశానికి స్వాతంత్ర్యము వచ్చినప్పుడు కాంగ్రెసు చేసినటు వంటి మేనిఫెస్టోను శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు ఒక తర్కాయము జ్ఞాపకము చేసుకో జలసించని వారిని కోరుచున్నాను. 1930 వ సంవత్సరములో మేము బైటూలు ఉన్న

[10th July 1952] [Sri M. Sitharama Dass]

ప్పుడు రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు మాకు పాలిటికల్ క్లాసులు పెట్టినారు. అప్పుడు వారు కాంగ్రెసు ప్రభుత్వముగా, జయప్రదంగా నడవాలంటే కార్మిక కర్షకుల కష్టముఖాలను మనము మనస్సులో ఉంచుకొని వాటిద్వారా కాంగ్రెసు సంస్థకు బలాధాస్తాన్ని సంపాదించుకోవలసియంటుంది అని మాకు తెప్పకూయిందేవారు. అటువంటి రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు ఇప్పుడు రాజకీయాధికారానికి వచ్చినారు అని, రైతులకు ఎంతో మేలుచేస్తారని వారియొక్క అన్ని కష్టాలు తొలగింపని రైతాంగము, మీద ప్రజానీక మంతా ఆశతో ఉంటున్నారు. అలాంటిప్పుడు ఈ కొత్త పన్నులు విధించడం రైతులను చాలా నిరుత్సాహపరుస్తుందని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఇప్పుడు కాంగ్రెసు ప్రభుత్వము రాజాజీ నాయకత్వము క్రింద వచ్చిన తరువాత కంట్రోల్లను విడుదలచేయి. అందుకు ప్రజలు చాలా సంతోషపడినారు. ఆ మాదిరిగానే వారిలో ఇంకా నూతన ర్సాహము కలుగజేయవలసియంటుందిగాని ఈ సమయములో వారిని నిరుత్సాహపరచ కూడదు. రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు ప్రధానిగా వచ్చినారు గనుక, వారు మమ్మలను కష్టాల నుండి ఉద్ధరించగలరని అందుకు వారి సమర్థులని రైతులు ఎంతో కుతూహలముతో ఉంటున్నారు. అటువంటిప్పుడు ఆ రైతులకు తగిన చేయూతనిచ్చి వారిని అన్ని విధాల ఉత్సాహపరచవలసిన కోరుచున్నాను. ఇప్పుడు రైతులపైన సర్చార్జీలు వేయరు. నిజంగా ఇవి రైతులు భరించలేరని తెప్పచున్నాను. నిజంగా రైతులంటే వారు అన్ని కష్టాలకు పట్టి పంట పండించి పట్టణాలకు వాస్తవము పండించి పట్టణాన్ని దీని పీడ తీసివేస్తూ వాటిని రాజాజీపట్టుకంటివారని మనవిజలించుంటుంది. దేశానికి రైతే కష్టముక అని భావించి, రైతు పుట్టిగా ఉంటేనే రాజ్యాంగము పుట్టిగా ఉంటుంది. రైతు వాగుపడితేనే దేశము వాగుపడుతుంది అనే కాంగ్రెసు సిద్ధాంతాన్ని కొంతము మరుగుచరచి ఈ నాడు ఆ రైతుమీదే విపరీతమైనటువంటి సర్చార్జీలు వేయడం చాలా అసమంజసము, రైతులు భరించలేరని నేను మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. అంతేకాకుండా మనము Grow More Food Campaign ను బలపరచాలని, మనకు ఎక్కువ గ్రోయర్సు కావాలని అంటున్నాము రాజాజీగారు వాడు ప్రధాన పురితి అయిన తరువాత వారి మీదటి ఉపన్యాసములో రైతు చాలా సుఖంగా ఉండాలి, రైతుమీదే రాజ్యాంగం నిలబడగలదు, రైతులనే అహారకొరత తీరగలదు. ప్రభుత్వం రైతుకు అన్ని విధముల సహకరించగలదని చెప్పారు. కనుక ఈ రైతులను అన్ని విధాల ప్రోత్సహించి అనేకమైనటువంటి సౌకర్యములు కలుగజేయవలసిన కోరుచున్నాను. అన్ని సౌకర్యములు కలుగజేసి కరువు కాటుకాలనుండి వారిని రక్షించుట కాంగ్రెసు ప్రభుత్వముయొక్క విధ్యుక్త ధర్మమనే విషయాన్ని ఈ నాడు రాజాజీ మరుగుచరచి వీరిపై విపరీతమైన పన్నులువేయడం చాలా అన్యాయము. ఇది కాంగ్రెసు సిద్ధాంతాను చాలా విరుద్ధమైనటువంటిది మరియు రైతులు ఈ పన్నులు భరించలేరు కూడాను. కనుక ఈ విషయాన్ని వాగా ఆలోచించవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వాన్ని, ముఖ్యముగా రాజగోపాలాచారిగారిని కోరుచున్నాను. అయితే రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు నిజంగా రైతులంటే ఎంతో అభిమానము, విశ్వాసము కలిగినటువంటివారు, రైతుల క్రేయన్ను కోరేటటువంటివారు. అయితే ఇప్పుడు బడ్జెటులో ఏదో లోటువచ్చిందని ఆ లోటుకోసమని బడ్జెటును సవరించవలసియన్నది గనుక, ఈ పన్నులు వేయవలసి వచ్చిందని వారు సమాధానము చెప్పవచ్చును. కాని బడ్జెటును వేరొకవిధముగా సవరించవచ్చును. దేశానికి అహారాన్ని ఇచ్చి పోషించేటటువంటి రైతును కష్టపెట్టడమంటే మన పాట్లు మీద ఉండే కొట్టుకొన్నట్లు అవుతుంది. వారు కష్టపడి పండించి మనకు అహారాన్ని అందచేస్తే తప్ప మనకు అహారములేదు. అటువంటిప్పుడు వారిని కష్టపెట్టడమంటే మన పాట్లుమీద మనమే కొట్టుకొన్నట్లుకాక మరేమవుతుందో ఆలోచించుకోవలెను. కనుక

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మన పొట్టుమీద మనమే కొట్టుకోవడం ధర్మం కాదు. ఈ రీతిగా రైతును కష్టపెట్టడం సిద్ధాంతరీత్యా వ్యతిరేకము, అధర్మము, అన్యాయము అని నేను మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఆహార పరిస్థితిని అధివృద్ధిపరచుటనని మనము కమ్యూనిటీ ప్రాజెక్టులు నిర్మించవలసి సత్యము అందుకు ఆధారమైనటువంటి రైతులను ఉత్సాహపరుచుటకు బదులు కష్టం భారముతో రైతును కృంగదీస్తే అతడు విరీతిగా వ్యవసాయముచేయగలడో అలాచింత వరను. కాబట్టి ఈ పన్నులను తాత్కాలికముగా నిలుపువలెనని, ఈ విషయములో ఒక Taxation Committee ని appoint చేసి వారి సలహాలు తీసుకొని public opinion కాబట్టి, అంతకు ఆవసరమైతే వచ్చే సంవత్సరము వీటిని అమలులో పెట్ట వచ్చునుగాని వెంటనే ఇవ్వడం ఈ పన్నులుచేస్తే కాంగ్రెసుకు యివ్వటం అంటే మర్యాదకు భంగము వాటిల్లిగలదని చెప్పుచున్నాను. కాంగ్రెసుకు మర్యాద రావలసి యంటే రైతువల్లనే రాగలదు. కాంగ్రెసు బలపడవలసియంటే కార్మిక కర్షకులవల్లనే బలపడిగలదు. కాంగ్రెసు మర్యాదకు, బలానికి, ఉన్నతికి అంతటికి కార్మిక కర్షకులే ఆధారము. కార్మిక కర్షకులే కాంగ్రెసు సంస్థకు ప్రాణము. అటువంటి కార్మిక కర్షకులు మనదేశములో నూటికి ఎన్నెన్నో ఉన్నారు. మహాత్మాజీ ఒకప్పుడు “వినాడైతే కార్మిక కర్షకులు ప్రభుత్వానికి అధికములు కాగలరే అలాగే దేశానికి ముక్తి, మోక్షము” అని అన్నారు. కనుక విరైతలే ఈ రాజ్యాంగానికి దేశానికి జీవనాధారమైనటువంటివాడో అటువంటి రైతులను కష్టపెట్టి వారిపైన ఆధిక పన్నులు వేయడం అంటే చాలా విచారకరంగా ఉన్నది. అది గాంధీజీ సిద్ధాంతానికి విరుద్ధ మైనటువంటిది. ఈ సందర్భములో గాంధీజీ సిద్ధాంతాన్ని సూచించు ఒక చిన్న శ్లోకమును చెప్పుచున్నాను:

‘ఆపూర్వమాణ మణల ప్రసక్తి
సముద్రమునకు ప్రసక్తియింద్యుకే
తద్యత్కామాయం ప్రసక్తిం తే సర్వే
సకాంతిమాప్నోతి సకామకామి.’

కాంగ్రెసులో సత్యాగ్రహి వివిధంగా ఉండవలెనో ఇందు చెప్పాడు. భగవద్గీతలో శ్రీకృష్ణుడు అర్జునునికి నిర్దేశజ్ఞుడు ఎట్లుండునది ఈ శ్లోకములో వివరించాడు. అదే శ్లోకాన్నే మహాత్మా గాంధీ సత్యాగ్రహి ఉండవలసినరీతి, కాంగ్రెస్ సంస్థను గురించి చెప్పారు. కనుక ఇటువంటి కాంగ్రెసు సిద్ధాంతాలను వెనుకపెట్టుకుంటూ మహాత్మాజీ చెప్పినటువంటి వేదకాశ్యాలను మరచిపోకుండా కార్మిక కర్షకులను కాపాడ వలసిన విధిక్యతను ప్రభుత్వముగా ప్రభుత్వముమీదనే ఉన్నది అని గుర్తించవలసినదని కోరుతున్నాను. నిజంగా రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు అంటే కార్మిక కర్షకులకు కామ భేనువువంటివారు అని అనుకొన్నామని అంటే అతిశయోక్తిలేదు. వారిపైన రైతుకు ఎంత విశ్వాసమున్నదో వారికికూడా రైతులపైన అంత అధిమానము ఉన్నది. కనుక ఈ విషయములో వారు పునర్విచుర్చుచేసి, రైతాంగానికి, తిండిలేక వాడవడుతున్నటువంటి మీద ప్రజలకు ఈ కొత్త పన్నులనుగాని, బన్ని వార్షిక వాచ్చింపుగాని వేయకుండా తాత్కాలికముగా వీటిని నిలుపువలెయవలసినదని మరల వారికి మనఃపూర్వకముగా మనవిచేయుచున్నాను. అయితే వారు అడగవచ్చు ‘How to balance the budget?’ అని. ‘Yes, for that also I can give suggestions’. ఇప్పుడు మామూలుగా 60 కోట్ల రూపాయలు ఆదాయము చూపుతున్నటువంటి రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వము ఒక చూడు కోట్ల రూపాయలను విదేశ విధంగా సమర్పించమనేది కష్టము గాదు. అది ప్రభుత్వానికి చాలా తేలికైన పని. అంతకాకుండా నూతన రాజ్యాంగంలో

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ప్రభుత్వముగా విర్యవీర్యమువంటి కాంగ్రెసు ప్రభుత్వములో డిఫిసిట్ బడ్జెటు అని అనడం చాలా విచారంగా ఉంది. ఒకవేళ ప్రభుత్వము కొన్ని కొన్ని ప్రోత్సాహకార్యాలు, స్కీములు తలపెట్టియుండవచ్చుగాని ప్రభుత్వముగా దేశానికి స్వరాజ్యము వచ్చిన తరువాత కార్మిక కర్షకులపైన పన్నులువేసి ఇటువంటి బడ్జెటును తయారు చేయడం చాలా అశ్రద్ధంగాను, అసహజంగాను, కష్టంగాను ఉంటుంది. నేను వల్ల టూల్స్ లో పుట్టి, పల్లెటూల్స్ లో పెరిగాను కాబట్టి వారియొక్క కష్టసుఖాలు నాకు చాలా తెలుసును. అందుకేనే వారికష్టాలను ప్రభుత్వానికి తెలియజేస్తున్నాను. మొదట మనదేశానికి స్వాతంత్ర్యము వచ్చిందని చాలా సంతోషించాము. స్వరాజ్య ఖంబే స్వర్ణమునకన్నాము. ఈ మాదిరి పన్నులు వేస్తారని అనుకోలేదు. 1930 సంవత్సరములో రీసెట్టుమెంటు సమయమప్పుడు రూపాయకు 0-3-0 వేసినప్పుడు no-tax campaign నేనూ organize చేస్తూ దీనిని తిరస్కరించాను. అటువంటి వాళ్ళము మనమే మన రైతులమీద పన్నులు వేయడానికి తయారుకావాలంటే చాలా అసమ్మతంగాను, చాలా బాధగాను ఉంటుందని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఇప్పుడు కంట్రోల్స్ తీసేవోరు. అయితే ఆహారపదార్థాల ధరలు వైకి పోతాయో, క్రిందికి పోతాయో ఇప్పుడే తెలియదు. కనుక ఈ కంట్రోల్స్ తీసేవేసిన ఫలితంగా ఆర్థిక కలిస్థితులు ఎట్లు మారుతాయో కొంతకాలము గమనించి తరువాత ఆవసరమయితే పన్నులు వేయవచ్చును గాని ఇప్పుడే వేయడం న్యాయంగాదు. ప్రస్తుతం కంట్రోల్స్ తీసేవారని ప్రజలు చాలా సంతోషములో ఉన్నారు. అంతకాకుండా కమ్యూనిటీ ప్రాజెక్టులు తయారు చేస్తున్నారనికూడా సంతోషిస్తున్నారు. ఇట్లు ప్రజలు రెండు విధాల సంతోషముతో ఉన్నటువంటి సమయములో వారికి అధిక పన్నులు వేస్తే వారిలో చాలా విచారము కలుగజేస్తుంది. రెండు సంతోషాల వెనువెంటనే ఒక విచారము వస్తుంది. కాని ఈ రెండు సంతోషాలకంటే ఈ విచారమే ఎక్కువ అవుతుంది అని ప్రభుత్వానికి మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. కనుక రాజగోపాలాచారిగారిని ఈ పన్నుల విషయాన్ని పునర్విచుర్చుచేసి తాత్కాలికంగా వీటిని నిలుపువలెనని, దీనికి ఒక సమ కమిటీని ఏర్పాటుచేసి public opinion ను తీసుకొని ఆ ప్రకారము చేయవలెనని కోరుచున్నాను.

“తరువాత ఆంధ్రరాష్ట్రముగురించి, కృషిలోకా పార్టీవారు ఈ ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్రము వస్తే ఇదంతా కమ్యూనిస్టు రాష్ట్రము అయిపోతుందని డిఫిసిట్ రాష్ట్రము అయిపో తుందని, పెంట్రల్ గవర్నమెంటువారు డబ్బు యివ్వరనిచెప్పారు. అది చాలా పొర పాటు, ప్రతి ఆంధ్రుడు ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్రము కావాలనే అంటున్నాడు. ఈ ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్రము వస్తే ఆంధ్ర ప్రాంతమంతా అరాజకవృక్షమౌతుందని ఎవరుగాని అభిప్రాయ వదులుకుంటే తేను, అయితే ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్ర విషయములో మద్రాసు సమస్య అడ్డమురావచ్చు. మద్రాసులేని రాష్ట్రము మాకు అక్కరలేదు అనవచ్చు, విజయపేట, అయితే ఈ మద్రాసులో తమిళులు ఉన్నారు. తెనుగువారు ఉన్నారు, నూటికి దాదాపు 45, 50 మంది ఆంధ్రులుండవచ్చును, కనుక ఈ మద్రాసును ఏ ఒక్కరికీగాకుండా తెలుగువారి సంస్థ కమిటీల సంస్థయబట్టి proportionate గా విభజించినట్లయినను మాకు అట్లుం తరములేదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఈ విషయములో కావలసినవస్తే ఒక విభజన కమిటీ వేసి ఆ ప్రకారముచేయవచ్చును. ఈ లోగా తాత్కాలికంగా ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్రాన్ని ఏర్పాటు చేయవచ్చును. రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు కామ రాష్ట్రాల ఏర్పాటునికీ షుముఖులే కలిగివున్నాము. 1937 వ సంవత్సరములో రాజగోపాలాచారి మంత్రిగా ఉన్నప్పుడు ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్రానికి వ్యతిరేకులనివచ్చిన అవకాశమును ఈ నాడు వాగిచేతులనుండి ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్రమును ప్రసాదించి సకరు అవకాశమును పొగొట్టుకుంటారని వారిని కోరు

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మన్నాను. ప్రస్తుత పరిస్థితులనుబట్టి త్వరలో ఆర్థిక రాష్ట్రము విస్తరణతోపాటునే విషయము వారికికూడా తెలిసినదే. కనుక ముందుగానే బడ్జెటులో ఆర్థిక ప్రాంతానికి వేరుగా రాబడినిబట్టి మొత్తాలను కేటాయింలే బడ్జెటును ఆ విధముగా తయారు చేస్తే బాగుంటుందని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

4-15 P.M. “తరువాత ఇప్పుడు కో-ఆపరేటివ్ బిల్డింగు సొసైటీలు ఉన్నవి. ఈ సొసైటీలు దాదాపు 2, 3 కోట్లు ఖర్చుపెట్టి నిర్మింతులు కడుతున్నారు. అయితే ఈ సొసైటీలు ఎందుకు నిర్మించాలి, ఈ సొసైటీలు కట్టినప్పుడు యింట్లు ఎవరికి ఉపయోగపడుతున్నాయి? ఎవరికోసము ఇవి నిర్మిస్తున్నారో ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఆలోచించుకోవలసి యుంటుంది. వీరు కట్టిన ఇళ్లు గాంధీనగర్ కు పోయి దూచినట్లయితే అక్కడ ఒక కోటి నలుబది లక్షల రూపాయలు ఖర్చుపెట్టి పెద్ద పెద్ద ఇంట్లు కట్టారు. ఈ ఇంట్లు నిజంగా వీడ వాటికి, కార్మికులకుగాను కట్టారా అని అడుగుతున్నాను. ఈ ఇంక స్త్రీ పెద్ద భవిష్యత్తులు, ఆశీస్సులు ఉండేటందుకేగాని వీర ప్రజానీకానికే కాదు, వీర ప్రజానీకానికి వివిధ ఉపయోగములేని ఈ సొసైటీలకు సంవత్సరానికి 60 లక్షలు యిస్తూ, 75 లక్షల రూపాయలు సర్వచారిత్రా ద్వారా కాబట్టుకొంటున్నారంటే ఎంత అన్యాయముగా ఉంటుందో ఆలోచించుకోవలసియుంటుంది. ఈ విధంగా గాంధీనగర్ లో ఉన్న ఇంట్లలోను, మధురలోను తరువాత కోయంబత్తూరులోను ఈ కో-ఆపరేటివ్ సొసైటీలు ఆర్థిక రైతుకు, పెద్ద పెద్ద వారికి యింట్లు కట్టవడానికా రైతులైన ఈ సర్వచారిత్రా వేయడం? అని ప్రభుత్వాన్ని అడుగుతున్నాను. కనుక రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు ఈ విషయాలన్నీ జాగ్రత్తగా పరిశీలించి పరిస్థితులు సవరించగలరని ఆశిస్తున్నాను. వినాదేశా వారినందరే మన రాష్ట్రము అభివృద్ధి చెందవలసియుంటుంది. వారినందరే మనకు ఆర్థిక రాష్ట్రము రావలసి వుంటుంది. వారినందరే కాంగ్రెస్ అభివృద్ధి పొందవలసివుంటుంది. నిజంగా ఈ విషయాలన్నీ వీరి దృష్టిలోకి వచ్చినట్లయితే ఇటువంటి అన్యాయాలకు దోహద మివ్వరని నా దృఢ అభిప్రాయము. కనుక రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు అన్ని విషయాలను పునరిమర్చిన చేసి సవరించవలెనని కోరుచున్నాను.

“తరువాత ఈ బడ్జెటులో మద్రాసుకును, రాష్ట్రములోని ఇతర ప్రదేశాలకును వివిధంగా మొత్తాలను కేటాయించారని చూచినట్లయితే మద్రాసు సీటికి 17 లక్షలు ప్రత్యేకంగా యిచ్చి, రాష్ట్రములోని 64 మునిసిపాలిటీలకును. 24 కల్యాణ బోర్డులకు 9 లక్షలు మూలకే గ్రాంటు ఇచ్చారు, ఈ లాంటి విభజన సబబుగాదని మనవిచేయు చున్నాను. మద్రాసు సీటియొక్క విస్తీర్ణము ఎంతో, మొత్తము రాష్ట్రముయొక్క విస్తీర్ణము ఎంతో గుర్తించి ఆ ప్రకారము గ్రాంటులు ఇవ్వడము సబబుగాని ఇంత వ్యత్యాసముతో యివ్వకూడదు. ముఖ్యంగా స్థానిక సంస్థలను ఎక్కువ బలవరక వలసిన అవసరమున్నది. నిజంగా స్థానిక సంస్థలకు ఎక్కువ అధికారాలుకూడా ఇస్తామనిచెప్పారు. కనుక వారు చెప్పిన మాటప్రకారమే ఈ స్థానిక సంస్థలకు ఎక్కువ అధికారాలు మరియు ఆర్థిక బలముకూడ ఇవ్వవలెనని కోరుచున్నాను. స్థానిక సంస్థల ద్వారానే నిజంగా ప్రభుత్వము బలపడగలదు. స్థానిక సంస్థలు ప్రత్యేకంగా ప్రజలకుద్దం ఉండి ప్రజల కష్టములను చూస్తున్నటువంటి సంస్థలు కానిట్లైతే వారు ప్రజలకు మేలు కలుగడానికి వీలుంటుంది. ఏ విషయంలో గానీ immediate గా ప్రజలకు సహాయము వలసియుంటే స్థానిక సంస్థలే చేయ గలవని ప్రభుత్వముచేయుటకు అంత అవకాశముండదు. కనుక స్థానిక సంస్థలకు అధికారావే మరయు గ్రాంటులు ఎక్కువగా ఇవ్వవలెనని ప్రభుత్వాన్ని ముఖ్యంగా రాజగోపాలాచారిగారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

[10th July 1952] [Sri M. Sitharama Dass]

“ఇంక ప్రాపిలియేట్ విషయములో, నిజంగా కాంగ్రెసు, మహాత్మాజీయొక్క సిద్ధాంతాల ననుసరించినట్లయితే ఈ ప్రాపిలియేట్ ఉండవలసిందేగాని దానిని అమలులో పెట్టనటువంటి విధానము ఇప్పుడు సరికాలేదు. ఇది strict గా enforce చేసి జయప్రదం చేస్తే మహాత్ముని ఆత్మ సంतोషిస్తుంది గాని దీనిని strict గా enforce చేయ లేకపోతే దీనిని శ్రీగా వడలివేసేది మంచిదని సలహా యిస్తున్నాను. ఈ విషయంలో వీలాంటి sentiment గాని ఆభ్యంతరముగాని ఉండవలసరములేదు. దీనిని free గా వడలివేసినట్లయితే ప్రాపిలియేట్ అట్టుక్రింద ప్రభుత్వము ఖర్చుచేస్తున్న 76 లక్షల రూపాయలు మనకు లభించగలదు. ప్రస్తుతం ప్రాపిలియేట్ సరిగా అమలు తిరుగకపోవడమే కాకుండా ఇంత మొత్తము వృథాగాపోతున్నది. ప్రాపిలియేట్ కు పూర్వము నూటికి పనిమిదముదిత్రాగేవారుంటే, ఇప్పుడు నూటికి 36 మంది త్రాగుతున్నారు. ఎక్కడ చూచిన కొంగ సారాయి తయారుచేస్తున్నారు. దీనిని ప్రభుత్వము అరికట్టలేక పోతున్నందువల్ల ప్రజలు చేడిపోతున్నారు. ప్రాపిలియేట్ అమలులో వుండినాదా త్రాగుడు ఎక్కువైపోయింది. కనుక ఈ ప్రాపిలియేట్ ను గాంధీ సిద్ధాంతాన్ని అనుసరించి, నిజంగా జయప్రదంగా చేయాలంటే దీనిని నీరియస్ గా లీసుకొని strict గా అమలు జరిపి ఆరు మాసాలు ప్రయత్నించి శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారిగారి efficiency ని రుజువు చేయవలెనని వారిని కోరుచున్నాను. ఈ విషయంలో వారికి legislators మైన మనము అన్ని విధాలా సహకరిస్తూ వారికి తగిన సహాయముచేయుటకు సిద్ధంగా ఉండవలసిన సభ్యులందరిని కోరుచున్నాను. కనుక ఈ ప్రాపిలియేట్ ను సరిగా పరిశీలించి, తగిన సవరణలుచేసి దానిని సరియైన పద్ధతులలో strict గా అమలు జరుపవలసని కోరుచున్నాను.

“ఇంకా విషయము మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారిగారి నాయకత్వాన ఉన్న కాంగ్రెసు పార్టీకి నేను వెదిక్కుంటున్నా ఈ మదిరి కాంగ్రెసు ప్రభుత్వ విధానాలను విమర్శిస్తూ వారికి సలహాలు ఇస్తున్నానంటే నన్ను అన్యథా భావించకూడదని మనవిచేయుచున్నాను. పల్లెటూళ్లలోని ప్రజల, వీరైతాంగము యొక్క ఇబ్బందులు ప్రత్యేకముగా చూస్తున్నాను కాబట్టి వారి ఇబ్బందులు చూడ లేక వాటిని తొలగించే ఉద్దేశముతో ప్రభుత్వ దృష్టికి ఈ విషయాలు లీసుకు రావలసి వచ్చి ఈ విధముగా చెప్పుచున్నాను. అంతేగాని మరి ఏ హితవభావంతోకూడా. ఇందుకు ఒక ఉదాహరణము చెప్పుచున్నాను. పూర్వము రామదాసు బందిఖానాలో ఉండి తానీపాచే నానావిధముల బాధింపబడుచుండినప్పుడు, రామదాసు ఆ బాధలకు ఓర్వలేక ఏ విధముగానైతే శ్రీ రామచంద్రుని చూపించినాడో, ఏ రీతిగానైతే ప్రేమతో చూపించినటువంటి ఆ మాటలు నిమగ్నంకై మనవో, అదేవిధముగా ఈ విషయములో కూడ ప్రజల ఇబ్బందులు చూడలేక ఈ విధముగా ప్రభుత్వ విధానాన్ని విమర్శించి సలహాలు ఇవ్వవలసినవచ్చిందిగాని మరే ఉద్దేశముతోకూడా. కనుక నా మాటలనుకూడా అదే sense లో లీసుకోవలసిందని, అన్యథా భావించవలసిన శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారి గారిని కోరుచున్నాను. శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు చాలా అనుభవము కలవారు, ప్రజల కష్టాలు, ముఖ్యముగా రైతులయొక్క ఇబ్బందులకూడా తెలుసును. కనుక గ్రామాభివృద్ధి పట్టుకొనివచ్చి, దేశాభివృద్ధిని కారణమనియూ కార్మిక కర్షకులు పుష్టిగాఉంటేనే రాజ్యాంగము దేశము పుష్టిగా ఉంటుందని గుర్తించి మహాత్ముని ముఖ్య ఉద్దేశమువంటి ముఖ్య మంత్రి అయినటువంటి శ్రీ రాజగోపాలాచారిగారు, గాంధీజీ సిద్ధాంతాలను మరొక వర్ణాయము జ్ఞాపకము తెచ్చుకొని, గాంధీజీ వేదవాక్యాలను ఒకమారు మనముచేసికొని ప్రస్తుతము బడ్జెటులో చూపినటువంటి అధిక ఖర్చులను

[Sri M. Sitharama Das] [10th July 1952]

రాష్ట్రంలోని నిలుపుదల చేయవలసిన పదార్థాల వారిని కొనుగోలు చేయడం వల్ల
దుడు దీర్ఘకాలికంగా నిలుపుదల చేయవలసిగా ఉంది. ఈ ముప్పును ప్రార్థిస్తూ
మిమ్మల్నాడు."

* SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, before going into the criticism of the Budget, I cannot but refer to the statement by the Hon. the Chief Minister that the Opposition, namely, the U.D.F., is an Opposition for opposition sake and that even if he were to accept the policy of the Opposition, the Opposition would rather change its policy and oppose him rather than support him and carry out the policy. If he has this conception, I am afraid he must have already come to the conclusion that there is no use with this type of legislature; the Congress might command a majority now along with its allies, unstable allies who could not be relied upon and we do not know what will happen to those allies when the actual cut motions come up. In such an unstable position, it is natural for the Hon. the Chief Minister to come to the view that this Legislature is of no use and the only remedy is to dissolve it and have Governor's rule as a re-election. In order that the people might be saved from the necessity of another election—of course we are not afraid and we are prepared for any number of elections as we did at Kakinada—to save a lot of time and energy, I want to tell plainly to the Hon. the Chief Minister that he is very wrong in his opinion that it is only an Opposition for opposition sake. He must very carefully understand what the Opposition is saying and what it is doing. Then I think he will not come to that conclusion. That is why I want to state that the U.D.F. was formed long before Rajaji thought of taking up the reins of office and we adopted a programme and it is printed and it is being sold openly. If he is serious in the view he holds about us, I ask him to accept our programme which is commended not only by the so-called Leftist Press but even by papers like the *Times of India* to the Congress to implement. Let him accept that programme and see what the Opposition is going to do, whether it is going to act in the way he anticipated or otherwise.

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" Sir, another accusation that is levelled against the Opposition is that they do not want new taxes to be levied even if they are imposed on rich people but at the same time they want the grievances of the people to be redressed. He asks how it is possible and lays the blame on the Opposition. Sir, I feel that if at all anybody is to blame, it must be the Congress Party. When I was a boy, I used to hear the speeches of Congress leaders. They always complained that the then Government were spending so much money on administration and that the Board of Revenue and the posts of Secretaries to Government should be abolished and that there should be a decentralised administration—Grama Swaraj. They also said that with the reduction of expenditure thus effected in the administration, they could not only avoid the

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levy of new taxes but could also do away with some of the existing taxes. That was the conception of Government that they had in view when the foreign Government was here. But after the Congress came into power, have they implemented those policies? No. They have not carried out even one of those policies. Therefore, the blame must be laid at the door of the Congress Party. They said that they would abolish the Board of Revenue if they came to power. Now I want to know whether the Government are ready to abolish the Board of Revenue which they had criticised in the past.

" Now, Sir, I come to the Budget proper. We are not criticising this Budget simply because it is a deficit budget or there are new taxation proposals in it. Also, we are not against the expansion of currency as a matter of principle as proposed by the Central Government. But the acid test of a good Budget is whether it is designed to develop the wealth of the country by increasing food production and expanding industries.

" Sir, it has been said that the Communists do not want the people to work harder but, at the same time, they want the prices of all the necessities of life to be reduced as if these things could be done overnight with a magic wand as it were. Sir, what the people want is that every pie that they are paying to the Government should be spent properly and in the interests of the people. Then they will not grudge any sacrifice that the Government may ask them to make. Take the case of China. After nearly 25 years of war and the utter devastation of their whole economy, within two years they have accomplished many things. They are now self-sufficient in food and have even exported rice to our country. Sir, this is not my opinion but it is the opinion, the considered opinion of the Government-sponsored Good-will Mission—a majority of its members are Congressmen—which went to China recently. They could accomplish all these things because the Chinese Government were able to enthuse the people to work harder for the good of their country. But this Congress Government, after having ruled more than five years, are not in a position to enthuse the people to such an extent though our country possesses immense manpower. This manpower is not put to proper use and is not being utilised by this Government for the good of the country. There are hundreds of thousands of able-bodied persons in our country but they are not given any work. If the Government are really interested in the prosperity and well-being of the people, they could utilise the services of these able-bodied persons and the vast manpower, that is at our disposal for the development of industries and the execution of irrigation projects. Unfortunately, the Government have got into a vicious circle. I ask, can the Government say that the people are in a position to pay further taxes? I am sure, nobody can reply to that question in the affirmative and for that matter, nobody has said so. Still the Government feel the need for new taxes. They

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say that if the Government are to be run, people must pay new taxes. Sir, they must get out of this vicious circle and find out by what means they can increase the purchasing power of the people. In this way they can demand sacrifices on the part of the people who will not grudge them. But the unfortunate thing is the starting point of the Government for everything is fresh taxation. Sir, my starting point is increase in the purchasing power of the people. You may ask what do you want us to do? I would suggest a very modest programme for increasing the purchasing power of the people who are living in the villages and who constitute about 80 per cent of the population. My programme will cost nothing to the Government. But I do not think this Government and the Congress Party which consists of many big landlords will agree to this programme. If this programme is accepted, there is no necessity even for closing down factories but on the other hand able-bodied persons also could be utilized for the good of the nation. This agrarian programme is recommended not only by Communists—though they have been demanding the implementation of agrarian reforms for a long time—but by the United Democratic Front which consists of several parties. In this connexion, I shall just read out to you some of the agrarian reforms suggested by the United Democratic Front—

“(1) Security of tenure to the tiller subject to payment of fair rent, providing for a minimum for home-farm cultivation to the landowner.

(2) Reduction of high rents and fixation of fair rents, banning of all feudal levies and dues.

(3) Stopping enforcement of the Malabar Tenancy Act pending new legislation on the question.

(4) Restoring land illegally and forcibly occupied by zamindars, inamdars and other landlords since 1947, and cancelling all benami pattas given by them without causing any loss to the bona fide purchasers.

(5) Assigning waste, banzar and lanka lands to agricultural labourers and peasants.

There are so many other reforms suggested by the United Democratic Front. It is not a big programme and so can be implemented here and now. The implementation of this programme does not require a big revolution. It does not want any financial assistance for its implementation. Therefore, I commend this programme to the Government.

“Sir, the previous Government passed the Zamindari Abolition Act but I do not know how far it has actually helped the ryots. It might have helped them in a very few places. The only difference between then and now is that instead of the zamindar, the Government are collecting the rents. In some cases, the Government have brought the rents to the level prevailing in the adjoining ryotwari area. For instance, in Challapalli the rent has been raised from Rs. 3 to Rs. 6. So, the Krishna district has not been benefited by the abolition of zamindaris but on the other hand the rent has been increased. Perhaps the Chittoor district might have been benefited for the rent has been reduced there. Be that as it may, the abolition of zamindaris has not given any land

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to the tiller of the soil. Therefore, I suggest we should have a tenancy legislation so that we can confer occupancy rights on tenants. I do not think this Government will undertake such a legislation at all. Sir, you know the last Congress Government appointed a Land Revenue Reforms Committee and that Committee submitted a report to the Government. That report consists of two parts. The first part related to the problem of tenants and agricultural labourers. I want to know what has happened to that report. Nothing has come out of that report and I did not find any reference to it even in the Budget speech of the Hon. Finance Minister. Sir, that report was produced at the cost of public money but nothing has come out of it. This Government have no mind to tackle the tenancy problem at all.

“Sir, there are a lot of sivoijama and banzar lands especially in Rayalaseema and in some parts of Guntur. Those lands are under the occupation of big landlords and our Ministers who come from Rayalaseema know it very well. Sir, they got thousands of acres from the British Government when they started the Grow More Food Campaign. They are not cultivating anything but on the other hand they have given them on rent and actually they have become rent collectors. With regard to sivoijama lands, I can give one example. In Ongole, a landowner is in possession of about 1,500 acres of land. He is not cultivating all these lands. He is able to cultivate only 50 to 60 acres of land. The rest is left uncultivated. The Government have not cared to look into matters of this kind. I ask, why not these lands be given to landless agricultural labourers who are mostly Harijans. What is the use of passing the Removal of Civil Disabilities Act and setting apart Rs. 4 lakhs for the welfare of Harijans. All these things will not help the Harijans to the extent that it will help them if they are given these fallow and uncultivated lands. But on the other hand, they are giving lands to persons who already own hundreds of acres given to them by the British or the previous Congress regime. Sir; I am not suggesting a revolutionary reform. I am only suggesting a reform which can be implemented. Even the Agrarian Reforms Committee set up by the Congress under the Chairmanship of Shri Kumarappa has gone into the tenancy problem and produced a big report. That Committee also stressed the need for the immediate implementation of the agrarian reforms so that the purchasing power of the people could be increased. Here are some of the recommendations of that Committee—

(1) Banning of all future letting and sub-letting and fixing the maximum holding to three times the economic holding, and

(2) In the meanwhile, a tenant in continuous possession for six years to get occupancy right with retrospective effect.

The Bombay Tenancy Act of 1948 has fixed ten years for a tenant to get occupancy right.

(3) Early implementation of the Minimum Wages Act for agricultural labour through Wage Boards and free house-sites.

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About fair rent, the Committee recommended that one-fourth of the yield from the irrigated land should go to the landlord and three-fourths to the tenants. In the case of lands other than irrigated land, they recommended one-third to the landlord and two-thirds to the tenants. Sir, this recommendation is taken from the Bombay Tenancy Act, which has adopted the recommendation of the Kumarappa Committee.

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"Sir, the previous Congress Government in its report has made several recommendations. According to its report, the minimum period of lease should be five years for ordinary land, and in the case of virgin land the first lease should be for ten years. As regards fair rent, the landlord's share should be 40 to 45 per cent and the tenant's share should be 55 to 60 per cent. Agricultural expenses are to be borne by the tenant and the land-tax should be paid by the landlord.

"Sir, the United Democratic Front has put forward some concrete proposals, on the basis of which I put these proposals. Out of the net produce, excluding all agricultural expenses including land tax, one-fourth should go to the landlord and three-fourths should go to the tenant. All the tenants are to get occupancy rights. Sivoijama and banjar lands are to be given to agricultural labourers. Free house-sites are to be assigned to them. The Minimum Wages Act 1948 should be applied to Agricultural labour. Sir, these are some of the broad suggestions we have suggested. I do not see why the Government should not accept these suggestions and bring a tenancy legislation on these lines immediately.

"As regards expenditure, Sir, yesterday Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar told us that the Centre is encroaching on State finance. I want to say, it is misusing public money. For instance, out of a budget of rupees 4 hundred crores, it is spending Rs. 197 crores on the army. Why should there be such an army for us? If really we want an army, let us have a small well-trained standing army. Let all able-bodied persons be given military training and they will fight for the country when the occasion arises. So, why should such a large sum as one hundred and ninety-seven crores be spent on the army? Why should public money be wasted on it? Last year the Centre was not spending so much; this year it has increased the expenditure by Rs. 16 crores more.

"Then, Sir, under income-tax, rich and influential people are exempted from paying income-tax. I find under income-tax arrears a sum of Rs. 150 crores. The Central Government made a compromise with these magnates and 100 crores have been waived; and only fifty crores have been collected."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Sir, I think we need not expatiate on these items which really fall under the purview of the Central Government."

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* SRI C. RAJESWARA RAO :—"Sir, I beg to submit it is relevant in this way. The Hon. Finance Minister in his speech has said that the Centre has not given us money. Now, why is it so? Because it has misused the money which it has collected from the people. That is why it is necessary for this Government to propose to the Central Government to reduce its expenditure on the army and spend on beneficial schemes.

"Sir, I was saying that under income-tax Rs. 100 crores have not been collected, only rupees fifty crores are to be collected as arrears of income-tax. Sir, why should Government show such lenience towards rich and influential people?

"Taking the Police Budget, I see it has increased from Rs. 3 crores to Rs. 7 crores under the Congress regime. One of the Members of this House was saying that the Police force should not be reduced even by one Policeman. Another wanted that it should be increased. I ask: Are we going to solve our social problems through the bayonet and the gun? If that is to be tried they will miserably fail in their attempt. For history has shown that such attempts have miserably failed. Now what is it that the Congress Ministry has achieved during the last five years in Krishna district? Is it not due to one Palaniappan? a notorious Police officer who made several people to go naked in procession, that the Congress Party was swept off from the Krishna district in the recent elections. Out of the twelve seats there, ten were captured by the Communists. At least, learn from the experience of the previous Congress Ministry, which was in power for the last five years. That is not the way of solving our social problems. That is why I ask Government to reduce the expenditure on Police. Without solving the main problem, other things are being done.

"Then, Sir, there are several items on which expenditure has to be curtailed by Government. The Governor's expenses come to Rs. 10 lakhs. It is not necessary to spend so much. Rs. 64,000 is to be spent on gardens. It is also not necessary. Similarly, Sir, firka development scheme is a waste. It is a useless scheme. Nothing has been achieved under it. While Ministers go on tour it is only arranging for their reception. It is sheer waste of money to spend anything on it. Without solving the main problem, there is no use spending money on such palliatives.

"In the end, Sir, I want to say one thing. Government have not cared to solve the linguistic problem. We find in this Council some Members speaking in Tamil, some Members speaking in Telugu and some Members speaking in Malayalam. Why should it be so? Where is the necessity for it? If the province is divided on the linguistic basis, there will be less time spent in deliberation, less energy spent on debates and less controversy on ever so many other matters. One of the leaders of the K.L.P. has said: if the Andhra province is now formed, the Communists will come to power. To this, I say, Sir, here, on the floor of this House, if the

[Sri C. Rajeswara Rao] [10th July 1952]

Andhra province is not formed in the very near future, really there will be danger. If it is formed now or in the immediate near future, there might be a chance for the Congress contesting the elections. If the province is not to be formed in the near future, the Congress cannot contest at all. For, actually, in the recent general elections Andhra had 142 seats; of these, Congress got only 40 seats. Next time in the elections it would not get even these 40 seats. So Sir, this shows the feeling of the people. Therefore, Sir, I request Government and the Hon. Chief Minister particularly to see that the Andhra province is formed as early as possible.

"Then, Sir, about irrigation projects I want to say a few words. Some of the members who spoke before me have dealt with this subject, about Ramapadasagar project and other irrigation projects. But what I want to say is that famine is a recurring phenomenon in Rayalaseema and in the dry taluks of Guntur district. In the Circars area there are some irrigation projects. It is not everywhere such projects are to be constructed immediately. They are to be constructed first where they are needed most. Sir, Government are spending every year on famine large sums of money and to save all that money they should first take up the irrigation projects in such areas, I mean, in the Ceded districts and in Visakhapatnam. These districts should be given preference over other districts in Andhra. The Krishna-Pennar project does not help Rayalaseema. Only six lakhs of acres will be irrigated in Rayalaseema under that scheme. If there are several people who can with the aid of statistics show that more acres will be benefited, I can also with the aid of statistics show that not many acres can be benefited by that scheme. For under this scheme large areas of good lands, excellent wet lands in Rayalaseema would be submerged; in Cuddapah district alone as many as 66 villages will be submerged. In the same way in Siddheswaram, by impounding water there, a number of villages will be submerged. That is why we say the Krishna-Pennar scheme should be rejected. In its stead, the Krishna Valley scheme, which includes Siddheswaram and Nandikonda schemes, and if possible Pulichintala scheme, should be taken up. This will serve all the present arid regions where famine now prevails almost every year, as a recurring phenomenon. I earnestly request Government to take up this scheme first. In this connexion, I want to warn Government of one thing. If they are to take up Krishna-Pennar project, they may rest assured that not one drop of water will be allowed to go elsewhere further down unless and until the people of these areas are fully satisfied. That is why I oppose the starting of the Krishna-Pennar project."

Mr. CHAIRMAN:—"As there are several hon. Members still to speak I fix ten minutes as the time limit for each member hereafter."

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* Sri A. SUBRAMANYAM :—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, என்னுடைய கருத்துக்களை யெல்லாம் வெளியிட வேண்டுமென்றால், பத்து நிமிஷ நேரம் போதாது. கொடுத்த நேரத்திற்குள் என்னுடைய வார்த்தையை முடித்துக்கொள்ள முயற்சிக்கின்றேன். தயவு செய்து இன்னும் கொஞ்சம் அவகாசமளித்தால் என்னுடைய கருத்துக்களை நன்றாக தெரிவிக்க முடியுமென்பதை தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன்."

"கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்களால் கொண்டு வரப்பட்டிருக்கும் இந்த வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை நான் வரவேற்கின்றேன். இது அவருடைய பட்ஜெட்டாக இருந்தாலும்கூட, இது முழுவதும் இந்த மாகாணத்தின் அரும் பெரும் தலைவராகிய கனம் ராஜாஜி அவர்களுடைய வரவு செலவுத் திட்ட மென்பதை நாம் மறந்துவிட முடியாது. அவர் நல்ல தருணத்தில் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் பதவியேற்று, இந்த நாட்டில் அராஜகம் ஏற்படாமல் தடுத்திருக்கின்றார் என்பதை நாம் என்றுமே மறக்கமுடியாது. மக்களுக்கு ஆபத்து நேரப் போகின்றது. அதைத் தடை செய்யவேண்டும் என்ற முக்கிய கருத்து பெரியவர்களாக இருப்பவர்களுக்குத் தோன்றுவது சகஜம். அந்த முறையிலே கனம் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் நல்ல தருணத்தில் பதவியேற்றுக் கொண்டு, இந்த மாகாணத்திற்கு வழிகாட்ட முன் வந்திருக்கிறார்."

"நல்லார் ஒருவர் உளரேல் அவர் பொருட்டெல்லார்க்கும் பெய்யும் மழை என்ற வாக்குப்படி அவர் பதவியேற்றவுடன் சென்னைப்பட்டணத் திலேயே 18 அங்குல மழை பெய்ததும், ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் சற்றேறக்குறைய கொஞ்சம் மழை பெய்ததும் ஒரு நல்ல அறிஞரியாக விளங்குகின்றது. இதை யார் எப்படி கூறினாலும் ராஜாஜி பதவி ஏற்றவுடன் மழை பெய்தது உண்மை."

"ஏற்கனவே இந்த நாட்டில் அவர் பிரதம மந்திரியாயிருந்த காலத்திலேயே அவர் பல அரிய பெரிய காரியங்களைச் செய்திருக்கின்றார். மந்திரி சபையிலிருந்து சிறைக்கு சென்று திரும்பியவுடன், மறுபடியும், இந்த நாட்டின் தரதிருஷ்டவசமாக, திருப்பரங்குன்றத்தில் ஏற்பட்ட ஒரு தகராறினால் அவர் விலகியது, பிறகு இந்த நாட்டில் ஏற்பட்ட எத்தனையோ தொல்லைகள்; எத்தனையோ கஷ்டங்களை சமாளிக்க முடியாத நிலைமை, மக்களில் ஒரு சில குழ்ச்சிக்காரர்கள் செய்த காரியங்கள், அத்தனையும் ஒருங்கே சேர்ந்து இந்த மாகாணத்திற்குப் பெரிய கெடுதலை உண்டு பண்ணிவிட்டது. கெடுதல் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று நினைத்தவர்கள் அத்தனை பேர்களுக்கும் இப்பொழுது அவர்கள் தாங்கள் செய்த தீவினையின் பலனை உணரும்படியாக தற்பொழுதையே நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றது. அவர்களும் அவர்களுக்கும் சூரிய பிராயச்சித்தத்தை அடைந்துக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள்."

"கனம் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் பதவியேற்றவுடன் தவறான அபிப்பிராயத்தை ஒரு சிலர் மக்களிடையே உண்டு பண்ணி வருகிறார்கள். எதிர்க்கட்சியாக இருக்கக்கூடிய ஐக்கிய ஜனநாயக முன்னணியிலுள்ள குறிப்பாக ஒரு சிலர் தங்களுக்குரிய ஒரு பத்திரிகையை வைத்துக் கொண்டு, ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் என்ன சொல்லுகிறார், அவருடைய கருத்து என்ன என்பதை உள்ளது உள்ளபடி எழுதாமல் மக்களுக்குத் தவறான முறையில் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் பிரசாரம் செய்கின்றார்கள்."

"ஒன்றைக் குறிப்பிட விரும்புகின்றேன். கழுதையாய் இருந்தாலும்கூட, அது எவ்வளவு கனத்தைச் சுமக்க முடியுமோ அதைத் தான் அதன் மீது சுமத்த வேண்டுமென்று ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் ஒரு சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் சொல்லியிருக்கின்றார். கழுதை நான்கறிவு படைத்தது, அதற்குப் பகுத் தறிவு கிடையாது. தகுந்த சுமையைத்தான் அதன்மீது வைக்க வேண்டுமென்று அவர் சொன்னார். ஆனால், ஆற்றிவு படைத்த 'மனிதர்களுக்கு, அதிக வரி போடமுடியாது. அவர்கள் தாங்கக்கூடிய அளவுக்குத் தான் வரி போடவேண்டுமென்று அவர் சூசமரகக் குறிப்பிட்டார். உடனே, 'மனிதர்களைக் கழுதையென்று கூறிவிட்டார் ராஜாஜி' என்று இம்மாதிரி யெல்லாம் பத்திரிகையில் தவறாகப் பிரசாரம் செய்யப்படுகின்றது."

[Sri A. Subramanyam]

[10th July 1952]

“மற்றுமொன்றைக் குறிப்பிட விரும்புகின்றேன். வரி கொடுப்பதற்கு நகைகளைக் கூட கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று அவர் கூறினால், அதையும் வேறு விதமாகப் பிரசாரம் செய்கின்றார்கள். ஒரு குடும்பத்தை நடத்தும்போது, செலவுக்கு பணம் போதவில்லையென்றால், நகைகளை விற்குவது குடும்பத்தை நடத்துகிறோம். அதே மாதிரி. இந்த மாகாணத்தை நடத்தக் கூடிய அரசாங்கம் ஒரு பெரிய குடும்பம். இந்தச் சபையில் இருக்கின்ற மந்திரிமார்களெல்லோரும் பெரிய குடும்பத்தில் இருக்கும் அண்ணன், தம்பி, தகப்பன் போன்றவர்கள். இந்த அரசாங்கமாகிய பெரிய குடும்பத்தை நடத்தப் பணம் போதவில்லையென்றால், மக்கள் ஏதாவது கொஞ்சம் நகைகளைக் கூட விற்குவது வரியைக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று அவர் சொன்னால், உடனே, ஒரு சில பத்திரிகையில் ‘தாலியை விற்குகொடுக்கும்படி சொன்னார்’ என்ற தவறான அபிப்பிராயத்தை மக்களிடையே பரப்பப்படுகின்றது.

“தாலியை வற்று வரியைக் கொடுக்கும்படிச் சொல்லவில்லையென்று தலைவர் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் மறுப்புக்கூறியிருக்கின்றார்கள். அப்படி மறுத்துக் கூறப்பட்டிருந்தபோதிலும், இங்கேயிருக்கும் ஒரு அங்கத்தினராகிய ஸ்ரீ ஆதித்தன் அவர்களுடைய பத்திரிகையான தினத்தந்தியின் தலையங்கத்தில் நேற்று ‘தாலி விற்பனை’ என்று போடப்பட்டு, மறுபடியும் அம்மாதிரி தவறான அபிப்பிராயத்தை மக்களிடையே பரப்பப்பட்டு வருகிறது. இம்மாதிரி தவறாகத் திரித்துக்கூறும் பத்திரிகைகளின் மீது கனம் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் தக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கின்றேன். உண்மைகளைச் சொல்லும்போது உண்மையாக எழுதவேண்டும். உண்மையைத் திரித்து தவறான அபிப்பிராயத்தை மக்களிடையே பரப்பி, தவறான எண்ணங்களை உண்டு பண்ணக்கூடாது. எழுதுவதற்கு உரிமை (privilege) இருக்கிறதென்று சொல்லலாம். உண்மையைத் திரித்து தவறாகக் கூறுவதற்குத்தான் உரிமை இருக்கிறதா? மக்களிடம் பொய்யான பிரசாரத்தைச் செய்வதற்குத்தான் உரிமை இருக்கிறதா? என்று கேட்கின்றேன். உள்ளதை உள்ளபடியே பத்திரிகைகளில் எழுது வேண்டுமே தவிர, இம்மாதிரியான பிரசாரங்கள் இனி நடைபெற விடக்கூடாது என்பது தான் என்னுடைய நோக்கமாகும்.

‘இந்த சென்னை மாகாணத்தின் ஜனத்தொகை 5 கோடி 70 லட்சம் அதில் 2½ கோடி மக்கள் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள். ஆனால், Montague Chelmsford சீர்திருத்த காலத்திலிருந்து இது வரையில் சட்டசபையில் பலர் மந்திரியாக இருந்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால், பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களில் ஒருவர் கூட மந்திரியாக இருக்கவில்லை. ராஜாஜி பதவியேற்றவுடன் இப்பொழுது இந்த மந்திரி சபையில் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் மூன்று பேர்கள் மந்திரிகளாக இருக்கிறார்கள். குறும்பர் வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்த கனம் ஸ்ரீ நாகண்ணன் கனம் அவர்களும், மறவர் வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்த கனம் ராமநாதபுரம் ராஜா அவர்களும். பண்டியாட்சி வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்த கனம் ஸ்ரீ மாணிக்கவேலு நாயக்கர் அவர்களும் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களின் சார்பாக இந்த மந்திரி சபையிலே வீற்றிருக்கின்றார்கள். ஆனால், அவர்களுக்குரிய சரியான பங்கை பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் அடையவில்லை யென்பதை மக்கள் உணர்வார்கள். இருந்தாலும் கூட, இத்தனை காலமாக அளிக்கப்படாத பிரதிநிதித்துவத்தை கனம் ராஜாஜி அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது அளித்திருக்கின்றார்களென்றால், அவர் வரவேற்புக்குரியவர், அவர் போற்றுவதற்குரியவர் என்பதில் சந்தேகம் இல்லை.

“முகியமாக நாம் கவனிக்க வேண்டியது என்ன? 5 கோடி 70 லட்சம் ஜனத்தொகையுள்ள இந்த மாகாணத்தில் சுமார் 2½ கோடி ஜனத்தொகையுள்ள பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் இருக்கும்போது, சட்டசபை பிரதிநிதிகளாக வண்ணார்கள் தேர்தலில் ஜெயித்து வரமுடியாது, அம்பட்டர்களும் வர முடியாது. ஆனால் இப்பொழுது இப்படிப்பட்ட வகுப்பினரும், இன்னும் சில வகுப்பினரும் சட்டசபைப் பிரதிநிதிகளாக வருவதற்கு ‘நாமினேஷன்’ அளிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆசிரியர் (கம்மாள்) போன்ற பிற்பட்ட இனத்

[10th July 1952]

[Sri A. Subramanyam]

தவர்களுக்கும் ‘நாமினேஷன்’ அளிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இத்தகைய செய்கைகளை நாம் மனமாற வரவேற்கின்றோம். ஆனால், ஏற்கனவே இருந்தவர்கள் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கு உத்தியோகங்கள், கல்வி வசதியளிப்பதிலும் சற்று அஜாக்கிரதையாக இருந்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்றுதான் கூறவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ராஜாஜியைப் புகழ்ந்தீரே. அவர் அதைச் செய்து விடமாட்டாரா? என்று ஒரு சிலர் கேட்கலாம், அவர் செய்யவேண்டியதைச் செய்யத்தான் போகிறார் என்று நான் நம்புகிறேன்.

“எந்த மந்திரி சபையும் செய்ய முடியாததை ராஜாஜி அவர்களால் செய்யமுடியும். ரேஷன் கட்டுப்பாட்டை எடுத்து மக்களுக்கு நன்மையைச் செய்திருக்கின்றார். (அந்தக் காலம் வேறு; இந்தக் காலம் வேறு; நாங்களும் இந்தக் காலத்தில் பதவியில் இருந்திருந்தால் நாங்களும் தான் ரேஷனை எடுத்திருப்போம் என்று சிலர் சொல்லிக்கொள்ளலாம்.) என்.ஜி.ஓ.கள், உபாத்தியாயர்கள், இவர்களுடைய பிள்ளைகளுக்கு கல்விச் சலுகையை ராஜாஜி அளித்திருக்கிறார். இவருக்கு முன் மூன்று regime கள் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் நடந்தன. ஸ்ரீமான் பிரகாசம் காரு அவர்கள் பிரதம மந்திரியாக இருந்திருக்கிறார்; ஸ்ரீமான் ஓமாந்தூர் ராமசாமி ரெட்டியார் அவர்கள் பிரதம மந்திரியாக இருந்திருக்கிறார்; ஸ்ரீமான் குமாரசாமி ராஜா அவர்களும் பிரதம மந்திரியாக இருந்திருக்கிறார் அவர்களுக்கெல்லாம் இந்த யோசனை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கக்கூடாதா? என்று நான் கேட்கிறேன். ஆனால், கனம் ராஜாஜி அவர்களுக்குத்தானே தோன்றியது, இந்த உபாத்தியாயர்களுடைய பிள்ளைகளுக்கும், என்.ஜி.ஓ.க்களுடைய பிள்ளைகளுக்கும் கல்விச் சலுகை அளிக்கவேண்டுமென்று; ஆகையால்தான் பொறுப்புள்ள ஒருவர், நீதியாக நடக்கக்கூடிய நன்றாகக் கற்றறிந்த பெரியார் ஒருவர் இந்த மாகாணத்திற்குத் தலைவராக இருக்கவேண்டியது அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. அப்படிப்பட்ட இவர் தலைமை வகித்தவுடனே இந்த அரிய பெரிய காரியத்தை அவர் செய்திருக்கின்றார்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கு உத்தியோகம் வழங்கும் விஷயமாக, 14 ஸ்தானங்களில் 2 ஸ்தானங்கள் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கும், 2 ஸ்தானம் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கும், முற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கு மற்ற ஸ்தானங்களும் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. இம்மாதிரி வழங்குவதினால் நியாயமாக எதைச் செய்யவேண்டுமோ அதைச் செய்யவில்லை. நியாயமாக பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கு 8 ஸ்தானங்கள் கொடுக்கப்படுவேண்டும், அதைக் கொடுக்கத் தவறியிருக்கிறார்கள், எனவே, மேற்கண்ட முறையை திருத்தியமைக்கவேண்டும்.

“வைத்தியம், இன்ஜினீயர் போன்ற தொழிற் கல்லூரிகளிலும் அவர்களுக்குரிய ஸ்தானங்களைக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும், இன்ஜினீயர் கல்லூரியில் சேருவதற்கு—மொத்தத்தில் 50%க்குக் குறையாமல் மார்க்குகள் வாங்கியிருக்கவேண்டுமென்றும், வைத்திய கல்லூரியில் சேருவதற்கு மொத்தத்தில் 45%க்குக் குறையாமல் மார்க்குகள் வாங்கியிருக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் இருக்கிறது. பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களால் அவ்வளவு மார்க்குகள் வாங்க முடியுமா என்பதை யோசித்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் ஏழைகளாகவும், கிராமத்தில் வசிக்கக்கூடிய விவசாயிகளின் பிள்ளைகளாகவும் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் கிராமங்களில் காத்த விளக்கில் படிக்கக்கூடிய நிலையிலும், பனவசதி இல்லாமலும் இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தவிதமான நிலையில் இருக்கும் அவர்கள் எப்படி வேகமாக முன்னேறமுடியும்? முற்பட்ட இனத்துப் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு படிக்க வசதியிருக்கிறது, பண வசதியும் இருக்கிறது, அவர்களால் நிறைய மார்க்குகள் பரிகையில் வாங்கமுடிகிறது, போதிய வசதியில்லாமல் இருக்கும் பிற்பட்ட இனத்துப் பிள்ளைகளையும், முற்பட்ட இனத்துப் பிள்ளைகளையும் ஒரே விதத்தில் எண்ணிவிடக்கூடாது, பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களின் மாணவர்கள் குறிப்பிட்ட மார்க்குகள் வாங்குவதென்பது அசாத்தியம் ஆகையால் பிள்ளைகள் பரிகையில் வாங்கும் மார்க்குகளைக் கொண்டு அவர்கள் தகுதியையும், புத்தி கூர்மையையும் மதிப்பிட முடியாது.

[Sri A. Subramanyam]

[10th July 1952]

“உதாரணமாக, இந்த சென்னைப்பட்டனத்தில் வக்கீல்கள் பலர் இருக்கிறார்கள். எல்லா வக்கீல்களையும் ஒரே மாதிரிக் கூறிவிட முடியுமா? எல்லோரும் பி.ஏ., பி.எல். வரையில் படித்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஒரே சட்டத்தைத்தான் படித்திருக்கிறார்கள். சட்டம் எல்லோருக்கும் பொது. எல்லோரும் ஒரே படிப்பைப் படித்திருந்தும், விரிவிட்டு எண்ணக்கூடிய ஒரு சிலர்தான் சட்டத்தைப்பற்றி நுணுக்கமாகப் பேசுவதற்கோ பணம் சம்பாதிக்கவோ முடிகிறது. மற்றவர்கள் அதே படிப்பைப் படித்திருந்தும், போதிய அனுபவமின்மையால் முன்னுக்கு வர முடியாமலிருக்கிறது. அதே முறையில் பிள்ளைகள் பரிசுஷியில் அதிக மார்க்குகள் வாங்காவிட்டாலும், அவர்கள் அனுபவத்தின் மூலமாகவும், வேலைத் திறன் மூலமாகவும் நுட்ப புத்தியை அடையக்கூடுமென்பதை மற்றவருக்கு முடியாது. மார்க்கு விஷயத்தைக் கவனிக்காமல், அவர்களுக்குரிய விசித்திரத்தை அளிக்கவேண்டும். 25% என்று இப்பொழுது ஏற்படுத்தி இருப்பதை 50% ஆக உயர்த்தி பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களின் பிள்ளைகளை வைத்திய, இன்ஜினீரிங் கல்லூரிகளில் சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்.

“ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு 15% ஸ்தானங்கள் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது, போதிய ஹரிஜன மாணவர்கள் வரவில்லையானால், முற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களையோ பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களையோ சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளலாம் என்று இருக்கிறது இது தவறு. ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குள்ள ஸ்தானங்களையும் ஹரிஜனங்கள் வசூலிப்பதற்கு யானால் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கே ஒதுக்கி மொத்தம் அதை 40% ஆக வாவது மாற்றிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்பது என்னுடைய முக்கியமான கோரிக்கை.

“இந்த நாட்டில் எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் கம்யூனிசம் பேசப்படுகிறது. இந்த ஒரு ஆட்சியே நாட்டுக்கு உரியது என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. கம்யூனிசத்தை நான் அறிவேன். 1923-ம் ஆண்டு நான் ஒரு பெரிய கம்யூனிஸ்டாக இருந்தேன். (இப்பொழுது இல்லை) சீமையிலிருந்து சென்னைவரையாவது வரவழைத்ததற்கு நானே ஒரு காரணஸ்தன். சென்னை டிராமாவை தொழிற்சங்கத்தின் காரியதரிசாக இருந்திருக்கிறேன், அப்பொழுது நான் செய்த பல காரியங்களை அந்தக் காலத்தில் இருந்தவர்களுக்குப் புலப்படும், கம்யூனிஸ்டுகளுக்குப் பணம் ரஷ்யாவிலிருந்து வரவில்லை. அப்படி ரஷ்யாவிலிருந்து பணம் வருகிறது என்று சொல்வது பொய், என்பதாகச் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அந்தக் காலத்தில் ஸ்ரீமான் சிங்காரவேலு செட்டியார் என்று ஒருவர் இருந்தார். எனக்கு அவர் கம்யூனிஸ்டு பிரசாரத்திற்காக பணம் கொடுப்பார். எங்கிருந்து பணம் வருகிறது? என்று நான் கேட்பேன். அதற்கு அவர், ‘பாண்டிச்சேரியிலிருந்து கொண்டுவந்தேன்: கம்யூனிஸ்டு பிரசாரத்திற்காக ரஷ்யாவிலிருந்து பணம் வருகிறது; அதில் உலகமும் கொஞ்சம் கொடுக்கிறேன்; நீயும் பிரசாரம் செய்’ என்று அவர் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார். இப்பொழுது இருக்கக்கூடிய கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் எல்லாம் புதியவர்கள். அவர்களுக்கு இது விஷயம் தெரியுமோ தெரியாதோ எனக்குத் தெரியாது. இந்த மாதிரி பிரசாரத்திற்கு எங்கேயோ இருந்து ஒரு நாட்டிலிருந்து பணம் வருகிறது. அவர்களுடைய கண்காணிகளாக இங்கே வேலை செய்து வருகிறார்கள். இந்த நாட்டின் வளம் இந்த நாட்டின் நிலவரம், பொருளாதாரம், ஜனத்தொகை, படிப்பு வசதி முதலியன என்ன என்று ஆராய்ச்சி செய்து பார்க்கவேண்டும். ‘ரஷ்யாவைப் பாருங்கள்’ என்று கர்ஜிக்கிறார்கள், ‘இந்தியாவைப் பாருங்கள்’ என்று நான் சொல்லுகின்றேன். ரஷ்யாவுக்குச் சுதந்திரம் வந்து சற்றேறக்குறைய 30, 35 வருஷங்கள் ஆயிற்று, சுதந்திரம் பெற்று 30 வருஷங்கள் ஆயிருக்கும் ரஷ்யாவைப் பார்க்கும்போது, இந்தியாவுக்குச் சுதந்திரம் வந்து 4 வருஷங்கள் கூட ஆகவில்லை. அந்த 35 வருஷங்கள் இந்தியாவுக்குக் கிடைத்திருக்குமேயானால், ரஷ்யாவைவிட பன்மடங்கு மேலாக இந்த இந்தியா தேசம் விளங்கியிருக்கும். நல்ல திட்டங்களைக் கொண்டுவந்திருக்க நம்மால் ஆகுமென்பதை அந்த அன்பர்களுக்குத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

[10th July 1952]

* SRI N. SATYANARAYANA :—“Mr. Chairman, Sir, I congratulate the Finance Minister on presenting the Budget, though a deficit one with additional taxation. He has explained, Sir, how, on account of famine conditions, the deficit has arisen. The Government have spent Rs. 6 crores in Rayalaseema. I will say, not six crores, but even if sixty crores are spent in Rayalaseema, famine conditions could not be averted because, if you take the history of the last fifty years, you will find that year after year famine conditions have prevailed in Rayalaseema. The only way, therefore, of saving Rayalaseema is by undertaking large capital works and by improving its water facilities. I will just give you a few illustrations of how it was done in past generations. In the time of Sri Krishnadevaraya, thousands of tanks were dug and they were fed from the rivers and rivulets flowing in the Mysore and Hyderabad regions. These tanks were kept in constant repair in those days but during the 150 years or so of British rule, these tanks were neglected and the courses of the rivers have also been turned away. In the days of Sri Krishnadevaraya, Rayalaseema was known as Ratnalaseema but now it is known as ‘Rallaseema’, the land of stones. The Government must utilize the available water resources once again and see that famine is completely averted and ‘Rallaseema’ once again becomes ‘Ratnalaseema.’

“Sir, some of my hon. Friends are saying: why should we spend so much money on capital works? The money sunk on capital works will go for the development of these projects and unless we invest money on big projects we could never improve the lot of the villages. The money so sunk is not a loss. I appeal to the Government to borrow money and spend it on Rayalaseema. I have no objection, as one of hon. Friends suggested, to invest all the money we have on Rayalaseema. You can improve the Tungabhadra Project, improve the tanks and survey other resources. Water can be sent to Rayalaseema only when you harness the Krishna and the Godavari. Only then could we organize and improve the industries in Rayalaseema and establish industrial corporations for the purpose. The mineral resources of Rayalaseema could also be improved. It is abounding in barytes which could be usefully explored. All this could be accomplished only when water is sent to Rayalaseema from the Krishna and Godavari rivers. It has been said in the biography of Cotton written by his daughter that Cotton used to say that he could send water from Sind to the Ganges, from the Ganges to the Mahanadi, from Mahanadi to Godavari, from Godavari to Krishna, from Krishna to Pennar and from Pennar to Cauvery.

“The late Sri S. Srinivasa Ayyangar had stated in one of his speeches that if he was given an opportunity, he would link all the rivers of India and bring the waters of the Ganges down to the rivers in the South, the Godavari, the Krishna and the Cauvery. We have attained our Independence. We should not be frightened by the criticisms of others that we are wasting our money on big

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projects. The United States of America, under the New Deal programme, spent 150 crores of rupees in one year for the construction of big river valley projects, laying out roads, improvement of villages, etc. Whatever money that we spend on such useful schemes is not a waste. It is an investment. Our Finance Minister has stated in the Budget that the total amount covered by the capital outlay during the last five years would be about 62 crores of rupees. This is not enough. Six hundred crores of rupees must be spent on these projects. Investment on these projects is not a loss. The Godavari project is giving the Government 19 per cent return and the Krishna project is giving 12 per cent return. Ninety-five per cent of the waters of the Godavari and 88 per cent of the waters of the Krishna are being wasted into the sea. If all the parties in the State, the Communist Party, the Socialist Party, the Congress Party and other parties, instead of quarrelling among themselves, join together and make it possible for the investment of crores and crores of rupees on big capital schemes, then only we shall be able to improve our State. In Tamilnad we cannot improve the Cauvery project because 95 per cent of its waters have already been usefully utilized. My Friend, Mr. Mahomed Usman said that the Andhras are very niggardly in the matter of giving water to the City of Madras. I say, 'Let the Government take up the Nandikonda project and we can supply water not only to the districts in the Rayalaseema area but also the City of Madras'. It is the big river valley projects that can save our country and any amount spent on these projects will be a great gain to the country. Therefore the criticism levelled against the Government that they are spending large sums of money on capital projects is wrong. The more the Government spend on these projects, the more the people will be benefited. In this connexion, I must quote what Dharmaraja said to Lord Krishna :

‘నాథ వాలో వైష్ణవము లేకుండరా

‘మమ్ము నిలబెట్టుము’ అని భారతములో వెళ్ళబడినది.’

“ Food and housing are very essential. I congratulate Rajaji on his having boldly decontrolled food. But the people are not able to purchase the food available in the market because they have no purchasing capacity. Unless the Government sink more money on capital works, the poor people will not have the money to purchase the required foodgrains. Therefore my appeal to the Ministers of the Government is ‘Never be frightened to spend more money on capital works.’

“ I congratulate the Ministry on spending six crores of rupees on famine works in the Rayalaseema. I want the Government to spend not six crores but sixty crores of rupees. Let the Government borrow money and invest them on big capital projects. These projects will not be a losing concern. I only want that the waters of the big rivers in this country are not wasted into the sea but are utilized for the good of the country.

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“ As regards the plight of weavers, the Government of Madras have done yeoman service by starting the Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society, and annually giving them two crores of rupees. But still, Sir, the plight of the weavers is miserable. Formerly the weavers were suffering from dearth of yarn. Now, when there is surplus yarn available for them, the mills are producing more cloth and dumping them in the market. The Government of Madras have drawn up a scheme to alleviate the condition of the weavers. Under this scheme, the Government will provide the existing weavers' co-operative societies in the various districts with share capital at the rate of Rs. 25 per weaver joining the scheme and the money will be recovered by the society from the weaver out of the wages earned by him in the society. The wages that will be paid to the weaver will be on subsistence level not exceeding six annas per knot. Yarns of 40s and below will be supplied to the weaver for being woven into handloom cloth and delivered to the society. The Government have also undertaken to guarantee the societies, working the relief scheme, against business losses. In this connexion, I must say that the people are not able to purchase the handloom cloth produced by these societies because there is no purchasing capacity for them.

“ As a co-operator, I have started in my area (Alamuru) in East Godavari district, a multi-purpose co-operative society. With a view to help the agricultural labourers during slack seasons, the society is sanctioning loans in kind, by way of supply of cloth purchased from the Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society. The society has also promulgated a scheme of thrift and savings campaign by the sale among agricultural labourers of thrift labels of several denominations ranging from one anna to one rupee. The collection agents of the bank daily visit the quarters of the labourers and make collections. The collections thus made are adjusted towards the repayment of loans. The following table published by the Reserve Bank of India gives an indication of the progress of the sale of cloth :—

		RS.
1940-41	...	575
1941-42	...	1,085
1942-43	...	13,063
1943-44	...	9,307
1944-45	...	4,328

In this way, poor Harijan labourers are helped. This is the first society of its kind started in 1938 and it is Mr. Prakasam that laid the foundation to that society. By thus linking up Handloom Weavers' Societies with Co-operative Credit Societies, the sale of handloom cloth produced by the weavers can be increased.

“ The co-operative movement is doing a lot of good to the people. The Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society, Madras, which has attained an international reputation for its working, is

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purchasing and distributing consumer goods to the public by organizing several depots. In this way, the movement can be spread throughout the whole of the State. Even during the War, when the Japanese were throwing bombs on the city and when the merchants fled away, the Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society people remained in the City itself and supplied consumer goods to the public. Not only in the City but throughout the 52 towns of this State, co-operative societies are doing good work by supplying consumer goods to the public. Unfortunately, the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies organized for the purpose of growing food and supplying it to the consumers were smothered under the protecting wing of the State.

" Criticisms were also made that the Government are spending a lot of money for the construction of houses and for building townships. In this connection, I shall again quote the sloka :

‘*నానాభావములకు పాపము*’

The population of the State is increasing by leaps and bounds. How are the Government going to give them shelter? The Government are giving money to the building co-operative societies as loans and they fetch some interest to the Government. Government are not put to any loss on this account. Therefore I appeal to the legislators not to criticise the Government for giving loans to co-operative building societies for building townships and construction of houses."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The hon. Member's time is over."

SRI N. SATYANARAYANA :—" One minute, Sir."

" I wish to say a few words about the co-operative collective farming organized in my area. There are large lanka lands in my district, which were generally leased to the highest bidders by the Government. Generally the rich ryots secured the lands in auction and enjoyed them. They employed the landless labourers as coolies for agricultural operations in these lands. Owing to the annual silting of lands by high floods, these lands are very fertile and yield valuable crops such as cotton and chillies. With a view to save the labourers from the hands of the middlemen and to improve their economic position, the society secured these lands from the Government for joint cultivation and collective farming. This is what the Reserve Bank of India writes on the experiment :—

' A notable feature in the working of the Bank is the novel experiment it has undertaken in the direction of joint cultivation. The experiment was initiated in 1940 in the villages of Tatapudi, Jonnada and Mulastanam, lying within the area of the Bank's operations. The operation of this scheme has been rendered easy because of the availability of a vast acreage of " lanka " lands in the Godavari delta. These lanka lands which are Government lands were generally leased to the highest bidder at an open auction which was conducted by the Government and the richer

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classes alone were in a position to bid for them. The Bank has managed to secure these lands on lease from the Government for working out its experiment. It has taken up 500 acres in the three villages for a fixed rental of Rs. 10,000. The lands are divided into blocks of ten acres each and are allotted to Harijan families for joint cultivation. Each block is jointly cultivated by a group of ten families and their work is supervised by the Bank's ' propagandist '. The groups or brigades are divided into teams. Each group or brigade elects a Head who is directly responsible to the Rural Bank. The Head of each Group will allot work for the other members of the group. The Bank provides necessary financial assistance in the form of joint loans for the purpose of purchasing seed, cattle, implements, etc. It should be borne in mind that the families (consisting of landless labourers) coming under the scheme take up this type of farming only in the off-season when they have no employment. The scheme thus enables them to earn at least something during the off-season. The Bank undertakes the sale of the produce grown by the members and loans given for cultivation expenses are realized out of the sale-proceeds. However, only the surplus of the products that is left over, after reserving what is required to meet the members' needs, is marketed. The income from commercial crops such as chillies and tobacco alone is found sufficient to pay off the rental and other advances made by the bank.'

" We need not go to the Communists or to the Socialists for solving the economic problems of our country. We can solve them by organizing the State on a co-operative basis.

" I will show you, Sir, how the land problem can be solved. I do not want the lands to be taken from anybody; the landlord will not lose his land; he will be getting the usual reasonable rent. The lands will go into the hands of a co-operative society and agricultural operations will be carried on under the aegis of the society. The landlord will get his rent and the tenant can continue on his land and is assured of a continuous enjoyment of it and he can cultivate the lands for any length of time under the co-operative scheme. The land problem can be solved under the co-operative method only and not by any other means and I appeal to the Government to solve the problem. In this connection, I have to read from the report of the Land Revenue Reforms Committee and this is what the Committee recommended—

' We take this occasion to recommend that in lanka lands in the Godavari and Krishna deltas the system of lease by auction should be abandoned and they should be leased to co-operative joint farming or tenant farming societies on fair rentals. This would give additional opportunity for these types of farming to be tried and would give an opportunity to a number of landless labourers to attach themselves to the land and improve their standard of living and we do not consider that the loss of some revenue to the State, which will be incidental, should stand in the way.'

The members of this Committee visited Alampur and these remarks they have passed after seeing the lanka lands there and they have

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recommended that co-operative joint farming and tenant farming should be tried there and this is what the Committee said then—

'The Land Revenue Reforms Committee visited the Alamuru, Jonnada and Mulastanam lankas on the 24th October 1950 where the field labourers' co-operative societies are cultivating the lands with the credit and marketing facilities provided by the Alamuru Co-operative Rural Bank, Ltd. The members of the Committee were much impressed by what they saw and the success of the operations is in no small measure due to the zeal and the enthusiasm and organizing skill of Sri N. Satyanarayana, the President of the Alamuru Co-operative Rural Bank.'

who is myself and they go on to say—

'Able assisted by the office-bearers of the Bank and the office-bearers of the field labourers' co-operative societies'.

"Sir, so many things are said by honourable Members about the working of the scheme of Prohibition. But let me tell you how it has worked and I will give you one instance. The Minister for Revenue at the time, the Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao visited the area after Prohibition was introduced. Rupees 26,000 was collected from ex-addicts which represented their savings on account of the introduction of Prohibition and it is there in my bank along with the Rs. 4 lakhs that I have in my bank. Do you know Sir, the poor Harijans out of their own savings have done wonderful things: In Thatapudi, a Ramamandiram was constructed at a cost of Rs. 2,000, and it is a tiled building. Labour was contributed free and the housing materials were purchased out of their savings. The Adi-Andhras and Adi-Dravidas of Mulastanam constructed two tiled Ramamandirams at a cost of Rs. 4,000. The Adi-Dravidas of Angara village constructed a Ramamandiram at a cost of Rs. 5,000. After their daily work is over, they assemble in these Mandirs and settle their personal accounts and their communal disputes. On festive occasions they conduct bhajans and sankeerthans in these Mandirs. It is a delight to see their folk-dances and their ballad singing in these Mandirs. These have not only become a rendezvous for these people to gather but also centres of their recreation and adult education. I appeal to Honourable Members to recognise that Prohibition has done immense good and miraculous effects have been achieved in my area. If only Prohibition is worked properly, there is wonderful scope for poor people being benefited, I cannot say the same thing about the rich, for despite Prohibition, they may drink and drink and may be lost. But I am sorry to say one thing. One learned professor was saying that money for the payment of better salaries to teachers might be got by abolishing Prohibition. Oh, what a fall my countrymen! The teachers require to be paid money by the abolition of Prohibition; they want to be paid from the tainted money! From time immemorial, it is an accepted principle of religion that *acharyas* should be paid out of free love and from money earned by fair means.

‘అచార్యుల వ్రేయం నూనెనూనె’

Let them not, I appeal to them, want this blood money. Our teachers can be paid and they can be found work; they can be given rural reconstruction and Firka Development work. In that connexion, I understand that one crore of rupees has been spent

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during the last five years and it is not at all an achievement of which one can be proud. Some one suggested that it should be given to the Rotary Club. That is not the proper way; the work should be more expeditiously undertaken and the condition of the people should be bettered and their health and standard of living should be improved. We should show better results by means of the working of the community projects."

* SRI D. VENKATA RAO :—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will take some time to recover from the effects of a storm and necessarily I will talk quietly and I request you will give me time for a quiet speech.

"While rising to support the Budget proposals *in toto*, I wish to give expression to a few of my own observations. I have gone studiously through the Budget proposals and the introductory speeches made by the Hon. the Finance Minister and the Hon. the Chief Minister before the respective Houses of the Legislature. As one conversant with Public Finance, I have evinced particular interest in it as it has been the subject of my lectures. I believe, I have some of my students, old students but young men, in the Legislature, who must now be grappling with the proposals; of course, they must be in the Lower House, not in this House of Elders, where I sit with my compeers. To me the proposals seem to be the outcome of careful thinking and sincere concern for the welfare of the people and close consideration of all the problems and conditions obtaining in the country to-day, of limitations as well as possibilities. The new tax proposals are also moderate and reasonable and I would like the House to accept them *in toto*. We are aware that these Budget proposals had been preceded by certain acts of benevolence by this Government which have brought to the millions of our people peace, relief and contentment and which have inspired in their minds confidence in the Government; and everybody would wish that this Government should remain stable and strong. I must say that the Budget proposals do bear the impress of the unquestioned integrity of approach and the political acumen of the men that were in charge of the drafting of the proposals—I mean our Chief Minister, the Finance Minister and the good team of men that helped them. Opinion may differ on the subject of the Budget proposals, but I wish to submit that the proposals presented to the House are the best under the circumstances and I should commend them for the wholehearted approval of the House.

"Adverting to the Debate, Sir, I find, the Budget debate to be a sort of an omnibus by which anybody can travel anywhere, any way, and I find myself to be a fellow-passenger in the bus. I shall at the outset refer to a significant remark made the other day by my hon. Sister, Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi paying a compliment to the speech in Tamil delivered by my hon. Friend Sri Annamalai Pillai. She admired the lucidity, straightness and the forcefulness of the speech delivered in the mother-tongue of the speaker and

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she wished she could do the same herself. I wholeheartedly join her in this remark and I admire the frankness with which she gave expression to the reaction that was so convincingly forced upon her after hearing the speech made in a mother tongue. In my case, however, I feel that I can perfectly happily speak in my own mother tongue, mellifluous Telugu; I can do it with ease, but I refrain from doing it for fear that many of my friends, a great majority of them, would not be able to follow me. I must confess I could not follow the speech of Sri Annamalai Pillai, though I could see, however, that he was making a forceful and impressive speech; and I am sure that his feeling would be the same with reference to the speech I may deliver in Telugu which he may not be able to understand. It is this very significant remark of Dr. Mrs. Reddi regarding language that set me pondering over the fundamental problem of language in a composite province. The linguistic phenomenon presents difficulties which I have been observing day in and day out both at the Party meetings and in the open sessions of this House. It is a vital and a fundamental problem. Democracy is not workable unless all transactions of the Legislature and of the whole administrative machinery are conducted on the basis of the language of the people. The sort of democracy with which we toyed under the aegis of the British Raj was an apology for democracy and the chosen few that brandished the language suited that Government though the people were not well served. But now it is not so. Ours is a true democracy to-day and our first elections under the new Constitution on the basis of adult franchise has returned to the Legislature a majority of representatives who do not understand English and do not follow it with reasonable facility. To be sure, the next elections will bring more men of this type into the Legislature and the so-called common language which had been thrust on us, English, in which we have expressed ourselves, must fast die out and there will be no use for it. Taking this State, it is a composite State artificially constituted by accidents of history and the language areas are fairly big and viable. As I have told the House, democracy is unworkable without the basis of a common language and if democracy is to function, the formation of States on a linguistic basis is essential and inevitable. This leads me to the question of the Andhra State. I shall not make it a controversial topic. Well, Sir, I need not labour hard to prove the desirability or feasibility of the Andhra State. I felt surprised to find that yet there are some men who still doubt the feasibility of the Andhra State. I shall not waste my time trying to clear their doubts. All parties, it is sufficient for me to say, are agreed upon this question and the matter has been practically decided and it is only over a small hitch at the last moment at the discussions of the Cabinet Sub-Committee two years ago that the matter fell through. We must even now square up our differences and come to an agreement. The longer the delay, the greater is the danger and the greater the bitterness. The Congress in the Andhra be it noted, has broken over this question and all our present troubles of instability are due to that. The Andhras have nursed a long-standing grievance that their interests

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have suffered under a Government of the composite State in which other interests at all times had precedence over the interests of the Telugu districts and the deep feeling of long-standing neglect has sored their hearts and their minds. Great leaders and very good men, like Rajaji or Sri Prakasam, might head the State but even with the best of their intentions they have not been able to help the Andhra area, because whatever they may like to do, they failed to do the full measure of service. The trouble comes from the atmosphere that suffused the set up of the whole machinery of administration. Nothing but a division can right the wrong. We, Andhras, Tamils and others here in Madras, are all good brothers in a joint family; we do not hate each other. Sir, we love each other, we wish well of each other. But we have reared our own individual families and we have our own responsibilities and the time has come when we have got to part. Time has become ripe for our partition and partition must come before bitterness worsens. Every partition involves some difficulty. But partition must come nevertheless and it should never affect our brotherly relations.

5-45.
p.m.

"In this connexion, I shall give this House one or two very significant instances of criminal neglect of Andhra interests which, I am sure, the whole House will be interested to know and will appreciate. In my home town of Rajahmundry there are two colleges, in both of which I was a student. There is one Arts College and there is one Training College. The Arts College is one century old and next year in 1953 they are going to celebrate the centenary of that great institution. But do you know, Sir, where that institution is located? It is housed in a little building built in the days of the East India Company, a miserable little house meant originally for a normal school. It is only two years ago that the construction of a new building to house this college was taken up and it is nearing completion and probably the college will have the pleasure of celebrating its centenary under the roof of a new building that comes one century after the inception of the institution. A lot of agitation had been carried on for its betterment, but who cared to listen to it? It was a cry in the wilderness. Now, I come to the Government Training College to which I have earlier referred. This college is half a century old. It is also housed in a building which is very inadequate for its purpose. Believe me, Sir, when I say that throughout its existence under the University of Madras, it was never recognized. During that period students received their instruction in this college but they had to appear for the examination as private students, as the college had no recognition, and get their degrees. Then came the Andhra University. It also took objection to this college being located in a most inadequate building with a miserable playground, and it refused to recognize it for three years. At that time, however, this was the only Training College in the Andhra area and there was no alternative, and ultimately the University was obliged to give recognition to this college. For nearly thirty years, Principal after Principal—white Principals, Tamil Principals and Telugu Principals—consistently

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and repeatedly complained about the inadequate accommodation provided for this college. Who would listen to it? The concerned department kept amazingly silent over the matter and the Training College still remains in the miserable premises. Sir, it requires extensive modern buildings and vast grounds for its growing scope and strength. I appeal to the Hon. Minister for Education to take note of this and see that new buildings and sufficient accommodation are provided for this college without further delay.

"Now, I want to make a passing reference to Ramapadasagar, that magnificent scheme of Sri S. V. Ramamurthi. It is a great scheme which would solve many problems of this State. But, what happened to it? Over Rs. 20 lakhs were spent over preparing the plans and estimates of this scheme. Actually machinery was set up to implement it, but suddenly something happened and the whole thing has been shelved and thrown into cold storage. I remember one pleasant evening when Sri Ramamurthi, father of the project, cheerfully and very proudly announced at a public meeting in Rajahmundry that very soon in about a month or so from thence, the foundation stone for Ramapadasagar was going to be laid by our Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. I was so happy to hear that. One month passed and two months passed, and several months passed but nothing happened and then came the sad news that the whole thing fell through and that it would not be taken up for years to come. That is the fate of the Ramapadasagar Scheme. Sir, may it be noted, the ship of the Congress in Andhra foundered on the rock of Ramapadasagar and broke into two; and if there is division in the Congress to-day, it is because of this policy.

"Now, I come to roads. The tourists and pilgrims that tour South India contrast the beautiful and well-tarred roads in Tamilnad with miserable highways and by-ways of the Telugu area. Who is responsible for it? Andhra districts are neglected. Andhra causes are thrown to the background. Our voice is a voice in the wilderness. That is the reason why we want a Province. We do not complain against anybody. I shall not accuse any leader. It is a conspiracy of circumstances germane to a composite State. Therefore, I appeal to this House to lend its full weight to the early formation of an Andhra Province.

"Sir, by the way, I shall recall a remark made the other day by the Hon. Minister for Finance when replying to the Confidence Motion in the other House. He referred to the Andhra Province and said 'Andhra leaders assembled in Madras suddenly claimed the City for the proposed Andhra State.' I wonder whether the Hon. Sri Subramaniam was born when the movement for a separate Andhra State was started more than forty years ago. It is not all of a sudden that Andhras jumped upon Madras. We have been claiming it for the last 40 years. The Hon. Sri Subramaniam continued 'In spite of geographical facts, linguistic facts and other

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things, still there are Andhras who want to include the City of Madras in the Andhra State.' What a remark! If only it had been a remark of somebody else, I would not have minded it. That was an inadvertent remark that has slipped from the mouth of a responsible Minister. Sir, I know something of geography myself and a little more of history, as a Professor of History myself. I shall give you a fact of history which will help people to know the truth so as not to dismiss this question of the claim of the Andhras so cheaply. May it be known that the site of the City of Madras was originally the gift to the East India Company by a Telugu chieftain of the East Coast, a feudatory under the Telugu kings of Chandragiri,—my namesake, Damerla Venkata Rao Naik. In the initial stages, the City was raised by the sweat and toil of Andhra labour and its prosperity was built up by the industry and enterprise of Andhra artisans and merchants. By and by as time went on, others did come into the City and they contributed their share to the development of this City. I should not deny and I shall not deny the credit to them. Tamilians, Malayalees and Kannadigas came and they all contributed towards the development of this City. It is also a fact of history, Sir, that this City cannot be claimed by any one group. It shall belong to all. We should not worry ourselves about the City now. It will find its own solution. We want an Andhra Province and that must be formed at the earliest opportunity. Very soon the President of India is likely to consult the Legislature of Madras regarding its opinion about this matter. Before we are consulted, it will be graceful that we pass a resolution which this House had repeatedly passed in the past—wholeheartedly consenting to the immediate formation of the Andhra Province.

"One word about Education. When I speak about education, naturally I must refer to teachers. I do not approach anybody on their behalf with a begging bowl and ask for mercy. The teachers may to-day be humble and poor, but they are the inheritors of the traditions of the rishis of the ashrams of this country. They commanded immense respect and still command respect. If you want to be fair to teachers, give them, what they deserve, not by way of doles of mercy but by way of justifying yourself in the name of the children of the land whom we want to be nurtured into heroes of the country. You cannot expect heroes to be reared by a brood of teachers, discontented, emaciated, half-starved and sunken. The teacher must be a proud man. He must also be a very contented man; and he must be a very cheerful man. It is such teachers that can develop this nation into a heroic nation. In the interests of our own people and in the interests of the future of our country, we have got to see that we raise the status of the poor teachers. I am ashamed to call them 'poor teachers'. They are proud men who should have what they deserve.

"Now, Sir, I come to educational concessions which have been granted to teachers and non-gazetted officers. The Government, probably by oversight, have not extended the same concession to

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Lecturers and Assistant Lecturers in aided colleges who are drawing a salary of less than Rs. 300. There is a call from them. Please take them also into your purview.

"Sir, teachers do not grow old at 55. I am a retired man. I am an example of the teacher. After retirement, I have come into politics. My Government that retired me fixed the age of superannuation at 55 but teachers do not grow old at 55 by virtue of the character of work that they do. I believe I may not grow old for a long time to come. It is but fair that the superannuation age of teachers should be raised to 60 as in the case of the Central Services.

"There are also poor pundits and poor Hindi teachers who are neglected by everybody."

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

SRI D. VENKATA RAO :—"I shall finish in a minute.

"These pundits and Hindi teachers deserve much better treatment from the hands of the Government. These very learned men are not paid as those men of to-day who come with a little bit of English knowledge, though they are entrusted with education in the higher classes of colleges. Sir, if the Government of Madras or the Government of India mean business and want that Hindi should be made the *lingua franca* of the country, Hindi teachers must be helped to live and live happily. They are paid miserably. You don't give them enough work, enough periods of work in the schools and colleges. Hindi is a neglected subject. Give them ample work and please pay them fully. With these words, I appeal to the House to wholeheartedly approve of the Budget."

JANAB SYED MAHABOOB :—"అధ్యక్షా, ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వము తయారు చేసినటువంటి బడ్జెటును చూచినట్లయితే, ఇదివరకు జాతీయోద్యమములో భారతదేశము వ్యవసాయకదేశమని రైతులకు వస్తులభారము తగ్గిస్తామని, రైతులకు విముక్తి కలుగ జేస్తామని, దున్నేవానికి భూమినిస్తామని మహా గొప్పగా కాంగ్రెసు వేధికలై ఉపన్యాసాలు ఇచ్చినటువంటి నాయకులైనా ఈ నాడు ఈ బడ్జెటును తయారు చేసినటువంటివారు అనే ఆనుమానము కలుగుచున్నది. ఈ బడ్జెటు చూచినతరువాత నాకు తట్టిన మొట్టమొదట అభిప్రాయము ఏమనగా ఈ ప్రభుత్వము మధ్య తరగతి రైతులను వీడరైతులుగాను, వీడ రైతులను వ్యవసాయ కూలీలుగాను, వ్యవసాయ కూలీలను నిక్షాగ్ణులుగాను తయారు చేస్తున్నట్లు నాకు తోచినది కనుక ఈ బడ్జెటును నేను వ్యతిరేకిస్తున్నాను. మొట్టమొదట దున్నేవానికి భూమినిస్తామని, రైతులకు వస్తులభారము తగ్గిస్తామని మహా ఉపన్యాసాలు ఇచ్చినటువంటి పెద్దలైనా ఈ లాంటి బడ్జెటు ప్రపోజర్స్ తయారుచేసింది అని అడుగుతున్నాను. ఈ విధంగా బడ్జెటు తయారు చేసినందుకు వారు ముఖ్యంగా కారణమేమి తెప్పరుస్తారంటే బడ్జెటులో లోటు వచ్చింది కనుక విలాసనా సరే ఈ బడ్జెటును పూర్తి చేయవలసియింటుంది కాబట్టి ఈ వస్తులు వేశాము అని తెప్పరుస్తారు. కాని ఈ వస్తులు విధింపబడుతుంటే వీడ రైతులయొక్క పరిస్థితులు పట్టె ప్రాంతాలలో చూచినట్లైతే వారు ఎని కష్టస్థులకు గురి అయినారో వారి కుటుంబాలు ఎంత కష్టముతో జీవితము గడుపుతున్నారో

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[Janab Syed Mahaboob]

అర్థమౌతుంది. కనుక ఈ పెద్ద నాయకులు వారి రాజకీయాధికారములో ఈ విషయాన్ని మరచిపోయి ఉంటారని అభిప్రాయపడుతున్నాను. ఈ బడ్జెటునే గనుక యథావిధంగా అమలులోకి తెచ్చినట్లైతే గ్రామ జీవితము తారుమారు అయిపోయి వీడ రైతులకు ఆర్థిక వాసిస సంక్షోభము లిగించినట్లు అవుతుంది కాని రైతుకు ఏ మాత్రము దీనివల్ల విముక్తిగాని శ్రేయస్సుగాని చేకూరదని నా అభిప్రాయము.

"తరువాత 50 రూపాయలు శిస్తు చెల్లించేటటువంటి రైతులకు సర్వార్థిని 6 p.m. ఆధిక వస్తులభారము వేస్తున్నారంటే ఇది ఎంత భూయిష్టమైన విధానమో ప్రభుత్వము ఒక పర్యాయం అలాంటివి తప్పవనియున్నది. డెల్టా ప్రాంతాలలో 4 ఎకర రైతుకుమాదా ఈ వస్తు చెల్లించవలసియింటుంది. ఈ రైతులయొక్క అదాయము చూచినట్లైతే ఇదివరకు Land Revenue Committee యొక్క రెక్కల ప్రకారము ఒక 50 రూపాయలు శిస్తు చెల్లించేటటువంటి రైతులకు సగటు నికరపు అదాయము 450 రూపాయలు మాత్రమేనని తెలుపబడినది. ఇంకా వారి ఖర్చును గురించి విచారించి వట్లయితే Rao's Committee Report ప్రకారము ప్రతి కుటుంబానికి 18 వందల రూపాయలు కావలసియింటుంది. ఈ విధంగా రైతులు తమ జీవితాలను గడుపువలసియింటున్నప్పుడు వీడ రైతులైన ఈలాంటి అన్యాయపు వస్తులు చేయడం చాలా తోచనియం గావుంది. కనుక ఈ వస్తుల విషయములో ఒక విచారణ కమిటీ వేసి ప్రజాభిమతాన్ని వారి అభిప్రాయాన్ని మారగొని ఆ ప్రకారము చేయవలసిందిగా ప్రభుత్వాన్ని కోరుతున్నాను. కొందరు సభ్యులు 50 రూపాయలు శిస్తు చెల్లించేటటువంటి రైతులవద్దనుండి కాక, వంద రూపాయలకు పైన శిస్తు చెల్లించేటటువంటి రైతులవద్దనుండి ఈ సర్వార్థిలు వసూలు చేయవలెనని సూచించారు. కాని ఈ సూచనకూడా సరియైనటువంటిది కాదని నా అభిప్రాయము. ఎందుకనగాంటే వంద రూపాయలు శిస్తు చెల్లించేటటువంటి రైతులయొక్క సగటు నిఖరపు అదాయము 850 రూపాయలు మాత్రమే ఉంటుంది. అలాంటప్పుడు అటువంటి రైతుకుమాడ ఈ వస్తులు వేయటం న్యాయమైన విధానముకాదని నా అభిప్రాయము. కనుక బడ్జెటు లోటు పూర్తికావాలంటే, ఈ రైతులపై వస్తులభారము ప్రయోజనకరమైన ఆధిక వార్షికు విధింకా? సరియైన విధానము కాదు. బడ్జెటు లోటును పూర్తిచేసుకొనడానికి వేరే మార్గాలు వున్నాయి. ఇదివరకు 1947 వ సంవత్సరము పారిశ్రామికీకరణ సలహా సంఘము బడ్జెట్ యజమానుల అదాయము 4, 5 వేలు ఉంటుందని, ఆ విధంగా 4 వేల అదాయముతో మన రాష్ట్రంలో 2 కోట్లు బడ్జెట్ యజమానులకు దక్కుతుందని ఆ కమిటీ రిపోర్టు ఇచ్చినది. కాని ఈ మూటారు పరిశ్రమలో ట్రైవర్లు, కండక్టర్లు, క్లీనర్లు వాదాల్ని 50 వేలమంది ఉన్నారు. ఈ 50 వేలమంది గురించి యజమానులనుండి వారికి న్యాయమైన జీతములు ముట్టుచున్నవా వారి స్థిగితులేమని వారిని గురించి ప్రభుత్వము ఏమైనా చర్య తీసుకొన్నదా అంటే విమిలేదు. ఒక ట్రైవరు విషయము తీసుకొండి. అతడు ప్రాద్దన 6 గంటలకు స్థిరంగా చేతపట్టుకంటే రాత్రి 8 గంటలవరకు సర్వీస్ చేయవలసియింటుంది. కాని అతని జీతము చూస్తాను చాలా తక్కువ. ఈ బడ్జెట్ యజమానులు తక్కువ జీతాలతో ఎక్కువ పని కావాలంటారు. ఈ యజమానులకు ఆధిక లాభాలు వచ్చినానూడా కార్మికులను ఇటువంటి కష్టాలతో పీడిస్తూయింటారు. Transport workers ఈ విధంగా తమ జీతాన్ని గడవలేక 1948 వ సంవత్సరములో మాత్రము కొన్ని సత్కాలు జరిపారు. అప్పుడు ఒక విచారణ కమిటీవేసి Motor Transport workers కి కొన్ని సదుపాయాలు చేయవలసిందిగా కోరారు. కాని వారికి విమి సదుపాయాలు కలుగ జేయలేదు.

[Janab Syed Mahaboub] [10th July 1952]

"Motor Vehicles Act లో ఈ కార్లకు 9 గంటలు పని చేయాలని ఉన్నప్పటికీ యజమానులు అధిక లాభాలు కొరకు కార్లకు చేత ఎక్కువ పనిచేయిస్తూనే ఉంటారు. ఈ విధంగా అధిక లాభా పొందుతున్నటువంటి బన్ను యజమానులైన వన్నులు ఎందుకు విధించకూడదని ప్రభుత్వాని అడుగుతున్నాను. అది విధించి ప్రయాణీకులైన, గ్రామ ప్రజలైన, వీధి రైతాంగంలైన అధిక వన్నులు, బన్ను చార్జీలువేయడం ఎంత విపరీతంగా ఉంటుందో ప్రభుత్వము ఆలోచించుకోవలసియ్యుంది. కనుక 2 కోట్లు ఆదాయాన్ని పొందేటటువంటి బన్ను యజమానులైన ఈలాంటి వన్నులు విధించవలసిన కోరుతున్నాను. వి కార్లకులే కట్టవడి ఈ యజమానులకు 2 కోట్లు ఆదాయాన్ని సాధించిస్తున్నారో అటువంటి కార్లకులే యజమానులకు గునించలేకుండా ఉన్నారంటే ప్రభుత్వము ఈ విషయంలో ఏమి చర్య తీసుకోవడా ఉండడం చాలా కోరవలసిగా ఉంది. ఇక మోటారు ట్రాన్స్‌పోర్టు కార్లకులపట్ల పోలీసుల వైఖరి చూచినట్లైతే, ఈ పోలీసువారు వారిని అనేక విధాలుగా బాధ పెడుతూ ఉంటారు. ఒక బన్నుగాని లేక లారీగాని పోలీసు వాళ్లకు అవకాశం ఇవ్వక పోయినట్లైతే ఆ పోలీసులు ఈ బన్ను కార్లకులను ఎక్కువ బాధస్తుతుంటారు. మోటారు ట్రాన్స్‌పోర్టు కార్లకుల పరిస్థితులు ఈ విధంగా ఉంటున్నప్పుడు దీనిని గురించి ప్రభుత్వము ప్రత్యేక శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొని వారికి తగిన రక్షణ ఇవ్వవలసిన అవసరమున్నదని చెప్పుచున్నాను. ఇదివరకు ఈ విషయములో నియమించిన విచారణ కమిటీ రోజున 120 మైళ్లకంటే ఎక్కువ సర్వీస్ పోకూడదని చెప్పినప్పటికీ కూడ దీనిని గమనించడంలేదు. రెండవది వి కార్లకులైన ఒక సంవత్సరము సర్వీసు అయిన తరువాత అటువంటి workers ను permanent ఉద్యోగులుగా చేయవలసిన సూచించింది. దానికూడా ఈ బన్ను యజమానులు పాటించడం లేదు. అట్లు చేయటకు బదులు ఉద్యోగాలు తగ్గించి చాలామంది workers ను నిరుద్యోగులౌతు చేస్తుంటారు. ఈ విధంగా బన్ను యజమానుల అధిక లాభాలతో తులనాగతులయిపోతున్న వీధి ప్రయాణీకులైన చార్జీలు ఎక్కువవేసి బడ్జెటును సమర్పించుటకు బదులు ఈ యజమానులైన ఎందుకు వన్నులు వేయకూడదో ఆలోచించుకొమ్మని ప్రభుత్వానికి ఇంకా వర్తాయము ఈ విషయాన్ని జ్ఞప్తికి తెస్తున్నాను.

"ఇప్పుడు రైతులైన సర్చార్జీలు వేశారు. కాని ఇదివరకే రైతులు వన్నుల భారముతో బాధపడుతూ, ఈ వన్నుల భారాన్ని తగ్గించండి అని ప్రతిపాదించింటూ ఉంటే, ప్రభుత్వము ఇప్పుడు వారిపైన సర్చార్జీలు వేయడము ఎంత విపరీతంగా, భరించరానిదిగా ఉంటుందో ఆలోచించుకోవచ్చు. మహాత్త గాంధీజీ ఈ రైతుల నాయకత్వము విపాంచి, ఎటువంటి రైతు పోరాటాలను నడిపించినాడో ఆ విషయాలన్నీ మన చరిత్రలో ఉన్నవి. తరువాత మలబారులో ఒకావోకప్పుడు ముస్లిము మాజిల్లా రైతులు ఏ విధంగా బ్రిటిష్ సాంరాజ్యానికి తిరుగుబడి వారి తిరుగుబాటును సాగించారో అది చరిత్రలో స్పష్ట అక్షరాలతో లిఖించబడినది. దేశ స్వాతంత్ర్యమునై ఇంతటి ధైర్యసాహసాలతో పోరాడిన ఈ మాజిల్లా రైతులకు ఈనాడు వన్నులు ఎక్కువై అన్యాయము కలుగుతున్నాయంటే, అవకాశవాదులైనట్టి ముస్లిం లీగ్ ఈ బడ్జెటును ఆమోదించారు అంటే, ఆ మాజిల్లా రైతులకు ఎంత అన్యాయము చేసినవా రత్రుకారో గ్రహించవచ్చు. ఎక్కడా లేనటువంటి ముస్లిం లీగ్ ఈనాడు మలబారులో ఉన్నది. ఈ ముస్లిం లీగ్ బెంగాలులో లేదు, వీహారులో లేదు, ఉత్తర్ ప్రదేశ్‌లో లేదు, బొంబాయిలో లేదు, కాని మలబారులో ఉన్నది. ఆ ఉన్నటువంటి ముస్లిం లీగ్ కూడా ఒక చిన్న పెక్కున మాత్రమే. ఎన్నికలప్పుడు, తులము పేరట, కులము పేరట,

10th July 1952] [Janab Syed Mahaboub]

పేరట పేరట ప్రమాణాలుచేసి రైతులవద్దనుండి వోట్లు పొంది ఇక్కడకు వచ్చినటువంటి ముస్లిం లీగ్ ఈనాడు ఆ వోట్లు ఇచ్చినటువంటి మలబారు మాజిల్లా కిసాన్లైన అధిక వన్నులు వేయగా, ఈ ముస్లిం లీగ్ support చేసింది అంటే, నిజంగా ఈ ముస్లిం లీగ్ మలబారు రైతుల అధిక జీవితాన్ని క్రంగడిసి వారికి ఎంతో ద్రోహంచేసిందనే చెప్పవలసియ్యున్నది.

"తరువాత అభివృద్ధి పన్ను (betterment tax) ను గురించి ఆలోచించినట్లైతే, ఎక్కడైతే వ్యవసాయ పరిస్థితులను అభివృద్ధిపరచవలసియుంటుందో, ఎక్కడైతే రైతు బాధపడుతూ ఉంటాడో ఎక్కడైతే నీటిపారుదల ఉండదో, అలాంటి వీధి ప్రదేశాలలో, కరువు ప్రాంతాల పెట్టవలసి వారికి సహాయము చేయవలసియుంటుంది. ఇటువంటి లకు సౌకర్యాలు కలుకజేయడం ప్రభుత్వముయొక్క బాధ్యత. అసలు ఒక కరువు ప్రాంతిక క్రింద, ఒక ప్రాజెక్టు క్రింద భూమిని సాగుకు తేవలసియుంటే, ఆ రైతు మొట్ట పల్లాన్ని సరిచేసుకొని దానిని సాగులోకి తీసుకురావాలంటే ఎంతో డబ్బు ఖర్చు చేయవలసియుంటుంది. ఇంత కష్టపడి ఆ భూమిని అభివృద్ధికి తీసుకువచ్చిన తరువాత, ఈయొక్క అభివృద్ధి పన్నులను వేస్తే అది రైతుకు ఎంతో కష్టంగాను, నిరుత్సాహంగాను ఉంటుంది. అది ఏమూతము రైతుకు సహకారిగా ఉండదు. అలాంటిప్పుడు ఈ విస్తల విభాగము, సర్ చార్జీల విభాగము శిక్షాత్రము సరియైనదిగాదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. అయితే, ఈ బడ్జెటును పూరించేటటువంటి విధి సూచన ఇస్తున్నారని అడుగవచ్చును. దీనికి సలహాలు ఇస్తున్నాను. మొదటిది, అధిక లాభాలు పొందుతూ ఉండేనటువంటి బన్ను యజమానులైన కొన్ని వన్ను విధించి వారిద్వారా కొంత భాగాన్ని వసూలు చేయవచ్చు. రెండవది, ప్రభుత్వము జమీందార్లకు నష్టపరిహారంగా కోటానోట్ల రూపాయలు ఖర్చు చేస్తూన్నది. ఇంత మొత్తాన్ని ఇవ్వకుండా, విజోక్షుప్తంగా ఇచ్చి ఉంటే బడ్జెటు లోటు చాలావరకు తగ్గిపోయి ఉండేది. ప్రభుత్వము నిజంగా దేశాభివృద్ధికి, దేశ పురోభివృద్ధికి డబ్బు కావాలి అన్నట్లయితే, ఒక ordinance వేసి, ఫలాన రేడిలోగా ఉన్నటువంటి కరెన్సీ నెట్లనేరదు అని ఉత్తర్వు గనుక చేసినట్లయితే, ఈ సిట్‌లో కూడుకొనిన కరెన్సీ అంతా ఈ పెక్రేటేరియట్‌కు ఎట్లు వస్తుందో తెలుస్తుంది. ఈ డబ్బుంతా, పెద్ద పెద్ద capitalist వద్ద, land-holders వద్ద, పెద్ద యజమానులవద్ద, వ్యాపారస్తులవద్ద ఉన్నది గనుక వారినుండినే రావలెనుగాని, రైతులవద్దనుండి ఎట్లు రాగలదనే విషయాన్ని ప్రభుత్వము గుర్తించ వలసియ్యున్నది. కనుక ఈ వీధి రైతులమీద అధిక వన్నులవేసే విధానాన్ని అవలం బించకూడదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

"తరువాత ప్రస్తుతము ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్రములో 18 లక్షల ముస్లిములున్నారు. కాని దేశము partition అయిన తరువాత, అక్కడి ముస్లిములకు విద్యాలయాలు గాని, ముస్లిం ఆశ్రమయముగాని ప్రభుత్వము తలపెట్టడములేదు. ఒక చోట 20 సంవత్సరాలుగా ఉంటున్నటువంటి గవర్నమెంటు ట్రైనింగు స్కూలును ఈ విధాది తీసివేశారు. తరువాత డిస్ట్రిక్టు బోర్డు స్కూళ్లలోగాని, కంబాయలీ బోర్డు స్కూళ్లలోగాని, మునిసిపల్ స్కూళ్లలోగాని, ఎక్కడా ఒక ముస్లిం స్కూల్ పెట్ట లేదు. చాలా చోట్ల టీచర్లు దొరకడం లేదంటున్నారు. ఈ విషయమై డిస్ట్రిక్టు బోర్డు ద్వారాను మునిసిపాలిటీల ద్వారాను మనవిచేశాము. టీచర్లు కావాలంటే ట్రైనింగు స్కూళ్లు చాలా అవసరము. కనుక అక్కడ ఆ ట్రైనింగు స్కూలు ఉంచి, ఇక్కడ ఆంధ్ర మధ్య భాగములో అనగా గుంటూరులో గవర్నమెంటు, ట్రైనింగు కాలేజీలో ఒక ముస్లిం కెక్షను పెట్టవలెనైతే, టీచర్లు తయారవుతారు,

[Janab Syed Mahaboub] [10th July 1952]

ఆ విధంగా వివిధ ప్రాంతాలలోని ముస్లింలకు సహాయము చేసినట్లు ప్రకటించి, కనుక ఇప్పుడు మూలీవేయబడిన ట్రేనింగు స్కూలును మరల విద్యను చేయవలసిందని, రెండవది, ఈ బడ్జెటు విధానాన్ని తరిగివదలడానికి ఒక సలహా సభాన్ని ఏర్పాటు చేస్తూ దానిలో ఆన్ని వార్షికు సమానావకాకమిచ్చి, ప్రజల అభివృద్ధిని తెలుసుకొని, ఆ విధంగా ఈ పన్ను విధానాన్ని సవరింపవలసిన కోరుతున్నాను.

“తరువాత decontrol విషయములో కొంత మెరుగి చేస్తున్నాను ఈ కంట్రోల్స్ తీసివేయడంలో, దేశవ్యాపారులు, దేశాధిమానం లేనివారు, కమ్యూనిస్టులు ఇటువంటివారే ఈ కంట్రోల్స్ కావాలంటున్నారనే ఒక పంపిణీ పెట్ట ప్రభుత్వము ప్రకటించి తీసుకొనివస్తున్నది. నిజంగా, అవసర పదార్థాలు యదేచ్ఛగా ప్రజలకు లభిస్తే, ఎవరుకూడా అవసర పదార్థాలకు కంట్రోల్స్ తొలగివలసిన కోరరు. అవసర పదార్థాల సరిగా ప్రజలకు అందుకాదులే లేకుండా, ధరలు కారెమరేషన్స్ అవకాశములే కంట్రోల్స్ కావాలంటారు. ఇప్పుడు ఎవరైనా కంట్రోల్స్ ను కావాలంటే ధరలు పెరిగిపోయి అవకాశములేక భరణ కంట్రోలు చేయవలసిన అవసరమున్నదని చెప్పారు. కనుక, ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వము కంట్రోల్స్ తీసివేయడాని ధరలకు అరికట్టడం అని అడిగినట్లైతే, మనకు ప్రభుత్వము సమాధానము ఇచ్చింది. వెంట్రట్ గవర్నరుంటు అసరముమీద ఎక్కడైనా సరే వ్యక్తులు ధరలు పెరిగేట్లయితే వారి స్వేచ్ఛ స్వాధీనపరచుకొంటామని అని అన్నారు గనుక ధరలు పెరుగుటకు అవకాశములేకని చెప్పవచ్చు. కాని ఇంతవరకు దొంగ మార్కెటులో అమ్మినటువంటివారికి ఉరి శిక్ష విధిస్తామని చెప్పినటువంటి వంటిట్ సెక్షన్ కార్యాల విధుల నాయా ఇప్పుడుకూడా అదే ప్రకారము వీరి కార్యాల కార్యకార్యని భయపడవలసి అవుతుంది చెప్పవచ్చును కనుక అవసర పదార్థాలయొక్క ధరలకు అరికట్టడంకు తీరాంటి వద్దలి సహకరింపవలసి చెప్పడూ ఈ బడ్జెటును వ్యతిరేకతూ విరవిడుతున్నాను.”

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P.M.

* SRI MADDI SUDARSANAM :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I feel it is my first and foremost duty to congratulate the Chief Minister of our Government for the very bold and masterly step he has taken in the matter of decontrolling the prices of food-grains in this State. The producers and the consumers as well as the merchants, all heaved a sigh of relief, and there appears to be a general satisfaction all over the State. It is really gratifying to note that the vexatious controls which have been largely responsible for bringing the Government into disrepute in the past, are now being gradually removed. The very fact that the prices of food-grains are now getting stabilised at reasonable levels, may be taken as a good augury for the success of the policy of decontrol. With large buffer stocks in reserve to meet any emergency, and with powers vested in officials to snatch any hoarded stocks, I feel confident that the policy of decontrol pursued by our Government is bound to succeed, and thus pave the way for all the other States in our country to follow the same policy. I also feel sure that the mercantile community will co-operate with the Government by not allowing their speculative propensities to play any part, and thus make the policy of decontrol a great success. The Chief Minister has taken upon himself the arduous task of forming the Government under very difficult circumstances in our State. Ever since

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he assumed office, he has been pursuing a policy which has contributed in no small measure towards maintaining a stable Government against heavy odds, and restoring the prestige of Congress to a considerable extent, in this State.

“ His executive action in suspending land grants to political sufferers and his policy of gradual relaxation of controls together with his attempts to introduce economies in all possible directions without impairing efficiency, have earned for him esteem and affection from the people of this State. The way in which the Government have tackled the problem of combating the famine conditions in Rayalaseema by spending fairly large sums of money has succeeded to a very remarkable degree in alleviating the distress among the people there. The assistance rendered to handloom weavers by organising co-operative societies and advancing share capital due from individual members and making available credit required for producing yarn would go a long way in stabilising the handloom weaving industry on a stable basis.

“ The preliminary accounts for 1951-52 disclosed a revenue deficit of Rs. 3.29 crores, as against an anticipated deficit of only Rs. 10 lakhs in the revised estimates, mainly on account of the fall in revenues under Land Revenues, General Sales Tax, and Electricity Schemes. Budget estimates for the current year (1952-53) anticipate a deficit of Rs. 3.59 crores, as against an anticipated deficit of Rs. 86 lakhs in the interim budget. This increase in deficit is largely accounted for by the anticipated reduction in General Sales Tax. The Finance Minister appears to have based these calculations on the assumption that there would be a good revival in trade activity in the near future from the present recession in prices. It is rather difficult to hazard any guess about any marked revival of trade activity in our country in the near future, unless the Government of India take active steps to promote our export trade, and try to remove or relax the undue and somewhat irksome checks which the Reserve Bank imposed over the entire credit mechanism of the country in their anxiety to follow a dis-inflationary policy. It should not therefore surprise the members of this House if they are faced with a larger deficit at the end of the year than that anticipated at present.

“ It is really gratifying to note that the Government have made substantial provision in the revenue account for new schemes covered by the National Plan. A sum of Rs. 16 lakhs is being sanctioned for providing drinking water in Agency areas. In this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the numerous and untold miseries which the people in many areas in our State had to undergo in summer months for want of drinking water. People had to go for long distances to quench their thirst. Many could not have a comfortable bath for days together. Fresh water was believed to have sold at fancy prices. Such conditions prevailed not only in drought affected areas like the Ceded Districts, but also in many areas in Northern Circars.

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In a major municipality like Guntur and in many other big centres in Guntur District, people are still undergoing numerous difficulties to get even drinking water, and unless the Government give highest priority for all schemes intended to give at least drinking water to the people, it would leave an indelible blot on our civilization. It is an irony that even in a town like Guntur which is one of the most important commercial and industrial centres in our State, and which is only situated at a distance of about 10 miles from Buckingham Canal, people had been continuously undergoing numerous difficulties for a number of years even for getting adequate fresh water for drinking purposes; let alone for other purposes. There has been an inordinate delay in the execution of water works scheme in this town, and nobody seems to be anxious about the completion of this work. Though the scheme was sanctioned about half a decade ago, the progress is most unsatisfactory. The Government must press Public Works Department to expedite and complete the scheme before next summer. Else, the population of Guntur municipal town will have to face another catastrophe, during the next summer months. The Finance Minister has no doubt provided funds in the present Budget for the expansion of Guntur Medical College, Government Hospital and also Andhra Government Women College, Guntur. Unless the Government choose to press the concerned Departments to speed up the works, the results are bound to be unsatisfactory. The Government must make the Medical College, a full blown College within a year or two.

"The Finance Minister has no doubt made a very strong plea for imposing additional taxation to bridge the revenue deficit for the current year. I am afraid that some of the measures proposed by him may not bring as much revenue as he anticipates, and would probably lead to unnecessary complications in the matter of administration and in the collection of these taxes. A very large majority of the population depends on agriculture in this State. At a time like this, when far-reaching changes are expected to take place in the agricultural economy of our country, particularly in the matter of limitation of holdings, redistribution of surplus land, tenancy rights, etc., it is doubtful how far the levy of a surcharge on land revenue and a betterment tax on land, are going to help the Finance Minister in achieving his objects.

"As regards the levy of a graduated surcharge on land revenue which includes water tax, it may be mentioned that this is one tax which has not been touched by the Government during the past few years. The land revenue re-settlement is to be made once in thirty years, and the last re-settlement was made about 20 years ago. A large percentage of land in our State is under food crops. The prices, particularly of food crops, have been controlled during the past seven or eight years on account of the anxiety on the part of the Government to acquire the food crops to be distributed to the various sections of the population at minimum cost. The agriculturists have not, therefore, been allowed to be benefited either during the war period or immediately after the war from the general

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rise in prices. The agriculturist had to pay for most of the commodities he had to buy, comparatively much higher prices while he was unable to realize higher prices for his produce on account of the existence of controls. Now with the possibility of the prices coming down, any imposition of an additional levy on land revenue is bound to cause much hardship especially to the agriculturists in general and those who are producing food crops in particular. Commercial crops have been fetching greater yields to the agriculturists in the past few years and it would have been reasonable if those who produce cash crops and realize higher yields are asked to pay more than those who produce only food crops and realize comparatively less yields. Further, the fixing of minimum limit of Rs. 50 works out to a very great hardship, as the incidence of this tax on an average agriculturist would be very high. A man having even 4 to 4½ acres may be compelled to pay the increased tax from now onwards. This minimum limit may be raised to about Rs. 100, so as to give adequate relief to the small agriculturists. The Land Revenue Reforms Committee recommended a surcharge to be levied only on ryots paying more than Rs. 150 as kist. Even the rates of surcharge proposed by the Committee appear far more reasonable and equitable than the rates proposed by the Finance Minister. The same Committee also recommended fixing of shares of the produce between the landowner and the tenant in particular ratio, and now this additional levy on land revenue would further make inroads into the share allowed to the landowners. A uniform rate of surcharge on all dry and wet lands at differential rates, with provision for slightly higher rates on lands producing cash crops may yield a larger revenue with much simpler administration. I believe that all these points would receive due consideration.

"The levy of betterment fees on lands newly brought under irrigation may appear attractive on the face of it, but when one goes through the intricate details, he is faced with numerous complexities of the problem. It is intended that this tax will be levied with retrospective effect on those lands which were benefited even from 1943 onwards. To give retrospective effect in any tax measure is not a desirable thing in principle. It is proposed to capitalize the increase in yield by 30 times and to collect half of the same in 20 instalments. The possible increase in the yield is to be calculated in terms of money and this money value depends upon the prices of the agricultural commodities which vary from time to time. When once the increase in yield is fixed and capitalized it cannot be changed irrespective of the fact whether the agriculturists realized higher prices or lower prices in the past or whether he is going to realize higher or lower prices in the future. In all such cases wherever the particular area realized higher yield on account of the Government undertaking any expenditure it would be reasonable to raise earmarked loans and collect those loans as a sort of compulsory contribution from the various tenants in those areas so that the people who receive the benefits may contribute for the improvements of their lands by way of loan at a nominal rate of interest.

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" The surcharge at the rate of one pie per mile on passengers travelling on public transport buses is an indirect tax and is very difficult to administer. A far more simple procedure would have been to raise the tax on buses and allow the bus-owners to collect this extra amount from the passengers by an increase in the bus fare. As far as passengers are concerned it makes very little difference. But there would be enormous savings in the matter of collecting these taxes and thus we would prevent the bus-owners from subjecting themselves to vexatious control of the numerous officials who may be deputed to collect this extra charge.

" It is not possible for anybody to take a very complacent view about ways and means. The Government have to spend a fairly large amount on various capital expenditure programmes and make provision not only for the repayment of the outstanding 3 per cent 1952 Loan, but also for making advances to the various local bodies. The Finance Minister hopes to raise a loan of Rs. 4 crores in the open market partly to meet the demand on the capital expenditure and partly for the repayment of the outstanding 3 per cent 1952 Loan. It is highly doubtful whether the Finance Minister could induce investors to give money at 3 per cent in case he desires the 1953 Loan to be replaced by another 3 per cent loan. In all probability, he will be called upon to pay a higher rate of interest than 3 per cent. It has not been possible even for the Union Government to float loans at 3 per cent. The tendency in the money market has been for a rise in interest rates and it is highly problematical how the Finance Minister is going to succeed in the matter of floating a Rs. 4 crore loan at any reasonable rate of interest. It is always desirable to have a very comfortable cash position. It may, therefore, be desirable for the Finance Minister to proceed cautiously in the matter of executing the various capital expenditure programmes in a very judicious manner.

" Before closing, I wish to speak a few words about the method of collection of sales tax and licence fees. When the sales tax was first introduced in 1939, the bulk of our groundnuts was exported and sales were finalized outside India. The legislators therefore deemed it expedient then to levy the tax at the purchase point and thus to bring the shippers of groundnuts within the scope of this taxation. In view of Article 286 (1) of the Constitution of India, the levy of sales or purchase tax on goods (groundnuts) in the course of exports has been discontinued. Further thanks to the change in the policy of the Government of India, the groundnut export has been mostly stopped and nearly 95 per cent of our productions are being crushed by our oil mills within the State. Only a very small quantity of groundnuts (not even 1 per cent of what it was previously) is now being given occasionally for export to satisfy the special trade agreements. The reason therefore for the conversion of sales tax into purchase tax on groundnuts has been removed and there only remains now the effect without any cause. This anomaly leads to a complicated system of rebates in order to preclude double taxation on groundnuts purchased for crushing. This naturally

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involves a lot of clerical work, maintenance of elaborate records and submission of a number of statements monthly by the assesses. With the Department also, there is a lot of clerical work in checking the accounts and sanctioning the rebates due to millers. Therefore it stands to reason that the collection of sales tax on groundnuts must be immediately changed from the purchase point to the sales point. Only such a kind of procedure will be a logical one and in conformity with the Sales Tax Act and minimize unnecessary clerical work and litigations also, as owing to late submission of statements rebates are not readily granted and millers are forced to seek redress at the hands of the higher authority thereby wasting their energy, money, time, etc., on unnecessary things. If this change now requested is effected the Department's energy too can be spent in other directions, as for example, collection of tax from evaders, etc. On the question of licence fees, several authorities are collecting licence fees indiscriminately and not in connexion with the work involved. This is greatly hindering the industrial progress of the country. For instance licence fees on oils mills are being levied—

(1) by the Factories department on the basis of horse-power installed and labour employed,

(2) by Municipal authorities in each area on the same items, viz., on the machinery installed, as also for storage of groundnuts, coal, oil, cake, etc.,

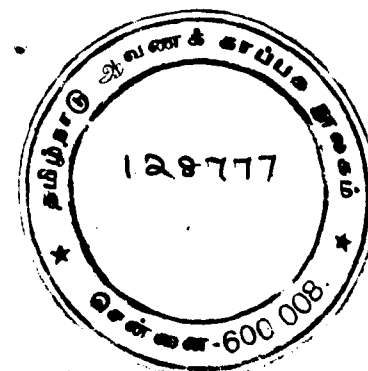
(3) by the Agricultural department for selling the oilcake. and

(4) by the Market Committees for goods stored within the notified area.

What for various authorities collect these fees, God alone knows. Obviously, it must be with a view to increase the revenue of such bodies, which is against the spirit of Government Orders in this respect and Court's judgment also. If only one authority levies this fee and exercises the necessary control, that is sufficient. I feel, the Ministers in charge of Industries and Local Administration should sit together and discuss this point with the industrialists and then arrive at a fair and equitable method of collection of this licence fee."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The House will now adjourn and meet again at 4 p.m. tomorrow."

The House then adjourned.



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