

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATES

TENTH SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.

Volume XVIII (Nos. 1 to 6).

1st, 3rd, 4th and 6th to 8th May 1957.

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PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

SHRI A. J. JOHN.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

- 1 The Hon. Sri K. KAMARAJ, *Chief Minister in charge of Public, Planning and Community Development (including Local Development Works, Women's Welfare, Community Projects and Rural Welfare).*
- 2 The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM, *Minister in charge of Home including Courts and Prisons and Prohibition, Food and Agriculture (including Khadi and Village Industries and Hindu Religious Endowments), Railways, Post and Telegraphs and Civil Aviation.*
- 3 The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM, *Minister in charge of Finance, Education, Information and Law (including Legislature and Engineering Colleges).*
- 4 The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU, *Minister in charge of Revenue and Public Health.*
- 5 The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN, *Minister in charge of Industries, Labour and Co-operation (including Housing, Commercial Taxes and Nationalised Transport).*
- 6 The Hon. Sri P. KAKKAN, *Minister in charge of Public Works (excluding Electricity) and Harijan Welfare.*
- 7 The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH, *Minister in charge of Electricity, Transport (including Registration, Accommodation Control, Stationery and Printing and Government Press).*
- 8 The Hon. Srimathi LOURDAMMAL SIMON, *Minister in charge of Local Administration and Fisheries.*

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.

Chairman.

The Hon. Dr. P. V. CHERIAN.

Deputy Chairman.

Sri A. M. ALLAPICHAJ.

Panel of Vice-Chairmen.

- 1 Sri K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR.
- 2 Sri S. R. P. PONNUSWAMI CHETTIAR.
- 3 Sri T. S. SANKARANARAYANA PILLAI.
- 4 Sri T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN.

Secretary to the Council.

Sri C. D. NATARAJAN, M.A., B.L.

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

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1 Allapichai, A. M., B.A., B.L.	State Legislative Assembly.
2 Annamalai Pillai, N.	State Legislative Assembly.
3 Arunachalam, A. J.	State Legislative Assembly.
4 Balasubramanya Ayyar, K., B.A., B.L.	Madras Graduates.
5 Balasundaram, V. S.	State Legislative Assembly.
6 Bhashyam Ayyangar, V., B.A., B.L.	NOMINATED.
7 Chakkarai Chetty, V., B.A., B.L.	State Legislative Assembly.
8 Cherian, Dr. P. V., M.B.B.S., F.R.F.P.S. (Glas.), F.R.C.S. (Edin.), D.L.O., R.C.S. (Lond.) (Chairman).	Madras Graduates.
9 Chidambara Mudaliar, A.	Madurai-cum - Ramanathapuram - cum - Tirunelveli Local Authorities.
10 Clubwala Jadhav, Mary C.	NOMINATED.
11 Desikar, K. M.	South Arcot-cum-Tanjore-cum - Tiruchirappalli Local Authorities.
12 Devaraja Mudaliar, T. V.	Madras - cum - Chingleput - North Arcot Local Authorities.
13 Ethirajalu, M.	State Legislative Assembly.
14 Gajapathy Nayagar, A., B.A., B.L.	State Legislative Assembly.
15 Gurunandan Row, V., BAR.-AT-LAW.	State Legislative Assembly.
16 Guruswami, Dr. M. R., M.D.	NOMINATED.
17 John Asirvatham, M.A., L.T.	Madras Teachers.
18 John, Dr. V. K., BAR.-AT-LAW	Madras Graduates.
19 Jothi Venkatachellum	NOMINATED.
20 Kalyanaraman, S. V.	South Arcot - cum - Tanjore-cum - Tiruchirappalli Local Authorities.
21 Krishnamoorthy, G.	Madras Teachers.
22 Krishnamoorthy, T. G., B.A.	State Legislative Assembly.
23 Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, Dr. A., M.D., LL.D., D.Sc., D.C.L.	Madras Graduates.
24 Mahomed Usman, Dr., B.A., LL.D.	NOMINATED.
25 Manjubhashini, S.	NOMINATED.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
26 Masilamani Chettiar, A. K. ..	Madras - <i>cum</i> - Chingleput - <i>cum</i> -North Arcot Local Authorities.
27 Mohamed Raza Khan	State Legislative Assembly.
28 Nallasenapathi Sarkarai Man-radiar, N.	State Legislative Assembly.
29 Narayanaswamy Pillai, T. M., M.A., B.L.	State Legislative Assembly.
30 Palaniswamy Gounder, V. K. ..	Salem - <i>cum</i> - Coimbatore - <i>cum</i> -Nilgiris Local Authorities.
31 Perumalswami Reddi, C. ..	Madras - <i>cum</i> - Chingleput - <i>cum</i> -North Arcot Local Authorities.
32 Ponnuswamy Chettiar, S. R. P.	Salem- <i>cum</i> -Coimbatore- <i>cum</i> -Nilgiris Local Authorities.
33 Purushotham, T., B.A.	Madras - <i>cum</i> - Chingleput - <i>cum</i> -North Arcot Local Authorities.
34 Ramalingam Pillai, V.	NOMINATED.
35 Ramaswami, V. V.	State Legislative Assembly.
36 Ramaswami Reddiar, O. P. ..	NOMINATED.
37 Ranganathan, V. R., M.A., D. Litt.	Madras Teachers.
38 Sankaranarayana Pillai, T. S., B.A., B.L.	Madurai- <i>cum</i> -Ramanathapuram- <i>cum</i> - Tirunelveli Local Authorities.
39 Sivanandam, Dr. T. V., M.B., B.S.	Madras Graduates.
40 Sivasubramanya Nadar, S. P., B.A., B.L.	Madurai- <i>cum</i> -Ramanathapuram - <i>cum</i> - Tirunelveli Local Authorities.
41 Somasundara Reddiar, A. ..	South Arcot- <i>cum</i> -Tanjore- <i>cum</i> -Tiruchirappalli Local Authorities.
42 Sreenivasan, Dr. A., M.R.C.P. (Lond.)	Madras Graduates.
43 Srinivasavaradan, T. P., B.A., L.T.	Madras Teachers.
44 Subramanyam, A.	State Legislative Assembly.
45 Subrahmanyam, B. V., B.A., B.L.	State Legislative Assembly.
46 Subramania Karayalar, M. ..	Madurai- <i>cum</i> - Ramanathapuram- <i>cum</i> - Tirunelveli - <i>cum</i> -Kanyakumari Local Authorities.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
47 Sudarsanam Naidu, M. V. ..	South Arcot- <i>cum</i> -Tanjore- <i>cum</i> -Tiruchirappalli Local Authorities.
48 Thiagaraja Reddiar, P. B. K. ..	Salem - <i>cum</i> - Coimbatore - <i>cum</i> -Nilgiris Local Authorities.
49 <i>Vacant</i>	Local Authorities.
50 <i>Vacant</i>	State Legislative Assembly.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE TENTH SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.

Wednesday, the 1st May 1957.

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

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

I.—EXPRESSION OF SORROW AT THE DEMISE OF SRI M. VEDACHALA MUDALIAR, A MEMBER OF THE OLD MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I regret to announce to the House the death of Sri M. Vedachala Mudaliar, a former Member of the old Madras Legislative Council from Chingleput district from 1931 to 1936. He entered public life in 1921 when he became a member of the Chingleput Municipal Council. He became the Chairman of the Municipal Council in 1928 which post he continued to hold till the time of his death for a record period of 29 years which is a tribute to his popularity. He was a great philanthropist and helped many educational and religious institutions during his lifetime. His activities were many and varied and he took great interest in the co-operative movement.

I request the hon. Members to stand in silence for a few minutes in expression of our profound sorrow at the demise of Sri M. Vedachala Mudaliar.

Accordingly, the hon. Members stood in silence for two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall convey our sympathies to the members of the bereaved family.

II.—CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA, FORMER CHIEF MINISTER OF MADRAS AND EX-GOVERNOR OF ORISSA STATE.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is with deep regret that I have to announce to the hon. Members the sudden and untimely death of Sri P. S. Kumaraswami Raja, a former Chief Minister of our State and ex-Governor of Orissa State, at Madras, on the 16th March 1957. Born in 1898 at Rajapalayam, Ramanathapuram district, he entered politics at the early age of nineteen when he joined the Home Rule Movement in 1917. He suffered imprisonment twice for his active participation in the Non-Co-operation Movement in 1932 and again in 1941. He was a member of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee and the All-India Congress Committee for a long number of years. He was elected to the Central Assembly in 1934 and to the Madras Legislative Assembly in 1937. He was the Minister for Agriculture in Sri Prakasam's Ministry in 1946 which

[Mr. Chairman]

[1st May 1957]

post he resigned on the fall of Sri Prakasam's Ministry. He became the Chief Minister of our State in 1949 in which post he continued till the general elections of 1952. He was appointed Governor of Orissa in 1954 which post he relinquished in 1956 on account of ill-health. He was keenly interested in the co-operative movement and was connected with a number of co-operative institutions. He made a special study of agrarian reforms. In 1953, he gifted his palatial bungalow in Rajapalayam in favour of the public to be used for the advancement of art, research and culture.

I now move the Condolence Resolution and request you to pass it unanimously by standing in silence for a few minutes —

"This House places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the demise of Sri P. S. Kumaraswami Raja, a former Chief Minister of this State and ex-Governor of Orissa, and conveys its profound sympathy to the members of the bereaved family."

The Resolution was passed *nem. con.*, all the Members standing in silence for a few minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : As a mark of respect to the late Sri P. S. Kumaraswami Raja, the House will now adjourn and meet again at 3-30 p.m.

The House then adjourned.

(The House re-assembled at 3-30 p.m.)

III.—WELCOME TO THE NEW LEADER OF THE HOUSE AND THE NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, before we begin the business of the afternoon, I have a very pleasant duty to perform, and that is to welcome Sri R. Venkataraman as the new Leader of the House. (Cheers.) He is coming to us with a very great reputation and I am looking forward to a period of very good co-operation with him. Very able, very amiable and very pleasant, I am sure, he will be a great success as the Leader of the House in the same way as Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam has been for the last so many years. We are sorry to lose Sri Bhaktavatsalam. But he has decided that he should go to the other House and he has left us.

I also welcome the newly elected Members to this Council.

IV.—QUESTION AND ANSWER.

STARRED QUESTION.

Memorandum presented by the Madras Government to the Finance Commission.

* 1 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to place on the table of the House a copy of the memorandum presented by the Government of Madras to the Finance Commission, appointed by the Central Government?

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The memorandum is treated as confidential and cannot be published without the permission of the Finance Commission. Further particulars have also been called for by the Commission and the memorandum is not, therefore, complete and final at this stage.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Did not the Chairman of the Commission say that the Commission would have no objection if the memorandum were to be released by the State Government?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I am not aware of it.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : Before submitting the memorandum to the Finance Commission, may I know whether the Government gave an opportunity to the Houses of the Legislature to express their opinions on the several points raised?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : My impression is that they have called for the opinion of the various people interested in the matter. Therefore, even hon. Members are entitled to present their points of view. But, as far as the Government Memorandum is concerned, it contains certain confidential matters and that is why it could not be published. During the Budget discussion, we have had the views of the hon. Members and all those views have been taken note of in preparing the memorandum.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : I was not referring to the memorandum submitted by the Government which must necessarily be confidential. I am not at all asking the Government to let us know the contents of that memorandum. I was asking whether the Government did not think it **worth while to consult the** Houses of the Legislature and obtain their opinion in such an important subject as the finances of this State. I submit for the consideration of the Government that they would have done well in consulting the Legislature on an important matter like this which affects not only this Government but also all future Governments for many, many years to come.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : There is a periodical enquiry once in every five years. Therefore, any decision given by the Finance Commission is not of a permanent nature. Apart from that, I do value the opinion of the hon. Members of this House and also of the other House. I have had their opinions. But perhaps formally I could have consulted them. When another Finance Commission is appointed, the Minister in charge of Finance may take up the suggestion of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to take us into confidence and tell us the broad outlines of the financial case presented to the Commission by this Government?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Nothing conveyed on the floor of the House could be kept confidential, as the proceedings of this House are supposed to be public.

[1st May 1957]

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : The Hon. Minister said that certain points in the memorandum were confidential. Can he divulge to this House at least the other points?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The hon. Member will find the information completely dry without those confidential points.

DR. V. K. JOHN : Are the Government aware of the public opinion that in the matter of finance the States are not well-treated by the Centre?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I know there is a certain section which gives expression to this view. But, as far as I can see, it is not as if the Centre is completely starving the States. After all, it is a question of allocation of the available national resources for the purpose of developmental activities in the country as a whole. Particularly, after we have adopted national planning, all these questions about the allocation of resources are, in my view, merely theoretical.

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : அரசியலார் தெரிவித்த கருத்துக்களுக்கு இந்தச் சட்டசபை பொறுப்பு ஆகுமா?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : நிதிக் கமிஷனுக்கு மெமொரான்டம் அனுப்புவது சர்க்கார் பொறுப்பு. சர்க்கார் இந்தச் சபைக்குப் பொறுப்பாளி. அந்த முறையிலே என்ன பொருத்தம் இருக்கிறதென்பதை கனம் அங்கத்தினர் அவர்களே ஊகித்துக் கொள்ளலாம்.

DR. V. K. JOHN : Is it not a fact that this State is depending very much on loans and grants for the proper implementation of its plans and that for the receipt of these loans and grants, the State is at the mercy of the Centre?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The hon. Member should make a distinction between revenue expenditure and capital expenditure. As far as revenue expenditure is concerned, the Finance Commission is appointed for the very purpose of suggesting ways and means for enabling every State to balance its Budget. The objective is that it should be possible for every State to balance its revenue Budget. As far as Capital Budget is concerned, it has got to be by way of loans. Otherwise, it will not be possible to take up any capital work. We have to get loans either from the Centre or from the public.

DR. V. K. JOHN : Do not these loans and grants depend upon the sweet will of the Central Government?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : No, Sir. It depends upon what we are able to absorb and what we are able to achieve.

SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI : நிதிக் கமிஷனுடைய அறிக்கை மத்திய அரசாங்கத்துக்கு எப்பொழுது சமர்ப்பிக்கப்படும்? அப்படி சமர்ப்பிக்கப்படுவதற்கு முன் நமது மாநிலத்திற்கு எவ்வளவு தொகை கிடைக்குமென்பது உத்தேசமாகவாவது நமது அரசாங்கத்தாருக்குத் தெரியவருமா என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்.

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : ஆகஸ்டு மாதத்தில் நிதிக் கமிஷனின் அறிக்கை மத்திய அரசாங்கத்திற்கு சமர்ப்பிக்கப்படும் என்ற செய்தியை கனம் அங்கத்தினர் அவர்கள் பத்திரிகையில் பார்த்திருக்கலாம். நம்முடைய பட்ஜெட் விவாதம் ஜூன் மாதக் கடைசியில் ஆரம்பமாகலாம்.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Can we have an assurance from the Hon. the Minister for Finance that the point that Madras State is very backward industrially has been brought to the notice of the Finance Commission and that they will deal with this as a special case?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I do not think this point is relevant for the purpose of being placed before the Finance Commission. Whatever is relevant, has been placed to the best of ability before the Commission.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question is over.

V.—ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE HON. CHAIRMAN.

(1) PANEL OF VICE-CHAIRMEN.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have to announce to the House that under rule 14 of the Madras Council Rules, I have nominated the following four Members of the Council to be the panel of Vice-Chairmen for the tenth session of the Legislative Council under the Constitution :—

1. Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar.
2. Sri S. R. P. Ponnuswamy Chettiar.
3. Sri T. S. Sankaranarayana Pillai.
4. Sri T. P. Srinivasavaradan.

(2) NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have to announce to the House that under rule 164 (1) of the Madras Council Rules, I have nominated the following six Members of the Council to be the members of the Business Advisory Committee in addition to the Chairman of the Council who is ex-officio Chairman of the Committee :—

1. The Hon. Sri R. Venkataraman.
2. Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar.
3. Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai.
4. Sri Mohamed Raza Khan.
5. Dr. T. V. Sivanandam.
6. Sri T. Purushotham.

[1st May 1957]

(3) NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have also to announce to the House that under rule 173 (1) of the Madras Council Rules, I have nominated the following five Members of the Council to be the members of the Committee on Government Assurances:—

1. Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar.
2. Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar.
3. Sri G. Krishnamoorthy.
4. Sri V. V. Ramaswami.
5. Srimathi Mary C. Clubwala Jadhav.

Under rule 174 (1), I have nominated Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar to be the Chairman of the Committee.

(4) DECISIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to report to the House that at a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee held at 2-30 p.m. to-day, it has been decided that the discussion on the Governor's Address shall take place for three days, viz., on the 3rd, 4th, 6th May 1957, and, if necessary, on the 7th May 1957. It has also been decided to consider the Government Bills, on the 8th May 1957, that may be passed by the Legislative Assembly. The House will meet from 3-30 p.m. to 6-30 p.m. on the 3rd and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on all other days.

VI.—GOVERNMENT MOTIONS.

(1) ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move—

“That, with reference to rule 154 of the Madras Council Rules, this Council do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. Chairman to elect nine members to be members of the Committee of Privileges for the financial year 1957-58.”

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is—

“That, with reference to rule 154 of the Madras Council Rules, this Council do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. Chairman to elect nine members to be members of the Committee of Privileges for the financial year 1957-58.”

The motion was put and carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform the House that, in accordance with Regulation 2 (1) framed for the holding of elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix the following programme for election of nine members to the Committee of Privileges for the financial year 1957-58:—

Time and date for the receipt of nominations—5 p.m. on 3rd May 1957.

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[Mr. Chairman]

Time and date for the scrutiny of nominations—12 noon on 4th May 1957.

Time and date for the withdrawal of nominations—5 p.m. on 4th May 1957.

Poll, if any—Between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 7th May 1957.

Nomination forms can be had from the Secretary to the Council.

(2) ELECTION TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move—

“That, with reference to rule 171 of the Madras Council Rules, this Council do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. Chairman to elect six members to be members of the House Committee for the financial year 1957-58.”

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is—

“That, with reference to rule 171 of the Madras Council Rules, this Council do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. Chairman to elect six members to be members of the House Committee for the financial year 1957-58.”

The motion was put and carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform the House that, in accordance with Regulation 2 (1) framed for the holding of elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix the following programme for election of six members to the House Committee for the financial year 1957-58:—

Time and date for the receipt of nominations—4 p.m. on 3rd May 1957.

Time and date for the scrutiny of nominations—11 a.m. on 4th May 1957.

Time and date for the withdrawal of nominations—4 p.m. on 4th May 1957.

Poll, if any—Between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 6th May 1957.

Nomination forms can be had from the Secretary to the Council.

VII.—EXPRESSION OF GOOD WISHES TO THE HON. CHAIRMAN
ON THE EVE OF HIS CONTINENTAL TOUR.

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Sir, before you adjourn the House for the day, may I offer you, on behalf of the Members of the House, our heartiest greetings and good wishes on your deputation to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association as representative of the Madras Branch? We are proud that you are going there as our representative to study the working of parliamentary institution

[Sri T. Purushotham] [1st May 1957]

in other countries, and I am sure that, as a result of the deliberations over there, sound parliamentary traditions will be established in all the countries of the Commonwealth. We wish you *bon voyage*, happy stay, and safe return.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR: Sir, I wish to associate myself wholeheartedly with the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member Sri T. Purushotham. We are indeed very happy that you are able to proceed to England and have an opportunity of studying the ways and practices of the Mother of Parliaments. Some years ago—I think when Sri T. Prakasam was the Chief Minister—I suggested that the Government would do well to send the Speaker of the Assembly and the Chairman of the Council to England for such periods as might be necessary with a view to making them study the conditions of parliamentary practice and Government and come back enriched with the experience that they would have gained. Unfortunately, the Government of the day were not able to see eye to eye with our suggestion, probably due to considerations of finance, which is the bedrock on which most good intentions are sacrificed. I am glad, however, in another capacity you are in a position to go to England. I wish you every success. You are not going there for the first time, I know. But in your capacity as the Chairman of this Council, you are going there as a parliamentarian, which means a very different thing from the point of view of the legislature. I hope, Sir, when you return, you will say how the Speaker tries to maintain all the privileges of the Members to whatever section they may belong and how he always tries to see any restrictions on those privileges prevented. (The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam: No fight here!) (Laughter). I am very glad to hear this expression of opinion from the Leader of the other House. I am sure that the Leader of this House will not be reticent in supplementing him. I hope also that there will be no necessity for any fight whatsoever (laughter) and that my hon. Friend Dr. V. K. John will not be forced to enter the forum for settling the fight. (Laughter). I wish you every success, and I wish you *bon voyage* and a happy return. We shall be most happy to welcome you when you come back.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I am most grateful to the House for this expression of cordiality and friendship towards me. I shall certainly take advantage of all the opportunities I will have out of this trip, because we attend the House of Commons in London for 20 days and we attend for 10 days the Parliament in Belfast, being the smallest Parliament in the Commonwealth. I propose going to the Parliaments in Dublin, Switzerland, France, and Italy. I am sure the trip will be very edifying, because sitting here we do very many things that are right, but certain things, which we are not conversant with, can only be learnt. In that way I go and visit other Parliaments. I do hope this trip will be of great use not only to me but to our Legislature when I come back. I am most thankful to you for this expression of cordiality and friendship. I shall miss you for these two months. I am really looking forward to my return and not to my going away. Thank you.

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SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: Are you not going to Russia? (Laughter).

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. I wish you all *an revour*.

The House will now adjourn and meet again at 3-30 p.m. on Friday, the 3rd May 1957.

The House then adjourned.

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

* 1. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3978, Public (Services-A), dated 26th November 1956, regarding the inclusion within the Commission's purview of the posts of Grama Sevaks, Grade II, in the Madras General Subordinate Service.

* 2. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3572, Home, dated 1st December 1956, regarding collection of tax at reduced rate on lorry No. MDJ 1623 belonging to St. Mary's High School and Orphanage, Vellore.

* 3. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3291, Home, dated 24th November 1956, regarding amendment to rule 2 (d) of the Madras Motor Vehicles (Taxation of Passengers and Goods) Rules, 1953.

* 4. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 4130, Revenue, dated 9th November 1956, regarding amendments to rules, consequent on the decision to introduce decimalization of coinage from 1st April 1957, under the Madras Betting Tax Rules, 1935.

* 5. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 4435, Revenue dated 7th December 1956, regarding exemption from sales tax on hostels attached to educational institutions.

* 6. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 4424, Revenue, dated 6th December 1956, regarding exemption of sales tax on seeds sold by the Agricultural Department.

* 7. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3685, Public (Services), dated 30th October 1956, regarding the report for the year ending the 31st March 1956 of the Madras Public Service Commission.

* 8. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 4273, Public (Services-A), dated 22nd December 1956, regarding the inclusion within the Commission's purview of the temporary post of Hydrographical Assistant in the Madras Fisheries Subordinate Service.

* 9. Notification issued with G.O. No. 4391, Revenue, dated 3rd December 1956, regarding the exemption of sales tax on certain co-operative societies of oil producers which consist also of members who do not own country chekkus.

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† 10. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3417, Home, dated 6th December 1956, regarding stay and supplemental petitions filed in connexion with revision petitions under the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939—Remission of Court-fees—Ordered.

† 11. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 1077, L.A., dated 25th July 1956, regarding amendments to the rules in Schedule III to the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950.

† 12. Notification issued with G.O. No. 63, Revenue, dated 4th January 1957, regarding amendments to the Madras Land Revenue (Additional Surcharge) Levy and Collection Rules, 1956. [Laid on the table under section 6 of the Madras Land Revenue (Additional Surcharge) Act, 1955.]

† 13. Notification issued with G.O. No. 1162, L.A., dated 7th August 1956, regarding amendments issued to the regulations relating to recruitment, etc., by executive officers of panchayats.

† 14. Notification issued with G.O. No. 85, Revenue, dated 5th January 1957, regarding the Madras Cultivating Tenants (Payment of Fair Rent) Rules, 1956. [Laid on the table under section 17 of the Madras Cultivating Tenants (Payment of Fair Rent) Act, 1956.]

† 15. Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account of Dhrangadhara Chemical Works, Limited, for the year ending 31st March 1956.

† 16. Activities of the Madras Public Service Commission for the half-year ending 30th September 1956 and activities of the Tribunal for Disciplinary Proceedings, Madras, for the half-year ending 30th September 1956 issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3939, Public (Services-C), dated 23rd November 1956.

† 17. Revenue Memorandum No. 96402-N/56-10, dated 16th January 1957, regarding exemption granted from the levy of sales tax on certain commodities in transferred areas under the States Reorganization Act.

† 18. Notification issued with G.O. No. 4653, Revenue, dated 24th December 1956, regarding exemption of sales tax on the sales of unserviceable leather by the Central Leather Research Institute, Madras.

† 19. Short report on the achievements and various activities of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department for the first half-year from 1st April to 30th September 1956.

† 20. A short review of the activities of the Electricity Department for the first half-year for 1956-57.

† 21. Notification issued with G.O. No. 56, Revenue, dated 3rd January 1957, regarding amendments to Forms II and VIII of the Madras Entertainment Tax Rules, 1939, consequent on the decimalization of coinage.

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† 22. Notification issued with G.O. No. 174, Revenue, dated 10th January 1957, regarding the constitution of Rent Courts and Rent Tribunals under the Madras Cultivating Tenants (Payment of Fair Rent) Act, 1956. [Laid on the table under section 17 (3) of the Madras Cultivating Tenants (Payment of Fair Rent) Act, 1956.]

† 23. Notification issued with Memo. No. 3333-R/57-2, dated 23rd January 1957, regarding the constitution of Rent Tribunal under Sub-Judge, Ootacamund, under the Madras Cultivating Tenants (Payment of Fair Rent) Act, 1954.

† 24. Notification issued with G.O. No. 178, Revenue, dated 11th January 1957, regarding amendments to the Madras Plantation Agriculturists Income-tax (Appeal and Revision) Rules, 1955. [Laid on the table under section 61 of the Madras Plantations Agricultural Income-tax Act, 1955.]

25. Finance Accounts of the Government of Madras for the year 1954-55 and the Audit Report, 1955.

§ 26. Notification issued with G.O. No. 274, Revenue, dated 19th January 1957—Exemption of brown sugar from the levy of additional sales tax on sugar.

§ 27. Notification issued with G.O. No. 421, Public (Services), dated 9th February 1957—Modification of orders issued regarding inclusion within the Commission's purview of the posts of Grama Sevaks, Grade II, in the Madras General Subordinate Service.

§ 28. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 541, Food and Agriculture, dated 20th February 1957, regarding amendment to the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Rules, 1948.

§ 29. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3700, Health, dated 31st December 1956, regarding the invitation and disposal of tenders regarding supply of materials, goods, or services other than those for execution of works.

§ 30. Notification issued with G.O. No. 4036, Industries, Labour and Co-operation, dated 13th September 1956, regarding the application of provision of the Factories Act, 1948, to certain establishments.

§ 31. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 4188, Industries, Labour and Co-operation, dated 24th September 1956 and G.O. Ms. No. 4839, Industries, Labour and Co-operation, dated 13th November 1956, regarding amendments to the Madras Factories Rules, 1950.

§ 32. The Madras General Sales Tax, Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation and Entertainment Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957 (Madras Ordinance I of 1957).

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|| 33. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 68, Home, dated 8th January 1957, regarding amendment to rule 72 of the Madras Children Rules, 1940. [Laid on the table under sub-section 3 of section 44 of the Madras Children Act, 1920 (Madras Act IV of 1920).]

|| 34. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 254, Home, dated 31st January 1957, regarding amendment to rule 19 of the Madras Children Rules, 1940. [Laid on the table under sub-section (3) of section 44 of the Madras Children Act, 1920 (Madras Act IV of 1920).]

|| 35. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 417, Industries, Labour and Co-operation, dated 5th February 1957, regarding amendment to the Madras Employees' State Insurance Courts Rules, 1951.

|| 36. Short review of the activities for the first half of 1956-57 relating to the Madras Record Office.

¶ 37. Governor's address delivered to both the Houses of the Legislature on 1st May 1957.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 3rd May 1957.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at half past three of the clock, the Deputy Chairman (SRI A. M. ALLAPICHA) in the Chair.

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

I.—POINT OF INFORMATION *RE* ABSENCE OF QUESTIONS IN THE ORDER PAPER.

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : May I know why no questions at all have been put down for to-day? Notice of a lot of questions has been given. They have been put off from session to session and fresh notice has been given. Some of these questions are even one year old. I would request the Hon. the Deputy Chairman to enquire into the matter and see that questions are included inasmuch as question-hour is the most interesting hour and the House should not be denied the privilege of having it.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I shall look into the matter and I hope the Hon. the Leader of the House also will look into it. If the Departments concerned are not prompt in sending replies, I shall see to it.

II.—DISCUSSION ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now, there will be discussion on the Governor's Address and the hon. Member Srimathi Jothi Vencatachellum will move the Motion of Thanks.

* SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : Sir, I beg to move—

“ That an humble Address be presented to the Governor that the Members of the Madras Legislative Council thank him for the Address * delivered to the Members of the Legislature on the 1st May 1957.”

Sir, the Governor's Address to the joint session of the Legislature has presented an impressive and interesting survey of the programmes already undertaken and proposed to be undertaken by the Government during the ensuing years. The Address, I feel, is unique in one respect, and that is that it shows a spirit of earnestness and sincerity on the part of the Government to steer the ship of administration on the path of 'prosperity and welfare' of the State. It is no exaggeration to say that the Address of the Governor promises a phased progress of the State in consonance with democratic traditions.

* Sent by post on 15th February 1957.

† Sent by post on 2nd March 1957.

‡ Sent by post on 15th March 1957.

§ Sent by post on 5th April 1957.

|| Sent by post on 18th April 1957.

¶ Circulated to members on 1st May 1957.

[Srimathi Jothi Vencatachellum] [3rd May 1957]

The Governor and the Chief Minister deserve our appreciation on their choice of a woman member to the Cabinet, particularly a Member representing the extreme south of our State. It will be in the fitness of things, Sir, if the Chief Minister relieves himself of the portfolio pertaining to 'women's welfare' and entrusts it to the Woman Minister who, I am sure, will be undoubtedly capable of looking after the interests of womenfolk in our State.

The assurance given by the Governor that there is no cause for anxiety on the food front should silence the criticism from some quarters that the Government are not adequately aware of the importance of this problem. It is nevertheless necessary for the Government to take serious note of the soaring prices of foodgrains in the market and to take steps to arrest the rise in price by opening more fair price shops in the towns and villages including Madras City. Unless the Government maintain a constant and vigilant watch over the rising price of foodgrains and take prompt action to secure sufficient stock from the Centre to keep the fair price shops going, I feel that they are likely to find themselves in an embarrassing situation at any time.

The agrarian situation in the State has improved considerably as a result of the land legislation enacted by our Government. It is heartening to observe that proposals for fixing a ceiling on agricultural holdings is under the consideration of our Government. It is hoped that it will be their endeavour to push through these proposals with a view to establishing peace and tranquillity in the agricultural sphere. It is also hoped that in finalizing these proposals, the Government will be guided by the Planning Commission.

It will be worthwhile, Sir, to suggest that the Government should take steps at an early date to establish co-operative farming organization in the Gram-dhan villages. The intention of the Government to pursue vigorously during the current year the development programmes included in the Second Five-Year Plan is rather encouraging. The ceiling of Rs. 32 crores for outlay on these schemes during the current year requires to be revised upwards so that the physical targets laid down for the various developmental schemes could be enhanced and the pace of progress of the schemes accelerated. I hope that the Government will bear this point in mind while finalizing the financial provision for the various schemes undertaken for implementation during the current year.

The Government's proposals for the extension of Community Development and National Extension Services, for the development of small industries with increased State aid, and the provision of cheap credit to artisans are most appreciable.

The decision to set up an Electricity Board and to entrust to that body the management of the Government electricity enterprises is also welcome, because a separate agency for the administration of such State-owned enterprises will promote operational efficiency in the undertakings concerned.

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It is hoped that under the able guidance of our Chief Minister, the performance of the National Extension Services and Community Development programmes will be attended with greater initiative and much more enthusiasm than at present, so that the benefits of these programmes might accrue more, and more to the poorer section of the rural community. It will be better if the Government take steps to bring about a closer co-ordination of the activities of the various official and non-official agencies operating in the National Extension Service and Community Development areas and to encourage the active and enlightened participation of the villagers in this nation-building programme in a greater measure. People should be made to feel that the National Extension Service and Community Development programmes are calculated and designed to meet their needs and aspirations as expeditiously as possible. In this context, it will be wise to set up a committee of non-officials to examine the working of the existing administrative set-up in these areas and to devise ways for improving and reforming it to suit the essentially democratic character of these programmes.

The reference in the Governor's Address to the starting of new schools and the development of the existing ones will be widely appreciated. The arrangements for vocational training, particularly for technical training in the sphere of small industry, need to be expanded considerably to meet not only the increased demand for technicians in the existing industrial undertakings but also to provide technical personnel for the new industrial enterprises that may spring up in the private as well as public sectors.

With regard to plans for increased agricultural production through intensive cultivation of land, let us hope that the Government will intensify their efforts to step up the production of food crops in the Community Development and National Extension Service areas, at least by fifty per cent over the existing level of production by the end of the current year.

Our major irrigation projects have made much headway already. But increased attention will have to be paid to the development of minor irrigation schemes because, I feel, Sir, it is these that cover a large portion of our cultivable area. Cultivated dry tracts are largely dependent upon irrigation from tanks and wells. Hence, in any programme of extension of irrigation facilities, it is of paramount importance that repair and reclamation of old tanks, and the construction of tanks and wells should occupy a conspicuous place.

It is gratifying to note that the Government have been taking active interest in the promotion of co-operative agencies for extending supply of agricultural credit and for increasing the facilities for the marketing of agricultural produce. The efforts of the Government in these matters have improved the agricultural economy of the State quite appreciably. The Government must hasten to

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have the State Warehouse Corporation without further delay so that there may be a planned and co-ordinated scheme for the construction of warehouses in all important marketing centres.

Equally important is the provision of drinking water. Especially in the urban areas, I wish the Government would look into the present position regarding drinking water facilities and take suitable steps to improve the supply of good drinking water at least in all thickly populated towns and villages.

The various ameliorative measures undertaken by the Government in respect of Harijans and other Backward Classes have no doubt bettered the conditions of these sections of the community socially and economically. I am extremely glad to note that the Government would quicken these measures. I would request the Government to launch on a programme of slum clearance on a State-wide basis.

The Government's move to have a rigid enforcement of the 'Prohibition' laws is a step in the right direction. It will be welcomed by all those who are interested in the welfare of the common man at heart. Let us hope that the proposed Bill to amend the Madras Prohibition Act which is scheduled to come up before this House shortly for consideration will contain provisions for removing several lacunae noticed in the existing Act. Let us also hope that the Prohibition policy of the Government will be a splendid success. I request the hon. Members of this House to pass this Motion unanimously. Thank you, Sir.

* DR. A. SREENIVASAN: Sir, I rise to a point of order. Three months ago, when I was putting a supplementary question and when I was referring to the notes that I had, a vigilant hon. Member of this House, Sri T. Purushotham, the Chief Whip and the gentleman who is now sitting on the other side of the House, invited the attention of the Hon. Chairman and said that I was reading out my question. Now, he has not said anything when the previous speaker was reading out her speech. I do not want to be unchivalrous. That is why I waited till the hon. lady Member finished her reading. Am I to think the hon. Member, Sri T. Purushotham, has got a 'double standard'?

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I may inform the hon. Member that the hon. lady Member has already taken permission from me to read out her speech.

SRI S. P. SIVASUBRAMANIA NADAR: Mr. Deputy Chairman. I second the motion so ably moved by the hon. lady Member who had been occupying a position in the Cabinet for some time. Taking the Address of the Governor, he has touched on many points. We are glad to find that a very important item has been touched upon in his Address. As regards seasonal conditions in the State, the Governor in his Address has been pleased to remark that all is not well in the districts of Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari.

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He has also stated that, taking into consideration the famine conditions prevailing therein, relief measures by way of suspension of collection of kist and loans have been taken and that low-scale famine works have been undertaken. I desire to point out to this House that as regards conditions prevailing in the Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari districts, His Excellency the Governor has not been correctly informed of the state of affairs prevailing in these districts. Owing to failure of monsoon consecutively for the last six years, acute famine conditions prevail in most parts of the Tirunelveli district and the southern part of the Kanyakumari district. Low-scale relief measures that have been taken by the Government are very insufficient and inadequate to meet the requirements under the prevailing conditions there. Mere suspension of kist and collection of loans advanced by the Government will not do any real good to the people who are actually suffering. Wholesale remission of land tax in areas affected consecutively for a number of years will be the proper relief to the ryots in those areas. I request the Government to take into consideration the actual conditions prevailing there, especially in the southern taluks of Tirunelveli, viz., Nanguneri, Tiruchendur and parts of Tenkasi, and a major portion of Sankarankoil. People, who depend on agriculture solely for their existence, have been driven away from that profession for want of rains, for want of water in the wells and for want of other irrigation facilities and also owing to the drought conditions prevailing there. They seek employment elsewhere, but employment is not forthcoming. Now that the Manimuthar Project in the Tirunelveli district is coming to a close, a large number of people employed in the Project will be thrown out of employment and they also will have to seek employment elsewhere. This will add to agricultural unemployment. I think it is the desire of the Government to ameliorate the conditions of the agriculturists. Among the people who will be thrown out of employment on the completion of the Manimuthar Project, there will be some people who might have come from other districts. They can possibly go back to their own districts. But, those people who have been recruited from the Tirunelveli district itself will have to be provided for in some manner or other.

As for drinking water facilities, I should say that such facilities do not exist in all places. In some of the taluks, the wells are dry. Villagers have to traverse miles to fetch a pot of drinking water. Such conditions prevail mostly in Nanguneri taluk and parts of Sankarankoil taluk and Tiruchendur taluk. Even if people dig wells, water is not coming up. Something has to be done at least to provide drinking water for the people. Otherwise, people could not live in villages. In some cases, people have begun to migrate from some of the villages to the neighbouring villages where they could get some quantity of good water to quench their thirst. I request the Government to take up this matter for their immediate consideration, and make some provision to relieve the suffering of the people in those places.

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p.m.

The Governor has referred to the provision of fair rent to the cultivating tenants and has taken credit for the same and said that it has improved the agrarian situation appreciably. It is quite so. But, at the same time, I could not but find the discontent that is prevailing among a large section of the people who depend mainly on agriculture, viz., the small landholders. People who have got very small holdings to the extent of one acre and $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres or less than an acre, people who have been entirely dependent on these lands for their maintenance, especially poor widows who have been given maintenance in the shape of an acre of land, people who have been working under the Government, who had laid by something as their saving and who had purchased small holdings so that they may be of some use to them in their retired life and so that they may live a little comfortably with the income from these lands, will all be affected by the present legislation. These questions have to be investigated thoroughly. Questions such as whether a certain margin could not be left out undisturbed from the provisions of the Cultivating Tenants' Protection Act will have to be considered. This Act has created a stir and heart-burning among many and especially in my district where the small landholders are in a very great majority. Big landholders are practically unknown in my district whereas people owning one acre and one and a half acres are in hundreds and thousands.

In this connection, I may refer to one other matter. Under the Fair Rent Act, the landholder is entitled to get, through the Revenue Divisional Officer, half of the land owned by him for personal cultivation. Taking for illustration a man possessing an acre or half an acre of land, if he is to get half an acre out of the one acre owned by him or quarter of an acre out of the half acre owned by him, what sort of cultivation could he have on that piece of land? Could he carry on his cultivation effectively and efficiently on that plot of land? Even there, the Act provides that if the tenant offers to pay for that half that amount of rent which he was giving before the coming into operation of that Act, then the landholder has no choice. Therefore, we have two different tenures. For one half of the land the tenant will be paying rent at the old rate and for the other half at the rate laid down under the Fair Rent Act. Such anomalies have arisen in the working of the Act. I, therefore, request that the Act may be suitably amended to relieve the distress of the small landholders, at the same time, protecting the rights of the tenants.

Sir, His Excellency the Governor has referred in his Address to the major irrigation projects that have been taken up or are in the process of being completed. Under the Second Five-Year Plan, various other irrigation projects have to be investigated, taken up for execution and pushed through. In this connection, I wish to point out the folly of the Public Works Department Engineers. In some cases projects were investigated years ago by some engineers and the files are readily available to their successors. When people clamour that a particular project or scheme should be

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taken up or its feasibility investigated by modifying the old scheme, the easy answer given by the Engineers is, 'It is not feasible; the matter has already been investigated.' That answer is easily given with the aid of old files without making any attempt to re-investigate the matter under the present conditions. Nothing is impossible for an engineer in the present day. In some cases the engineers say, 'the level of the land is high; water cannot be taken to that level to irrigate the waste lands there. The lands already under cultivation themselves suffer for want of proper irrigation facilities. It will involve a huge expenditure inconsistent with the capital outlay.' Such easy answers are given. In some other cases where schemes have to be investigated in mountainous areas and forests which are dangerous and risky to enter, the same easy answer, 'It is not feasible; it will not be consistent with the capital outlay,' is given without going into the matter and surveying the area where the sources are to be tapped or the system has to be investigated.

Long ago before our Civil Engineers came into existence, we find 'Anicuts' built miles into the dense forests. When it was not easy in those days to enter these forest areas, our ancestors got into those areas, built those anicuts, and diverted the water, and we are still utilising such waters. Even those sources are now being hampered by wild growth or the water diverted elsewhere by Nature taking its own course. Our present engineers should take some risk, enter those areas with some safeguards and investigate at least what improvements could be made to these existing irrigation sources which are now in a famished condition.

Sir, as regards industrial progress, mention has been made in the Address about the industrial estates at Guindy, Virudhunagar and Erode. Of course, these are great efforts made in the direction of improving the industries in our State. Our present Minister for Industries and Labour is a veteran in that field and has ample experience of that work. We hope that he will make greater strides by improving the small industries, especially those that exist in the villages. For example, in the district of Tirunelveli, there is ample scope for improvement of industries relating to palmyra provided the Government come forward to give sufficient help and infuse fervour into the people to carry on the industry in a more active and profitable manner. To a great extent, that district is indebted to the previous Minister for Industries who toured that area extensively and put forward many schemes for the improvement of that industry which was dying out. On account of his efforts, we have now a hope that the industry will begin to thrive and improve in manifold ways. I am confident that our present Minister for Industries will take up the matter and shower a benevolent boon on the people of the southern taluks of Tirunelveli district.

Sir, it is gratifying to note that very active steps are being taken by the present Minister for Prohibition to enforce Prohibition in a very strict manner. We read in newspapers that very active steps have been taken in the City of Madras and in the district of

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Chingleput to put down the illicit manufacture of arrack and liquor. If this system were to be put into effect in every other district, I am confident that even with the limited powers under the present Act, we can put down the illicit manufacture of liquor and arrack, which is widely prevalent. I may, in this connection, point out that one of the reasons for the failure in enforcement of Prohibition is the merger of the Prohibition staff with the Police Department. The Prohibition staff are adepts in their own ways. They have their own 'Mamool' rates that are widely prevalent. Now that they have been merged with the Police Department, not only are they carrying on in their own old tradition, but they have also corrupted the members of the Police Force. If the Hon. the 4 p.m. Minister for Prohibition examines this question and finds out a way to provide for the old Prohibition staff, who have entered into the Police Department, in some other harmless department, I am sure, the Prohibition policy of the Government will be a greater success.

His Excellency the Governor has made reference to the legislative measures that are coming up in the present session. The Money-Lenders' Bill has gone through a Joint Select Committee and taken shape. But I do not find any mention made about this Bill being taken into consideration in the present session. There are also other Bills which had taken shape before the present Assembly came into existence. I hope the Hon. Ministers concerned would bring them also in at the earliest opportunity so that they may be of benefit to the general public.

Sir, in this connection, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the necessity for bringing in a legislation controlling Chit Funds. In the mufassal numerous people take to it as a profession. They become stakeholders. They collect large amounts of money from the poor people quite disproportionate to their own wealth or their own status. They just run one chit well and thereby attract the people. Thus even during the pendency of the earlier chits, they take in subscriptions for two or more chits, collect enormous sums of money and in the end swindle the money. Finally, one fine morning the poor people find that all their savings are gone. They are without remedy. The courts cannot help them. The court could at best only pass a decree and that decree is not worth the paper on which it is written, because the man who collects money towards Chit Funds swindles it and makes purchases in the name of his wife, children or other relations. Therefore, nothing could be done by the people with the decree. Thus, even Court decrees are not helpful to the people. These stakeholders do things so thoroughly that nothing could be done to recover anything from them. The people are duped and cheated like this. Therefore, I request the Government to examine this matter and do something to stop this kind of thing. Even long, long ago in the former Travancore-Cochin State there was a legislation controlling Chit Funds. It is only in our State that these people are left scot-free, to do whatever they like. I, therefore, request the Government to

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consider his matter and bring in a legislation by which the poor people, the innocent people, may not be cheated and the stakeholders may be restrained from committing acts of cheating against these poor and innocent people.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Private criminal cases could also be filed against the offenders.

SRI S. P. SIVASUBRAMANIA NADAR : If criminal cases for breach of trust are filed, they say, "What could they do? Only as and when the chit terminates, they are able to pay. You can seek remedy in a Civil Court". There is a glaring case of this type in Tirunelveli. One stakeholder has duped people to the extent of lakhs of rupees. A criminal complaint was filed, but it was thrown out even at the outset, as it was argued that it was not a matter for the criminal court to deal with. In the civil court the position is worse and not a pie could be collected from these stakeholders. There are many glaring cases of this type throughout the State. It is, therefore, very necessary that the Government should come forward with some measure for controlling the activities of these Chit Fund holders.

I thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity and I second the Motion so ably moved by the hon. Member.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Motion moved—

"That an humble Address be presented to the Governor that the Members of the Madras Legislative Council thank him for the Address delivered to the Members of the Legislature on the 1st May 1957."

The hon. Member Sri Mohamed Raza Khan has given notice of an amendment. He may now move it.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Mr. Deputy Chairman, I shall move the amendment standing in my name formally, but I do not propose to initiate the discussion from this side. I move—

"Add the following at the end:—

'but regret to note that there is no reference in the Address of some of the important problems affecting the State and the measures to be adopted to solve them.'"

The amendment was duly seconded.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Amendment moved—

"Add the following at the end:—

'but regret to note that there is no reference in the Address to some of the important problems affecting the State and the measures to be adopted to solve them.'"

* SRI T. M. NARAYANASWAMY PILLAI : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have great pleasure in speaking from this side of the House and in joining the Governor in the praise which he has

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showered on his predecessor; Shri Sri Prakasa, as we know, has been a Governor who has distinguished himself in this high office with conspicuous success and ability. More than that, he has been very popular with all sections of the people, with the Members of his Government, with the Members of the Opposition, and with the members of every branch of public life in this State, and with us members connected with the Universities, he has been truly kind and he has been trying to do his best to solve our difficulties then and there. Therefore, the Legislature joins His Excellency the Governor in the tribute he has given to his predecessor-in-office. We also take advantage of this opportunity to assure the present Governor of our hearty co-operation in the same manner and to the same extent as we have extended to his predecessor.

The Governor referred to the General Elections and the smooth manner in which they have been conducted and the co-operation which the public have extended in that behalf. Sir, while referring to this, we, from this side of the House, are glad that the Congress has been voted to power by the people at large. There could be no question, if we have regard to the continuity and to the necessity for stability and to the overall importance of pursuing our economic policies, that it is the Congress that would and could discharge these duties to the satisfaction of the public. We are in a period of transition and transformation of our economic programme just now and it may not be to the advantage of the country just now to change the Government. At the same time, I wish they had come in smaller numbers. One hundred and fifty is far too large a number, perhaps for maintaining a kind of balance. By all means let them have a comfortable majority, but not too large a majority, as it is likely to make them feel inclined to take to dictatorial methods.

4.10 p.m.

We must congratulate the Hon. the Chief Minister and his team. The Chief Minister has proved himself a really good leader, a born leader. We must congratulate the team chosen by him. He has included in the team a good number of his old Colleagues who have distinguished themselves in the work and he has added some new members who are very promising, one of whom is a woman member. We welcome not only the woman member coming from the southernmost part of our State but also all the other members of the Cabinet. I have no doubt that all of them will do justice to their job and shed lustre by their work.

There is one feature to which I feel I should refer. It is not the old parties alone that contested the recent elections to the Legislature. A new and vigorous element has come in through the elections, an element which is having a hold on perhaps the younger generation. Of course, those Members are new to Parliament and they have to gain experience. With the experience that they gain of democratic and constitutional methods, I hope they will try to be useful to the nation at large. Members outside who have no experience of constitutional methods are

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likely perhaps to indulge in extreme things, even as the Congressmen did at one time. Once they enter the Legislature, they become more constitutional. Therefore, I believe that these new Members will try to be constructive, constitutional in their outlook and action and try to feel that they must do service to the country. One of the planks in their programme is that the South should separate itself from the North. I hope experience will soon prove to them that it is a policy which ought not to be pursued in their own interest and that nothing should be done to spoil or undermine the unity of the country, as our progress, our future, our safety, our welfare depends upon the unity of the country. I have no doubt that they will realize that they must agree on this fundamental point embodied in the Constitution. The Constitution says that India is one entity. It is to this Constitution that they have sworn allegiance and it is up to them to keep it up. It is gratifying to note that they have given up caste and religion, the two things which cannot be the basis of any political party. For this, we must be thankful to them. I wish them all success. I only pray that they will adopt constitutional and constructive methods, having the unity of the country as their objective.

Coming to the Address, we are glad to note that an attempt has been made to cover practically the whole field of administration. The amendment to the Motion of Thanks seeks to point out that some of the important problems affecting the State and the measures to be adopted to solve them have not been referred to. I am obliged to the Mover and the Seconder of the Motion for they themselves pointed out in the course of their speeches various measures which ought to be adopted for the welfare of the country as a whole. They referred to points which ought to have been referred to but which have not been referred to in the Address. I shall not repeat them.

I feel that His Excellency the Governor has not put the food problem and the connected problem of agricultural production in their proper light. I shall read the relevant portion. 'The food position is on the whole satisfactory even though prices did not decline after the harvest, to the extent anticipated. The Government of India have assured us adequate supplies of rice to revive fair price shops whenever necessary and there is no cause for anxiety on the food-front.' Looking at it from a lawyer's point of view, one may well argue that there is a nice distinction between the problems on the food-front and of those agricultural production. If in any other portion of the Address the problem of agricultural production had been referred to, and the magnitude of the problem had been stated, I would have had no objection. But reading this portion alone as it is, it looks as though the Government have assumed or adopted an air of complacency and have not taken the trouble to give us a full picture of the intensity of the problem. I am not an alarmist, I am not an agitator and I do not want to speak about things for which there is no foundation. Does this portion represent the actual position with regard

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either to foodgrains or to agricultural production? Because the Central Government are assuring adequate supplies to the State, is it any ground for satisfaction? Because the prices have not declined to the extent anticipated, is it any ground for satisfaction? Because the Government are able perhaps to tide over the crisis, is it any ground for satisfaction? The Legislators and the people must know the real position. Why is it that, in spite of a good monsoon and a good harvest, we are placed in this difficult position? Nothing is known about it. If it is a matter which could be remedied, what remedial measures are they going to adopt? What exactly is the policy of the Government on the food-front? These are things which one would have expected from an Address of this kind. The Government ought to have laid bare the whole matter and informed us of the whole position. On the other hand, a cryptic sentence about reliance upon the assurance of supplies from the Centre gives us more room for anxiety. Is the assurance of supplies from the Centre anything about which one could be satisfied? More than once, we have been in difficulties in the matter of food supply. During the time of war and even after that, the Government were forced to adopt food control. Notwithstanding assurances of adequate supplies of this kind, our State experienced great difficulties. Import of foodgrains from abroad is one of the worst features of our food economy. Especially in the present context of the development of industries, it is a feature which will undermine the policy of industrial development. There is no use of importing large quantities of foodgrains in order to tide over a crisis which does not appear to be temporary but which appears to be permanent and then saying that there is no room for anxiety because we are getting adequate supplies. If we import from abroad foodgrains to the tune of 100 or 150 crores of rupees, to that extent, our foreign exchange resources, which could otherwise be utilized for importing valuable machinery for industrial development, are curtailed. Merely saying 'Don't be anxious because we are getting adequate supplies' has no meaning at all. On the one hand, the Government say that they want industrialization and, on the other hand, they are doing something which will undermine that policy. Therefore, I feel that this is a matter in which the Government have not given a clear indication of their policy.

I am going to refer to certain other matters. Perhaps I do not know enough of them to give expression to my views. Within the last five or six days, there have appeared in the Press the speeches of Sri V. T. Krishnamachari, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, the speeches of Sri S. K. Dey, Central Minister for Community Development, and the Report of the Programme Evaluation Board. We must congratulate the Central Government on setting up the Programme Evaluation Board. There must be some independent body who have a knowledge of these things and who should have the power to criticise if what is done is wrong or is not up to the standard, so that benefiting by such

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criticism, the Government could conduct things better in the future. I would suggest this in regard to Co-operation too. There are so many experiments in regard to Co-operation. There must be some independent agency which must be charged with the duty of finding out how far they have been able to come up to our expectations. All these should be carefully evaluated. I am sure the Universities will help the Government in this work of evaluation.

Now, coming to the subject-matter I was referring to, viz., the views of the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission. I should say that he has been quite frank. He has condemned the policy perhaps in much stronger terms and in a more suitable language. He has said that at present we are faced with a rise in prices. There is something which is not properly accounted for. Whatever might have been the position in 1955, 1956 and 1957, there has been a continuous rise in prices and even at the time of harvesting this year, the prices have risen. There must be something to account for the continuous rise in prices which is threatening us. Adequate attention has not been paid to this aspect of the matter. This is a very important problem. What will be the effect of this rise in prices? What is the cause for this rise in prices? What are the steps to be taken to combat this rise? The successful implementation of the Second Five-Year Plan and the future Plans depends largely on this question. Though this is a very grave and important problem, unfortunately, it has not been given adequate and proper attention in the Address. It has been treated in a way as though that problem does not at all exist. I am surprised at this sentence appearing in the Governor's Address, viz., "The food position is on the whole satisfactory even though prices did not decline after the harvest, to the extent anticipated." The Government are themselves aware of the rise in prices. As a matter of fact, they themselves have been hit. Otherwise, why is it that they have increased the dearness allowance? The very fact that they have enhanced the dearness allowance of their employees shows that they themselves realise that it is not a temporary phase, but a permanent one. Therefore, this factor which has been persisting is likely to be permanent and the Government should take note of this aspect and treat it accordingly. People like Mr. Krishnamachari feel that it is all due to the inflationary pressure which must be checked. What is the best way of checking this inflationary tendency? If we do not succeed in effectively tackling this problem, all our Plans will fail. The cost of living will go up and there will be a great amount of trouble for the people. The fact is that people find it difficult to meet the situation. Mr. V. T. Krishnamachari says that the only way to solve the problem is to increase production. The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission has referred to this subject of increased production. It has been stated by him that the State Governments which are responsible for increasing production have failed in this regard. The first cause given by him does not probably refer to our State. It is stated

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that while 6.3 million acres were ready to be brought under cultivation, not more than 4.3 million acres have been brought under cultivation. Though there were facilities available for bringing under cultivation the balance of 2 million acres, they were not brought under cultivation. I take it that this does not apply to our State.

So far as our State is concerned, we were believing that we had come to the end of major irrigation projects. The present position seems to point out that we need not be complacent on that score. Therefore, we should take steps to increase our production. According to experts like Sri V. T. Krishnamachari, that is the only way of combating this rise in prices and ensuring those factors that will enable us to fulfil our Plans. That is the only way in which we can earn our foreign exchange resources which should not be frittered away. That is the only way in which we will be able to satisfy our people. Then only we can save some foreign exchange resources which we can plough back into our own industries to which we must attach great value. By stressing the value of increasing production, he has impliedly warned us against being complacent. Though it may be said that there are not many more major irrigation projects which we may take up for execution, are there not sources to which we have not devoted much attention? I am obliged to both Srimathi Jothi Vencatachellum and Sri Sivasubramania Nadar for making a reference to this aspect of the matter. The hon. lady Member has referred to minor irrigation works and the other hon. Member has referred to some schemes which have necessarily to be undertaken in the Tirunelveli district. That district comes in handy. The irrigation problem of that district has not been properly understood. It looks as though by proper diversion some of the rivers which he has mentioned could be put to proper use and the old reservoirs, dams, etc., could also be properly repaired and made full use of it. If that is done, all those reservoirs could hold up water which is now going to waste and it could be made adequate use of when necessary. By doing this, they will be able to remove the tragic catastrophe which has overtaken that district. When a district is suffering from economic difficulties of this kind, when in olden days, it has been possible to impound water in some small reservoirs, big dams, is it not time for the Government to move in the matter and take such steps as may be necessary to relieve the difficulties of the people by undertaking such small schemes? This is a very important problem and it is surprising that this aspect has not at all been referred to. It looks as though everything is all right and the rise in prices is only a temporary phase and there will be no difficulty. I may tell the Government that the lands in Madurai and Ramanathapuram districts could be irrigated sufficiently well if all the waters are properly stored and if only attempts are made to impound all the water that would otherwise go to waste, to harness smaller schemes and to build up smaller reservoirs. I know in Tiruchirappalli, there is room for doing this. Especially in Thovarankurichi, there is room for

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using the waters of small rivers by properly impounding the same. If this is done, all the arid tracts could be converted into smiling gardens. There are similar other places up in the North. What I wish to point out is that this is an important question having a bearing not only on the present but also on the future. We have to revise the view we took in 1955, namely, that we had approached self-sufficiency in the matter of food production. That view has to be given up. On the other hand, having in view the fulfilment of our plans and the assurance of a good life with stability and certainty to all our people, it is better that we devote more attention to this matter, try to find out how much more we could succeed in impounding the sources, both minor irrigation and major irrigation, both old and new, and try to give greater facilities to the people.

4-30
p.m.

Then, Sir, with agricultural production is connected the policy with regard to the National Extension Service and the Community Development blocks. Mr. S. K. Dey has given his view after an examination of this policy which has been in force for the last three or four years. The Programme Evaluation Board have also given us some constructive criticisms in their Report the correctness of which we must admit, and we must concede that these schemes are necessary to place our villages on the map of India and to improve the conditions in rural areas. Still, there is something wrong with the manner in which the programme has been approached, with the way in which it has been executed and with the mind which has dominated the execution of these plans. They have given us sufficient material to show how these schemes have been worked. In a matter especially of this kind, our Government should have told our Governor the new policy that they are going to adopt and also the new method of approach that they are going to adopt. Instead of this new approach and new policy, we find mere repetition of what was done in the past, in the Address. They say that they are going to introduce this programme in 23 more blocks. What has happened to the blocks where the scheme is already in operation? Will these new blocks be better off or would the criticisms made of the old blocks hold good in respect of the new blocks also? Have the Government listened to these criticisms and would the new blocks be better than the old ones? Some kind of an inkling as to what they are going to do with regard to these matters must have found a place in the Address. But there is actually nothing of that sort in the Address.

The Programme Evaluation Board have given us a Report and it says that what has been achieved is microscopic little. According to Mr. V. T. Krishnamachari, the officer in charge of the block should see that every acre of land is helped with sufficient and necessary fertilizers and green-manures, irrigation facilities and so on. Are we here taking steps to see that this kind of thing is attempted in respect of every village? On the other hand, we are victims to the very thing that has been

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mentioned, namely, that we are satisfied that we have spent so much money on these 110 blocks already opened up and that we are going to spend more money on the new blocks to be opened up. We continue to possess the same kind of mentality that they have deprecated. They say that it is no good merely feeling contented with construction. They have pointed out that no attempt has been made to give facilities to maintain these constructions. What is the use of merely constructing roads without providing for the repair of the roads? What we construct spending thousands of rupees will go to waste in two or three years unless we provide something for its maintenance. I do not think we have done well in this direction. It may be that, for the time being, people interested in these may be satisfied, which is the very thing we have been warned against. The Government must, while opening new blocks, try to adopt the constructive suggestions given in the Report and guard against the criticisms made about the dependence of the people on the Government for getting anything and everything done. The Board criticises the work of the Grama Sevaks.

Government should appreciate the connexion between the food-front and the industrial progress of the country and the basic factors necessary to ensure the success of the Second Five-Year Plan and also the Third and the Fourth Plans to come. Nobody is more interested than the Members of the Programme Evaluation Board in offering constructive criticisms and comments on the various schemes adumbrated in the Plan. These should be approached from the point of view of constructive, long-standing, and durable results rather than of putting up things merely for the sake of their being put up. It is not as if we do not appreciate the good that the Government have done. We are really obliged to Government for what they have done. If we say anything, it is said only in the same spirit in which the Members of the Planning Commission and the Minister for Community Development have offered their criticisms. The criticisms that we have offered are constructive ones.

Sir, I did not want to take the time of the House except to refer to these things. While we feel thankful for the Address delivered by the Governor, we also feel that some of the important things necessary for the welfare of the people have not been referred to in the Address.

SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இன்று நமது கவர்னர் அவர்கள் பிரசங்கத்தின் மீது நன்றி தெரிவித்து சில வார்த்தைகள் நான் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். நம் கவர்னர் அவர்கள் புதிதாக நம் சென்னை ராஜ்யத்தில் பதவி ஏற்று, முதலாவதாக இரு சபைகளும் சேர்ந்த கூட்டத்தில் சொற்பொழிவு ஆற்றி இருக்கிறார். நாமும் இங்கே புதிதாக இடம் மாறி இருக்கிறோம். புது அமைச்சர்கள் கொண்ட சபை இப்போது பதவியேற்று இருக்கிறது. புதிய வருஷத்திற்கும் பிறகு கூடும் சபை இது. புதிய நாணயங்கள் இப்போது வெளியிடப்பட்டு இருக்கின்றன. இவைகளையெல்லாம் பார்க்கும்போது நாம் இன்று முதல் ஒரு புத்துணர்ச்சி பெற்றிருக்கிறோம் என்று நான் நினைக்கிறேன். நாம் இன்று முதல்

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[Sri M. Ethirajalu]

நமக்குள் இருக்கும் பாகுபாடை நீக்கிவிட்டு, மக்கள் எத்துறையில் முன் நேற்றம் அடைய வேண்டுமென்று கவனித்து அதற்கான முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்பது தான் என்னுடைய முக்கியமான குறிக்கோள்.

4-40 p.m.

இப்போது ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் நம் தலைவர் காமராஜ் அவர்களின் மந்திரி சபையில் இடம் பெற்றவர்கள் மக்களோடு மக்களாகத் தொடர்பு கொண்டவர்கள். தொழிலாளிகளின் குறைகளை நன்றாக அறிந்தவர்கள். மக்கள் செளஜன்யமாக மந்திரிகளை அணுகி அவர்களுடைய குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்லி அவற்றை தீர்த்துக்கொள்ள ஒரு மந்திரிசபை இங்கே ஏற்பட்டிருப்பது மிகவும் பாராட்டத்தக்க விஷயம் என்பது எல்லோருக்கும் நன்றாகத் தெரியும். பொதுமக்கள் இதை நன்றாக வரவேற்கின்றனர். அவர்கள் மக்களோடு மக்களாகத் தொடர்பு கொண்டவர்கள் என்ற காரணத்திற்காக நான் இப்போது இதைச் சொல்ல ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். சாதாரணமாக அமைச்சர்களை அணுகுவது மிகவும் கஷ்டமாக இருந்தாலும் இப்பொழுது இருப்பவர்களை வெகுசலபமாக அணுகமுடியும் என்று பொதுமக்கள் பேசிக்கொள்வதிலிருந்து இதை நாம் தெரிந்துகொள்ள முடிகிறது. இது முற்றிலும் உண்மையே.

இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் நான் முதலாவதாக தொழில் அமைச்சர் அவர்களை ஒன்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். நமது தொழில் அமைச்சர் தொழிலாளர்கள் தலைவராக இருந்திருக்கிறார். பல தொழிற் சங்கங்களில் அங்கம் வகித்து திறம்பட நடத்தியவர். ஆகவே அவர் களுக்குத் தொழிலாளர்களின் குறைகளைப்பற்றி மிக நன்றாகத் தெரியும். இப்பொழுது நமது சர்க்கார் முக்கியமாக ஆலைத் தொழிலாளர்கள், கைத் தறித் தொழிலாளர்கள், பீடித் தொழிலாளர்கள், ஹோட்டல் தொழிலாளர்கள் முதலிய தொழிலாளர்களின் குறைகளைத் தான் சவனித்து வருகிறார்கள். சிறுபான்மையினராக உள்ள தொழிலாளர்களின் குறைகளையும் சர்க்கார் கவனிக்க வேண்டும். அவர்களுடைய குறைகளையும் சர்க்கார் இனியாவது பரிசீலனை செய்வார்கள் என்று நான் நம்புகிறேன். நமது தொழிலமைச்சர் தொழிலாளர்களின் குறைகளையும் தீர்ப்பதில் சற்றேனும் தயங்க மாட்டார்கள் என நம்புகிறேன். எத்தனையோ சிறுபான்மைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுடைய கோரிக்கைகள் எல்லாம் இதுவரை புறக்கணிக்கப்பட்டே வந்திருக்கின்றன. அவர்களுக்கு எத்தனையோ குறைகள் இருக்கின்றன. யார் அந்த சிறுபான்மைத் தொழிலாளர்கள், எத்தனையோ குறைகள் அவர்களுக்கு இருக்கின்றன என்று கவனித்து அவர்களுடைய குறைகளைத் தீர்ப்பதற்கு முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று இந்த சமயத்தில் நமது தொழில் அமைச்சர் அவர்களை நான் வற்புறுத்திக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். நான் பேசுவதிலிருந்தே யார் அந்தத் தொழிலாளர்கள் என்று சொல்லத் தேவையில்லை.

அடுத்தபடியாக, கள்ளச்சாராயம் காய்ச்சுவதைப்பற்றிக் கூற விரும்புகிறேன். கள்ளச் சாராயம் காய்ச்சுவது, கள்ளச் சாராயம் சாப்பிடுவது முதலிய காரியங்களிலெல்லாம் இன்றைக்கு சிறுபான்மைத் தொழிலாளர்களும், பின் தங்கிய வகுப்பார்களும் தான் பங்கு கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லமுடியாது. சில மிகப் பெரிய செல்வந்தர்களும் கூட இக்காரியங்களில் சம்பந்தப்பட்டிருப்பதால், இந்தக் குற்றங்களைக் கண்டு பிடிப்பது கஷ்டமாக இருக்கிறது. சென்னை நகரத்தில் இப்போது மது விலக்குச் சட்டம் மிகத் தீவிரமாக அமுல் நடத்தப்படுகிறது. இந்த விஷயத்தில் போலீசார் மிக மிகத் தீவிரமாக நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்து வருகிறார்கள் என்பது சென்னை நகரத்தில் குடியிருக்கும் மக்களுக்கு மிக நன்றாகத் தெரியும். இதில் ஈடுபாத பொதுமக்கள், போலீசாரையும் சர்க்காரை யும் வாழ்த்துகிறார்கள். அம்மாதிரியே மற்ற ஜில்லாக்களிலும் மிகத் தீவிரமாக நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கவேண்டும் என்பது தான் எனது கோரிக்கை. இங்குள்ள போலீஸ் கமிஷனர் அவர்கள் தைரியமாகப் போடும் உத்தர விற்குணங்கக் கீழே இருக்கும் அதிகாரிகள் பொறுப்புடனும், வெற்றி பெற வேண்டுமென்ற எண்ணத்துடனும் நடப்பதால்தான் சென்னை நகரில் மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டம் தீவிரமாக அமுல் நடத்தப்பட்டு வருகிறது

[Sri M. Ethirajalu]

[3rd May 1957]

என்பதில் ஆட்சேபணை இல்லை. ஆனால் மற்ற ஜில்லாக்களில் உள்ள போலீஸ் சூப்பிரெண்டெண்டுகளும் அவர்கள் கீழ் பணியாற்றும் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களும் சரியானபடி நடவடிக்கை எடுக்காத காரணத்தால் அங்கெல்லாம் மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டம் வெற்றியடையவில்லை என்று நான் நினைக்க வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அரசாங்கத்தைக் குறைசூறுவதற்காக நான் இதைச் சொல்லவில்லை. இப்போது ஒரு சில போலீஸ் அதிகாரிகள் "மாமூல்" வாங்குவதில் ஈடுபட்டிருப்பதுதான் இது வெற்றியடையாததற்கு முதல் காரணம். இந்த மாமூல் போன்ற பழக்கம் இந்த அரசாங்கத்தால் தான் வந்தது என்று சொல்ல முடியாது. வெள்ளையர்கள் காலத்திலிருந்தே வாழையடி வாழையாக இந்த லஞ்சம் என்ற பழக்கமும் இன்னும் பல விதமான தர்ப்பழக்கங்களும் இருந்து வருகின்றன. ஆகவே இந்தப் பழக்கத்தினால் அதிகாரிகளுக்கும் குற்றவாளிகளுக்கும் தொடர்பு ஏற்பட்டு, சட்டம் சரியாக அமல் நடத்தப்படாமலிருக்கிறது. மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டத்தை இப்போது நியமிக்கப்பட்டுள்ள நகர போலீஸ் கமிஷனர் நன்றாக அமல் நடத்துகிறார். வெள்ளைக்காரர் காலத்திலிருந்து வருகிற மாமூலை அறவே ஒழிக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் எதிர்ப்பு சக்திவளக் கெல்லாம் பயப்படாது மதுவிலக்குச் சட்டத்தையும் அமுல் நடத்தும் கமிஷனரைப் பாராட்டாமல் இருக்கமுடியாது.

அடுத்தபடியாக பருத்தி சூதாட்டமும் தலைகாட்ட முடியாமல் ஒழிக்கப் பட்டுவிட்டது. இந்த சூதாட்டம் சென்னையில் ஒழிந்தே போய்விட்டது. இதைப்போல் மற்ற ஜில்லாக்களிலும் மதுவிலக்கையும், சூதாட்டத்தையும் ஒழிப்பதற்குத் தீவிர நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று நான் இந்த சபைத் தலைவரைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

மூன்றாவதாக இந்த ராஜ்யத்திலுள்ள பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களைப்பற்றி கவர்னர் அவர்களுடைய பிரசங்கத்தில் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. சென்ற கவர்னர் பிரசங்கங்களில் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களைப் பற்றி ஒரு சிறிதளவு கூட குறிப்பிடப்படவில்லை. ஆகையால் கவர்னர் அவர்களுக்கு நன்றி செலுத்துகிறேன். சென்ற மந்திரிசபை காலத்தில் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கு கல்வி விஷயத்தில் நன்மைகள் செய்யப்பட்டிருப்பதை நான் பாராட்டுகிறேன். பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் சென்ற ஐந்து, ஆறு மாதங்களுக்கு முன்னதாக நானும் எனது நண்பர்களும் அடிக்கடி சட்டசபையில் கேட்டுக்கொண்டதன் காரணமாகவோ அல்லது பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் அதிக கவனம் செலுத்த வேண்டுமென்ற காரணமாகவோ என்னமோ, அரசாங்கம் அவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் இப்போது முழு கவனம் செலுத்தி வருகிறது. இப்போது, சர்க்கார் 58 சமூகத்தினரை மிகவும் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் என்று குறிப்பிட்டு, அவர்களுக்கு 10-வது வகுப்புவரை இலவசக் கல்வி வசதியை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குக் கொடுத்திருப்பதைப்போல் கொடுத்திருப்பதை நாம் பாராட்டாமல் இருக்கமுடியாது. தமிழ் நாட்டில் எத்தனையோ பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் இருந்தாலும், குறிப்பாக வன்னியகுலக் கூத்திரியர்கள், குலாலர்கள், குயவர்கள் (மண்பாண்டம் செய்பவர்கள்), மருத்துவர்கள், வண்ணர்கள், நாவிதர்கள், கூடை முறம் பின்னுபவர்கள் முதலியவர்கள் மிகவும் பின்னடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை சர்க்கார் உணர்ந்து, அரசாங்கம் அவர்களுக்கு 10-வது வகுப்பு வரை இலவசக் கல்வியளிக்க உத்தரவிட்டிருப்பதை யாரும் பாராட்டாமல் இருக்கமுடியாது. அவர்களுக்குக் கல்விச் சலுகை கொடுப்பதோடு மட்டுமல்ல மட்டு, உத்தியோகச் சலுகையும் கொடுக்க வேண்டும்; உத்தியோகச் சலுகையோடு தொழில் (பிரொபஷன்) கல்வியாளிகளில் கொடுக்கக்கூடிய எல்லாச் சலுகைகளும் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்தால் தான் அவர்கள் தொழில் கல்லூரி, மற்ற எல்லாத் துறைகளிலும் நன்றாகப் படித்து முன்னேறி, முன்னேற்ற மடைந்துள்ள மற்ற சமூகங்களோடு சரி சமமாக வாழமுடியும் என்று இந்த சபைத் தலைவருக்குச் சொல்லிக்கொள்ள ஆசைப்படுகிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, சேரிகள் சீரமைப்பு விஷயமாக நமது முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் முக்கிய நடவடிக்கை எடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள்; பாராட்ட வேண்டிய விஷயம். சேரிகள் சீரமைப்பிற்காக தமிழ் நாட்டிற்கு ரூ. 3 கோடியே

[3rd May 1957]

[Sri M. Ethirajalu]

80 லட்சம் ஒதுக்க வேண்டுமென்று நமது சர்க்கார் திட்டக் கமிஷனிடம் கேட்டிருந்தது. ஆனால் 1 கோடியே 60 லட்சம் ரூபாய்தான் தமிழ் நாட்டிற்குத் திட்டக் கமிஷன் ஒதுக்கியுள்ளார்கள் என்ற செய்தியைப் பத்திரிகைகளில் பார்த்தேன். சேரிகள் சீரமைப்பை சென்னை நகரில் செய்தால் மட்டும் போதாது. எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களுக்கும் இந்தப் பணத் தொகைப் பிரித்துக்கொடுத்து எல்லா இடங்களிலும் சேரிகள் அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டத்தை அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டுவரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். மேலும் சேரிகளில் ரூ. 1,000 அல்லது ரூ. 1,500-க்கு வீடுகளைக் கட்டிக்கொடுத்து சேரிகளை அபிவிருத்தி செய்தால் மட்டும் போதாது. சேரியில் இருப்பவர்களுக்கு நகரங்களில் உள்ள காலி இடங்களில், அவர் வது மற்ற முன்னேறிய சமூகத்தினர் வசிக்கும் தெருக்களிலுள்ள காலி இடங்களில் வீடுகள் கட்டிக்கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்யாமல் சேரிகளிலுள்ள குடிசைகளுக்குப் பதிலாக அங்கேயே வேறு வீடுகளை அவர்களுக்குக் கட்டிக் கொடுத்தால், அவர்களுடைய பழக்கவழக்கங்கள் முன்னேற்றப் பாதையில் மாறுவதற்கு இன்னும் எவ்வளவோ நாட்கள் ஆகும். அவர்களுடைய பழக்கவழக்கங்களை மாற்றுவதோடு, அவர்களுடைய வாழ்க்கைத்தரத்தையும் உயரச் செய்யவேண்டுமெனானால், அவர்களுக்கு நகரப் பகுதிகளில் வீடுகள் கட்டிக்கொடுத்து, அங்கே அவர்கள் வசிப்பதற்கு வசதி செய்துகொடுக்கவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்தால் தான், நாம் சேரிகள் சீரமைப்பில் சரியான பங்குகொண்டவர்களாவோம் என்பதை இந்த சபையில் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன். வேண்டுமானால், இனிமேல் நகரப் பகுதிகளில் காலியாகும் வாடகை வீடுகளில் சர்க்கார் பணத்தில் அவர்களைக் குடியிருக்கச் செய்வதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்தால் தான் ஓரளவுக்கு ஜாதி வித்தியாச மனப்பான்மை நீங்கும். இல்லாவிட்டால் சேரிகளில் இருப்பவர்களின் பழக்கவழக்கங்கள் மாறுது; அங்கே அசுத்தமாக இருப்பவர்கள் அப்படியே தான் இருந்து வருவார்கள்; வருஷா வருஷம் நாம் சேரிகள் சீரமைப்பிற்காக எவ்வளவு கோடி ரூபாய் பணம் ஒதுக்கினாலும் அவை விரயமாகத் தான் போய்க்கொண்டிருக்கும். ஆகவே சேரிகளை ஒழிப்பதற்கு முன்னதாக சேரிவாழ் மக்களின் பழக்கவழக்கங்களைச் சீர்திருத்துவதற்கும், அவர்கள் மற்றவர்களைப் போல் நல்லாழ்க்கை நடத்துவதற்கும் திட்டம் வகுக்க வேண்டும் என்பதை அரசாங்கத்தின் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவர விரும்புகிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, தென் ஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் பொது மக்கள் பணத்தை வசூல் செய்து சுமார் 2½ லட்சம் ரூபாய் செலவில் ஒரு க்ஷயரோக ஆஸ்பத்திரி கட்டப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த ஆஸ்பத்திரி பொது மக்கள் பணத்தைக் கொண்டு கட்டப்பட்டதே தவிர, வேறு ஒரு நபருடைய பணத்தைக்கொண்டும் கட்டப்படவில்லை. இந்த ஆஸ்பத்திரி பராமரிப்புக்குப் போதுமான பணம் இல்லை. சென்ற வருஷத்தில் நானும் என் சகாக்களும், ஏறக்குறைய 16 சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்களும் சேர்ந்து, நிதி மந்திரியைப்பேட்டி அண்டு, "இந்த க்ஷயரோக ஆஸ்பத்திரியை சர்க்கார் எடுத்து நடத்தவேண்டும்" என்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டோம். ஆனால் அது இன்னும் சர்க்காரால் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்படவில்லை; எங்கள் கோரிக்கையின் பேரில் எந்தவிதமான நடவடிக்கையும் இன்னும் எடுக்கப்படவில்லை என்பதை வருத்தத்துடன் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். இதற்காக வேண்டிய நடவடிக்கைகளை இனியாவது உடனடியாக அரசாங்கம் மேற்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று நான் மிகப் பணிவாகக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக பொது ஜனங்களுக்கும் சர்க்காருக்கும் எந்த விதத்தில் உடனடியான தொடர்பு இருக்கிறதென்று சிந்தித்துப் பார்த்தோமானால், இன்றைக்கு ரயில்வே நிர்வாகத்திலும் ஆஸ்பத்திரி நிர்வாகத்திலும் தான் மக்களுக்கும் சர்க்காருக்கும் அதிகத் தொடர்பு ஏற்பட்டு வருகிறது என்பது உண்மை. நல்ல காலமாக ரயில்வே நிர்வாகத்தைப்பற்றிப் பேசி முறையிட கனம் மந்திரி ஸ்ரீ பக்தவத்சலம் அவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். ரயில்வே நிர்வாகம் இன்றைய நிலையில் எப்படி நடைபெறுகிறது? முன்பு நடந்ததற்கும், இப்பொழுது நடைபெறுவதற்கும் என்ன மாறுதல் என்பதைத் தான் பார்க்க வேண்டும். இப்பொழுது குறிப்பிட்ட நேரத்தில் ரயில்கள் வருவது என்பது

[Sri M. Ethirajalu]

[3rd May 1957]

ஒரு அதிசயம் தான். சில வருடங்களுக்கு முன், குறிப்பிட்ட நேரத்திற்குப் பிறகு ரயில் தாமதித்து வருவது ஒரு அதிசயம். இப்போது நிலைமை மாறுபட்டு விட்டது. குறிப்பிட்ட நேரத்திற்கு ரயில் வருவது அதிசயமாக இருக்கிறது. அப்படி வந்தால் அது மிக மிக ஆச்சரியம் தான். இதற்கு என்ன காரணம்? ஏன் ரயில் தாமதித்து வருகிறது? ரயில் தாமதித்து வருவதற்கு யார் பொறுப்பாளி? பொதுமக்கள் இதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தைக் குறைசூறுகிறார்களே தவிர, ரயில்வே நிர்வாகத்தை நடத்துகிறவர்களை துவேஷிப்பதில்லை. நாம் சென்னை ராஜ்யத்தில் இருக்கிறோம். சென்னை ராஜ்யத்தில் ஓடும் ரயில்களுக்குப் பொறுப்பாளி சென்னை சர்க்கார் தான். இதை அரசாங்கம் கவனிக்க வேண்டும். மூன்றாவது வகுப்புப் பிரயாணிகள் ரயில் ஏறும்போது மிகவும் கஷ்டத்துக்கு உள்ளாகிறார்கள். இங்கு மூன்றாம் வகுப்புப் பிரயாணிகள் மற்றவர்கள் ஏறாதவாறு கால்களை நீட்டிப் படுத்துக்கொண்டு மற்றப் பிரயாணிகளுக்கு வழிவிட மறுக்கிறார்கள். சிலர் கதவின் அருகாமையில் உட்கார்ந்துகொண்டு கதவடைத்துக் கொள்கிறார்கள். மற்றும் சிலர் ஒரு பெட்டியில் 3 பேர் உட்கார்ந்து கொண்டு ரிசர்வ் செய்தாய் விட்டது, ஏறக்கூடாது என்று தடுத்தவிடுகிறார்கள். இம்மாதிரியான நிலைமை மாற வேண்டும். அதிகாரிகளிடம் முறையிட்டாலும் பயனில்லை. இதனால் மூன்றாவது வகுப்பில் பிரயாணம் செய்யும் ஏழை மக்கள் மிகுந்த கஷ்டத்துக்கு உள்ளாகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் உட்கார்ந்து பிரயாணம் செய்ய போதிய இடவசதி இல்லை. இதைத் தடுக்க ரயில்வே அதிகாரிகள் மூன்றாவது வகுப்புப் பிரயாணிகளுக்கு மற்றவர்களுக்குத் தொந்தரவு கொடுக்காதிருக்க எச்சரிக்கை செய்யவேண்டும். அல்லது அவர்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களை நீக்க ஆவன செய்யவேண்டுமென்று மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தை நம் அரசாங்கம் கேட்டுக்கொள்ள வேண்டியது அவர்களுடைய கடமையாகும். அப்படி அவர்கள் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று நான் நம் சர்க்காரைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக ஆஸ்பத்திரி நிர்வாகம் எப்படி நடக்கிறது என்று பார்த்தால், நம் ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளில் போதுமான படுக்கை வசதிகள் இல்லை. குறிப்பாக தென் ஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், 300, 400 கிராமங்கள் இருக்கும். ஆங்காங்கு தாலுகாவில் சில சர்க்கார் ஆஸ்பத்திரிகள் இருந்தாலும்கூட ஜில்லா போர்டு நடத்தும் ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளில் போதுமான மருந்து வசதி கிடையாது. இதற்கு என்ன காரணம், ஏன் இப்படி நிர்வாகம் நடைபெறுகிறது என்று கேட்க முடியாது. காரணம் ஆஸ்பத்திரி ஜில்லா போர்டு நிர்வாகத்தில் இருப்பதால் கேட்க முடியவில்லை. பொதுமக்களுக்கு வேண்டிய வசதி அளிக்கக்கூடிய நிலையில் ஆஸ்பத்திரிகள் இருக்க வேண்டியது மிக மிக முக்கியம். பல மைல்கள் நடந்து பிரசவத்திற்காக ஆஸ்பத்திரிக்கு வரும் பெண்களை அனுமதிக்கக் கூட ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் இடம் இல்லை. இவ்வளவு கஷ்டங்களை இன்னும் அனுபவித்துவரும் பொதுமக்களை மீண்டும் மீண்டும் இதே நிலையில் நீடிக்கவிடுவது தவறான காரியம். ஆகவே ஜில்லா போர்டு ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளை சர்க்கார் மருத்துவ அதிகாரி ஒவ்வொரு தடவையும் மேற்பார்வையிட வேண்டும். ஒரு வருடத்திற்கு எத்தனை ஆயிரம் ரூபாய்க்கு மருந்து வாங்கப்பட்டு ஆஸ்பத்திரி நிர்வகிக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது என்று பரிசீலனை செய்யப்பட வேண்டும். ஜில்லா போர்டு ஆஸ்பத்திரி நன்றாக நடைபெறாத காரணத்தினால்தான் ஜில்லா தலைமை ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளில் மக்கள் குவிக்கின்றனர். ஜம்புது மைல்கள் கடந்து ஜில்லா ஆஸ்பத்திரிக்கு வந்தாலும், மருந்து கொடுக்கமுடியாமே தவிர உங்களை ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் சேர்த்துக் கொண்டு சிகிச்சை செய்ய எங்களால் முடியாது, அதற்குவேண்டிய இடவசதி இங்கு கிடையாது என்று டாக்டர்கள் சொல்லவேண்டிய நிலை வருகிறது. ஆகவே உண்மையாக வியாதியால் கஷ்டப்படுகின்றவர்களின் குறைகள் புறக்கணிக்கப்படுகின்றன. இந்நிலையில் பொதுமக்கள் திரப்தி பெற வழியில்லை. இந்த நிலை உடனடியாக மாறவேண்டும். பொது மக்களுக்கும் ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளுக்கும் தொடர்பு இருக்க வேண்டும்; இந்தத் தொடர்பை நாம் முக்கியமாக கவனிக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

3rd May 1957]

[Sri M. Ethirajalu]

அடுத்தபடியாக தற்போது நடைபெற்ற எலெக்ஷன் பற்றி இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். தேர்தல் நடக்கும்போது சில ரௌடிகள் ஒன்று சேர்ந்துகொண்டு வோட்டுச்சாவடிக்கு தங்கள் வோட்டை அளிக்கச் செல்லும் மக்களைத் தடுக்கின்றனர். பொதுத் தேர்தல் சமாதானமாக, நேர்மையாக, நிதானமாக நடக்கும் இந்தியாவில் இப்போது பலாத்கார முறையைக் கையாள சில காலிக் கூட்டங்கள் கிளம்பி இருக்கின்றன. இதை இப்போதே கிள்ளி எறிய வேண்டும். இதை நான் நேரில் சில இடங்களில் பார்த்தேன். மக்களின் வோட்டுரிமையைப் பறிக்கும் இம் மாதிரியான ரௌடிகளை தேர்தலுக்குமுன் பிடித்து காவலில் வைக்க வேண்டும். நான் அவர்களுடைய வோட்டுரிமையைப் பறிக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லவில்லை. சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகள் தேர்தலின்போது வேலை செய்வதால் அவர்கள் வோட்டு அளிக்க "போஸ்டல் பால்டு" உரிமை கொடுப்பதுபோல், ஏன் அம்மாதிரி அவர்களுக்கும் உரிய அளிக்கக்கூடாது என்று நான் கேட்கிறேன். அந்த ரௌடிகளை தோதலுக்கு முன்பு தகுந்த பாதுகாப்பில் வைத்து, மக்களை அவர்கள் தமக்காமல் பார்த்துக்கொள்வதோடு வேண்டுமானால் அந்த ரௌடிகள் "போஸ்டல் பால்டு" மூலம் ஓட்டளிக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யலாம். இம்மாதிரி சீக்கிரம் சட்டம் செய்யவேண்டும்.

கடைசியாக ஒரு விஷயத்தைக் குறிப்பிட விரும்புகிறேன். எவ்வளவோ கஷ்டப்பட்டு பெற்றோர்கள் தங்கள் பிள்ளைகளைப் படிக்கவைக்கிறார்கள். தேர்தல் பள்ளி மாணவர்களின், கல்லூரி மாணவர்களின் கவனத்தைக் கவருகிறது. இதை சமீபத்தில் நடந்த தேர்தலில் பார்த்தோம். எவ்வளவோ கஷ்டப்பட்டு, சொத்துக்களை வற்று, பிள்ளைகளைப் படிக்க வைக்கும் பெற்றோர்கள் தங்கள் பிள்ளைகள் படிக்காது அரசியலில் ஈடுபட்டுக் கொண்டுவதைப் பார்த்து மனம் வருந்துகின்றனர். தேர்தலில் ஈடுபடுவது தான் மாணவர்களின் முதல் வேலையாக இருக்கிறது. நாட்டின் கலாசாரம், நாட்டின் முன்னேற்றம், இவை யாவும் வருங்காலத்தில் வளர்ச்சி அடையவேண்டுமானால், நாம் பள்ளி மாணவர்களும், கல்லூரி மாணவர்களும், அவர்கள் படித்து முடிக்கும் வரையில் தேர்தலில் ஈடுபடக் கூடாது என்று ஒரு சட்டம் இயற்றவேண்டும். சென்ற சட்டசபையிலே இதை நான் எடுத்துச் சொன்னேன். ஆனால் நான் சொன்னது கவனிக்கப்படவில்லை. பள்ளி மாணவர்களையும், கல்லூரி மாணவர்களையும் னிக்கப்படவில்லை. பள்ளி மாணவர்களையும், கல்லூரி மாணவர்களையும் இப்படி நாம் சட்டமியற்றிக் காப்பாற்றாவிட்டால் வருங்காலம் வேறுவிதமாக மாறிவிடலாம். படிப்பு வராத காரணத்தினாலோ, அல்லது அரசியல் புத்தகங்களை அலசி அலசிப் பார்த்ததினாலோ, கல்லூரி மாணவர்கள் படிப்புத் தேவையில்லை, பொது மேடையில் ஏறிப் பேசத் தெரிந்தால் போதுமென்று நினைத்து, கல்லூரிகளை விட்டு வெளியே வருகிறார்கள். இதனால் பல குடும்பங்களுக்கும் பெற்றோர்களுக்கும் கஷ்டம் ஏற்படுகிறது. அரசியலில் சேரவேண்டாமென்று சொல்லவில்லை. ஆனால் அரசியலைப்பற்றி எப்போது தெரிந்துகொள்ள வேண்டுமோ அப்போது தான் தெரிந்துகொள்ள வேண்டும். அரசியலில் எப்போது ஈடுபட வேண்டுமோ அப்போதுதான் ஈடுபட வேண்டும். இதை உணர்ந்து ஆளும் சர்க்கார் கண்டிப்பான ஒரு சட்டம் இயற்றி அரசியலில் மாணவர்கள் ஈடுபடமுடியாதபடி செய்ய வேண்டும். இத்தகைய வழிவகை செய்ய வேண்டியது அரசியலாரின் கடமை. அரசியலில் ஈடுபடும் மாணவர்களின் வாழ்க்கை தானே கெட்டுப்போகிறது, நமக்கென்ன என்று நாம் இருக்கக்கூடாது. அப்படி இருந்தால் நாம் தான் குற்றவாளிகள் ஆவோம். பொதுமக்கள் நம்மைத்தான் குற்றவாளிகளாகக் கூறுவார்கள். ஆகவே இதற்கான சட்டத்தை அவசியம் இயற்றவேண்டும். இதுசம்பந்தமாக ஆசிரியர்களைப் பற்றியும் குறிப்பிட விரும்புகிறேன். ஆசிரியர்களைப்பற்றிக் குறைவாகக் கூறுகிறேன் என்று நினைக்கவேண்டாம். அரசியலில் மாணவர்கள் ஈடுபடுவதற்கு ஆசிரியர்கள் தான் முதற் காரணமாக இருக்கிறார்கள். பெரும்பான்மையான ஆசிரியர்கள் அரசாங்கத்தினிடமிருந்து பொதுமக்கள் புறத்ததைச் சம்பளமாகப் பெறுபவர்கள். ஆகவே அவர்கள் மற்ற அரசாங்க உத்யோகஸ்தர்களைப்போல அரசியல் விஷயங்களில் பொதுப் படையாகச் செயலாற்றவேண்டும். சம்பளம் குறைவாக இருந்தால் அரசாங்க உத்யோகஸ்தர்களைப் போல அரசாங்கத்திடம் முறையிட்டுக்கொண்டு

[Sri M. Ethirajalu]

[3rd May 1957]

கேட்டு வாங்கிக்கொள்ளலாம். அதற்கு மாறாக அரசாங்கத்திடம் பொது மக்கள் பணத்தைச் சம்பளமாகப் பெற்றுக்கொண்டு அரசியலில் தீவிரமாக ஆசிரியர்கள் ஈடுபடுவதை நாம் பார்த்துக்கொண்டு இருக்கமுடியாது. எந்தக் கட்சி ஆட்சி நடத்தினாலும் சரி, காங்கிரஸ் கட்சியாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, வேறு எந்தக் கட்சியாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, ஆசிரியர்கள் சாக்காருக்குப் பணிந்து பொதுவாகச் "செயலாற்றவேண்டும். ஆசிரியர்களை அரசியலில் ஈடுபடாமல் செய்வதற்கு சட்டம் இயற்றப்படவேண்டும்.

கடைசியாக இந்தச் சபையின் சர்க்கார் கட்சித் தலைவர் தொழிலாளர்களின் தலைவராக இருந்திருக்கிறார். இப்போது தொழில் மந்திரியாகவும் இருக்கிறார். சிறுபான்மைத் தொழிலாளர்களின் குறைகள் கவனிக்கப்பட வேண்டுமென்று மறுபடியும் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். பெரும்பான்மைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் தங்கள் சங்கங்களின் மூலம் குறைகளை சர்க்காரிடம் முறையிட்டுத் தீர்த்துக்கொள்கிறார்கள். சிறுபான்மைத் தொழிலாளர்களால் அது முடிவதில்லை. தொழிலாளர் மந்திரி அவர்களையும் வரவுழைத்து அவர்கள் குறைகளைக் கேட்டு உடனடியாகத் தீர்த்து வைக்கத் தயங்கமாட்டார் என்று நம்புகிறேன். எனக்கு இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தை அளித்த சபைத் தலைவர் அவர்களுக்கு நன்றி செலுத்திவிட்டுக் கவர்னர், அவர்களுக்கு என் நன்றியைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். "ஜெய் ஹிந்த்".

5 p.m. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I want to make a small announcement. Those hon. Members who want to speak on the Governor's Address may kindly give their names so that necessary adjustments may be made and all of them may possibly have a chance to speak on the occasion. I do not want to disappoint anyone of them.

The House will now adjourn and meet again at 3 p.m. to-morrow.

The House then adjourned.

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

38. Notification issued with G.O. No. 232, Revenue, dated the 18th January 1957, regarding amendments to certain rules of the Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection Rules, 1955. [Laid on the table under section 7 (2) of the Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection Act, 1955.]

39. Notification issued with G.O. No. 1930, Local Administration, dated 24th December 1956, amending rule 15 of the rules issued under the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950, regarding the proceedings of the Panchayats and Committees of Panchayats.

40. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 317, Home, dated the 5th February 1957, regarding deletion of rule 33 of the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Rules, 1952, regarding the cases of voluntary inmates continued to be governed by executive orders. [Laid on the table under section 16 of the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1952.]

* Laid on the table of the House on 1st May 1957.

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41. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 311, Home, dated the 5th February 1957, amending rule 303 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, regarding elimination of dazzle lights used in transport vehicles. [Laid on the table under section 133 (3) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 (Central Act IV of 1939).]

42. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 325, Home, dated the 6th February 1957, amending rule 237-A of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, regarding the minimum educational qualification of Conductors of stage carriages. [Laid on the table under sub-section (3) of section 133 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 (Central Act IV of 1939).]

43. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 326, Home, dated the 6th February 1957, amending rules 74 and 76 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, regarding assignment of fresh registration on removal to another State. [Laid on the table under section 133 (3) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 (Central Act IV of 1939).]

44. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 471, Home, dated the 21st February 1957, amending rule 427 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, providing for precaution to be taken for the avoidance of collusion with trains and unmanned railway crossings. [Laid on the table under section 133 (3) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 (Central Act IV of 1939).]

45. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 493, Home, dated the 23rd February 1957, amending rule 328 (b) of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, empowering the State Transport Authority to exempt Transport Vehicles for overall width. [Laid on the table under section 133 (3) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 (Central Act IV of 1939).]

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APPENDIX.

[Vide item II on page 13 supra.]

Address by Shri A. J. John, Governor of Madras, to the Members of the Madras Legislative Assembly and Council assembled together at the Assembly Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, the 1st May 1957.

Hon'ble Members of the Legislature.

The present session of this Legislature marks a new chapter in the history of Madras State and I deem it a great honour and privilege, to be associated with you in its inauguration. Before I proceed with the address, please permit me, on your behalf and on behalf of the people of this State, to place on record our grateful appreciation of the exemplary way in which my predecessor-in-office Shri Sri Prakasa, had discharged the functions of the head of this State for the past about 5 years. The void created by his departure in the political, social and cultural life of the State is difficult to fill and I shall need all your sympathy, co-operation and prayers to attempt to do justice to the high office he had occupied with rare distinction.

2. It is a matter for genuine satisfaction that the recent general elections went off without any untoward incident in a calm and impartial atmosphere. The credit for this goes to the general public who exercised their franchise in an orderly manner, to the different political parties who extended their willing co-operation and to the administrative machinery which discharged its onerous duties with quiet efficiency.

3. The Madras State has been further reduced in size since the last address, but we are happy that the long-cherished hopes of our friends from Malabar, South Kanara and Kollegal have been fulfilled and that the parting has been smooth and easy. We welcome to our midst the people of the Kanyakumari area and assure them our wholehearted co-operation in the realization of their genuine hopes and aspirations.

4. The linguistic homogeneity which we have now acquired has enabled us to pass legislation adopting Tamil as the language for official purposes. A Committee has been constituted to advise on the steps to implement that legislation and it is the intention of the Government to pursue the matter with all possible expedition.

5. Seasonal conditions were generally fair last year and we have had a good harvest except in certain parts of the Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari districts. Relief measures such as the suspension of kist and loan instalments and the starting of low-scale famine works have been organized in the affected areas. The summer showers expected at this part of the year are holding out and this is impeding agricultural operations in many parts. Let us hope and pray that seasonal rains will set in soon and we will

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be blessed with another good agricultural year. The food position is on the whole satisfactory even though prices did not decline after the harvest, to the extent anticipated. The Government of India have assured us adequate supplies of rice to revive fair price shops whenever necessary and there is no cause for anxiety on the food-front.

6. Law and Order is being maintained adequately and the heartening decline in the incidence of grave crimes continues. The recent land legislations ensuring fixity of tenure and fair rents to the tiller have improved the agrarian situation appreciably. It will, however, take time before these new and beneficial measures are adequately understood by the people in the countryside and accepted as part of the ordinary law of the land. In the meanwhile, the Bhoodan movement initiated by Acharya Vinobhaji is preparing the ground for the next step in land legislation, namely, the fixation of ceiling on land holdings. More than 250 villages have been voluntarily offered as Gramdhan in our State. The Government have appointed a Committee to investigate conditions in these villages and to make recommendations on the final settlement of the lands released for distribution.

7. Implementation of the Second Five-Year Plan continues to be the major pre-occupation of the Government. The actual expenditure on the Plan during the last financial year would amount to about Rs. 30 crores and we hope to improve on that performance during the current year. The Planning Commission has advised a ceiling of about Rs. 32 crores for the outlay during the current year and the necessary provisions will be made in the Budget for 1957-58 which will soon come up for your consideration.

8. It is the intention of the Government to extend the Community Development and National Extension Services programme to the whole State as quickly as possible. This programme is now in operation in 110 blocks covering a population of 100 lakhs out of the total rural population of 257 lakhs and it is proposed to take up 23 more new blocks by next October.

9. The various schemes included in the Plan for the more intensive cultivation of the available land, such as the opening of new seed farms for the multiplication of improved strains of seed, the distribution of chemical fertilizers on credit, the supply of insecticides to eradicate pests, etc., are all making steady progress. The Key Village and other Schemes for the improvement of our cattle wealth are being extended to many new centres and about 2,000 pedigree bulls will be distributed annually on subsidised terms. We have also made a start in developing our forest wealth through a well laid-out programme of soil conservation and regeneration in our extensive, but neglected janchayat forests. Measures are also being taken to step-up rural credit and marketing facilities through the co-operative agency. An Expert Committee is now looking into the question of regulated markets for agricultural products and its recommendations will receive the careful consideration of the Government.

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10. Our Major Irrigation and Power projects, which absorb the bulk of the allotment in the State Plan, are all making encouraging progress. We have set up a creditable record in rural electrification last year by supplying power to about 1,250 villages and this has enabled about 12,500 new agricultural pump-sets to draw cheap power from the Grid towards growing more food. In keeping with the policy laid down by the Central Legislature on the subject, Government propose to constitute an Electricity Board which will take over the management of all our electricity enterprises. The day-to-day administration of the Electricity Department, which is being run on commercial lines, will in future be the responsibility of the Board, subject, of course, to the over-all supervision and control of the Government.

11. On the side of industries we may note with considerable satisfaction that the Neiveli Lignite Project of South Arcot, estimated to cost about Rs. 60 crores during the Plan period, will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister this month. The first stage of this Project is expected to be completed by 1960 and large blocks of thermal power will be available thereafter to strengthen our hydro-electric grid and to promote new industries. Work on the new industrial estates at Guindy, Virudhunagar and Erode is making rapid progress and about 30 factory units for small-scale industries will be available presently. The miscellaneous small industrial units initiated by the Government for the manufacture of articles like foot-wear, matches, locks, electrical goods, scientific instruments, furniture, etc., are coming into production. The main purpose of these units is to train personnel in these crafts so that the increasing requirements of private enterprise may be met locally. The Industries Department has also initiated several schemes for the development of handicrafts and local village industries. The machinery for State aid to industry is being strengthened so that cheap credit may be made available to village artisans. It is the intention of the Government to pursue these and other measures with vigour so as to foster an industrial climate in the countryside in quick time. The needs of the handloom industry continue to receive the close attention of the Government and the sums released from the Cess Fund for the stabilization of this vital cottage industry are being made full use of.

12. In the field of education, the programme of opening new schools wherever possible and strengthening existing schools is being continued. The report of the Committee of the Legislature on Education has been received and the recommendations are now under the active consideration of the Government.

13. The welfare of Harijans and other Backward Classes continues to receive the close attention of the Government and the tempo of the various ameliorative measures will be accelerated. A start will also be made presently on a programme of slum clearance for which a provision of about Rs. 1½ crores has been made in the Plan.

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14. The legislative measures that will come up for your immediate consideration are—

(a) A Bill to amend the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939, the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939, and the Madras Entertainment Tax Act, 1939. The amendments became unavoidable consequent on the introduction of the decimal coinage and the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956. The Bill will replace the Madras Ordinance I of 1957 already promulgated;

(b) A Bill to amend the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act, 1951, to correct certain defects in that legislation pointed out by the High Court;

(c) A Bill to amend the Madras Prohibition Act, 1937, to facilitate better enforcement; and

(d) A Bill to amend the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Act, 1953, to release from the scope of the Act certain villages which are not immediately needed for the Lignite Project.

15. This is essentially a Budget Session to consider the Demands for Grants for the current financial year. The Finance Minister in his Budget Speech will deal with the policies and programmes of the new Ministry. I have no doubt you will conduct the deliberations with the usual grasp, decorum and responsibility for which this Legislature is justly renowned. May Providence inspire you with faith and confidence and you have my best wishes for a successful session.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, 4th May 1957.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, the Deputy Chairman (SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAJ) in the Chair.

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

DISCUSSION ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.(—cont).

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The discussion on the Governor's Address will continue. The hon. Member Sri T. Purushotham will now speak.

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Mr. Deputy Chairman, in supporting the motion moved by the hon. lady Member, I wish to congratulate the new Ministry that has come to office after the General Elections. Of course, it is the old Ministry technically. But with the addition of new Ministers, we should call this the new Ministry. But all the same . . .

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: It is half new and half old.

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: That ought to be the pattern of any Ministry. We cannot have all new or all old. It is admitted on all hands that this is an ideal Ministry that has been constituted in our State. (Sri V. Chakkarai Chetty: Is it ideal?) I do say it is an ideal Ministry with representation for all concerned. After all is said and done, it is the old Ministry with a continuity of policy in the various spheres of public administration. So much so, I feel our State may rest content that we would have a peaceful and progressive Government in the next five years. As I mentioned about the pattern of the Ministry, I should like to refer to one point, namely, that in the Central Government the Finance Minister has been relieved of all general portfolios. The Finance Minister is merely the Finance Minister without any administrative departments in his portfolio. I think this is based on a sound financial policy. Even during the days of dyarchy in our State before the reforms, the Finance Minister never used to have any spending departments under his control. In fact, hon. Members would remember that I raised this question some time back in this House. When this policy has been accepted in the Centre, it should be followed in the States also. This would be in the fitness of things as a canon of right financial arrangement. (Interruption by Sri V.V. Ramaswami.) I am not concerned with any personality. It is an academic question of general policy and does not have any personal reference to the Minister at the Centre or the Minister here.

I am glad that the Hon. the Chief Minister has come forward with a new policy to cut the red tape at the village level, hear the representations of the villagers, and have them dealt with then and there. This is a very great step in the right direction. The villagers were feeling that their case was never heard, that all the

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petitions submitted by them were filtered through administrative hierarchy, and that by the time their petitions reached the top to receive any consideration at the hands of the State authorities, the very grievance for the redress of which those petitions were sent, had either redressed itself or had its worst effect. In this connexion, I may say that it is my honest belief that there should be an Honorary Director of Village Welfare for each district to co-ordinate the activities of the several welfare departments at the village level. We have now a District Welfare Officer who devotes his attention solely to Harijan welfare work. What I propose is that we should have an administrative officer—better an honorary officer with conveyance facility at his disposal for going about the village—an officer who would tour all the villages, get the representations of the several villagers, and submit them then and there (not through the usual routine of the administrative machinery) but to the right person concerned for immediate redress and relief.

My hon. Friend Sri Ethirajalu referred yesterday to several difficulties experienced in the recent General Elections. It has rightly been pointed out by the Governor that the recent General Elections went off without any untoward incident and that the whole thing was conducted in a calm and impartial atmosphere. This is the verdict of everyone who has had any experience of the recent elections. But I should like to bring to the notice of the House and the Government the various irregularities that the common people were subjected to at the time of the recent elections. Several voters—genuine voters—entered the polling stations only to find their names not to be in the electoral roll. They had to return without exercising their franchise. That shows how badly the electoral rolls had been prepared. The names of several dead voters found place in the electoral roll. Some of the dead voters were noted to have voted too, by proxy! To remove all these irregularities, I feel that the State Government should take effective steps to see that proper electoral rolls are prepared. The General Elections are over but we should not sit quiet for the next five years without doing something to rectify these irregularities. We should see that the irregularities that have come to light during the recent elections are rectified as early as possible for the good of the common man.

As regards the polling stations, Sir, . . .

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: To a very great extent, political parties may also help in removing the irregularities.

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Surely. Now, I am addressing the Government and the hon. Members of this House. In another place I have appealed to the various political parties to educate the public and to see that these irregularities are rectified.

As regards the polling stations, Sir, hon. Members who have had anything to do with the recent General Elections will agree with me that in several cases the villages which were nearest to a polling station were tacked on to a distant polling station. This irregularity requires to be rectified.

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I need not refer to the general charge of bribery and indulgence in corrupt practices. I am sure the Government would have taken note of this charge and would make their representations to the Election Commission and see how far the election rules could be revised and improved so that these drawbacks may be eliminated.

One other matter with reference to elections I wish to say, namely, in double-member constituencies, the ballot paper for the General seat and the ballot paper for the Reserved seat, were put into the same box, by the voters. It may be partly due to the ignorance of the voter. But it is most unfortunate that both the votes should be put into the same box in favour of a particular candidate thus causing peculiar election results. The depositing of both the votes in one and the same box should set us thinking about the ways of overcoming this peculiar difficulty. I think it should be possible to have one booth for the General seat candidate and another for the Reserved seat candidate. But I do not know whether this would be workable, because this would result in complications in putting up more polling booths in the case of double-member constituencies. Anyway, we wanted to bring this to the notice of the Government so that they might examine all these things, investigate into the matter fully and make their due recommendations to the Election Commission with a view to see that at the next General Elections, all these bad features might not be there.

3-10
p.m.

Sir, the Governor has referred to the forging of a linguistic homogeneity as far as our State is concerned. In this connexion, hon. Members, I know, are agitated that the arbitration proposal by a high official of the Central Government deputed to settle the dispute between the Madras and Andhra States has not yet been settled one way or the other. I found in the newspapers this morning that this question had been raised in the other House yesterday and that the Government had given an assurance that everything possible would be done to settle this question as early as possible. Along with that report, I found that a further agitation was being started for bringing some Tamil areas in Nellore and Cuddapah districts into the Tamil State. The more you allow this matter to linger on, fresh proposals would be coming up to complicate the issue. I hope the Government will see to it that very early steps are taken to settle this old question that has been pending since the formation of the Andhra State.

One other matter also I found in the newspapers, viz., the discussion that has taken place in the other House about having only one trade union for one industry.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, on a point of order. Is it proper on the part of the hon. Member to refer to the proceedings of the other House?

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: We can certainly refer to it but we cannot criticise it. I am only referring to the proceedings of the other House as have appeared in the Press. I am not casting any aspersion on the other House. I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to the Rules before he raises his objection.

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DR. A. SREENIVASAN : I have got a copy of it.

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : What I am anxious to say is that labour legislation should be brought in to see that there is only one union for each industry. We have got fortunately a labour leader as the Labour Minister. I should like to take this opportunity of congratulating Mr. Venkataraman on his appointment as Labour Minister of the State and I am sure he would see to it that this piece of legislation that I referred to is brought in as early as possible. Even if there is trouble about introducing such a legislation with respect to all factories and industrial concerns, I hope it should be possible to bring in a legislation with respect to the State-owned concerns and industries. There are, I know, certain Government institutions in which there are more than one trade union and they have been recognized by the Government also, with the result that there has been a clash and rivalry between these trade unions to the annoyance of the departmental authorities as well as to the detriment of the labourers concerned. Labourers belonging to two trade unions find that their sufferings have not been relieved in any way. Therefore, it should be possible to introduce the scheme at least as a token move in the State-owned institutions or at least to ensure that a merger of the unions takes place. The Hon. Mr. Venkataraman knows all these unions personally and I would appeal to him to use his personal influence and see that there is only one union recognized for the good of the labourers at least in the Government institutions and factories and thus set an example to others to follow.

Coming to the field of education, mention has been made in the Governor's Address that the recommendations of the Committee of the Legislature on educational reforms are under the active consideration of the Government. We have been assured that the new syllabus will be introduced immediately and the new scheme given effect to from the coming academic year. I do not know how far progress has been made in that direction, whether the Syllabus Committee has been constituted and how far the Syllabus Committee has gone into the question. Instead of this cryptic paragraph about education, fuller details would have been welcome and I hope the Hon. the Leader of the House will enlighten the House on the stage in which this matter stands and whether we are going to have the revised scheme of education with effect from the academic year 1957-58 as promised by the Education Minister in the Committee.

I am one with my hon. Friend Mr. Sivasubramanya Nadar about the water-supply position in Tirunelveli. I have toured that area recently and also visited the Kanyakumari district and I found the water-supply position really bad. I hope the Government would see to it that not only in the Tirunelveli district but also in the new areas that have been added to this State, I mean, the Kanyakumari district, every attention is paid to see that the water-supply position is eased as quickly as possible.

Sir, the case of the village officers has not received the due attention of the Government. A Cabinet Sub-Committee was constituted to decide the question of the position of the village officers,

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whether they were to be treated as full-time officers or part-time officers and what financial relief could be given to them. As pointed out some time back in this House, the pay of the village officer is Rs. 17 or Rs. 50 and nobody could think of continuing them on this meagre scale of pay. Something ought to be done for them and I know that they are a loyal set of public servants doing very heavy work at the village level. Therefore, I would appeal to the Government to see that justice is done to them as early as possible.

Speaking of the legislative measures that will come up in this session, there is a very regrettable omission, viz., the future of our local boards. A White Paper on Local Administration relating to Local Boards, Municipalities and Panchayat Boards, was issued by the Ministry then in charge of Local Administration. A Committee was proposed to be appointed but no Committee was set up to tackle the question. The district board elections are due this year and we do not know what the Government are going to do about it, whether the elections would come off or would be postponed. As regards panchayat boards, elections were held, I believe, nine years ago and we are having extension of the life of these boards year after year, the panchayat boards continuing without elections for such a long period. What do these panchayats represent without regular elections, I do not know. The Government ought to pay serious attention to this matter and also tell us whether the district board elections and panchayat elections will come about in time or whether there will be a further postponement, at what stage the local administration reforms stand and when the Bill to amend the present law concerning district boards, municipalities and panchayats will come up before the Legislature for consideration.

The Governor has said that a Bill to amend the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act will be introduced to correct certain defects in that legislation pointed out by the High Court. That has already been done in this House. I refer to the piece of legislation introduced by the Government to rectify the defect pointed out by the High Court. In that connexion, the Hon. Minister then in charge of the portfolio assured us that a comprehensive legislation to overhaul the administration of the Hindu Religious and Charitable institutions will be introduced. Why should the Government again think of a piecemeal legislation to rectify a few defects here and there? I do not know the reason. I hope the present Minister in charge of this portfolio who knows the subject thoroughly well and who knows all about temples and temple administration will take up this question in right earnest and introduce a comprehensive legislation to set right the administration of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments, with special provisions for the preservation of temple art and architecture.

I regret to have to mention that the Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam is not able to attend to-day. I am sure the hon. Members would be sorry to hear that he had a slight accident this morning; he is now all right. Our good wishes are with him. He had a slight injury. I hope he will be able to come here on Monday. Our good wishes are with him for very early recovery.

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I must congratulate the Hon. Chairman and also the Secretary to the Legislative Council on their having arranged this beautiful, compact Legislative Council Chamber. Those who have seen the previous Council Chamber without proper enclosures would know how bad it was previously. I contacted the Hon. Chairman and brought to his notice that there must be proper enclosures and lobby arrangements if we were to move into this hall. He has made the Chamber so nice. We find everything is red ehre. We may even call this the Red Chamber and the other House the Green Chamber where everything is green. Our Chamber is really a Red Chamber with red screens, red seats, red paper weights and everything red about it. That is why I said that we might call this the Red Chamber. (An hon. Member: It is the Communist colour!) Now, the Legislative Assembly has been shifted from Government Estate, Mount Road, to Fort St. George. So Members of both Houses will have opportunities of coming together. I welcome this move. As a matter of fact, the Legislative Assembly was within Fort St. George before. There is no political move in the shifting of the Legislative Assembly to Fort St. George. That is quite apparent. I welcome this move as it gives opportunities to members of both the Houses to meet quite often and to come together. It affords opportunities for mutual contact. In this connection, I should mention that all the Legislature Offices now in the Government Estate, Mount Road, should be shifted to Fort St. George. Previously, when the Legislative Assembly was also here, the entire ground floor in the old Secretariat buildings was occupied by the Legislature Offices. I do not see any reason why they should not occupy all the rooms in the ground floor now also. They should do this and shift the offices from Mount Road to Fort St. George at an early date. It would not be proper to have the offices there and the Legislature meetings here. More than all these, the Library should be shifted to Fort St. George. I have already referred to this matter. We had the Library here before. The veteran Member of this House Dr. Mohamed Usman would be able to tell us about the Library that was housed in the southern portion of the Council Chamber. I hope that early arrangements would be made to bring the Library here so that during the interval and at other times the members may go there and consult books of reference. It is not proper that the Library should be so far away from us. I trust that proper arrangements will be made for a canteen also. Even for 50 Members of the Council, the present canteen is very small. It will be inadequate, now that the Assembly Members have also to be catered. Proper arrangements must be made in this regard. (The Hon. Sri R. Venkataraman: You can make it a cafeteria!) I think the Hon. the Leader of the House, a parliamentarian, has been in the House Committee at Delhi and knows the need for this. Speaking of these amenities, he has mentioned that a Member of Parliament at Delhi is much better off than even a Minister of the State Government. Anybody who had been in Delhi would certainly agree that it is so. I had been there last year to attend a committee meeting and what a beautiful Chamber it was in which we met. This is nothing when compared

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to it. Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar knows this fully and he has also mentioned about it. I hope that early arrangements will be made to have better canteen facilities and other amenities within this campus for the benefit of legislators.

In this connection, I should say that the Council Office should be properly arranged. Now, the Chairman's room is on one side, the Secretary's room is somewhere else. The offices and the officers' rooms are in different places. The whole southern wing should be given to the Assembly and the northern wing should be reserved for the Council Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Officers and Offices. I have made a reference to these matters to the Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam, Minister in charge of Legislature, and I have said that I will be putting these suggestions on paper and send them on to him. I hope extracts of my speech will be sent to him for necessary action.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: What about Party Rooms?

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Yes, there should be Party rooms also. Hon. Members would have noticed how the Legislative Assembly Members have decided on what the precincts of the Assembly should be. Now that they have shifted to Fort St. George, they may have to revise that decision. We should also decide what the precincts of the Legislative Council should be. I hope this aspect will have to be taken up by the Hon. Chairman and the Leader of the House, and perhaps the Committee of Privileges will have to go into the question and decide. Now that the other House has also come here, we must decide what the precincts of the Council ought to be. I hope action in that direction will be taken.

The Assembly has been shifted here. Now we have to consider what will happen to the old Assembly Chamber at Government Estate, Mount Road. I have told the Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam and the Hon. the Minister for Works that with suitable alterations it could be made a National Theatre and a Public Hall, to be used for public meetings and public performances. It is situated in a central place and it will be very suitable for conducting public meetings, musical entertainments, dramas, and the like. There is no such hall in that locality at present. I hope the Government will seriously consider this matter and see to it that the hall is converted into a National Theatre and Public Hall as early as possible. Of course, rent will be charged for the use of the hall. (The Hon. Sri P. Kakkan was just entering the House.) The Hon. the Minister for Works is coming into the Chamber just at the right time and I request him to take early action in the matter and convert the old Assembly Chamber at Government Estate into a National Theatre as suggested by me.

In conclusion, I wish to convey our good wishes to Dr. U. Krishna Rau, who was for some time our popular Industries Minister, on

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his election as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. I am sure the Members of this House will join me in wishing him a happy career as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

3-30 P.M. SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I feel it my pleasant duty—as a Member of the Opposition also—to welcome the new Government which has been installed in office on account of its success in the General Elections by a large majority. I also find that eight Ministers have been chosen. As a person who is always past-minded, I am reminded of Rama Rajya when there were eight Ministers. It is quite appropriate that in the 'Kama Rajya' also we have eight Ministers. It is also appropriate that a lady Member coming from the Kanyakumari district is included in the Cabinet and I welcome it. It being a 'Kanya Kumari' district, it is certainly fitting that that district should furnish us with a 'Kumari' or a lady Member for the Ministry. I always find a poetic instinct in the rough exterior of our Chief Minister. Especially, I welcome my old friend, Sri R. Venkataraman as Minister and as Leader of this House. As an elderly person, I may be permitted to say that I have watched his career with interest from almost the early period of his life. I knew him when he joined the Bar. I knew him then as a very talented young lawyer. I also knew that Justice Gentle complimented him at the successful conduct of a case, on his great ability and advocacy. (Sri Mohamed Raza Khan: He has always a smile!) I do not know whether he will always smile as Leader of the House. Therefore, I feel a particular pleasure that he has become the Leader of this House of which I happen to be a Member.

Sir, having made these preliminary remarks, I come to the Governor's Address. There, I find in the fourth paragraph mention being made of 'linguistic homogeneity'. In that connection, I am reminded of the things which we have still to achieve to bring about linguistic homogeneity in our border areas. There people are much agitated about it. In six taluks in the Chittoor district, a good deal of agitation is going on and our friend Sri M. P. Sivagnana Gramani is the foremost among those agitators as leader of the Tamil Valarchi Kazhagam. All of us sympathize with that agitation. Though they are the people actively engaged in that agitation, all of us are in sympathy with that movement. Still that question is hanging fire with the Andhra State. It is rather surprising that no reference has been made to this great agitation going on in our State and to the steps taken by the Government for solving this particular dispute. I say—I said it before also—that the Andhra State is not yet free from intransigence and that, therefore, they are still keeping alive this question. Though they have achieved Visala Andhra, this dispute has not yet been settled. I feel that they could deal with these things with a little more sympathy. But it is not to be. Therefore it is that I appeal to our Government to see that vigorous steps are taken for the purpose of seeing that the arbitration which has been promised comes

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through. Unfortunately, the arbitrator has been defeated in the Elections and I do not know whether he will be sent or any other person will be sent. To me, it appears that it is a very fit subject for the Zonal Council to deal with. That is what I for one think. What the views of the State Governments are or what the views of the Government of India are on this question I do not know. But the Zonal Council, if it is worth its name, ought to settle this matter to the great satisfaction of both sides. The sooner it is done, the better it will be for all.

Sir, there is also another matter which is hanging fire and that is the allocation of the assets and liabilities among the three States. In the Budget Memorandum—I would refer to paragraph 25 of the Memorandum that was given in February 1957—it was stated that the allocation of the assets and liabilities of the composite State of Madras between the Governments of Madras, Andhra and Mysore in accordance with the provisions of the Andhra State Act of 1953 had not yet been completed and that that matter would take some more time. This was stated in February 1957 and now we are in May 1957. Let us see what progress has been made in this particular matter. The Andhra State Act came into force in 1953 and it is now more than three years since then. I think it is high time that this distribution was effected satisfactorily and completely. Even the securities that are held by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department to the value of Rs. 26 lakhs have not yet been distributed among the three States. Therefore, we could not utilize that amount for the benefit of our temples. That is the position in which we are now. Therefore, I would appeal to the Government to see that this allocation of the assets and liabilities of the composite State of Madras among the Governments of Madras, Andhra and Mysore in accordance with the provisions of the Andhra State Act of 1953 is completed in as short a time as possible. In dividing the debts of the composite State of Madras, the provisional distribution was made in the population ratio. I hope and trust that the population ratio in respect of the Andhra State as it stood in 1953 would still be taken into consideration and not the population of the present Andhra Pradesh. Of course, the Government know that very well. Otherwise, I am afraid their share in the allocation would be much more . . .

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: That relates to the population of the Andhra State as in 1953 only.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: I know. But as a measure of caution I said that.

Then, Sir, mention was made about the famine conditions in Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari districts. Also the difficulties experienced in those parts on account of the Cultivating Tenants' Protection Act and the Fair Rent Act were mentioned by the hon. Member Sri Sivasubramanya Nadar. I would add my voice to what he said about them. The mere suspension of kist or collection of loans advanced will not be sufficient at all for the purpose of relieving the distress in these particular localities.

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Then, Sir, in paragraph 6 of the Governor's Address, there is a sentence which says, 'The recent land legislations ensuring fixity of tenure and fair rent to the tiller have improved the agrarian situation appreciably.' Again, it is stated, 'It will, however, take time before these new and beneficent measures are adequately understood by the people in the countryside and accepted as part of the ordinary law of the land.' I would demur, Sir, and very strongly object to the first part of this statement. The recent land legislations might have given fixity of tenure. But, the smooth working and peace in the agricultural sector have been affected considerably by these recent land legislations. We read everyday in the newspapers reports of forcible carrying away of harvested paddy and the landlords—I will not use the term 'landlord'; I will say the 'landowners'—in the various parts have not been able to get their 40 per cent share which was guaranteed under the Fair Rent Act. That all of us know. As a matter of fact, in many cases, they—I mean the small landowners—have not yet been able to get their share and in that way they have been affected terribly. Sir, a memorandum has recently been submitted by the women pattadars of Shermadevi. I have here a copy of that memorandum. It has been submitted by them to the Hon. the Chief Minister. Most of the women pattadars there have got only less than half an acre for their maintenance and sustenance. On account of the recent land legislations, they are unable to get even Rs. 350 per annum. Even in the olden days, that amount was insufficient for them. That being so, they do not, in the first place, get even that amount nowadays. But, still, they have to pay Rs. 30 per acre as kist. So, we can realize the difficulties of these people. I would appeal to the women Members of the Assembly and the Government to see that the conditions of the women pattadars at least are eased to a great extent. I would inform the Government that there have been cases coming to Courts, even to the High Court, on the issue of the definition of the term 'cultivating tenant'. It has not been properly defined. The conditions in the State have not entirely been taken into consideration. It is not possible in a State where the system of land tenure varies from village to village—let alone variations from taluk to taluk and from district to district—to appreciate fully all the difficulties of the people and to frame proper definition of 'cultivating tenant', etc. That is why the present definitions of such terms give rise to litigations. There are even cases where Police protection has not been forthcoming for the purpose of taking the harvested paddy and distributing it between the landowner and the tenant. Therefore, I won't call it a land reform legislation at all; I would rather call it a 'class' legislation. Land reform, in the true sense of the term, means helping production on the land by the various constituents of the agricultural sector, namely, the landowner, the tenant and also the labourer in the field. If all these three people are enabled to work together smoothly by a just adjustment of rights among them, then I would call it a land reform. But, unfortunately, this is not the sort of land reform that is contemplated. On the other hand, it is a piece of class

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legislation which gives security of tenure, of course, to the tenant, but to a particular class of tenants and not even to the labourer in the field. The Governor hopes—it is a vain hope, according to me—that it will take time before these new and beneficent measures are adequately understood by the people in the countryside. They are very well understood by the people even now. In fact, they are much more understood than can be expected. I understand that in the recent elections promises were made that even 75 per cent share would be given to the tenants. Therefore, they said, 'You are talking only about 60 per cent. But we are entitled to get even 65 or 75 per cent'. Therefore, this hope of the Governor is really a vain hope, according to me. Five years ago, before the passing of the recent land legislations, in spite of agitation by the Communists, there was not this much of acerbity between the landowner and the tenant. But I should say one thing here. I do not belong to the Congress Party, but I am one of those who welcomed the Congress Party coming to power. In the recent elections I found that the elections were fought on a communal basis by the other parties. Therefore, I felt that it was the duty of all persons, even those who might not be Congressmen, to vote the Congress to power and to support it. That was what I honestly felt. But there is one thing I should say to the Congressmen. They should be amenable to criticism. They should have the humility to receive and understand our criticisms and adjust things accordingly. Therefore, I am once again appealing to the Government to direct the Board of Revenue to make a survey of the conditions that are obtaining at the present moment as a result of the recent land legislations. The Board of Revenue is a very responsible body consisting of very experienced Collectors who have risen to their position in the Board. Therefore, if the Board of Revenue is asked to submit a report on the conditions that are obtaining in the State at the present moment and if on receipt of that report the Government examine what further steps should be taken, it would be a much better thing than to talk about fixation of a ceiling on land now. That is a very complicated thing which has to be pondered over before embarking on a legislation. I find in the Governor's Address an emphatic statement about this. Therefore it is that I have to state that further fragmentation of holding will take place if ceiling on possession of land is introduced. There is already fragmentation of holding. Nobody has yet defined what an economic holding is. Even the Planning Commission which has published a bulky Report has not defined an economic holding. In the speeches made by the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission also I find no clear definition of an economic holding. This is because proper statistics are not yet available. I am not criticising them in this respect. I know it is very difficult to obtain those particulars. Therefore, they should realize that until there is positive information available, they should proceed rather slowly instead of carrying out their ideologies rapidly. Two or three members of the Tamil Nad Congress Sub-Committee which went into the particular matter—especially our experienced, elder

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Member Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar—have stated in their dissenting minutes that if ceiling is to be introduced, it ought to be introduced in all sectors of income. They have asked why land alone should be chosen for this purpose. So far as land is concerned, there is already fragmentation of holding. The recent Hindu Succession Act has created a large number of co-sharers of property, especially women. Son's daughters, daughters' sons and so on are getting shares. I am not against women getting shares. But if women get shares and if fragmentation of holding goes on like this, where are we to go? In our country most of the landowners are small landowners. Big landowners are very few. Most of them have got sugar factories and, therefore, they cease to be landowners. Others also may follow suit. They may own some other factories provided they are given the necessary licence. Therefore, on the whole, we will find that there is really no need for fixing a ceiling on land at all. I hope and trust that the Government will take all these factors into consideration before embarking on a legislation.

Ministers talk about mechanisation of agricultural industry and about the use of tractors. The other day the Minister for Agriculture Sri Bhaktavatsalam spoke on the occasion of the purchase of a new tractor. He said that our holdings were not sufficiently vast for the purpose of using tractors. Therefore, we must determine the extent of the holding first. Otherwise, these tractors may do more harm than good. Therefore, when we talk of mechanisation and intensive cultivation, we should be against further fragmentation of holding. Ministers, when talking about tractor cultivation, deplore the small size of the holding. But, when they talk about land reform, they forget this particular matter and they begin to talk about imposing a ceiling on land. That is why I say that all aspects of the question should be taken into account. Our chief aim is production. Our aim is that the agricultural sector must work properly and smoothly. Land revenue is our greatest asset. Therefore, we must get land revenue properly collected and we must not do any injustice to the parties concerned. That is why I appeal to the Government to see that this particular reform is proceeded with rather slowly and that justice is done to all the parties concerned so that production may not be affected and a Welfare State may be established.

Then, Sir, it is stated that it is the intention of the Government to extend the Community Development and National Extension Service programme to the whole State as quickly as possible. Now, there has been a Report presented by the Programme Evaluation Board. That is a very important document to which the Government should pay great attention. Already in our Legislative Council, the hon. Member Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar has drawn the attention of the Government to the fact that a large amount of money is wasted on account of inefficiency at the administrative level. Attention of the Government has been pointedly

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drawn in the Programme Evaluation Board's Report to the inefficiency at the administrative level. Therefore, it is the duty of the Government, before extending their field of operations, to study the Programme Evaluation Board's Report very carefully. They have stated that though there may be improvement in the matter of construction of roads, schools, playgrounds, etc., in the villages, still in the matter of co-operation, cottage industries and panchayat administration, there has been no improvement. On the other hand, there has been deterioration. This is what they observe in their Report. Why there is this deterioration in panchayat administration and co-operative work should be investigated. One of the reasons for this deterioration is that the land-owning class is slowly ceasing to exist. The members of the land-owning class were the natural leaders in the villages up till now. If these men, who were the natural leaders in the villages and who had certain resources, had been allowed to continue for some more time, then this Community Development and National Extension Service programmes would have achieved much greater progress in the fields of co-operation, cottage industries and panchayat administration. Therefore it is that I would draw the attention of the Government to this Report of the Programme Evaluation Board. The Board have also appealed for a systematic planning as regards the credit facilities to be given to the villagers. There is mention in the Governor's Address of measures being taken to step up rural credit. In the Governor's Address of the 8th August 1956, in paragraph 11, it is stated, 'A pilot scheme of integrated rural credit and warehousing is now in operation in a few areas and this scheme will be extended all over the State during the Plan period. . . . It is now proposed as an experimental measure to take up one or two extension blocks, where the scope of this scheme will be widened to cover the full credit requirements of all cultivators.' There is no specific reference to this in the Address under discussion now. I do not know why the Governor's Address has not touched a great deal more upon the way in which the Government propose to supply rural credit. Rural credit has been frozen completely. Very little of rural credit is now available, through the co-operative agency, though people may fall foul of me when I say this. I say that so far as the Co-operative Department is concerned, much work has been done very successfully. But on account of the Department's elaborate rules, it takes a longer time before loans are issued through co-operative institutions than through other agencies. This is the main difficulty of the cultivators. The cultivator wants money as quickly as possible at the particular time of cultivation. This he will repay as soon as the harvest is over. He wants only short-term credit facilities, and that too very quickly. But so far as the Co-operative Department is concerned, because of the elaborate rules of the department, there is delay in the issue of loans. Our friend from South Kanara, who was here some time before, was angry with me for saying this. He said that that was not the case everywhere, and that co-operative societies were doing their work properly. But I still find from the Report of the Committee on Co-operation, of

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which Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai was the Chairman, that much improvement can be made in the rules so that co-operative credit may be made easily available to all people who need it.

Then, Sir, I come to the question of slum clearance. It has been stated in the Address. A start will also be made presently on a programme of slum clearance for which a provision of about Rs. 1½ crores has been made in the Plan. The Corporation of Madras has already moved in the matter. A brochure in this connection has been published by the Commissioner of the Corporation. So far as Madras is concerned, they are beginning to work vigorously even in the second year of the Plan. Rs. 24 lakhs have been set apart for the purpose of slum clearance in our Madras State. Six centres have already been chosen. Hon. Members will remember that a Bill was passed some time back by both the Houses of the Legislature, and under the provisions of that legislation the Government have taken powers to acquire lands after paying so many times the rental value. What extent of land has been acquired under that Act and what the Government did with that land, we do not know. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition spoke about this in his last speech. But still no information has been given by the Government as to how they took advantage of the provisions of that particular legislation which was passed in a great hurry at that time. We do not know how much land the Government acquired. There is no mention about this in the Address. Of course, it is stated in the Address, 'The Finance Minister in his Budget Speech will deal with the policies and programmes of the new Ministry'. I do not know how far this is proper. I can understand this in the case of programmes. But so far as policies are concerned, I think the Governor's Address is a much better place for mentioning the policies than the Finance Minister's Budget Speech. I am not saying that the Finance Minister is not competent to mention the policies of the Government in his Budget Speech. He is competent to do so. But still I would say . . .

DR. V. K. JOHN : Why are you afraid?

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : I am not afraid. But if somebody makes a wrong statement to him, he would say 'I have got every power; who dares to deny me that power?' He has got the power to mention the policies. But so far as I can see, the Governor's Address is the place where general policies have to be mentioned. These may be supplemented by the Finance Minister with detailed programmes. This being the first Address in the first session after the General Elections, I feel that the Address should have mentioned the policies of the new Ministry. This is a very important matter. Under Article 176 of our Constitution, the Governor has been asked to give us the cause for the summons of the Legislative Assembly and the Council.

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : The Ministers must have some time to frame policies.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : They have been waxing eloquent about their policies at their election meetings.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : They are the general policies. But the policies of the Ministry have to be framed.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : They represent the Congress Party. They dare not go back upon the pledges given by the Party.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : That the other Parties have no policies and programmes was the charge of the Congress Party against other Parties. Now it does not lie in the mouth of the hon. Member Sri T. Purushotham to say that it is too early for them to give any expression about their policies.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : I would rather expect answers from Hon. Ministers so far as policies are concerned.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The hon. Member cannot deprive another Member of his right to speak.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : A very responsible statement about policies.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member has taken 30 minutes.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, I shall finish soon. I was talking about slum clearance. The other matter that I would like to speak about is the provision of irrigation facilities in our State. Recently the Government of India sanctioned a sum of Rs. 193 lakhs for the purpose of executing three schemes, namely, the Mettur Canal Scheme, the Amaravathi Reservoir Scheme, and the Vaigai Dam Scheme. No mention of these schemes is made in the Address. I do not say on that account that the Government will not execute those schemes. I would rather be happy if mention was made of these three schemes. In that connection, I would draw the attention of the House to the speech that was made recently by the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, pointing out the necessity for the creation of a Programme Evaluation Board so that people might be induced to take advantage of the irrigation facilities already existing in the country. It is stated that while about 6 million acres of land were generally to be brought under cultivation by using these irrigation facilities, only 4 million acres were brought under cultivation and that two million acres are still remaining without advantage being taken of these irrigation facilities. This only shows that even where irrigation facilities are available, the people are not able to

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utilize them fully. Therefore, I would appeal to the Government that before launching upon any new irrigation schemes, they should see that our people take advantage of the existing irrigation facilities so that the Government may not impose high water rates or levy betterment fees as they did in the case of the Lower Bhavani Project areas. As I have already exceeded the time allotted to me and as I can speak on other matters during the Budget session, I now resume my seat.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, possibly I may be repeating some of the arguments that have already been advanced but I would like to do so in my own way for reasons that I shall explain. It has been laid down, as the hon. Member Mr. Balasubramanya Ayyar has very correctly said, that at the commencement of the first session after each General Election to the Legislature and at the commencement of the session in each year, the Governor shall address the Legislature of the State and inform it of the causes of its summons. This is an obligation on the part of the Governor and while the Governor has the privilege of addressing the Legislature at any time, he has generally to address the Legislature at the commencement of the first session after each General Election. The words 'the first session after each general election' are very important as well as the words 'the causes of its summons'.

Going through the Governor's Address, I must confess that I was rather disappointed that this House was given as little information as possible as to the causes of its summons, and more so because, as the hon. Member Mr. Balasubramanya Ayyar has already pointed out, it was stated that all policies and things of that sort would be disclosed during the Budget session. I venture to think that it is altogether a wrong approach to this question. The policies ought to have been mentioned in this Address itself and the suggestions of hon. Members taken note of before the Budget is finalized. That would have been the correct position. But, on the other hand, with the majority that the Party in power can command, an attempt has been made to deprive those Members of the House who do not sit behind the Treasury Benches of the only opportunity they may have even in a remote manner to influence the Government of the day. The hon. Member Mr. Purushotham said that the Government had just come into power and that, therefore, they had no time to formulate policies. May I bring to his notice that this Government belonging to a particular party have been in power for ten years and that now it is for the 11th year that they have been occupying the Treasury Benches? Four of the veteran old Ministers are already there in the new Government. It cannot, therefore, be said that any general change has taken place, preventing this Government from giving some inkling of the proposed Budget and the policies that are to be adopted, in the Governor's Address. This is, in my opinion, a serious handicap so far as the Members who do not belong to the Treasury Benches are concerned.

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Sir, the Address has referred to the General Elections and the rather satisfactory manner in which they have been conducted without untoward incidents. We are very glad that the General Elections are over. As a matter of fact, there was a feeling of relief all over the country when the last polling day was over. I cannot say that it was altogether without incidents. Fortunately perhaps, the incidents were really few. But, on the other hand, the General Elections have given us this impression that there is need and great need for all of us interested in the true working of democracy to see if there can be any improvements effected in the policy underlying the General Elections.

The Chief Election Commissioner has got undoubtedly supreme powers but I should like to raise the question, which has been raised in the Press also, whether in the allocation of symbols only recognised parties should be given symbols and should know what those symbols are. Democracy is not for parties. It is for the individual. Democracy, if it is truly considered, is a democracy of the individual and, therefore, the individual ought not to suffer as compared with any party. I am not referring to the Congress or any other Party. I am referring to all parties to whom symbols were assigned by the Election Commissioner long before the Elections. An independent candidate was not made aware of what his symbol would be, whether it would be a cock, or an elephant or a crow or anything else, till the date of the official ratification of his nomination. Thus a few days thereafter, he had to educate the electorate, both literate and illiterate sections of the electorate, about the symbol allotted to him. This is certainly a great handicap and it is not right that in a democratic election, such a handicap should be made.

Sir, I have also to refer to what the Hon. the Finance Minister Mr. Subramaniam said about some of the speeches that were made at election meetings. I wholly agree with him that there should be a curb on the use of certain expressions which are highly defamatory or infamous or which impugn the character of any person. I am one with him in saying that that sort of attempt should be curbed from whatever sources it may come.

There is another view that was given expression to in the Press. I do not know how far it is true. I understand that under the recently revised law pertaining to commercial concerns, there is a provision that a commercial body or any sort of commercial concern may give certain amounts for educational or charitable purpose or any other purpose. The wording is extraordinary. When it is said that the amount can be paid for a charitable or any other purpose, why should the words 'charitable purpose' have been included if the words 'any other purpose' are also included? As it is, a discretionary grant can be given by the Board of Directors of a commercial concern in consultation with the shareholders but exception has been taken in quarters, whose opinions it is worthwhile to consider, that this may result in a great deal of damage ultimately to the very concept of democracy. I am not making any suggestions that these funds were given to

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this or that particular person. I know that political parties stand to gain by funds being given by those who are interested in politics and those who are interested in political parties. But I do feel that any provision of this nature, which allows a commercial concern to give such a grant to any party for the sake of advancing its interests, is a direct invitation to defeat the very purpose of democracy. I am sure that hon. Members whether they be sitting on the Treasury Benches or opposite will certainly feel that this is a matter well worth further consideration in the interest of democracy itself. There are parties which, if they come into power, may use this very provision to an extent that we cannot dream of at present and it would certainly be a great danger signal for the successful functioning of democracy.

4-10 p.m. Sir, in the Governor's Address it is stated that the food position is on the whole satisfactory. That statement is not warranted by facts. I am afraid that many of us may not share that view. To-day, food production is a Central responsibility. We are not the masters on the question of food production. If there is any scarcity anywhere, it is only right that the whole country should be treated as one unit and the available foodgrains distributed to those areas where there is deficiency. As a consequence of this, food production is treated as a Central subject. But, I am sorry that after ten years of Independence, with all the methods that have been adopted and after so many hundreds of crores of rupees have been spent on large Irrigation Projects, we should still be in the year of grace 1957 more or less where we were ten years ago, depending upon foreign imports to the tune of several hundreds of crores of rupees. What is the reason for the present state of affairs? I venture to think that it is all due to almost lack of proper policy on the part of both the Central Government and the State Governments. Every State is expected to leave the matter to the Central Government. The Central Government are trying to frame a uniform policy. Without remembering that they have to control the entire sub-continent, they usually lay down laws which cannot be followed in their entirety. Let me tell you some of the reasons. Whether agricultural produce is produced in the manner it ought to be produced is a debatable point. One of the hon. Members referred to legislation regarding agricultural lands. I shall not say more than this, viz., that I am afraid that all those who own lands are in a state of perpetual tremor as to what will happen the next minute. With the surcharge on land, agricultural income-tax and parcelling of lands on the one acre theory which is adumbrated, the position of these landowners has become more and more difficult. As a result of all these, the tension between landlords and tenants has considerably increased. Unfortunately, this sort of tension between the landowners and the tillers of the soil has led to certain very undesirable results. The other day I read a report in the Press that a landlord in a remote corner of the State was butchered to death. These are the portents of the results of some of the legislations. In any land legislation, the Government cannot absolve themselves of the responsibility for such gruesome incidents.

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There is another matter on which I would like to speak. There seems to be no uniform policy whatsoever. Some years ago, in the Madras Legislature, my esteemed friend Sri Kala Venkata Rao introduced a Bill to the effect that no agricultural land should be encroached upon for building purposes without obtaining the specific permission of the Government. Where is that Bill now? Nobody knows that there is such a Bill. It is followed more in its breach. I am afraid even the Ministers, leave alone the Secretaries, may not be aware of such a Bill. You will see the result of this as you drive down to Chingleput or to the Aerodrome, not to speak of the mofussil places.

There is another thing that I should like to mention with regard to agriculture and it is this. Cash crops are now allowed to be raised. Naturally, when the landowner finds that he is being hedged in on all sides, he tries to escape from the situation for having a better living for himself. What steps have the Government taken to see that these cash crops are raised only on lands which are not primarily meant for agricultural purposes? Cash crops may be all right. Sugar, for instance, we may all need; but sugary things will be appreciated only when the stomach is at least quarter-full. Otherwise, a vast extent of agricultural lands will be converted into cash-crop-growing-lands, much to the detriment of food production.

I venture to think that several of the Bills that are being passed—and I am glad that this time there are a fewer Bills mentioned in the Governor's Address—and passed hurriedly are never given effect to. I do not know why we should spend so much time and energy in passing all these Bills. Some time ago, a Bill was passed which said that smoking was strictly prohibited in cinema-houses. I have not gone to a cinema theatre. (An hon. Member: It is still going on.) I understand from my friend who must be fairly familiar with this that smoking is still going on there. I accept his word. There are other Acts that are passed by the Legislature. Take, for instance, the Slum Clearance Act. It was passed when my esteemed friend Sri C. Rajagopalachari was the Chief Minister. We were asked to pass that Bill within two hours. People were promised of a millennium as it were in that connection. We were told that the landowners who owned lands would be made to give them up and that all the slums would be cleared. But, what has happened? Even at the end of four years, we are thinking of several slums in the City of Madras. When we pass a Bill, let us hope that it will be given effect to. If we do not have the idea of enforcing a Bill that we pass, then there is bound to be a defiance of the measures brought forward by the Government. That will be a critical danger for us at any time.

Then, reference was made the other day to the Finance Commission during question-hour. I ventured to suggest at that time that the Legislature might have been given an opportunity to express its views on certain matters. That might have been desirable. It is not my intention to force the views of the Legislature. I am

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glad that the Finance Minister said that at the end of the next five years he will transmit our views for consideration by the Finance Commission. The reason why I refer to this matter is that as a Legislature, we are in a better position to speak more frankly and forcefully than even the Government of the day as at present constituted. It is an undeniable fact that the Government of the State in the present set-up have to take note of certain factors so far as the Central Government are concerned. In fact, it is very difficult for the State Governments to speak in a frank manner. They cannot say that some of the things done by the Centre are good and that some are not so good. So far as the Finance Commission is concerned, the Chairman of the Commission has recently stated that only 7 or 8 per cent of the national income is derived by way of taxes. An ordinary person may think that India is the most poorly taxed country. I suppose he has taken the average. It is something like taking the average depth of a river in four or five places and saying that the depth of the river is only so many feet and that persons whose height is above that may get into it. It is not correct to calculate it that way. Do you realise that there are many lakhs of people who cannot afford to pay the present rate of taxes? I do not suggest that the Government need not tax those who can afford to pay. But, when there are millions of people who cannot afford to pay the present rate of taxes and who are asked to pay the same, it is not proper to say that only a few people are taxed. In all these matters, it is not correct to evaluate on the basis of average which is deceptive.

I am glad that the Hon. the Finance Minister has referred to another point which deserves particular mention. He has stated in a speech recently that in any case, the main thing was not how much tax was collected, but whether the amount collected was utilized in the most economical and productive manner. That is the main thing and it is there that we as a legislative body may have something to say. Are we sure that the taxes that are collected are being expended in the best manner, whether it be by the Centre or by the State? I may perhaps be asked, "Why should you interfere with the Central Government's methods? There are others to look after that matter." On the question of imposition of various taxes, I have repeatedly stated that there has been a three-pronged attack on the same set of persons. The Central Government levy certain taxes without consulting the State Government, the State Government levy certain taxes without consulting the Central Government, and the Municipalities and the Corporation levy certain taxes without consulting either of them. Thus, the same individual has to bear the burden of the taxes. We do not doubt the fact that these taxes may be necessary, but we do doubt whether the money so collected by way of taxes from the people is put to proper and best use. Even at a cursory glance of the overhead charges of the Central Government, I cannot say that the taxes are well and worthily spent. Looking over the Telephone Directory at Delhi, one will see pages after pages being taken up by the Central Government officers and offices. Appointments, it seems to me,

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are made in a manner which will be surprising to many. I have known the structure of the Central Government in pre-Independence days and when I see the present structure of that Government, I regret to say that there is a vast difference. I do not pass adverse remarks about it. But that is a matter which deserves consideration and which we ought to have brought up before the Finance Commission. The moment the Central Pay Commission was appointed, it was the duty of the Finance Minister of the States at that time to have drawn the attention of the Central Government to the possible reactions on the States' finances, so far as their pay establishments were concerned. They did not do that. They ought to have done that. They should have pressed on the Central Government not to go on giving effect to the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission in the light-hearted manner in which it was done without consulting the States. What is the result today? Sir, there are two establishments, but the people are doing the same kind of work. It may be the Central Accountant-General's office or the Posts and Telegraph Office and some State Government office side by side. One can easily see the great disparity that exists between the two classes of people who are engaged in the same kind of work. A brother is in a Central Government office and an uncle is in a State Government office. There is disparity in their pay, etc. and there is quarrel in the family. I have personal knowledge of that, though fortunately I have nobody in my family either in the Central or in the State Government offices. But I have a University College of Technology side by side with the Central Leather Research Institute, one just adjacent to the other. The scales of pay of the staff in the Central Leather Research Institute are twice what we can afford to pay our staff, with the result that all the better elements go in there and I am left constantly to shift for myself as best as I can.

Recently, the Government were generous enough to enhance the dearness allowance of their employees. I am very glad that it was done on the eve of the General Elections and that the black badges which threatened to appear were not seen when we went to the polling booths. I would appeal to the Government to bear in mind that while that measure was very necessary for a particular class of employees, we have to consider the cases of others also who are deserving of that consideration and whom we cannot afford to neglect. As a result of that, my hon. Friend, the Vice-Chancellor of the Annamalai University, and I myself have also to follow in the foot-steps of the Government. There would have been chaos and confusion in our own camp if we did not do that. But we have no Nasik Press (Cheers) or ability to tax. If we add a tax of one rupee, from the examinees there would be a hue and cry and editorials would be published in all the newspapers about the heartless manner in which the Universities are taxing the students and parents. Where are our sources to get money, considerable sums ranging from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1 lakh? These are matters that ought to receive the attention of the Centre and the State. We are working in a corporate body and it is necessary for us to realise

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exactly the consequences of each step. The Central Pay establishments are getting many amenities. The Central Government are giving them all the necessities, all the transport facilities, all the health amenities, free medical advice and various other things. When they do all this, the Central Government are not bearing their responsibility well. I am sure the Hon. the Leader of the House who knows about that Government very well will never disagree but will agree with me in this particular respect that the Central Government must consider the finances of the States also in connection with such of those measures of amelioration as they extend to their own employees.

Sir, I am one of those who believe that it is very necessary for us to review things in their proper perspective as we get along. We are happy that our Prime Minister has given us some excellent advice in regard to the many aspects of our national life. I was glad, for instance, when he referred to the National Flag. May I, in this connection, appeal to the Members of all political parties to consider and seriously ponder over the desirability of having one flag on all occasions? And that should be the National Flag? I have seen many political parties having different flags. Some years ago, I said that under this flag hoisting, raising volunteers, holding parades and similar other things people were heading towards a sorry state of affairs. When groups of people have come to believe in raising private armies, threatening the very safety of the country, that statement of mine is not altogether an exaggeration. I see the trend of things to come and I would appeal to the biggest party in the country, the party which has given us so much of food for thought and which has taken several steps to raise the country's position to one of independence, to ponder over the necessity to retain that independence. I feel, Sir, that it is time that this flag hoisting—I am speaking of flags associated with political parties and of other flags which should not be given that consideration that they sometimes receive—should be confined to one flag. There is only one flag for me. There should be only one flag at all times, for all people and for all occasions, and that is the National Flag. Whenever there is any conference or any meeting, there should be hoisting of the National Flag only, because whether one is returned through one party or another, one is returned for the working of the Constitution according to our Independent India's Constitution.

Sir, I was recently very much pained to see that some strong comments were made by a Central Minister about the Community Development and National Extension Service programme, after a short visit. His visit was shorter than even a general American tourist's visit. It is an affront to make such scathing criticisms about the Government's policies in regard to these matters. I could have brushed him aside as one who did not deserve any further notice. But I felt that I must give expression to my feelings. Sir, there is a tendency on the part of some of the Central Ministers to believe that they are like the Gods impregnable and that they cannot afford to treat others on the same level as they themselves are

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treated. I see no difference between a Central Minister and a State Minister. There is a person here (in the State Ministry) who might have been in the Central Ministry. I know many people of the State Ministry who have gone to the Centre. Therefore, I do want that the Ministers in the State must consider themselves as equally responsible, independent and of the same status as any Minister at the Centre. I am making this statement deliberately, because in recent years I have noticed an unfortunate tendency on the part of Central Ministers to speak in a way so very disparaging both to the State and to the people of the State. Businessmen in particular have been the targets of attack. I feel that those who wish to wipe the mote in other peoples' eyes should first be sure of the beam in their own eyes. Of course, black sheep there are everywhere and there is a method of dealing with those people. I certainly feel that such a method should be adopted in such cases. But, so far as the Ministers of the State are concerned, as I have said before more than once, we feel that the prestige of the State demands that the prestige of our Ministers should be protected. I am sure our present Ministers will not be behind anybody else in claiming and preserving it. Self-respect, self-knowledge and self-reliance are the three qualities which give sovereign power to one whether one be a Minister or a humble Member of this House like myself.

Sir, I hope, with your permission, to continue for a few more minutes. Sir, the State is publishing a booklet styled the 'Madras Information'. I read that pamphlet with a great amount of eagerness and I look upon it as an official guide to the achievements of the Government. It does serve a very good purpose, when it gives tangible information about the achievements of the Government. I have often been disappointed with many publications of the Government and I have raised in this House the question regarding the Annual Administration Reports of most of the departments of the Government which are released after two or three years. We should be thankful that they are not published some more years later. But, consequent upon the variations that take place in the occupants of the Treasury Bench, I feel that the report on account of its belated publication loses much of its value. I have, therefore, suggested that in the 'Madras Information' every month, some very tangible information about what has been achieved and what is contemplated to be done might be given. Let us take, for instance, the very Community Projects. We are told that so many hundreds of rupees are spent on them. But there is very little information available about them. Of course, it is true that if we go to the spot, we may get more information. But then our good friends like the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Dr. John, who are very busy either in the High Court or in the Hills (Interruption) cannot afford to go to many Community Project areas. (Interruption.) I am glad about that.

DR. V. K. JOHN : May I ask the hon. the Leader of the Opposition if there is anything at all for them to report?

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DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR: Sir, I am sure that work is being done. But our Government are too modest and I ask them to get all about their work printed so that friends like Dr. John may realize that they are doing something substantial. (Interruption.) It is not merely a sort of a joke. I really want that the pamphlet, the "Madras Information", should be issued in a much better way by the Government. I take it that this is published to familiarise us with what is being done. Perhaps all my criticisms would not have been necessary if I had had better information.

4-30
P.m.

DR. V. K. JOHN: The Government are doing their very best on the propaganda front. They cannot do better.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR: There is another suggestion that has been made time after time, and I might invite the attention of the Hon. the Leader of the House to that suggestion. I have felt that the old method of having advisory bodies attached to Ministries had a very useful purpose to serve, a small body which is constituted with a view to place before them what is taking place and to inform them of what the proposals are. The Government is not the Ministry but the Government is the Legislature behind the Ministry and it is a very necessary thing for this Government to have advisory bodies of this type. Such advisory bodies are at present constituted in the Central Government for different purposes and I feel that it would be very useful if such advisory bodies are constituted here. I can assure the Government that they can choose their own persons for these advisory bodies, persons who may not ask for patronage or favour at the hands of the Government. What I am anxious to say is that through different committees constituted, if possible, of both the Houses, the Government would be in a position to tell us what they have to tell us and to let us have an opportunity of saying what we have to say.

Now, I want to refer to one important thing. The hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition has already referred to it, but I should officially like to place before the Hon. the Leader of the House our request that the rules with regard to the procedure in regard to discussion on the Bills in this House should be followed. If there are exceptional circumstances, we are always willing to meet the wishes of the Hon. the Leader of the House or of the Ministers concerned. But it has been our experience that without any previous notice and because there is a power—I do not mean to suggest anything with regard to the Chair; you will pardon me for saying it—for the Chair to waive the three days' notice, Bills are brought in and rushed through in such a manner that we get copies thereof late in the night on the previous day or actually in the morning of the day on which the Council is to consider them, and we are supposed to give notice of amendments to them.

Another thing which I would like to request the Hon. the Leader of the House to consider in this respect is this. If amendments

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are to be moved by this House, it ought to be possible, if this House adopts those amendments, for the Bill to go in the amended form to the other House. What the ultimate fate of that Bill is we cannot decide. The other House is supreme in that respect. But, more often than not, the other House is adjourned *sine die* and we are asked to discuss a Bill, which is purely a theoretical discussion. I do feel that the Hon. the Leader of the House will take note of this suggestion, as he is fully experienced in this matter in the Upper House, that we should have an adequate opportunity to discuss these Bills.

There are several things that have been stated now and again but have not still come to light. We had a White Paper on Local Administration. We do not know what has happened to it. We had a very valuable Report drawn up by my hon. Friend Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai about the co-operative societies. We do not know what has happened to it. In this respect, may I suggest that in many cases probably—and I know with my limited experience it ought to be so—the frequency with which Ministers are asked to oblige their constituents or their Legislative Assembly Colleagues in different parts of the country for various functions, which are perhaps necessary in some cases and perhaps not so necessary in all cases, deprives us of the presence of the Ministers to consider such very important measures and that, therefore, a time-lag is inevitable? I do feel that while Ministers should know what is taking place in all parts of the country, their presence here will be of great benefit to all people concerned.

Lastly, I have not expressed these views in any critical manner or merely in a fault-finding spirit. On the 27th July 1953 this Party was formed as the Opposition Party and I had the honour of being asked to be the Leader of the Opposition. Speaking on that occasion—the Hon. the Leader of the House then was Sri C. Rajagopalachari who was the Chief Minister—I said that our chief object was to see that the Government got an independent point of view placed before them. I said—

"No question of defeat of the Government comes here. We may vote against them. We may defeat them. Whether they will continue in office or not depends not on the vote of this House but on the vote of the Assembly and we, therefore, feel that we are in a much better position. We will give expression to our views very strongly to the Government wherever necessary and where it is possible, we will also support any just measure. We are not going to oppose a measure simply because the Government are bringing it. We shall examine every single measure on merits without fear or favour. We shall place our views fairly and clearly before this House and before the general public. That is our object and that is our intention."

I would like to assure the Hon. the Leader of the House that it is in that spirit that we are giving these ideas.

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[4th May 1957]

* SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, firstly, I rise to congratulate the Hon. the Chief Minister and the Government on their great success at the polls and on the election of so many women to the Legislature. We are very happy indeed that there is a woman Minister in our midst and that she comes from the new district of Kanyakumari. We are also very happy to find our revered Labour Leader Sri R. Venkataraman in our midst as well as the austere politician Sri Kakkan and the new Minister Sri Ramaiah. We are also glad that our Home Minister (who was in the old team) Sri Bhaktavatsalam, Sri C. Subramaniam, and Sri M. A. Manickavelu are associated in the Ministry headed by the Hon. Sri Kamaraj.

We, women, are very proud of the role that has been played by women in the recent elections. If I am not mistaken, the women have exercised their votes best and perhaps they have exceeded the number of men voters in many places. This speaks of what the women can do if they are given their rights. If their rights are conceded, the results will be gratifying indeed.

This House which had first lost many of its representatives to Andhra and now to Kerala, is smaller in size, but I hope that the reputation it had of being the best will not be lost.

The First Five-Year Plan has gone through according to schedule and more so in connexion with the Community Projects, National Extension Service Schemes and Social Welfare Board Projects where sustained work has been achieved. If only the hon. Member Dr. V. K. John would find time to visit these areas, as the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has said, he will see the great work carried on in these project areas of which we have personal knowledge.

It is with many regrets that I say that in the list of Bills that will be coming up before the Legislature in the current session, the long-awaited Children's Bill has not found a place. Madras was the first to introduce the Children's Bill some four decades ago and was the second to put it into operation in India. The Children's Act has had various amendments and it needs some immediate change. A special Committee for amending that Act was formed in 1950 and the then Minister in charge of it was hopeful of bringing it on the anvil but it did not come to pass. The elections came and the Bill was shelved. Again when the new Ministry was formed in 1952, the request for passing that Bill was pressed and a special Committee headed by the Home Secretary was formed a few months ago and it discussed the amendments to the proposed Children's Bill of 1950. It was promised that that Bill would be brought in and passed. But that Ministry has gone and the new Ministry has come. I do hope that this important legislation will be brought forward at an early date, for there are many loopholes in the present Act. The exploitation of children specially in Prohibition cases and immoral traffic in young girls are undoubtedly on the increase. Not only do others exploit children, but the very parents are the

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exploiters. The Children's Act contains no provision to take to task and punish parents who exploit children for these purposes. It is a very sad fact that if a child (who happens to be a destitute either without parents or with perhaps one of them alive, who has very small means and who has to earn his or her livelihood and has no way of taking care of the child or giving it living space) has to be taken care of in an institution, and is supported by the Government, it has to go before the Juvenile Court for getting the necessary certificate. It is not known why a child should have to go before a Juvenile Court for this certificate. Going before the Juvenile Court has the same stigma as the stigma of a man or woman who goes out of the jail. The Government would do well to consider this question often brought to their notice by social workers and those in charge of children's institutions. These workers will bring these children not before the Juvenile Court but before a Special Welfare Board comprising men and women who run such institutions, the Director of Women's Welfare, and the Chief Inspector of Certified Schools. The children will then have protection and care without the stigma of having to appear before the Juvenile Court. The Police indiscriminately round up all children who are loitering in the streets, and this often is the case.

We have all along been waiting for the appointment of Women Police in this State. I know that many of our Ministers, legislators and others have conservative views about the appointment of Women Police. It is not for maintaining law and order that we ask for the appointment of Women Police. We want Women Police for detecting cases of immoral traffic in women, for escorting women to courts and lock-up, and for taking children to courts. On behalf of the United Nations Correspondents in the Field of Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, I had prepared a Report on the need for Women Police in our country. In so many States in our country Women Police have been appointed. States in Northern India have appointed Women Police. But our State has not yet found it necessary to employ Women Police. I would still urge on the Government the need for appointment of a Special Juvenile Police Branch trained in the cases of destitute and delinquent children who will deal directly with them and not take the children to the Juvenile Court. I am sorry that the Home Minister is not here now. I do hope that he would be good enough to bring in this very necessary reform and see that the most precious inheritance of our country—our children—is protected and cared for and that our children grow without any stigma attaching to them.

In the matter of jail reform, when compared to the other States in our country, our State is backward. We are where we were about ten years ago. The change that has come over in the jails of other States has not come over here. Yesterday, the Inspector-General of Prisons of Uttar Pradesh gave a very fine talk (I think it has appeared in the Press this morning) on the open jails in many places in Uttar Pradesh. They are working this open jail system very successfully there. The prisoner there becomes the owner-worker. The prisoners own fields and properties. When

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they are out of jail, they have all the freedom to enter straight in a profession and thus earn their livelihood. They are thus enabled to look after themselves and their families.

The Hon. the Minister for Health is not here. I do hope that more attention will be paid to hospitals and to the poor patients. The Government are spending large sums of money on our hospitals, but I think there should be some investigation into what is being meted out to the needy patients. I do not say that everything is not right. But there is much that could be done. The appointment of Welfare Workers in all big hospitals, and not in the General Hospital only, is a very important matter.

Then, Sir, except for the Kasturba Hospital which takes in a large section of the children, there is no hospital for children. There are children's wards in all our hospitals. But I would respectfully urge that it is high time that we had a special hospital only for children.

Sir, I would ask for an increase in tuberculosis hospitals. In the Tambaram Sanatorium, there is a long waiting list. Before their turn comes, most people die. This is no exaggeration. We know too well with what great force tuberculosis is attacking people in our State. I hope the Government would consider very seriously the steps for the expansion of tuberculosis hospitals. Already domiciliary treatment is being given in the Tuberculosis Hospital in Egmore. I do hope it would be possible to continue this treatment in other hospitals in our State.

We are glad that our Government have taken up the question of slum clearance in right earnest. Local Administration is in charge of a lady Minister, and I hope that she will consider the many practical ideas and suggestions in this slum clearance work and earnestly implement this slum clearance work.

I want to speak on one other subject, and that is 'tourist traffic'. I will be told that this is a Central subject. But I say that it also concerns our State. It is an item that would fetch very good revenue to our State. I am particularly happy that the Leader of the House, who is also the Minister for Transport, is here. I do hope that the Hon. the Chief Minister would add to his portfolio the subject of tourist traffic. Madras State attracts men not only from other countries but also from our own country. Tourists in the States of Northern and Central India come to Madras State to visit our temples. There are many pilgrim centres in the South. A large number of foreign tourists also come to our State. They bring with them vast amounts of money into our State. Our handloom goods, our culture and our arts and crafts are matters of great interest to them. But the accommodation and the facilities given to them are very poor indeed. In the City there are hotels, but outside the City, except in a few select places, the accommodation provided is very inadequate. The circuit houses we have are not well-furnished. The travellers' bungalows are there, and except for a few which are fairly well maintained, the others leave much

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to be desired. Cleanliness, good linen and good food are wanted. One should be in a position to go in at any part of the day or night, and if he should want a cup of hot coffee, it should be available to him. Further, the cook does not know how to cook well. We should have cooks who can prepare both European and Indian dishes. If we see the travellers' bungalows in different parts of our country, say, in Central India, in Bombay State, in the former State of Sourashtra and Madhya Pradesh, we will see how very well they are maintained and how poorly our travellers' bungalows are maintained.

I now come to the question of transport. The Government have got a special luxury transport service in the City, and I hope this service will be extended to Tiruchirappalli and other places. In Delhi, there is an air-conditioned bus that takes people to Jaipur on Sundays. Such a facility should be available in Madras also. Visitors to Madras State are not only anxious to see our temples but also our educational institutions and social welfare institutions. Therefore, I would urge on the Hon. the Minister for Transport the necessity to form a special Committee of non-official men and women to assist the Government in formulating a scheme to promote tourism and making it a really first-class programme, which would also, at the same time, yield much revenue to the State. Though I have referred to this subject of tourism again and again for the last eleven years, I must say that we have not made progress in that direction. I am sorry my hon. Friend Mr. Puroshotham, who is equally interested in this programme, is not now in this House. He has been taking a great deal of interest in this work. In this connexion, I must say that tourism has had too much of red tape and little of imagination. To cut across such red tape as much as possible, such a Committee should be formed as early as possible.

Sir, I have been taking a very great personal interest in this matter. There is a State Tourist Bureau set up by the Government of India in this State and I happen to be a Member of it. In this connection, I want to suggest that Tourist Guides should be well-trained. At present, the Guides give an exaggerated idea of our country and its people. Very often it is found that a lot of time is being wasted in explaining matters to the tourists while the time at their disposal is limited. Therefore, I hope that a special Training Centre for Tourist Guides would be started in our State.

Lastly, Sir, I would suggest that one more portfolio should be included and that is 'Sports'. It could be said that 'Sports' comes under Education. But Madras State has got sports-loving people and we have very fine, talented young men. Therefore, we have to encourage Sports and give all facilities to such people who cannot afford to undergo coaching and training. So, I suggest that this portfolio of Sports could well be given to our youngest Minister, Mr. Ramaiah.

4.50
p.m.

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Sir, I hope that the suggestions that I have made in this House would be seriously considered by the Government. I thank His Excellency the Governor for his kind Address to the Legislature.

DR. T. V. SIVANANDAM: Mr. Deputy Chairman, I would like to associate myself with the hon. the Mover of the Resolution in thanking the Governor for his Address. In so doing, I would like to make some observations with regard to the points mentioned in the Address.

Though General Elections went on perfectly all right, as my previous speakers brought to the notice of the House, several irregularities were committed during the elections. Candidates and their supporters were allowed to go in vans and jeeps with mikes attached to them to streets and lanes and say all sorts of things about the opposing candidates. It was impossible for the opposing candidates or their supporters to go behind them and convince the voters that what they had said was false. So, we have got to prevent such a thing happening again. The Government must take up this matter with the Centre and the Election Commission and see that such things are prohibited.

Sir, in one of the constituencies in our district, some candidates were saying that the monthly electric charges for the palace occupied by the Hon. the Minister for Finance came to Rs. 1,000 and that the Ministers were getting a salary of Rs. 5,000 a month and Members Rs. 500 with a daily allowance of Rs. 50. This kind of false propaganda has been made in the villages. It must be prevented in future.

The other matter that I want to refer to is the double-member constituency. A candidate who filed his nomination to the Reserved seat finds himself elected to the General seat. That means that he is elected to the General seat without depositing the nomination fee for that seat also. It is really a thing which we have not been able to understand. This kind of thing also has got to be prevented at least in the next elections.

Next, I want to refer to election expenses. Everybody knows and it has been found that the election expenses have been very, very heavy. The election expenses were fixed when the election was conducted on a small scale without adult franchise. Therefore, I request the Government to see that this limit is increased or the actual amount spent for elections is allowed to be furnished. We know very well that candidates had spent thousands and thousands of rupees and even lakhs of rupees, but in their statement of election expenses, they mentioned only a small amount, which was a lie. By doing so, they are only open to the charge that they themselves were resorting to such lies. So, I request the Government of Madras to take up this matter with the Central Government and the Election Commission and see that the election expenses are increased or the actual amount spent for elections is allowed to be furnished.

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DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Or not to fix any amount.

DR. T. V. SIVANANDAM: Yes, not to fix any amount at all so that they may not give any false statement of election expenses.

SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI: What about the corrupt practices?

DR. T. V. SIVANANDAM: This is a matter for the individual candidate to think about.

Now, I would like to take this opportunity of congratulating the Hon. Mr. Kamaraj Nadar on the selection of his team. He has selected a good team. It was at one stage thought that the Hon. the Chief Minister, being a chronic bachelor, would like to have no lady Member in his Cabinet. But he has done it as a great diplomatic statesman by including Srimathi Lourdhammal Simon in his Cabinet. He has shot three birds at one stroke. Firstly, the honour was given to a lady. Secondly, representation has been given to Christians. Thirdly, the new off-spring of Tamil Nad, Kanyakumari district, has got representation in the Cabinet. The rights of the Kanyakumari district have also been recognised. Thus he has done it in a most diplomatic way.

Sir, the linguistic States have come to stay. But we must be very, very careful about the future of our State, especially the border areas of our State. I come from the Coimbatore district which is bordering the Kerala State. In this connection, I would like to warn the Government that they should do justice to the Tamilians not only in Tamil Nad but also in the Coimbatore district in particular. They must see that the people from the border areas do not migrate into our State. Even now, a lot of people do migrate from the Kerala State into the Coimbatore district. I do not know why they are doing like that. After the formation of the Kerala State, I do not know whether there is unemployment there, or whether they do not like the Communist regime there. It is also not known whether they expect the Tamilians always to protect them. Such migration is bound to take place in respect of other areas also. The Government must see that such things are prevented. If this is not prevented, people here will be put to great hardships. Especially the heads of departments and the Employment Exchange authorities should be careful in this matter and they should not encourage people from the neighbouring State. Some of them who are already here may say that they are here for a long time and that they belong to Tamil Nad. But they will have sympathy towards people coming from their own area. As a result of this, the chances of the men and women, boys and girls, of Tamil Nad are reduced to a great extent. A large number of people from the neighbouring State have migrated into the Coimbatore district. I have already brought this to the notice of the Hon. Minister and have requested him to take immediate action to stop this. The Government must consider this very seriously and see what best they can do for the benefit of the people of Tamil Nad.

[Dr. T. V. Sivanandam] [4th May 1957]

Some time back, we saw in the papers that in the High Court of Madras about 7,000 to 8,000 writ petitions were pending disposal besides a large number of original suits. The Hon. the Ministers for Law and Courts, both of them being lawyers, know the position very well. I request them to look into the matter and increase the number of Judges in the High Court at least as a temporary measure. After all, they have to cope with the increasing work. At the present time, writ petitions have become the fashion of the day. They should be disposed of then and there without delay. Otherwise, the people will be put to great difficulty.

It is also the fashion of the day for human beings to adopt family planning. They have totally forgotten the moral as well as the spiritual aspects of the matter. They want to have surgical treatment. I fear after some years we may have to face some other problem.

When we are thinking of limiting human families, we want to increase the cattle wealth of the country. Yes, the cattle wealth and its improvement is very important. Of course, we have the Key Village Schemes and all those things. We must be careful to see that adequate quantities of fodder are supplied to the cattle. Without fodder, it is not possible to get on with the improvement of our cattle wealth.

Regarding water works, many a time, we have represented to the Government about the Siruvani Drinking Water Works at Coimbatore. Every year, during the summer season, it is a difficult task for the people of that area to get drinking water in sufficient quantity. At least during the Second Five-Year Plan period, I request the Government to see that bigger storage tanks are built so that the people in that area may be assured of drinking water. Only when this is done, the wishes of the people of Coimbatore town will be fulfilled. There is a rumour that for augmenting the supply of drinking water through the Siruvani, they are thinking of the Kundali Project. I do not know how far the scheme will succeed. Anyhow, I request the Government to supply adequate quantities of drinking water to the people of that area at as early a date as possible. I would suggest to the Government to construct a bigger reservoir in the Coimbatore district, properly store the water of the Siruvani and thus solve the problem of supplying drinking water which is facing the people of that area.

Sir, the Report of the Ratnasabapathi Mudaliar Committee on Local Boards has not seen the light of day. It is a very valuable document. The Government have issued a White Paper on Local Administration. But, still, the position is not quite clear. As for Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai's Report on Co-operation, I should say that it is a very valuable report. The recommendations contained in it are very useful ones. It is more or less a Bible on Co-operation and Co-operative Movement. I would request the Hon. Minister concerned to look into it and take action on the

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recommendations contained in that Report. In the last session, the Legislature passed an Act in this connection. It related to the forming of large-sized societies. I was saying that there should be at least 100 members to call a society a large-sized society. In the case of my own Bank, several Deputy Registrars are coming forward with several societies to be registered. But, I find that their membership is only 20 and 30. The amalgamation of small societies is being resorted to in Coimbatore.

It is a pity that nothing has been stated in the Address about Public Health and Medicine. They are very important subjects. Unless we pay greater attention to Public Health, all other things will fail. Sri A. B. Shetty, who was previously the Health Minister of the State, when he went to Mysore, announced enhanced pay and allowances to medical men, doctors and nurses. May I request the present Health Minister of our State also, to look into the matter and see that full justice is done to these public men, by enhancing their emoluments suitably?

As for the Employment Insurance Scheme, several times I have told the Minister for Industries that the Panel System is the best under the present circumstances. That system is working well in the Coimbatore district. That affords greater chances for the doctors to come in contact with the labourers. But, if we are to put service people in hospitals, the scheme will not work well, because the service men are likely to be transferred every now and then. So, it will not be possible for them to come in close contact with the labourers. As the Panel System provides opportunities for the doctors to come in close contact with the labourers and as that system has been working quite well in Coimbatore, I would earnestly request the present Minister for Industries to kindly look into the matter and see that the Panel System is introduced in all the other areas also.

Sir, regarding Nationalized Transport, it is a sorry state of affairs that the Government are not able to get good profit. The Government are in a better position; they need not insure their motor vehicles. But fleet-owners in the districts, though they are plying only five or ten buses, have got to insure their motor vehicles. But, still, they are able to get more profit. I do not know why the Government are not getting larger profits comparatively. I hope and trust that the Hon. Sri R. Venkataraman, the Minister in charge of Nationalized Transport, would look into the matter. If necessary, let him constitute an Efficiency Expert Committee to look into the matter and find out where the wrong is in order to ascertain how the profit could be increased. I hope efficiency experts are sent to industries by the I.L.O. and the Industries Ministry of the Union Government. Sri R. Venkataraman would have been the Labour and Industries Minister at the Centre, but luckily he has come here. I hope he will take steps to constitute an Efficiency Expert Committee for the nationalized transport and find ways and means to determine how best the profits could be increased.

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DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member has already taken twenty minutes.

DR. T. V. SIVANANDAM : One minute more, Sir. Regarding delay in the disposal of files, because this sort of delay leads to corruption, I request the Government to see that there is no longer any delay in the disposal of files. Now it takes months and months for disposal of files and even our Prime Minister has said that delay in disposal of files leads to corruption. Therefore, I once again request the Government to see that files are disposed of as expeditiously as possible.

Thank you, Sir.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : There are some more Members to speak to-day. Therefore, I would request each speaker to restrict his speech to 10 minutes. Otherwise, it would be difficult to accommodate all.

* SRI A. SUBRAMANYAM : கனம் உதவித் தலைவர் அவர்களே, மேன்மை தங்கிய கவர்னர் பெருமான் அவர்களுடைய பேச்சின் மீது பேசுவதற்கு ஒரு வாய்ப்பு எனக்கு அளித்ததற்காக நான் மிக மகிழ்ச்சி அடைகிறேன். அதோடுகூட இந்த ராஜ்யத்தில் நல்ல மந்திரி சபை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் இத்தருவாயில் பல நல்ல திட்டங்களை வகுத்துத் தொகுத்து செயல்படும்படியான சந்தர்ப்பமும் இப்போது ஏற்பட்டிருப்பதை நான் முழுமனதுடன் வரவேற்கிறேன். மந்திரிமார்கள் எல்லோரும் தியாகத்தில் சிறந்தவர்கள். மக்களிடத்தில் பழகிய காரணத்தால், மிக்க கஷ்டமில்லாமல் பொதுமக்களுக்கு கேஷமமான காரியங்களை நல்ல முறையில், சீரான முறையில், செய்வதற்கு இப்போது நல்ல சந்தர்ப்பம் ஏற்பட்டிருப்பதை நான் மனமார வரவேற்கிறேன். இப்போது நம்முடைய மந்திரி சபை எட்டு அங்கத்தினர்கள் கொண்டது. அது அஷ்டதிக்கு பாலர்களைப்போல் இருக்கிறது. இந்த மாகாணத்தில் எந்தவிதமான குறைவோ ஆபத்தோ ஏற்படுமென இனிக் கருதமுடியாது. இந்த நிலையில் இன்னும் ஒன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். வட நாடு, தென்னாடு, பச்சைத் தமிழர், என்றெல்லாம் பேசப்படுகிறது. பச்சைத் தமிழர் என்று சொல்லும் போது அவர் காய்ந்துபோவதற்கு ஒரு சந்தர்ப்பம் ஏற்படுகிறது. பச்சை என்றாலே ஒரு சமயம் காய்ந்து போகக்கூடியது என்று புலனாகும். அதனால் அதை நான் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவில்லை. அசல் தமிழர், பத்தரைமாற்றுத் தங்கம் என்று சொல்லலாம். இது முக்கியமாக நம் முதல் மந்திரிக்குப் பொருந்தும். அவர் அசல் தமிழர், பத்தரை மாற்றுத் தங்கம். அது குறையவும் குறையாது. மாறவும் மாறாது. இம்மாதிரி முதல் அமைச்சரின் கீழ் ஒரு மந்திரி சபை ஏற்பட்டு நல்ல முறையில் சேவை செய்ய முன் வந்திருப்பது ஒரு நல்ல அறிகுறியாக இருக்கிறது. அதுவும் குறிப்பாக காமராஜ் அவர்கள் ஒவ்வொரு வகுப்பினரும் வரவேற்கத்தக்க வகையில் மந்திரி சபையை அமைத்திருப்பது பாராட்டுவதற்குரிய விஷயம். அதிலும் ஒரு பெண்ணிற்கு மந்திரி ஸ்தானம் கொடுத்திருப்பது யாவரும் போற்றும் வகையில் இருக்கிறது. ஒரு கல்லால் 4 பழங்கள் உதிர்க்கப் பட்டிருக்கின்றன. காமராஜ் அவர்கள் ஒரு பெண்மணியை மந்திரி சபையில் சேர்த்துக்கொண்டதால் 4 காரியங்கள் பூர்த்தி செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. ஒன்று, நம்முடன் சேர்ந்துள்ள கன்யாகுமரி ஜில்லாவுக்கு பிரதிநிதித்துவம் அளித்தது. இரண்டாவது, மைனாரிட்டி கிருஸ்துவர்களுக்கு பிரதிநிதித்துவம் அளித்தது. மூன்றாவதாக, பெண்ணிற்கு பிரதிநிதித்துவம் அளித்தது. நான்காவதாக, பிற்பட்ட சமூகத்திற்கு, அதிலும் மீனவர் சமூகத்திற்கு, பிரதிநிதித்துவம் அளித்தது. இம்மாதிரி நல்ல முறையில் காமராஜ் அவர்கள் மந்திரி சபையை அமைத்திருக்கிறார். குறிப்பாக பெண்ணிற்கு ஒரு ஸ்தானம் அளித்ததை நாம் வரவேற்காமல் இருக்க முடியாது. மேலும் தற்போது தமிழிலே ஆட்சி நடத்துவதற்கும்,

[4th May 1957]

[Sri A. Subramanyam]

தமிழிலே பேசுவதற்கும் சந்தர்ப்பம் ஏற்பட்டிருப்பதை நான் மனமார வரவேற்கிறேன். இந்தத் தருணத்தில் நம் ராஜ்யத்தில் செய்யப்படும் வேலைகளில் சில குறைபாடுகள் இருக்கின்றன.

நெய்வேலித் திட்டம் இருக்கிறது. அதை நான் மிகவும் பாராட்டுகிறேன். வட நாட்டில் கோடிக்கணக்கான ரூபாய்கள் செலவழித்து அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டங்கள் நிறைவேற்றப்படுகின்றன. தென்னாடு தேய்கிறது, வட நாடு வளர்கிறது என்றெல்லாம் பேசப்படுகிறது. நெய்வேலித் திட்டத் திற்காக 60 கோடி ரூபாய் செலவழிக்கத் திட்டமிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. 60 கோடி ரூபாயில் அந்தத் திட்டம் உருவாக்கிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. மிக்க கிரமத்துடன் உருவாக்கிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. இந்தத் திட்டத்திலிருந்து கிடைக்கும் பழுப்பு நிலக்கரியைக்கொண்டு ஒரு இரும்பு உருக்குத் தொழிற்சாலையை சேலத்தில் நிறுவத் திட்டம் ஒன்றும் உருவாக்கிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. இப்படியாக கோடிக்கணக்கான ரூபாய் செலவு செய்து தமிழ் நாட்டில் திட்டங்களை வகுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அலுமினியம், பாக்கலைட் இவைகளின் சத்துக்களைக்கொண்டு தொழிற்சாலை நிறுவவும் ஆராயப்பட்டு வருகிறது. இதன் மத்தியில் பேர் மில் ஒன்றை நிறுவவும் திட்டம் இருக்கிறது. இவை எந்தெந்த இடத்தில், எவ்வளவு சீக்கிரத்தில் நிறுவப்படும் என்பதை காங்கிரஸ் கட்சித் தலைவர் அவர்கள் உடனடியாக எங்களுக்கு விளக்கவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். மேலும் சேலத்திலுள்ள இரும்பு சத்தை கோயம்புத்தூரில் உள்ள ஒருவர் காண்டிராக்ட் மூலம் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு போய் அங்கே வேலை செய்யப் போவதாகச் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. இதற்கு அரசாங்கம் உத்தரவு அளித்திருப்பதாகவும் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. இதற்கு என்ன காரணம் என்று கொண்டு தொழிற்சாலை நிறுவ லாயக்கற்றவர்களா? அப்படி தொழிற்சாலை நிறுவ அவர்களுக்கு ஆற்றலோ, அருகதையோ இல்லையாவென்று சந்தேகம் ஏற்படுகிறது. சேலத்தில் இருக்கக்கூடிய யாரேனும் கான்ட்ராக்ட் மூலம் அங்கிருக்கும் இரும்பை உபயோகிக்க முன்வந்தால் அதற்கு வேண்டிய அனுமதி கொடுப்பதற்கு அரசாங்கம் உத்தேசித்திருக்கிறதா என்பதை விளக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

ஏற்காடு மலையில் அலுமினியம் சத்து கிடைப்பதாகத் தெரிய வருகிறது. மேட்டூருக்கு அருகில் அலுமினியத் தொழிற்சாலை நிறுவப் பட்டால், அதற்கு அதிகமான மின்சார வசதி கிடைக்கும். மின்சார வசதி கிடைப்பதால், மேட்டூர் அணைக்கட்டிற்கு அருகில் அலுமினியத் தொழிற்சாலையை நிறுவவும் ஒரு திட்டம் அரசாங்கத்தின் கவனத்தில் இருப்பதாகத் தெரியவருகிறது. ஆகவே, ஏற்காடு மலையருகிலா, அல்லது மேட்டூர் அணைக்கட்டின் அருகிலா, அலுமினிய தொழிற்சாலை நிறுவப்படுமென்ற விவரம் தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டால் நலம்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, காகித மில்கள் நிறுவ பல இடங்கள் சுட்டிக்காட்டப்படுகின்றன. காகித மில்லுக்கு வேண்டிய முக்கிய மூலப் பொருள்கள் சேலத்தில் ஏராளமாகக் கிடைக்கின்றன. காகித உற்பத்திக்குவேண்டிய மூங்கில் சேலத்தில் நிறையக் கிடைக்கிறது. பெண்ணாகரம் பிரிக்காவில் மூங்கில் புதர்கள் நிறைந்த காடுகள் ஏராளமாக இருக்கின்றன. இந்த மூலப்பொருள்களைக்கொண்டு பேர் மில்லை சேலத்தில் (பெண்ணாகரத்தில்) நிறுவலாம் என்பதை அரசாங்கத்தின் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவர விரும்புகிறேன். மேலும் பல கனிப் பொருள்களும், புதைப்பொருள்களும் அங்கே கிடைக்கின்றன. காக்காப்பொன் (மைகா) சேலத்தில் கிடைக்கிறது. அங்கே எவ்வளவு மைக்கா கிடைக்கும், அங்கே கிடைக்கும் மைக்காவை எடுத்து அரசாங்கத் திட்டங்களுக்குப் பயன்படுத்தமுடியுமா என்பனவற்றை ஆராய்ந்தறிவதற்கு நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறதா என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன். அதற்காக அரசாங்கத்தார் நிபுணர்களை நியமித்திருக்கிறார்களா என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன். ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டத்தில் பல திட்டங்களைச் சேர்த்து அவற்றை நல்ல முறையில் நிறைவேற்றினாலும் கூட நான் இப்போது குறிப்பிட்டதுபோன்ற திட்டங்களை உடனடியாக நிறைவேற்றுவதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் முயற்சிக்கவேண்டும். பலவிதமான கனிப்பொருள்கள்

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[4th May 1957]

நிறைந்த சேலம் ஒரு மேட்டுப்பாங்கான பிரதேசம்; அது தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லாவைப்போன்றே அல்லது திருச்சிநாட்டைப்போன்றே நஞ்சை நிலங்களைக் கொண்டதல்ல; அது ஒரு மலைப் பிரதேசம்; மேட்டுப்பாங்கான பிரதேசம். ஆகவே அங்கே விவசாயம் குறைந்திருக்கிறது; தொழிலாளர்கள் நிறைய இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த நிலையில் அங்கேயுள்ளவர்களுக்கு வேலை கிடைக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். ஆகவே இந்த விஷயத்தில் அரசாங்கத்தார் முக்கிய கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டும் என்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

அரசாங்கத்தார் பல நல்ல காரியங்களை இப்பொழுது செய்துவருகிறார்கள். அரசாங்கத்தார் ஒரு அபூர்வமான நல்ல காரியத்தை சமீபத்தில் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். நான் அரசியலில் ஈடுபட்டு சென்ற முப்பது, நாற்பது வருஷங்களாகப் பாடுபட்டுவருகிறேன்; சென்ற 20 வருஷங்களாக பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் உயர்வுக்காக பாடுபட்டு வருகிறேன். இந்த தேசத்தில் முற்பட்டவர்கள், பிற்பட்டவர்கள் என்றுபெரும்பிரிவினர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஒரு காலத்தில் ஒரு சில வகுப்பினர் தங்களைப் பிராமணரல்லாதார் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டும் பிராமணர்களைத் தூற்றிக்கொண்டிருந்தார்கள். முன்னேறிக்கொண்டிருந்தார்களே தவிர, ஹரிஜனங்கள் உயர்வுக்கும் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் உயர்வுக்கும் யாரும் பாடுபடவில்லை. அதன்பிறகு, பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களை முன்னுக்குக் கொண்டுவர வேண்டுமென்று மகாத்மா காந்தி அவர்கள் ஆசைப்பட்டதாலும், காங்கிரசும் தன் கொள்கைத் திட்டங்களில் அதைச் சேர்த்துக்கொண்டதாலும், காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கத்தார் 150 இனத்தவர்களைப் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களாகக் கருதி அவர்களுக்குக் கல்விச் சலுகையும் உத்தியோகச் சலுகையும் வழங்க முன் வந்தார்கள். அதற்குப் பிறகு சமீபத்தில் மருத்துவர்களையும், சலவை யாளர்களையும் ஷெட்யூல்ட் வகுப்புக்கள் பட்டியலில் சேர்த்து ஷெட்யூல்ட் வகுப்பார்களுக்கு அளிக்கும் சலுகைகள் அவர்களுக்கும் கொடுக்கப்படும் என்று சொன்னார்கள். அப்போது நான் சட்டசபையில் வரவு செலவுத் திட்டத்தின்படி நடந்த விவாதத்தில் பேசும்போது “மருத்துவர்களையும், சலவையாளர்களையும் மட்டும் ஷெட்யூல்ட் வகுப்பினர் பட்டியலில் சேர்த்தால் போதாது. அவர்களைவிட மிக மிகத் தாழ்ந்த நிலையிலுள்ள ஓட்டர்கள், குறவர்கள், மீனவர்கள், குயவர்கள் முதலியவர்களின் கதி என்ன ஆவது? அவர்கள் உயர வேண்டாமா?” என்று கேட்டேன். அதற்குப் பிறகு, இப்போது, 58 வகுப்பினர்களைப் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் பட்டியலிலிருந்து எடுத்து ஷெட்யூல்ட் வகுப்பினர் பட்டியலில் சேர்த்து, அவர்களுக்கும் எஸ்.எஸ்.எல்.சி. வரை இலவசக் கல்வி அளிக்கப்படும் என்று அரசாங்கத்தார் உத்தரவு பிறப்பித்திருக்கிறார்கள். இதை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன்; இது கண்டு நான் மகிழ்ச்சியடைகிறேன், மனப் பூரிப்பு அடைகிறேன். இது மிக முக்கியமான காரியம். மேலும் நெசவுத் தொழில் செய்யும் இனத்தவர்களும் ஷெட்யூல்ட் வகுப்பினர் பட்டியலில் சேர்த்துக் கொள்ளப்படவேண்டும். இவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் கல்விச் சலுகை யோடு விட்டுவிட வேண்டாம் என்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். உத்தியோக விஷயத்திலும் கூட இவர்களுக்குச் சலுகை கொடுக்க முன் வரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். இந்தச் சலுகைகள் என்றென்றைக்கும் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்கப்படுவதில்லை; ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட 10 வருஷ காலத்திற்குக் கொடுங்கள் என்று கேட்கிறோம். அவர்கள் மற்றவர்களுக்குச் சமமாக வந்துவிட்டார்களேயானால் அப்போது இந்தச் சலுகைகளை நிறுத்தி விடுங்கள். அவர்கள் மற்றவர்களுக்குச் சமமான புத்திசாலிகளாகவும், அனுபவமுள்ளவர்களாகவும் ஆனபிறகு அந்தச் சலுகைகளைக் கொடுக்க வேண்டாம். இதைக் காலம் தாழ்த்தவேண்டாம். இன்னும் இருக்கின்ற ஒன்றிரண்டு உத்தியோக ஸ்தானங்களைப் பூர்த்தி செய்துகொண்டு, பின்னர் உத்தியோகச் சலுகை கொடுப்பதாகச் சொல்லவேண்டாம். இதை உடனடியாகச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். இதை இப்போது செய்தால் மிகவும் நல்ல காரியம் செய்ததாக ஆகும்; காங்கிரஸின் திட்டமும் காந்தியின் எண்ணமும் பரிபூரணமாக நிறைவேறியதாக ஆகும்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, இப்போது நம் தேசத்தில் பணக்காரர்கள் ஆட்சி நடக்கிறது, காங்கிரஸின் ஆட்சி சர்வாதிகார ஆட்சியாக இருக்கிறது, ஆளும்

4th May 1957]

[Sri A. Subramanyam]

கட்சியினர் சுயநலக்காரர்களாக இருக்கிறார்கள் என்றெல்லாம் சிலர் சொல்கிறார்கள். மேலும் கவர்னர் பிரசங்கத்தில் பல விஷயங்கள் சரியானபடி குறிப்பிடப்படவில்லை என்றும், பல முக்கியமான விஷயங்கள் குறிப்பிடப்படவில்லை என்றும் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. இப்படி அடுக்கிக்கொண்டே போனால் இங்கு பேசுவதற்கு நேரமே இருக்காது; வெகு நேரம் உட்கார்ந்திருப்பது மிகவும் கஷ்டமாக இருக்கும். ஆகவே சுருங்கச் சொல்லி விளங்கவைக்கிறேன். கவர்னர் பெருமான் பிரசங்கம் தெள்ளத் தெளிவாக இருந்தது. அதில் எல்லா விஷயங்களும் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன; குறிப்பிடப்பட வேண்டிய விஷயம் எதுவும் குறிப்பிடப்படாமல் மறந்துவிடப்படவில்லை. ஆகவே கவர்னர் பெருமான் பிரசங்கத்தை நாம் பாராட்டவேண்டும்.

இன்றைக்கு நம் நாட்டிலுள்ள ராஜாக்களையெல்லாம் எடுத்துவிட்டோம். அடுத்தபடியாக ஜமீந்தார்களே இல்லாதபடி செய்துவிட்டோம்., அதற்கடுத்தபடியாக இருந்த ஜாக்கீர்தார்களை இல்லாதபடி செய்துவிட்டோம். அதற்கடுத்தபடியாக, 200, 300 ஏக்கர் நிலங்களை வைத்துக்கொண்டு, “அதோ கண்ணுக்கெட்டிய தூரம் ஊரையில் பச்சைப்பச்சென்று தெரிகிறதே, அந்த நிலங்கள் எல்லாம் என்னுடையதுதான்” என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருந்த பெரு நிலச்சுவான்தார்களின் நிலைமை இன்றைக்கு என்ன ஆகியிருக்கிறது என்று ஏழைத் தொழிலாளர்களும் ஏழை விவசாயிகளும் கவனிக்க வேண்டும். உண்மையாக உழைப்பவனுக்குத் தான் விளைச்சலில் அதிகப் பங்கு உண்டு; அவர்களைத்தான் இந்த தேசம் ஆதரிக்கிறது. ஆனால் அதற்காக நிலச் சொந்தக்காரர்களையும் அரசாங்கம் கவனிக்காமல் விட்டுவிடவில்லை; அவர்களுடைய தேவைக்குத் தக்கவாறும் உழைப்பிற்குத் தக்கவாறும் விளைச்சலில் தகுந்த பங்கு கொடுக்கப்படுகிறது. உழைப்பவனுக்கு 60 பங்கும் நிலச்சொந்தக்காரர்களுக்கு 40 பங்கும் வாரம் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இதை யார் எதிர்க்கமுடியும்? ரஷ்ய தேசத்து குருஷ்சேவும் புல்கானினும் இந்த தேசத்திற்கு விஜயம் செய்த போது நமது பிரதமர் ஸ்ரீ ஜவஹர்லால் நேருவைப்பற்றிக் குறிப்பிட்டு அவர்கள் என்ன கூறினார்கள் என்று பார்க்க வேண்டும். “எங்கள் தேசத்தில் 1917-ம் வருஷத்திலிருந்து இன்றுவரை பாடுபட்டு, அதாவது 40 வருஷங்கள் பாடுபட்டு அணுகுண்டுக்கு வந்திருக்கிறோம். ஆனால் இந்த தேசத்தில் நேருஜியின் தலைமையில், பத்து வருஷம் நிரம்பாத ஒன்பது வருஷ காலத்தில் மக்களுக்குச் செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிற காரியங்களைப் பார்க்கும்போது நாங்கள் பிரமிப்படைகிறோம். எங்கள் தேசத்தில் நாங்கள் மக்களுக்கு இவ்வளவு காரியங்கள் குறுகிய காலத்தில் செய்யவில்லை” என்று அவர்களே சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமையில் இங்கே எதிர்க் கட்சிகளுக்கே இடமில்லை என்றுகூட நான் கூறுவேன். உண்மையான நிலைமை தெரியாததாலும் புரியாததாலும்தான் மக்கள் எதிர்க் கட்சிக்காரர்கள் சொல்வதை நம்பிவிடுகிறார்கள். உண்மையான நிலைமையை அவர்களுக்குப் புரியவைத்தால் அவர்கள் இந்த அரசாங்கத்தை ஆதரிப்பார்கள் என்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன்.

இந்தத் தருணத்தில் நான் அதிகம் பேச விரும்ப வில்லை. தலைவர் அவர்கள் எனக்கு 10 நிமிஷங்கள் கொடுத்ததால் சொல்ல வேண்டிய விஷயங்களைச் சொன்னேன். இன்னொரு முக்கியமான விஷயத்தை மட்டும் சொல்லி விடுகிறேன். சேலம் ஜில்லாவில் பெண்ணாகரம் தொகுதியில் மக்கள் நன்மைக்கான பல வேலைகள் செய்யவேண்டும். அந்தத் தொகுதியில் பல இடங்களில் வண்டிகள் போகமுடியாது. அங்கே நெருப்பூர் என்று ஒரு ஊர் இருக்கிறது. அந்த ஊருக்குப் போகவேண்டுமானால் பல காடு, வனந்தரங்களைக் கடந்து போகவேண்டும். அது கரடுமுறடான மேட்டுப் பிரதேசம். அது மைசூர் ராஜ்ய எல்லை வரையில் வியாபித்திருக்கிறது. பெண்ணாகரம் தொகுதியில் ஒரு லட்சம் வோட்டர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களில் 20,000 வோட்டர்கள் நகரப் பகுதியில் இருக்கிறார்கள். 80,000 வோட்டர்கள் காட்டுப் பகுதியில் இருக்கிறார்கள். அந்தப் பிரதேசத்தில் முதலாவதாக ரோடு வசதி செய்து தரவேண்டும். பாலக்காடு பிரிக்காவில் மின்சார வசதி செய்து தர உத்தரவுகள் போடப்பட்டிருந்தும் இன்று வரையில் அங்கே அதற்காக ஒன்றும் செய்யப்பட வில்லை. பெண்ணாகரத் தொகுதியில் நிறைய பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களும், ஏழைகளும், ஹரிஜனங்களும் நிறைய இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த விஷயத்தை உடனடியாகக் கவனிக்க வேண்டு

[4th May 1957

* **SRI V. K. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER** : கனம் உதவித் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்போதுதான் நான் முதன் முதலாக இந்தக் கவுன்சிலில் பேசுகிறேன். போன தடவை அசெம்பிளியில் அங்கத்தினனாக இருந்தேன். அதற்கு முன்பு 1937-ம் வருஷம் இருந்த அசெம்பிளியில் கூட அங்கத்தினனாக இருந்தேன். இங்கு பேசும் போது ஒரு பதட்ட உணர்ச்சி தோன்றுகிறது. இந்த சபையில் அனேக அறிவாளிகள் இருப்பதால் அந்த உணர்ச்சி தோன்றுகிறது என்று நினைக்கிறேன். கவர்னர் அவர்களையும் உரையைப் பாராட்டும் முறையில் இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இந்தக் கவுன்சிலானது (இப்போதைய அசெம்பிளிக் கட்டிடத்தைச் சுட்டிக்காட்டி) அந்தக் கட்டிடத்திலிருந்து இங்கே வந்திருக்கிறது. இங்கே எவ்வளவோ சௌகரியங்கள் செய்து கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. இருந்தாலும் இன்னும் சில சௌகரியங்களைச் செய்ய வேண்டும். இங்கே பாருங்கள். இங்கிருந்து (எதிர்ப் பக்கத்தைச் சுட்டிக்காட்டி) அந்தப் பக்கம் போவதற்கு வழி கிடையாது ; சுற்றித் தான் போக வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அதற்கான வசதி செய்யப்படவேண்டும். இந்த மாதிரியான சின்னச் சின்ன சௌகரியங்களைச் செய்து கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I wish to tell hon. Members that we are exactly ten now. If any one were to go out, there will be no quorum.

*SRI V. K. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER : மேலும் இந்த

கனம் அங்கத்தினர் ஸ்ரீ நாராயணசாமி பிள்ளை அவர்கள் காங்கிரஸ் திரும்பி பதவிக்கு வந்ததை தான் வரவேற்பதாகச் சொன்னார்கள். ஆனால் காங்கிரஸ் இவ்வளவு அளவுக்கு அதிக ஸ்தானம் பெற்றதை அவர் விரும்பவில்லை. இன்னும் குறைவாக ஸ்தானம் பெற்றிருக்கலாம் என்று சொன்னார். எனக்கு இதன் அர்த்தம் புரியவில்லை. காங்கிரஸ், மக்களின் பூரண ஆதரவைப் பெற்றிருப்பதால், அதற்கு அதிக ஸ்தானம் கிடைத்தால் இதற்கு யார் என்ன செய்யமுடியும்? இதுவரை

காங்கிரஸ் செய்த சாதனையை மக்கள் ஆமோதித்து, அதை வரவேற்று பெரும் அளவில் காங்கிரஸ் அங்கத்தினர்களைச் சட்ட சபைக்கு அனுப்பி யிருக்கிறார்கள். இதனால் மக்களின் பேராதரவைக் காங்கிரஸ் பெற்றி ருக்கிறது என்பது தெளிவாகிறது. மக்கள் காங்கிரஸின் சாதனையை ஆமோதித்து இருக்கிறார்கள் என்றுதான் இதன், அர்த்தம்.

கவர்னர் உரையில் பல விஷயங்கள் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. 6-வது பாராவிட 250 கிராமங்கள் பூமிதானமாகக் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன என்று சொல்லப்பட்டது. இதை சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக் கொண்டு நிலத்தை நிலம் இல்லாதவர்களுக்குப் பகிர்ந்து கொடுத்து அவர்களை விவசாயம் நடத்தச் செய்யலாம் என்று சிலர் யோசனை கூறுகிறார்கள். நான் ஒன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். சில பேர்களுக்குப் பகிர்ந்துகொடுப்பதைக் காட்டிலும், கூட்டுறவு முறையில் அந்தந்த கிராமத்தில் விவசாயம் நடைபெறச் செய்வதுதான் மிக்க நலம். கூட்டுறவு முறையில் விவசாயம் நடந்தால், கணிசமான முன்னேற்றம் அடையலாம். இரண்டொரு நாளைக்கு முன்பு நம் பிரதம மந்திரி நேரு கூட, கூட்டுறவு முறையில்தான் நாம் விவசாயத்தை அபிவிருத்தி செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லி யிருக்கிறார். கூட்டுறவு முறையில் இந்த 250 கிராமங்களிலும் விவசாயம் நடைபெறச் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று நான் சர்க்காரைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். இந்தக் கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்தினால் ஏற்படும் பலன்கள் பல.

பயிர்கள் பூச்சிகளால் அழியாமல் இருக்க சர்க்கார் மருந்துகள் தருகின்றனர். கோயம்புத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் கம்பளிப்பூச்சி அதிகமாகத் தொல்லை கொடுக்கிறது. இதற்கு வேண்டிய மருந்து இன்னும் கண்டு பிடிக்கப்படவில்லை. இதற்கு வேண்டிய மருந்தைக் கண்டுபிடித்து, அந்தப் புழுவைக் கொல்லத் தக்க ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்யப்படவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

மஸ்பார் ஜில்லா ராஜ்யப் புணரமைப்பின் காரணமாக சென்னை ராஜ்யத்தில் இருந்து பிரிந்து போனதால் நம் ராஜ்யத்தின் வனப்பரப்பு குறைந்துள்ளது. இது வருந்ததக்க விஷயம். தூண்கூடவு காட்டில் தேக்கு பயிர் செய்கிறார்கள். இதை விருத்தி செய்ய வேண்டியது அவசியம். இதற்கு ஒரு திட்டம் வகுத்து அதிகப்படியாக இந்தத் தேக்கு பயிர் செய்ய சர்க்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

பெரிய நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டங்கள் இப்போது நம் ராஜ்யத்தில் முடியும் தருவாயில் இருக்கின்றன. அமராவதி, சாத்தனூர், மணிமுத்தாள், மேட்டூர் கால்வாய் முதலிய திட்டங்கள் முடியும் தருவாயில் இருக்கின்றன. நேற்று ஒரு அங்கத்தினர், இந்தத் திட்டங்கள் முடிவடைந்தால் அங்கு இப்போது வேலை செய்யும் நபர்கள் பிறகு வேலை வில்லாமல் திண்டாடுவார்கள் என்று சொன்னார். அப்படி நேராமல் வேறு பல அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டங்கள் ஆரம்பிக்கப்பட வேண்டும். கோயம்புத் தாருக்குப் பக்கத்தில் மலையருகில் பரம்பிக்குளம் என்ற ஆறு ஒடுகிறது.

[Sri V. K. Palaniswamy Gounder] [4th May 1957]

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p.m.

அதன் தண்ணீரைத் தேக்கினால் 3 லக்ஷம் ஏக்கர நிலம் சாகுபடி செய்யலாம் என்று கணக்கிடப்பட்டுள்ளது. இதற்கு சர்க்கார் 10 அல்லது 20 என்ஜினியர்களைக் கொண்டு 2 வருடங்களாகத் திட்டமிட்டுக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். ஆனால் முதலில் என்ன நினைத்தார்கள்? சென்னை ராஜ்யத்திற்கு அந்தத் தண்ணீரைக் கொண்டுவருவதற்குக் கேரள ராஜ்யத்தின் பக்கத்தில் அணை கட்டவேண்டுமென்று நினைத்தார்கள். அதற்குப் பிறகு இரண்டு வருஷங்கள் நமது எஞ்சினியர்கள் பரிசீலனை செய்த பிறகு, “சென்னை ராஜ்யத்திலேயே அணை கட்டி மூன்று லட்சம் ஏக்கருக்குத் தண்ணீர் பாயச் செய்யலாம், சென்னை ராஜ்யத்தில் அணை கட்டி ஒன்றரை லட்சம் கிலோவாட் மின்சாரம் எடுக்க முடியும்” என்று திட்டமிட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தத் திட்டத்தைக் காலம் தாழ்த்தாமல் உடனே நிறைவேற்ற வேண்டும். இதை நிறைவேற்ற வேண்டிய விஷயத்தில் கேரள ராஜ்யம் சம்பந்தப்பட்டதே இல்லை. இதை நிறைவேற்றுவதற்குக் கேரள ராஜ்யத்தின் சம்மதம் நமக்குத் தேவையில்லை; ஏனென்றால் அந்த ராஜ்யத்தில் தண்ணீர் தேக்கம் கட்ட வேண்டாம், நம் ராஜ்யத்திலேயே கட்டலாம். சென்னை ராஜ்யத்தில் பெய்யும் மழையால் உண்டாகிற ஆறுகளுக்கு நம் ராஜ்யத்திலேயே அணைபோட்டு தண்ணீர் தேக்கலாம். ஆனால் அந்த ராஜ்யத்தில்தான் அணை கட்டவேண்டுமென்று அரசாங்கத்தார் முதலில் நினைத்தார்கள். அதற்குக் கேரள அரசாங்கத்தார் ஆட்சேபனை சொன்னவுடன் நமது எஞ்சினியர்கள் பரிசீலனை செய்து, நமது ராஜ்யத்திலேயே அணை கட்டலாம் என்று சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். நமது ராஜ்யத்தில் அணை கட்டுவதால் ஒரு ஏக்கராவது நீர்ப்பாசனம் குறையப் போவதில்லை. முன்பு போட்ட திட்டப்படி மூன்று லட்சம் ஏக்கருக்குத் தண்ணீர் பாயும் என்று எதிர்பார்க்கப்படுகிறது. இப்போது போட்டுள்ள திட்டப்படி மூன்றரை லட்சம் ஏக்கருக்கு சலிப்பாகத் தண்ணீர் பாயும் என்று எதிர்பார்க்கப்படுகிறது; அத்துடன் ஒன்றரை லட்சம் கிலோவாட் மின்சாரமும் உற்பத்தி செய்யலாம் இந்தத் திட்டத்தை அரசாங்கத்தார் ஏன் தாமதித்து வருகிறார்கள் என்று எனக்குத் தெரியவில்லை. இதற்குப் பதில் சொல்ல வேண்டுமென்று சபை முதல்வரை (லீடரை) கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

நமது ராஜ்யத்தில் பாசனத்திற்குப் போதிய தண்ணீர் கிடையாது, இங்கே யுள்ள தண்ணீரை எல்லாம் உபயோகப்படுத்தி ஆகிவிட்டது. இப்போது நமது ராஜ்யத்தில் பல திட்டங்கள் முடிகின்ற சருவாயில் இருக்கின்றன. அந்தத் திட்ட வேலைகளுக்காக நியமிக்கப்பட்டுள்ள ஆட்களுக்கும், உபயோகப்படுத்தப்பட்ட இயந்திரங்களுக்கும் இனிமேலும் வேலை கொடுக்க வேண்டும். அதற்கு இன்னும் திட்டங்கள் வேண்டும். தவிர நமது ராஜ்யத்திற்குத் தண்ணீர் ரொம்ப அவசியம். நம் ராஜ்யம் ரொம்ப வறண்ட பிரதேசம். நம் ராஜ்யத்தில் உணவு தானியங்கள் பற்றுக்குறையாக இருக்கின்றன. இந்தக் காரணங்களினால் நம் ராஜ்யத்தில் உடனடியாகத் திட்டங்களை நிறைவேற்ற வேண்டும். ஆகவே இந்தத் திட்டத்தை உடனடியாக ஆரம்பிக்க முயற்சிக்க வேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, கவர்னர் பிரசங்கத்தில் கல்வி விஷயமாக ஒரு பாராவில் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இப்போது அதிகமாக ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் அதிகரிக்கப் பட வேண்டியது ரொம்பவும் அவசியம். எல்லா கிராமங்களுக்கும் ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் வேண்டும். ஆனால் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய கட்டிடங்களும் மற்ற செளகரியங்களும் கிராமங்களில் இல்லை. அந்த செளகரியங்களை உடனடியாகக் கிராமங்களில் செய்து கொடுக்க வேண்டும். தவிர, ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களின் முழு பொறுப்பையும் சர்க்கார் ஏற்றுக்கொள்வதுதான் நியாயம். இப்போது அவை ஜில்லா போர்டுகளிடமும் தனிப்பட்டவர்களிடமும் இருக்கின்றன. இதனால் பல அசௌகரியங்கள் ஏற்படுகின்றன; இதில் பல குறைகள் இருக்கின்றன. சில ஜில்லாக்களில் 1,000, 1,500 ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகளை மேற்பார்வை செய்வது ரொம்பக் கஷ்டமாக இருக்கிறது. இந்தக் கஷ்டங்களை நீக்குவதற்கு சர்க்கார் தகுந்த ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வேண்டும்.

[Sri V. K. Palaniswamy Gounder] 4th May 1957]

அதோடு கூட, ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்கள் விஷயமாக இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இப்போது முனிசிபல் சபைகளின் தேர்தல்கள் நடக்கவிருக்கின்றன. அதோடு கூட வெகு காலமாக ஒத்திப்போடப்பட்டுள்ள பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுத் தேர்தல்களும் நடக்கவிருக்கின்றன. இந்தத் தேர்தல்களை நடத்துவதற்கு முன்பு, ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்கள் எப்படி அமைக்கப்பட்டவண்டும், அவை எப்படி இயங்க வேண்டும் என்பனவற்றையெல்லாம் முடிவு செய்து, அதற்குப் பிறகு இந்தத் தேர்தல்களை நடத்தினால் நல்லது. அதற்கு வேண்டிய யோசனைகள் எல்லாம் இப்போது இருக்கின்றன. ஜில்லா போர்டுகள் எப்படி இருக்கவேண்டும் என்று யோசனைகள் கூறுவதற்கு சர்க்கார் ஒரு கமிட்டி போட்டிருந்தார்கள். அந்தக் கமிட்டியில் நானும் கூட ஒரு அங்கத்தினனாக இருந்தேன். அந்தக் கமிட்டியின் ரிப்போர்ட்டும் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. மேலும் முனிசிபல் நிர்வாகத்தைப்பற்றி ரத்தினசபாபதி முதலியார் கமிட்டியின் ரிப்போர்ட்டும் இருக்கிறது. இவற்றையெல்லாம் சேர்த்து ஒரு வெள்ளையறிக்கையும் அசெம்பிளியில் கொடுக்கப்பட்டது. ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்கள் எப்படி இருக்கவேண்டும் என்று விதிகள் வகுப்பதை உடனடியாகச் செய்து அதன்மேல் அடுத்த தேர்தல்களை நடத்துவதுதான் நல்லது. உதாரணமாக பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுத் தேர்தலை பஞ்சாயத்து எல்லையிலுள்ள எல்லோரும் சேர்ந்து தேர்ந்தெடுக்கவேண்டுமென்ற முறை இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் அப்படிச் செய்வது நல்லதல்ல என்று எல்லோரும் சொன்னார்கள். வெள்ளை அறிக்கையிலும் அது சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இப்போது தேர்தல் நடத்தினால் அந்த முறையில்தான் பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுத் தேர்தலைத் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கவேண்டும். ஆகையால் பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு, முனிசிபல் சபை ஜில்லா போர்டு முதலியவை எப்படி இருக்க வேண்டும், அவை எப்படி இயங்க வேண்டும் என்று உடனடியாகத் தேர்தலுக்கு முன் முடிவு செய்து அமலுக்குக் கொண்டுவந்தால் மிகவும் நன்றாக இருக்கும். அனே கமாக நவம்பர் மாதத்தில் ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களின் தேர்தல்கள் வருவதால் அதற்கு முன் இதைச் செய்ய வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். பேசுவதற்கு எனக்குச் சந்தர்ப்பம் கொடுத்ததற்குத் தங்களுக்கு வந்தனம் தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு இத்துடன் என் வார்த்தையை முடித்துக் கொள்கிறேன்.

* SRI M. V. SUDARSANAM NAIDU : தலைவர் அவர்களே, ரொம்பச் சுருக்கமான காலத்தில் பேசுவதற்கு எனக்கு சந்தர்ப்பம் கொடுத்ததற்குத் தங்களுக்கு என் நமஸ்காரம். கவர்னர் உரையில் பல நல்ல திட்டங்களைப் பற்றிக் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. முதலில் 8-பேர்களைக் கொண்ட இந்த மந்திரி சபை ரொம்ப அழகாக அமைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்று எல்லோரும் வாழ்த்தினார்கள். நானும் அப்படியே வாழ்த்துகிறேன். நான்கு பழையவர்களையும் நான்கு புதிய மந்திரிகளையும் கொண்ட இந்த மந்திரி சபையிலுள்ள எல்லோரும் நல்ல அறிவாளிகள். அவர்களை நான் வாழ்த்துகிறேன். நமது முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் நல்ல இலாகாக்களைத் தன் பொறுப்பில் எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். கிராம அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டங்கள், தேசிய நலத் திட்டங்கள், சமுதாய நலத் திட்டங்கள், பிளாக் அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டங்கள் முதலிய திட்டங்களை அமுல் நடத்தும் இலாகாக்களை அவர் எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார். அந்தத் திட்டங்களின் மூலம் மக்களுக்கு நல்ல காரியங்களைச் செய்யவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்தால் மக்கள் எல்லோரும் நமது அரசாங்கத்தை ஆதரிப்பார்கள். ஏற்கெனவே இரண்டு வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்பு புயலால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட மக்களுக்கு அரசாங்கம் உதவி செய்தபோது அதைக் கண்கூடாகக் கண்டோம். தேர்தலில் காங் கிரஸ் அமோக வெற்றி பெறுவதற்கு, நாம் செய்த அந்த புயல் நிவாரண வேலைகள் மிகவும் உதவியாக இருந்தன. ஆகவே இம்மாதிரி மக்களுடன் தொடர்பு கொண்டு அவர்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களை உடனடியாகத் தீர்த்து வந்தால் இந்த ராஜ்யத்தில் கம்யூனிஸ்டுக் கட்சி அனேகமாக மறைந்து போய்விட்டது. தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லாவில் எங்குமே கம்யூனிஸ்டு இல்லை. கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் இப்போது வெற்றிபெறாமல் ரொம்பக் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள்.

[Sri M. V. Sudarsanam Naidu] [4th May 1957]

நமது முதன் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பல நல்ல காரியங்களைச் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். ஆனாலும் இப்போது அரசாங்கத்தில் சில குறைபாடுகள் இருக்கின்றன. சில ஜில்லாக்களிலுள்ள சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகள் எங்கேயோ உட்கார்ந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்; திட்டங்கள் மக்களுக்குச் சரியாகப் பயன்படும்படி நிறைவேற்றப்படுகிறதா என்று ஆங்காங்கே கவனிக்காமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். திட்டங்களுக்காக ஏராளமான பணம் செலவு செய்யப்படுகிறது. ஆனால் மக்களுக்குச் சரியான பயன் கிடைப்பதில்லை. அதிகாரிகள் மக்களோடு தொடர்பு கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று அகில இந்தியாவிலும் சொல்லப்படுகிறது; மதிப்பிற்குரிய நேருஜி முதற்கொண்டு எல்லோரும் இதைச் சொல்லிவருகிறார்கள். அதிகாரிகள் மக்களோடு தொடர்பு கொள்வதில்லை. சர்க்கார் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் ஏதோ தங்கள் வேலையைச் செய்வதாக மினைக்கிறார்களே தவிர மக்களுடன் தொடர்பு கொள்வதில்லை. மிக மிகச் சொற்பமான இடங்களில் தான் அதிகாரிகள் மக்களுடன் தொடர்பு கொண்டு செயலாற்றுகிறார்கள்.

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p.m.

ஆகவே இனி ஒவ்வொரு மாதத்திலும் அவர்கள் எவ்வளவு வேலை செய்தார்கள், எவ்வளவு திட்டங்களை வகுத்துப் பணியாற்றினார்கள் என்று ஒவ்வொரு மாதமும் கண்காணிப்பு இருப்பது அவசியம். அது மாத திரமல்ல. ஒவ்வொரு தாலுக்காவிலும் பெரிய கிராமத்திலும் கூட்டம் கூட்டப்படுகிறது. கலெக்டரும் டெபுடி கலெக்டரும் வந்து பேசுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்களுடைய பேச்சை கிராமவாசிகளால் புரிந்து கொள்ள முடிவதில்லை. இதற்குக் காரணம் அதிகாரிகள் இங்கிலிஷில் பேசுவது தான். கூட்டத்திற்குப் போகிறார்களே தவிர அங்கு நடக்கும் பேச்சுக்கள் ஆங்கிலத்தில் இருப்பதனால், ஒன்றும் புரியாமல் அவர்கள் திரும்புகின்றனர். அங்கு வசிக்கும் கிராம வாசிகள் படித்தவர்கள் அல்ல. எழுத்தறிவு இல்லாதவர்கள். சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகள் தமிழிலேயே பேசினால், கிராம மக்கள், தங்களுக்கு சர்க்கார் என்னென்ன திட்டங்களை வகுத்திருக்கிறார்கள், எப்படி கிராமப் புனரூபணத்திற்கு சர்க்கார் திட்டமிட்டிருக்கின்றனர் என்பதை நன்றாக உணர்வார்கள். தங்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களையும் அதிகாரிகளிடம் முறையிட்டுத் தீர்த்துக்கொள்ள ஒரு வாய்ப்பு ஏற்படும். தங்களுடைய ஒத்துழைப்பையும் அவர்கள் உற்சாகத்துடன் அளிப்பார்கள். இப்படி மக்களுக்கு உற்சாகமூட்டி அவர்கள் ஒத்துழைப்பை பெறுவோமானால், உழைப்புக்குக் கட்டாயம் வெற்றி கிடைக்கும் என்று நான் சொல்லிக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன்.

நெய்வேலித் திட்டத்தைப்பற்றி என் நண்பர் ஸ்ரீ ஏ. சுப்பிரமணியம் பேசினார். நெய்வேலித் திட்டம் ஒரு மிகப்பெரிய திட்டம். இதற்கு ரூ. 60 கோடி செலவழிக்கத் திட்டமிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. என்னுடைய ஜில்லாவில் இந்தத் திட்டம் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. இதைப்பற்றி அந்த ஜில்லா வாசியான நான் பெருமைப்படலாம். ஆனால் என் ஜில்லாவுக்கு மாத திரம் பெருமையல்ல. இது சென்னை ராஜ்யத்திற்கே பெருமை தரக் கூடியது. எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களுக்கும் இதில் பங்கு உண்டு. இங்கு கிடைக்கும் நிலக்கரியைக் கொண்டு இரும்பு உருக்குசாலை ஒன்று ஏற்படுத்த வாய்ப்பு இருக்கிறது என்று நண்பர் ஸ்ரீ ஏ. சுப்பிரமணியம் கூறினார். இதை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன். எப்படி நம் ராஜ்யத்தின் மொத்த வருவாயில் எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களுக்கும் பங்கு உண்டோ, அதே மாதிரி நெய்வேலியிலிருந்து கிடைக்கும் முக்கியமான பொருளில் எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களுக்கும் பங்கு உண்டு. நான் முன்பு சொன்ன மாதிரி, நம் ராஜ்யத்திற்கே பெருமைதரக் கூடியது இந்த நெய்வேலித் திட்டம்.

எனக்குப் பேச அதிக நேரம் இல்லாததால் சுருக்கமாக சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இந்தத் திட்டத்தை நிறைவேற்றுவதற்காக பழுப்பு நிலக்கரி உள்ள பிரதேசங்களை சர்க்கார் தன் வசம் எடுத்துக் கொண்டுள்ளனர். அங்கிருக்கும் கிராம மக்களை வேறு இடத்தில் குடியேற்ற வசதி செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அங்கிருக்கும் கிராமவாசிகள் இந்தத் திட்டத்தை நிறைவேற்ற தங்கள் ஒத்துழைப்பைக் கொடுக்க மனமுடவந்து முன்வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். நேரில் நானும் இன்னும் மற்றவர்களும் சென்று கலெக்டரை வைத்துக்கொண்டு ஒரு விதமாகக் காரியங்கள் நன்றாக முடிவுற, ஒரு ஒப்பந்தத்துக்கு வந்தோம். அதற்கு மக்கள் சம்மதித்தார்கள். தங்கள் கையெழுத்தையும் இட்டு தங்கள் ஒத்துழைப்பைக்

[Sri M. V. Sudarsanam Naidu] 4th May 1957]

கொடுக்க முன்வந்தார்கள். திட்டம் வெற்றிபெற அரசாங்கத்திற்குத் தங்களால் இயன்ற உதவியை அவர்கள் அளிக்கக் காத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அரசாங்க அதிகாரிகளின் போக்கு இதற்கு மாறாக இருக்கிறது. அதை நான் இங்கு சொல்லாமல் இருக்க முடியவில்லை. அவர்களின் மற்ற அதிகாரிகளின் போக்கு, காலத்திற்கேற்ப மாறவில்லை. அவர்களின் போக்கு மக்களுக்குக் கஷ்டத்தையும், மனக்கசப்பையும், துவேஷத்தையும் உண்டுபண்ணுகிறது. அங்குள்ள கிராமவாசிகள் படிப்பு வாசனையற்றவர்கள். கோபம் வந்தால் வெட்டிப் புதைத்துவிடக்கூடியவர்கள். சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகளின் போக்கு அவர்களுக்கு ஆத்திரத்தை உண்டுபண்ணுவதாக இருக்கிறது. அதிகாரிகள் உபயோகிக்கும் சொல், கொடூரச் சொல்லாக இருக்கிறது. ஆத்திரமூட்டுவதாக இருக்கிறது. இன்சொல்லாக இருந்தால் மக்களைத் திருப்திப்படுத்தக்கூடும். ஆகவே நம் எதிர் காலம் நன்றாக உருவாக்கப்படவேண்டுமானால், நம் கிராம மக்கள் சர்க்காருடன் ஒத்துழைத்து நம் அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டங்கள் வெற்றிபெற வேண்டுமானால், நம் சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகளின் தற்போதைய போக்கில் மாறுதல்வேண்டும். தங்கள் இன் சொல்லால் மக்களைத் திருத்தவேண்டும். இதைத்தான் நான் இங்கு சொல்லிக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன்.

தாங்கள் எடுத்துக் கொண்ட நிலங்களுக்கும், தோப்புக்களுக்கும் சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகள் போடும் மதிப்பு மிகக்குறைவாக இருக்கிறது. மக்களுக்குக் கஷ்டத்தைக் கொடுக்கக்கூடியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஒரு முந்திரித் தோப்பு 1947-ம் வருடத்தில் ரூ. 150 கிரயம் என்று வைத்துக் கொள்வோம். 1956ல் அதன் மதிப்பு என்ன? தற்போது விலைவாசிகள் இருக்கும் நிலைக்கு ஏற்ப கிரயம் நிர்ணயிக்கப்பட வேண்டும். மதிப்பிடுவதில் பல சிக்கல்களும், சங்கடங்களும் உள்ளன. நாலு முந்திரி மரங்கள் இருந்தாலும் ஒரு தோப்புதான்; 47 செடிகள் இருந்தாலும் ஒரு தோப்புதான். பழக்கம் அப்படித்தான். முந்திரிப்பருப்பு விலை 1947ல் ரூ. 10 தைக்காட்டிலும் 10 மடங்கு அதிகமாக இருக்கிறது. அப்போது 150 ரூ. மதிப்புள்ள தோப்பு, படிப்படியாக 250, 350, 450 ரூபாய் என்று உயர்வாகி கொண்டே போயிருக்கிறது. விலை இப்போது 8 அல்லது 10 மடங்கு கூடுதலாகப் பருப்பு விற்கிறது. இப்போது கிடைக்கும் வருவாயைக் கொண்டு தோப்புகள் மதிப்பிடப்படவேண்டும். ஆனால் தாசில்தாரோ, டெபுடி கலெக்டரோ சொல்வதென்னவென்றால், “நீ வாங்கும்போது மதிப்பிடவேண்டும்” என்பதானே, அதைப்பார்த்து அதன் பேரில்தான் மதிப்பிடவேண்டும்” என்கின்றனர். மரத்தின் கிரயத்திற்கு விறகின் மீது மதிப்புப் போடப்படுவது சரியல்ல. ரூபாய் 10க்கு காய்த்தால், விறகின் மதிப்பு 6 அணா அல்லது 8 அணாவாகத்தான் இருக்கும். இப்படிச் கணக்கிட்டால் பயிரிடுபவர்களுக்கு அதிகாரிகளின் மீது வெறுப்புதான் உண்டாகிறது. இந்தப் பிரச்சினை நன்றாக ஆராய்ந்து ஆவன செய்வதற்கு சர்க்கார் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதிக நேரம் இல்லாததால் ஒன்று மாதத் திரம் சொல்லி நிறுத்திக்கொள்கிறேன்.

ஒரே இடத்தில்தான் நிலம் பூராவையும் சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொள்கிறார்கள். ஒருவனுக்கு 10 ஏக்கர் இருக்கிறதென்றால், 5 ஏக்கர் வீடாக நிலக்கரி உள்ள பிரதேசத்தில் இருந்தால் அதை மாதத் திரம் எடுத்துக் கொள்கிறார்கள். மீதி வயல் 5 ஏக்கர் இருந்தால், அதை வைத்துக் கொண்டு அவன் என்ன செய்ய முடியும்? அங்கு அவன் பயிரிடவும் முடியாது; குடியிருக்கவும் முடியாது. இதை அரசாங்கத்தின் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவர விரும்புகிறேன். ஆவன செய்வார்கள் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். விவசாயிக்கு ஒரு தொந்தரவும் நேராவண்ணம் காரியங்கள் செய்யப்படவேண்டும். அதற்குப் பேச சந்தர்ப்பம் அளித்த தலைவர் என்ற நம்பிக்கையோடு, எனக்குப் பேச சந்தர்ப்பம் அளித்த தலைவர் அவர்களுக்கு நன்றி செலுத்திவிட்டு என் உரையை முடித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House will now adjourn and meet again at 3 p.m. on Monday, the 6th May 1957.

The House then adjourned.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 6th May 1957.

The House met in the Council Chamber; Fort St. George, at three of the clock, the Deputy Chairman (SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAJ) in the Chair.

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

I.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *RE*. ELECTION OF SIX MEMBERS TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have to inform the House that the following six candidates were nominated for election to the House Committee for the financial year 1957-58 :—

Sri A. Subramanyam,
Srimathi Mary C. Clubwala Jadhav,
Sri V. V. Ramaswami,
Sri John Asirvatham,
Sri A. J. Arunachalam,
Sri M. Ethirajalu.

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

In addition to the above, under rule 171 (1) of the Madras Council Rules, I nominate the following two members to be Members of the said Committee :—

Sri T. Purushotham,
Srimathi S. Manjubhashini.

The Deputy Chairman of the Council shall be the Chairman of the Committee.

II.—DISCUSSION ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS—*cont.*

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY : Mr. Deputy Chairman, I thank you for giving me this opportunity of saying a few words on the Governor's Address. This Address is more conspicuous for its sins of omission than for its sins of commission. As a matter of fact, sins of omission are less dangerous than sins of commission, because when you commit yourself to a definite policy, you cannot wriggle out of the situation, whereas if you simply abstain from mentioning any definite policy, it is easy for you to find out a loophole and escape. In this connexion, I cannot help referring to an incident which, I suppose, is characteristic of an occasion like this. It is about Lord Randolph Churchill, father of Mr. Winston Churchill. He was following the British parliamentary practice of hearing the speech from the Head of the State. On one occasions

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after listening to the King's speech—or rather the Queen's speech—when he came out, he asked another Gentleman, “What do you think of the Queen's speech?” The other Gentleman replied, “There was nothing in that speech!” Quick came Lord Randolph's remark, “I am extremely glad to hear from you that there was nothing in that speech. If there was something in that speech, our statesmen would have been pinned down to something definite whereas if you consider that there was nothing in it, the Government can do whatever they like.” In that way, if there is no commission, we cannot find fault with the Ministers. After all, the speech of the Governor is merely an echo of the attitude of the Ministers in power to-day. It simply reflects the views of the Ministers in power. He cannot express his own independent views on any matter. He has to reflect the views of the Party in power, just as the King is expected to express the views of his Ministry in power. Then there is the theory that the King cannot do any wrong. Nor can he do any right thing.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Does that naturally follow?

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY : If they do not say anything definite, it will only be a sin of omission and it will be better than a sin of commission. It is indeed characteristic of hard-boiled politicians who know how to steer clear through difficult paths.

There is another matter to which I wish to make a reference. In the Tamil dailies I have read the news that a lot of ejectments are going on and that a number of cultivating tenants are evicted from their lands on the ground that a recent judgment of the High Court does not cover their cases, and that it covers only certain classes of tenants. It is not fair to evict these people from their holdings. I wish that our Ministers should pay some attention to this matter. They must take such action as is necessary to remedy this defect and give protection to these poor cultivating tenants. After all, we depend upon agricultural labourers for the prosperity of the country. Those who live in towns depend upon the countryside. We are not independent of the countryside. We are absolutely dependent upon the rural population and their hard work in the villages. I request the Minister concerned to pay some attention to this matter, remedy the state of things and prevent the ejection of the tenants from their holdings. I wish to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the other Members in thinking the Governor for the speech that he delivered. With these few words, I resume my seat.

*SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : மன்றத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, வணக்கம். நமது கவர்னர் பெருமான் ஆற்றிய பேருரையைப்பற்றி இப்பொழுது நாம் வாதம் செய்கின்றோம். அதற்குமுன் சென்ற ஐந்து ஆண்டுகளாக நம் நாட்டின்கண் கவர்னர் பெருமானையிருந்த ஸ்ரீ ஸ்ரீபிரகாசா அவர்களுக்கு நாம் நன்றி செலுத்தக் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறோம். அவர் காலத்தில்தான் நம் நாட்டிலே ஒரு பெரிய புரட்சி நடந்தது. அதாவது பெரும்பான்மையான தமிழ் பேசும் பகுதிகள் கொண்ட தமிழ் நாடு அமைந்தது. அதுவும் அல்லாமல் தமிழ் மொழியை ஆட்சி மொழியாகவும் ஆக்கி விட்டுச் சென்றார்கள். ஆகையினால், இந்த இரு பண்பின் காரணமாக

[6th May 1957] [Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar]

அந்தப் பெருமானை நாம் பாராட்டக் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறோம். அவர் வழியாக வந்த இப்போதைய நமது கவர்னர் பெருமான் அவர்களும் ஸ்ரீ ஸ்ரீபிரகாசாவைப் பாராட்டி அவர்களது உரையில் முதலாவதாக எடுத்துச் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள்.

நமது கவர்னர் பெருமான் இறுதியாக இருக்கும் பக்கத்தில் சொல்லியிருப்பது : ‘The Finance Minister in his Budget Speech will deal with the policies and programmes of the new Ministry’ நமது கவர்னர் பெருமானின் நிலையிலே, அவர் அவ்வளவுதான் சொல்ல முடியும் என்று நான் நினைக்கிறேன். கொள்கைகளும் முறைகளும் கவர்னர் அவர்களது பேருரையில் இருக்க வேண்டியதுதான். ஆனால் அந்தப் பேருரையிலே எல்லாக் கொள்கைகளையும் எடுத்துச் சொல்ல இயலாது. அதையொட்டித்தான் நமது நிதியமைச்சரவர்கள் அந்தக் கொள்கைகளைப்பற்றிப் பேசுவார் என்று உரைத்தார். அதை ஒரு குற்றமாகவோ அல்லது ஒரு குறையாகவோ எடுத்துக்கொள்ளக்கூடாது. ஏனெனில் பேருரையில் எல்லா விஷயங்களும் அடங்காது. ஆனால் அப் பேருரையைப்பற்றி நாம் வாதம் செய்யும்போது சூரியன்கீழிருக்கும் எல்லா விஷயங்களையும்பற்றிப் பேசலாமென்று சட்டமிருக்கிறது. ஆகையினாலே, அவரவர்களது ஆர்வத்திற்கும் ஆற்றலுக்கும் ஏற்ப விஷயங்களை எடுத்துச் சொல்லலாம்.

இப்பொழுது முதலாவதாக அவர் சொன்னது, தமிழ் நாடு சிறியதாய் விட்டது என்று. இந்த சமயத்தில் எனது மனதில் இருக்கும் ஒரு பெரிய வருத்தத்தை எடுத்துச் சொல்லிக்கொள்கிறேன். பீர்மேடு, தேவி குளம் நம்முடைய நாட்டில் சேராதது ஒரு குறையே. நமக்கு மேடும் இல்லை, குளமுமில்லை என்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் இன்று கேரளத்தில் ஆட்சிக்கு வந்திருக்கும் பொதுவுடமைக் கட்சியினரும் நாமும் சேர்ந்து கலந்தாலோசித்து நமது குறைகளைத் தீர்த்துக் கொள்வோம். நமது தமிழ் நாட்டில் வட எல்லையைப் பற்றி இன்னும் மனக்கொளாறு இருக்கிறது. நான் சொல்வேன். நமது தமிழ் நாட்டின் புண்பாடுகளைக் காட்டவல்ல திருத்தணி தலம் இருக்கிறது. திருவாலங்காடு என்று ஒரு பெரிய தலமும் இருக்கிறது. காரைக்கால் அம்மையார் சிவபெருமானைத் தரிசித்து தலையால் நடந்து சென்றார், திருவாலங்காடுக்கு. தென்னாந்தோய சிவனைப் போற்றுவதற்கு அங்கு சென்று அத் திருத்தாண்டவத்தைத் தரிசித்தார். அப்படிப்பட்ட திருவாலங்காடு இப்போது திருவேலங்காடு என்று சொல்லப் படுகிறது. அப்படிச் கூறுவதின் பொருள் என்னவென்று நான் கேட்டேன். ‘அங்கு வேல மரம் இருக்கிறது. வேலம் முள் இருக்கிறது. அதனால் திருவேலங்காடு என்று பெயர் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது’, என்று சொன்னார்கள். இந்தப் பண்பற்ற மக்களிடத்தில், அந்தத் தலத்தை விட்டு வைப்பது சரியல்ல. நமது முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கண்ணுங்குருத் துமாகப் பார்த்து தொல்லையில்லாத வழியிலே நம் ராஜ்யத்தின் வட எல்லையை அமைக்கவேண்டும் என்று பெரிதும் வேண்டிக்கொள்கிறேன்.

ஒரு நாட்டிலே நிலம் ஆள்பவர்கள் மூன்று கொள்கைகளை கைக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். “தூங்காமை, கல்வி, துணிவுடமை இம்மூன்றும் நீங்கா நிலஞ் செய்வற்கு” என்று திருவள்ளுவர் ஒதுகிறார். என்ன செய்தாலும் அதைக் காலம் தாழ்த்தாமல் செய்யவேண்டும். துரிதமாகச் செய்யவேண்டும் என்று சொல்லவில்லை. காலம் தாழ்த்த வேண்டாம். இரண்டாவது கல்வி. இப்போது மக்களுக்கு, வயது வந்த மக்களுக்கெல்லாம், வாக்குரிமை கொடுத்திருக்கிறோம். இதைப் பற்றி குறையும் கூறுகிறோம். சட்டப்படி எல்லோருக்கும் கட்டாயக் கல்வி கொடுக்க வேண்டும் என்று சொல்கிறோம், எட்டளவிலே. செயலளவிலே அதிவுள்ள கஷ்டங்களையும் சொல்கிறோம். இப்படி எல்லாம் பார்க்கும்போது நம் நாடு முன்னேறவேண்டுமானால், உடனடியாக மக்களுக்குக் கல்வி கற்பிக்கப்படவேண்டும். கல்வி என்றால், சமுதாயத்திலே ஜனநாயகத்திலே எந்த மக்கள் எந்த மொழி பேசுகின்றார்களோ, அந்த மொழியில் ஆட்சி நடைபெறவேண்டும். அந்த மொழி ஆட்சிமொழியாகவேண்டும். அந்தக் குறை இப்போது நீங்கிவிட்டது. தமிழ் மொழி ஆட்சிமொழியாகிவிட்டது. அப்படி ஆகி 5 மாதங்கள் ஆகியும், என்னவாயிற்று?

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p.m

[Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar] [6th May 1957]

தமிழ் மொழியில் என்னென்ன நடவடிக்கைகளை ஆட்சியாளர் நடத்தி வருகின்றனர்? ஒரு நிபுணர் குழு அமைத்திருப்பதாகச் சொல்கிறார்கள். 'அது என்ன வேலை செய்கிறது?' என்ன வேலைகளை இதுவரையில் செய்திருக்கிறது? அதைப்பற்றி அரசாங்க அதிகாரிகள் என்ன யோசனை செய்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்? என்று மற்றவர்கள் கேட்கின்றனர். அவர்களுக்கு நாம் பதில் சொல்லி ஆகவேண்டும். அவர்களுக்குப் பதில் சொல்வதற்கு முன்னதாக நான் உங்களைக் கேட்கிறேன். நீங்கள் என்ன சொல்கிறீர்கள்? உங்கள் பதிலை எதிர்பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறேன்.

இந்த சமயத்தில் நான் ஒரு அறிவுரை கூறவிரும்புகிறேன். இந்த சட்ட சபையிலிருந்தும், அந்த சட்ட சபையிலிருந்தும் ஊங்கத்தினர்களைக்கொண்டு ஒரு சிறு குழு ஏற்படுத்தி இந்த விஷயத்தை எப்படி நன்றாக நடத்தலாம், இப்போதுள்ள நடவடிக்கைகள் சரியாக நடக்கின்றனவா, இவைகளை எப்படி துரிதப் படுத்தலாம், என்று மக்களுக்கு நம்பிக்கை உண்டாகும் வகையில், ஆராய்ந்து ஆவன செய்யவேண்டும். அரசியலாரை நான் குறை கூறவில்லை. “கலங்காது கண்ட வீணைக்கண் துலங்காது தூக்கங் கடிந்து செயல்” என்று வள்ளுவர் பெருமான் அறிவுரை விடுத்திருக்கிறார். இப்போது அரசாங்கத்தில் பிரக்கா லெவலில் தமிழ் ஆட்சிமொழியாகச் செய்யப்பட்டு வருகிறது. வார்டும் ஆனால் சட்டசபையிலே, இந்தச் சபையிலும் சரி, அந்தச் சபையிலும் சரி, தமிழ் ஆட்சி மொழி ஆகிவிட்ட பிறகு இந்த இரு சபைகளிலும் நடவடிக்கைகள் தமிழிலேயே ஏன் நடக்கக்கூடாது என்று நான் கேட்கிறேன்? அரசியல் சட்டத்தின் 206-வது பிரிவின்படி, ஒரு மொழி ஆட்சிமொழி ஆகிவிட்டால் அந்த மொழியில்தான் சட்ட சபையின் நடவடிக்கைகள் நடைபெறவேண்டும். நான் வாசித்துக் காண்பிக்கிறேன். (ஸ்ரீ வே. வ. ராமசாமி: நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது, அய்யா) அதைப்பற்றிக் கவலையில்லை. நான் சொல்வது ஒன்றுதான். இந்தச் சபையிலும், அந்தச் சபையிலும் “பிசினஸ்” நடவடிக்கைகள், விதைகள், விடைகள் மற்ற நடவடிக்கைகள் எல்லாம் தமிழிலேயே நடைபெற வேண்டுமென்று நான் ஒரு பிரேரணையைக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறேன். அதை “அபிஷியல்” லெவலில் கேட்கவில்லை. சட்டசபை லெவலில் கேட்கிறேன். சட்டசபையில் ஏன் அதை அமல் செய்யக்கூடாது? அதில் தடை ஒன்றும் இருக்காது. இதுபற்றி நிபுணர் குழு ஒன்றும் அபிப்பிராயம் கூற வேண்டியது இல்லை. நான் பிரேரணை முன்பு கொடுத்திருக்கிறேன். அது என்னவாயிற்று? இதற்குப் பதில் அளிக் குமாறு வேண்டிக்கொள்கிறேன். உடனடியாகக் காலம் தாழ்த்தாமல் சட்டசபையில் நடவடிக்கைகளை எல்லாம் தமிழில் நடத்த முடியாதா என்று கேட்கிறேன்.

இப்போது நாட்டைப் பார்ப்போம். உணவு, உடை, உறையுள் இம் மூன்றிலும் ஒருவன் வாழ்க்கையை அடக்கிவிடலாம். உணவு உற்பத்தியைப் பெருக்க பலதரப்பட்ட முறைகளை அரசியலாள் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். கைத்தறி, கதர் உற்பத்தி ஆகியவைகளைச் செய்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். “ஸ்லம் க்லியாஸ்ஸ்” மூலம் ஏழை மக்கள் குடியிருக்கும் இடங்களைச் சீர்படுத்தி, வீடு கட்டிக்கொடுக்கிறார்கள். அதைப்பற்றி இப்போது நான் பேச விரும்பவில்லை, தக்க சமயம் வரும்போது பேசிக்கொள்கிறேன். ஆனால் இவையெல்லாம் கைசூடவேண்டுமானால் இரண்டு கருத்துக்களை மனதில் வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்.

அரசாங்க நடவடிக்கைகளுக்குப் பொறுப்பாளிகள் யார்? அரசாங்க ஊழியர்கள்தான். அரசாங்க ஊழியர்கள் தக்க மனத்துடன், அன்பான மனத்துடன், காரியங்களைச் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். மக்களுக்கு ஒரு பீதி இப்போது உண்டாகியிருக்கிறது. அரசாங்க ஊழியர்களை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் அவர்களை நெருங்குவதே கஷ்டம். கேட்டாலும் பதில் அளிக்க மாட்டார்கள். மனுப்போட்டாலும் பதில் வராது. இவ்விதமான ஒரு பீதி நாட்டுப்புறங்களில் அதிகமாக இருந்து வருகிறது. ஆகவே அரசாங்க ஊழியர்கள் தங்கள் வேலைகளை ஒரு மதிப்போடும், நல்ல முறையிலும், மக்களுக்குப் பயன்படும் தன்மையிலும் செய்யவேண்டுமே தவிர, காலம் தாழ்த்துவது சரியல்ல. அது நல்லதும் அல்ல.

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நம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் சுற்றுப்பிரயாணம் செய்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் ஒரு இடத்திற்குப் போன பிறகு தான், அவர்கள் அந்த இடத்திற்கு வந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று பத்திரிகையில் பார்க்க முடிகிறது. ஒரு இடத்திற்குப் போவதற்கு முன்னால் அங்கிருக்கும் -எம்.எல்.ஏ.-க்களுக்குத் தெரிவித்துவிட்டு, போனவுடன் அந்த எம்.எல்.ஏ. க்களையும் அழைத்துக் கொண்டு அவர்களுடைய உதவியையும் வாங்கிக்கொண்டு பணியாற்றினால், மக்களுடன் ஒரு தொடர்பு ஏற்பட எதுவாகும். (கனம் ஸ்ரீ பி. கக்கன்: இப்போது மந்திரிகளின் பிரேரணை எம்.எல்.ஏ.-க்களுக்கு அனுப்பப்படுகிறது) நன்றி. அப்படிச் செய்தால் நாம் போரும் திட்டங்களுக்கு நல்வழி உண்டாகும். நாட்டுப்புறங்களைக் கவனித்தால், அங்கிருக்கும் நிலைமை உங்கவும் மோசமானது. அங்கே இருக்கும் வறுமை, ஏழ்மை, மற்றவைகளைப் பார்க்க முடியாது. நாம் இங்கே பெரிய மேஜைகளைப் போட்டுக் கொண்டும், இருக்கைகளைப் போட்டுக்கொண்டும், வீற்றிருக்கிறோம். இது “தேவ லோகம்” போல் இருக்கிறது. (ஸ்ரீ வே. வ. ராமசாமி: தேவ லோகத்தை எப்போது பார்த்தீர்கள்?) இவ்விடத்தில் உங்களை ஒரு தேவ குகைப் பார்க்கிறேன். நகரப்புறங்களிலிருந்து பார்த்தால் போதாது. நாட்டுப்புறங்களுக்குச் சென்று பார்க்க வேண்டும். அங்குள்ள மக்கள் படும் தொல்லைகள் சொல்லமுடியாதது. நாகரீகம் என்றால் என்ன? எல்லா மக்களிடமும் அன்பு செலுத்தவேண்டும். “அன்பின் வழியது உயிர் நிலை” அன்பும் அறனும் உடைத்தாயின் இல்லாழக்கை பண்பும் பயனும் “அது” என்றார் திருவள்ளுவர். அந்த நாகரிகம்தான் “ஸோஷலிஸ்ட் ஸொஸைடி” என்று நினைக்கிறேன். மக்கள் வாழ்க்கை என்று நினைக்கிறேன். ஆகவே நாட்டுப்புறங்களுக்குச் சென்று பார்க்கவேண்டும். இந்தச் சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் நம் முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் தேசிய வளர்ச்சித் திட்டங்களுக்கும், சமுதாய அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டங்களுக்கும் பொறுப்பேற்றதை பெரிதும் பாராட்டுகிறேன். எல்லோரும் இதைக் கண்டு மகிழ்ச்சியடையவேண்டும்.

இன்னும் ஒன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். கவர்னர் பெருமான் உரையில் மருத்துவத்தைப் பற்றி ஒன்றும் கூறப்படவில்லை. பிணியின்றி வாழ்வதற்கு மருந்து அவசியம். நம் நாட்டில் அநேக வைத்திய முறைகள் கையாளப்படுகின்றன. யூனனி, ஆயுர்வேதம், அலோபதிக், ஸித்தா-இயை 4 வைத்திய முறைகள். மற்ற மூன்று வைத்திய முறைகளைக் கையாளுபவர்கள் எப்படிச் சட்டத்தின் மூலம் பதிவு செய்யப்படுகிறார்களோ, அம்மாதிரி சித்த வைத்தியர்களும் பதிவு செய்யப்படுவார்களென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். சித்த வைத்தியர்கள் நல்லதொரு தொண்டு செய்கிறார்கள். அந்த வைத்தியம் நாட்டில் நிலை வருகிறது. அந்த சித்த வைத்தியர்களின் குறைகளை நீக்க தக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று ஒரு அறிக்கை சமர்ப்பிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இவர்களையும் மற்ற வைத்திய முறையைக் கையாள்பவர்களைப்போல் பதிவு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

இரண்டாவதாக ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் இன்றைக்கு ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனம் எந்த இடத்தில் இருக்கிறது என்று தெரியாமல் இருந்து வருகிறது. பஞ்சாயத்துகள் விஷயத்திலும் அப்படித்தான். அரசியல் சட்டத்தில் பஞ்சாயத்துக்கு தனிப்பிரிவு அளிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இன்றைக்கு இருக்கிற ஊர் ஆட்சி மன்றங்கள் எல்லாம் மிக மோசமாகவே இருந்து வருகின்றன. அதற்காக வெள்ளைத்தாள் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருந்தும் அது முக்கியப் பிரச்சனையாக எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்படாமல் இருந்து வருகிறது. ஆகவே ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனத்தைப் பொறுத்தவரையில் அதனுடைய முன் நேற்றத்திற்கான வழிவகைகளை உடனடியாகச் செய்யவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்தால்தான் ஜனநாயகம் என்ற பொருளுக்கு ஏதாவது அர்த்தம் உண்டு. இதுகாறும் இருந்ததுபோல் இல்லாமல் இப்போது கன்னியா குமரிப் பகுதியிலிருந்து வந்திருக்கும் அமைச்சர் அம்மையார் அவர்கள் இதற்கு ஆவன செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

மீண்டும் ஒரு காரியம், அதாவது அற நிலையங்களைப்பற்றி, விந்து மத பரிபாலன போர்டு (Hindu Religious Endowments Board) இன்று தனியாக இருக்கிறது. இப்போது அதோடு கூட,

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தர்ம ஸ்தாபனங்களும் இருக்கின்றன. அதாவது “சாரிட்டியின் எண்டோமெண்ட்ஸ்” (Charitable Endowments) என்று இருக்கின்றன. அதிலும் பல குறைகள் இருக்கின்றன. இப்போது இந்த நாட்டில் தர்ம ஸ்தாபனங்கள் எத்தனை இருக்கின்றன என்று திட்டவாட்டமான கணக்குகள் ஒன்றும் கிடையாது. இதைப்பற்றிச் சரியான தகவல் அறிய ஒரு சர்வே நடத்த வேண்டும். எந்தெந்த நிலையங்களுக்கு எவ்வளவு செலவு இருக்கிறது, எங்கெல்லாம் இருக்கிறது என்ற விபரங்கள் அறியவேண்டும். சென்னை சிந்தாதிரிப்பேட்டையில் அறநிலையங்களின் உடமைகள் அதாவது இனும் நிலங்கள் இருப்பதாகச் தெரிகிறது. அவைகளை இப்போது யார் யார் வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று தெரியுமா? இதைச் சரியானபடி சண்டுபிடித்தால் நல்ல வருமானம் கிடைக்கும். இந்த சென்னையிலே பல்லாயிரக்கணக்கான வீடுகள் தர்ம ஸ்தாபனத்திற்கு என்று இருக்கின்றன. அதேபோல்தான் பல பள்ளிக்கூடங்களும் இருக்கின்றன. பல பல்கலைக் கழகங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. இதைப்பற்றியெல்லாம் சரியான விதத்தில் ஒரு சர்வே நடத்தவேண்டும். வெறும் சட்டத்தில் மாதிரிம வைத்துக்கொண்டால் அதையெல்லாம் யார் போய் எங்கே காண்பது? அவற்றை யெல்லாம் கண்டுபிடித்து அறநிலையங்களோடு சேர்த்துப் பிரிபாலிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இதற்குவேண்டிய நடவடிக்கைகளை மதிப்பிற்குரிய அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் எடுப்பார்கள் என்ற நம்பிக்கையோடு இருக்கிறேன்.

மேலும் நான் சொல்ல விரும்புவது நிலச் சீர்திருத்தத்தைப்பற்றி. அதாவது நிலச் சீர்திருத்தம் சம்பந்தமாக இன்று எவ்வளவோ சட்டங்கள் வந்திருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் இவைகளைக்கொண்டெல்லாம் ஏழைகளுக்கு ஏதாவது செய்யவேண்டுமென்றால் அதற்கும் பல இடைஞ்சல்களுக்கு சேருகின்றன. இதனால் வீண் காலதாமதம் ஏற்படுகிறது. அதனால் நிலங்களை எல்லாம் (Nationalize) தேசியமயமாக்கிவிட்டால் இந்தக்குறைகள் எல்லாம் நீங்கிவிடுமென்று நினைக்கிறேன். இதுதான் இதற்கு சரியான வழி என்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். நிலத்தில் உழபவனுக்கு நிலம் கிடைக்கவேண்டும் என்கிற பிரச்சனையும் இதனால் தெளிந்துவிடும். எல்லாம் தேசியமயமாகிவிட்டால் இவ்விதக் கஷ்டங்கள் ஒன்றும் இருக்காது என்று நினைக்கிறேன். உழுகிறவன் உழுது கொண்டிருக்கட்டும். நெய்யக்கூடியவன் நெய்து கொண்டிருக்கட்டும், ஒவ்வொருவரும் அவர்களுடைய தொழிலைப் பார்த்துக்கொள்ளட்டும். இப்படியிருந்தால் நிலச் சீர்திருத்தத்தால் வரும் ஸீலிங் (Ceiling) நிர்ணயிப்பது போன்ற கஷ்டங்கள் ஒன்றும் ஏற்படாது. இதனால் ஏற்படக்கூடிய பல கிளர்ச்சிகளும் நடக்காது என்று நினைக்கிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக நம் நாட்டில் இன்று அதிகமாக வேலையில்லாத திண்டாட்டம் இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. படித்தவர்கள் வீட்டில் தான் அதிகம் படித்துவிட்டு வேலையில்லாமல் இன்று அதிகம் பேர்கள் இருந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். பையன்கள் மாத்திரமல்ல; இன்று பெண்களும் அதிகமாகப் படித்துக்கொண்டு வேலை கிடைக்காமல் இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். படித்துவிட்டு வேலையில்லாததினால் வேறு வழியில்லாமல் பல இடங்களிலும் சுற்றிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறான் பையன். அதற்குத் தகுந்தாற்போல் சினிமா இருக்கிறது. மற்றப்படியும் நண்பர்களோடு சேர்ந்து சும்மா சுற்றக்கூடிய நிலை ஏற்பட்டுவிடுகிறது. முதலாவதாக இன்றைக்குப் படித்தவர்களுடைய வீட்டில் இருக்கக்கூடிய இந்த வேலையில்லாக் கொடுமையையாவது போக்கடிக்கவேண்டும். இதல்லாமல், இன்று அனைத்து பையன்களும் பெண்களும் அனாதைகளாக அலைந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இதைப் பார்க்கும்போது நாம் நாகரீகமுள்ள உலகத்தில் தான் இருக்கிறோம் என்று சொல்ல முடியாது. இன்று சீன தேசத்தில் இரவில் தனியகச்சென்றால் அனாதைப் பையன்கள் அவர்களைக் கொலை செய்து விட்டு அவர்களுடைய சொத்தை அபகரித்துக்கொள்கிறார்கள் என்று தெரியவருகிறது. இன்றைக்கு நம் நாட்டிலும் திருட்டுத் தொழில் நடந்துகொண்டுதான் இருக்கிறது. நம்முடைய காரை வெளியேவிட்டு வந்து திரும்பிப் போய் பார்க்கும்போது அதிலுள்ள நட்டுகளை வரை கழற்றிக்கொண்டு போய்விடுகிறார்கள். அதை எடுத்துக்கொண்டுபோய் ஒரு

6th May 1957] [Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar]

அனைவுக்கு இரண்டு அனைவுக்கு விற்றுப் பிழைக்கலாம் என்று தான் அதைத் திருடிக்கொண்டுபோகிறார்கள். போலீஸார்களும் அவர்களைப் பிடித்து சிறையில் போடுகிறார்கள். இப்படிச் செய்யக்கூடாது. அவர்களை நல்ல வழிக்குக் கொண்டு வர முயற்சி செய்யவேண்டும். அவர்களைச் செங்கல்பட்டிலுள்ள சீர்திருத்தப் பள்ளியில் கொண்டு சேர்க்கக்கூடாது. அப்படிச் சேர்த்தால் அவர்களுக்குக் கெட்ட "பெயர் ஏற்பட்டுவிடுகிறது. அதுபோலத்தான் திருடர்களையும் சிறையில் அடைத்து வைத்திருக்கக் கூடாது. அவர்களுக்கு நல்ல வேலை கொடுத்து அவர்களைச் சீர்திருத்த வேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்தால்தான் அவர்கள் தங்கள் தவறுகளை உணர்ந்து நல்ல வழிக்கு வருவார்கள். அதற்கு வேண்டிய வழிகளைச் செய்ய வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அனைதகளாக இருக்கும் ஆண், பெண், குழந்தைகளைக் கவனிக்கவேண்டிய பொறுப்பு அரசியலாருக்கு உண்டு என்பதைச் சொல்லிக்கொள்கிறேன். இதற்கெல்லாம் சீர்திருத்தம் யது நல்ல மனம். நல்ல மனம் இருந்தால்தான் இதைச் செய்ய முடியும்.

நம் நாட்டில் ஏதாவது ஒரு நல்ல காரியம் செய்ய வந்தால், அதைத் தடுக்கவும் கெடுக்கவும் ஆட்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். இதை Sabotage என்று ஆங்கிலத்தில் சொல்லுவார்கள். தமிழில் இதை 'கயமை' என்று சொல்லலாம். எந்த நல்ல காரியம் வந்தாலும் அதை நல்ல மனதோடு வரவேற்கக்கூடிய மனநிலை வரவேண்டும். இந்த மனநிலை இல்லாததால் வரவேற்கக்கூடிய மனநிலை வரவேண்டும். இருந்த மனநிலை இல்லாததால் நம்முடைய நாடு இதுவரை மேலோங்காமல் இருந்துவருகிறது. எதை எதைத் தாலும் கெடுக்க முயற்சிக்கிறவர்கள் கடைசியவரையிலும் பார்ப்பார்கள், அதன் பின்னால் முடியாவிட்டால் சரி என்று ஒத்துக்கொள்வார்கள். இந்த நிலை மாற வேண்டும். எல்லாக் காரியங்களையும் செய்ய அரசியலாருக்குத் துணிவு ஏற்படவேண்டும். துணிவுடமை இருக்கவேண்டும். அச்சப்படாமல் காரியங்களைச் செய்ய முன்வரவேண்டும். இதற்கு நம் அரசியலார் தயங்கக் கூடாது . . .

“தூங்காமை கல்வி துணிவுடமை இம் மூன்றும்
நீங்கா நிலனாள்பவற்கு”

என்ற வள்ளுவரின் வாக்குப்படி மேற்கொண்டு காரியங்களைச் செய்ய வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு என் உரையை முடித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

* DR. MAHOMED USMAN : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I was simply astonished when my hon. Friend who spoke just before me said, ' Nationalize all the lands '. Why not we nationalize all the pensions which the Government servants get? Why not we ask them to get not more than Rs. 100 and to contribute the excess amount to a National Fund? My hon. Friend has made a most irresponsible statement about the nationalization of lands, as if it were a very easy thing.

DR. V. K. JOHN : May I take it that both the speakers belong to the Congress Party?

* DR. MAHOMED USMAN : I belong to the Congress Legislature Party.

Whatever that may be, what I want to say is . . .

SRI MAHOMED RAZA KHAN : On a point of order, Sir. Is it right on the part of one hon. Member of the House to call another Member ' irresponsible ' ?

* DR. MAHOMED USMAN: I only said that the statement was irresponsible.

[6th May 1957]

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : I am responsible for myself and not for others.

DR. V. K. JOHN : I think the hon. Member Dr. Mahomed Usman has only referred to the irresponsible statement.

3-30
p.m.

* DR. MAHOMED USMAN : I only said that the statement was irresponsible. What I want to say is that very many statements are made in an irresponsible way. Recently there was a big agitation that there should be a ceiling fixed on the income of people. But the Prime Minister knocked it on the head in one of his speeches. I do not know whether the proposal to fix a ceiling on holdings may not also share the same fate. But what I want to say is that the biggest industry in the country is the agricultural industry, and if we are going to 'nationalize' it, we do not know what would happen to production. There are instances where if a particular work is done by a private man, it may cost only Rs. 10 for him, but if the work is undertaken by the Government, it may cost about Rs. 100. Therefore, to nationalize agricultural lands is not economical also.

Sir, so many members have spoken and I do not want to repeat what they have already said. However, I should like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Hon. Sri Kamaraj Nadar on the excellent election results. Under his direction, the Congress Party has come into power once again with a very large majority. It shows that the Hon. Sri Kamaraj Nadar and his Party command the respect and confidence of the people of the State. Sir, in connection with this election, we should not forget the good work done by the officers throughout and the excellent work done by the officers is greatly responsible for the elections going off without any hitch or without any bad incidents. I think we must also congratulate the Government Officers on the excellent way in which they conducted the elections.

I want to bring to the notice of the House one or two things. Firstly, I should like to draw the attention of this House to the fact that Madras City is a very big and beautiful city, but that our roads are very bad. Some years ago—some 25 or 30 years ago—when the vehicles tax was taken over from the Corporation by the Government, the Government agreed to make a permanent contribution to the Corporation. That was years ago when motor traffic was not as heavy as it is to-day. The result is that the Corporation is unable to spend much money on the roads and also for the last four or five years, after the Tramway System was abolished, the Government have put more buses on the road. Thus, the roads have been very much strained. Therefore, I think it is much better that in the interests of the motoring public, the Government come to some kind of arrangement with the Corporation, so that the Government might increase the contribution to the Corporation, enabling the Corporation to use that increased contribution for bettering the condition of the roads.

[6th May 1957] [Dr. Mahomed Usamn]

Another matter I should like to bring to the notice of this House is this. When the jurisdiction of the City Civil Court was enlarged, it was stated that the cases from the High Court, Original Side, would be disposed of more quickly. I am told that it is not the case now. Cases filed some two or three years ago have not still been taken up. Therefore, the Government should look into the matter and find out why it is so. If it is necessary that some more Judges should be appointed, the Government should appoint more Judges in the City Civil Court so that the cases might be disposed of as quickly as possible.

Sir, another matter, which I like to bring to the notice of the House and which has been so ably dealt with by the hon. Gentleman Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar, is about fixing of a ceiling on the holding of lands. The most important point to be considered in this connection is, "Supposing we fix a ceiling, will it retard production or will it increase production?" The general opinion is that it will retard production. Therefore, I think the Government would do well to think thrice before launching upon any such reform. If the Government are thoroughly convinced that it is not going to affect production, the Government might think of fixing a ceiling. First of all, Government should examine whether fixing a ceiling is at all conducive to better production. If there is a large piece of land, the owner could spend a large sum of money in order to see that the modern methods of agriculture are adopted and that production is increased, whereas fragmentation of holdings in which individuals would be holding small pieces of land would not be conducive to the adoption of improved methods of agriculture. Therefore, the Government should consider thrice before doing anything in the matter.

Another matter I want to bring to the notice of the Government is that in Madras City, water-supply is not at all satisfactory. I think Government should, in consultation with the Corporation, take steps and even if it meant spending some large amount of money, they should do so in order that the water-supply position may be improved. We do not get water all the 24 hours of the day. I think in a large City like Madras, it is very essential that water-supply should be given to the citizens in abundance and on a larger scale than what is being done to-day.

I once again congratulate the Ministers and the Government on the able manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the State during the last five years. In the 1952 General Elections, the Congress did not get an overall majority, but now the Congress has got a very large majority. That once again shows the confidence which the people have in the Congress. I am glad that Sri Kamaraj Nadar has brought into the new Ministry some of the Ministers who have done very good work previously. I congratulate them all and wish them every good luck. Thank you, Sir.

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the first thing that struck me most on reading the Governor's Address was that there has been no reference at all to Labour or

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its problems. One would imagine on reading the Address that there is no such class as the working class or that the working class have no problems or no grievance and that no action need be taken for the welfare of Labour. I will give a few instances to show what Labour has been suffering from and for this purpose I shall deal with plantation labour. Sir, plantation labour is one of the biggest sections of the working class. In the Madras State there are nearly a lakh or more of plantation workers. And after 4½ years of struggle, a Tribunal gave them certain increments in wages as well as certain other facilities. Now, the most important problem of labour is that of wages. The one important thing that hon. Members should remember is that plantation labour is not given any dearness allowance, that it was not given any dearness allowance before and that even the Tribunal fixed the minimum wage as Rs. 1-12-0 per day for 26 days. So, the minimum wage fixed for plantation labour at Rs. 1-12-0 per day for 26 days comes to a little over Rs. 45 a month. Even this total amount of Rs. 45, inclusive of dearness allowance, the managements refused to pay, on the ground of incapacity. The Labour Managements applied for special leave to appeal to the Supreme Court. The Labour Union wanted the help of the Government to resist the case of the management. But no help was given to the Union for fighting the case in the Supreme Court. That is why, what shall I say, I am finding fault with the Government.

Then, the second thing is that immediately afterwards, the Government wanted to settle the dispute between the management and labour. In this case, I should say that it is really a shameful part that the Government have played. They were supposed to bring about an agreement between certain sections of labour and the management. But the agreement curiously enough allows Rs. 1-11-6 as wage, and even less in some cases. For instance, in the Shevaroy Hills, plantation labour gets Rs. 1-6-0 per day as grade worker, that is, without any dearness allowance. I must point out that the minimum wage fixed by the Minimum Wage Committee for plantation labour here is Rs. 1-7-0, and this has been done without giving an opportunity to certain sections of labour to consult their unions as to whether they should accept this rate of wage. As a matter of fact, one of the Union Secretaries was involved in the Valparai firing incident and he was let on bail. But he was not allowed to go to Valparai and consult his Union before giving his opinion on the proposals of the management. Where their own Tribunal has given an award, can the Government think of making the workers agree to a settlement under which the wage fixed is much less than what an unskilled worker in a Coimbatore Textile Mill gets? I say that this is most shameful. I am saying this because I feel so strongly in the matter. No Government should allow the other workers to get a wage lower than that which an unskilled worker under any private management like a Coimbatore textile mill is allowed to get. Further, it is admitted that the cost of living is higher on the hills than in the plains. Whereas in a Coimbatore textile mill, the wage of a worker at the

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present cost of living index is about Rs. 73, we find that in the Nilgiris or in Valparai the minimum wage is only Rs. 45-8-0. I think it is most unjust for the workers to have been forced into this sort of agreement.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: Have the workers agreed to this wage?

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: Some sections of the workers have agreed, some sections have not yet agreed and they have intimated their disagreement to the Government.

Then, I come to Government's own workers. I will take this Electricity Department and refer to the Operational Subordinate Service Union, which consists of thousands of workers. That Union has given notice to the Government recently that its members will have to go on a token strike for one day. Their curious demand is that the Government have not implemented two of their orders passed in 1948! Is not the interval between 1948 and 1957 too long a period? Have not the Government the sense of keeping up their promise? Government orders of 1948 have still got to be implemented and the workers have to go on strike to force the Government to fulfil their promise. Mr. Deputy Chairman, I submit that it reflects very badly on the Government that they are not able to keep up their promise even in respect of small matters which involve very little financial commitment.

Let me come to the Shop Assistants Act. Hon. Members may remember that, when I sponsored a Bill to amend that Act, the Government said that a Central Act extending to all the States was going to be enacted and that they did not want that Bill. On this plea, my Amending Bill was thrown out. But till to-day there has not even been a whisper of either the Centre enacting a new Act or the State amending the existing Act. The Shop Assistants Act is there only in name. Many workers have to work for more than the prescribed hours. The introduction of Naya Paisa has thrown enormous extra work on bank employees, and many bank employees have to work up till midnight for many days consecutively. There are Inspectors who are supposed to see whether employees work beyond 5 p.m. or the prescribed hour. But, curiously enough, their working hours are between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. and it is impossible for them to check infringements of the provisions of that Act. In rare cases, the workers go to the Inspector's house and get him to the place of work. A note is made that this is wrong, and there the matter ends. No prosecution is launched against the management and no attempt is made by the Government to see that the provisions of the Act are implemented in the true spirit. It is most likely that the bank employees themselves will come forward to seek exemption from the Shop Assistants Act. I only want an assurance from the Hon. Minister that the banks will not be given exemption from the Act and that its provisions will be strictly enforced.

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Every time there is a suggestion, the implementation of which involves expenditure of money, the Government are saying that they have no money and that they will have to increase taxes like the sales tax, etc. Under the system of Naya Paisa, many people have to pay more by way of tax. There is a gold mine so to say and the resources of Tamil Nad are plentiful. But the Government have not exploited those resources. I will cite the instance of the magnesite mines in the Salem district. There is the Magnesite Syndicate, a sterling company, to which has been leased thousands of acres of magnesite mining area for the last nearly sixty years. That lease expires in January 1959. That lease has been objected to by several people as being illegal.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Objected to by a rival company.

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW : I would not call that a rival company simply because it also applied for licence. My information is that it has even stated that the Government themselves could take over and run the magnesite mines. Therefore, I do not consider it a rival company. It is open to the Government to take up the industry and run it themselves and there should be no renewal of licence to this British Company. If the Government were not in a position to take up the industry themselves, that company was willing, on certain terms, to take up and work the mines. The royalty given by the company is only a pittance and crores of rupees of revenue have been lost. The Government themselves must take it up, and they should not give way to pressure possibly from the Central Government and permit the running of the industry by Messrs. Burn & Company, Limited, or any other foreign company. If the Government cannot take it up, it must be run by the people of Tamil Nad. Magnesite is an essential article for the manufacture of iron and steel and with the prospect of the opening of many steel projects in the country, it is going to be a very paying proposition. It will yield an enormous amount of money and the Government need not raise the taxes.

The same thing applies to gypsum and limestone which are found in the Tiruchirappalli district. To-day the industry is being run on a royalty basis. Usually six months' notice on either side is provided for for the termination of any lease. The Government could give notice and terminate the lease and themselves take up the industry. If they do not have sufficient technicians to work the industry, they can arrange with the existing cement companies for running the industry on a profit-sharing basis. This will yield a big slice of revenue and the tax payable by the poor people need not be increased. This is one aspect of the matter that I would like the Government to take note of.

Then, I come to the question of traders and the prices of chillies and onions. These two articles are very important articles of diet for the common man in Tamil Nad. Every one of us knows how prices have gone up recently. Why is it that prices have gone up?

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Many representations have been made to Government that the export of chillies should be banned. As a matter of fact, the Central Government have banned export. I want to ask the Government how it is that they have recommended the case of the co-operative society for exporting hundreds of tons of chillies. I would like to have an explanation from the Government in this matter. Of course, I am not against co-operative societies being encouraged. But the main point is that co-operative societies, without any experience in the trade, are being given quota for the export of hundreds of tons of chillies. And what really happens is that these licences are taken over by some speculative shipper or some one else and then he exports the article. The co-operative societies get only a small portion of the profit. This is the actual practice. I would like the Government to go through the old files and see whether departmental action has not been taken against the co-operative societies who misused the licences for export. This is a matter which requires examination by Government. Merely because they are co-operative societies, unless there are very large quantities of chillies or onions as surplus, co-operative societies should not be given licences for export of hundreds of tons of chillies, only to be misused by some speculative exporter.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Have there been any such cases?

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW : Government can look into their old files and see whether departmental action has not been taken against the co-operative societies which misused the licences for export of chillies.

I now come to the question of small traders and the levy of sales tax. I find from the Governor's Address that the people of Kanyakumari district are welcomed and that they are offered co-operation, etc. The first act of co-operation seems to be the raising of the sales tax on traders in Kanyakumari district to the level of the tax on traders in Madras! This is what the Sales Tax Bill, which the Government will be bringing in shortly, will show. I do not know why there is this urgency to bring about uniformity in the levy of sales tax in Kanyakumari district, and why the sales tax there should be raised to the level that prevails in the other parts of Madras State.

The most important aspect of sales tax is not so much the rate of tax as the harassment caused to small traders. I am not saying that people do not evade paying taxes. But honest traders really cannot do business under the existing state of affairs. The Assistant Commercial Tax Officers and the Deputy Commercial Tax Officers simply come and raid the premises under the provisions of the Act, and they take away the account books without giving any receipt therefor. They make the traders sign statements and afterwards the traders can do nothing.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Do not the officers follow the rules and regulations in this behalf?

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* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW : There are several cases where they have not given receipts for the books they took possession of. When the cases go before the Tribunal, the traders say that their books were taken away and that no receipts were given to them. It is difficult for honest traders to do business. Of course, there are dishonest traders. But on this score this engine of oppression should not harass honest traders. The Assistant Commercial Tax Officers and the Deputy Commercial Tax Officers are given enormous powers.

DR. V. K. JOHN : May I know whether dishonest tradesmen are also oppressed?

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : They are let off!

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW : Lastly I wish to speak about the agrarian reform.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member has only two minutes more.

* SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW : Sir, I am obliged to you for this. I shall now speak about the agrarian reform. Laws can be made, but who is to see that these laws are administered properly? There is no real assistance given by the Government to the cultivating tenants. Rules are framed and so many things are done, but no assistance is given to the cultivating tenant to see that he is either restored to possession or that he is not evicted by the landlord. He is not given aid to resist the landlord's petition. I have instances from Ramanathapuram district to show that several landholders have driven the cultivating tenants from pillar to post. The tenants are going to Sub-Divisional Magistrate's Court to answer trespass cases and they have also to go to the Civil Courts and Revenue courts. If our Government really mean to implement the legislation that was passed already and if they also mean really to protect the cultivating tenant, some assistance must be given by them to the cultivating tenants beyond merely passing legislation and framing rules thereunder. That is all I have to say, Sir

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : There are many more hon. Members wishing to speak. Every hon. Member is requested to take as little time as possible. Sri T. P. Srinivasavaradan will now speak.

* SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Mr. Deputy Chairman. I shall try to confine my remarks to a few points. Handsome tributes were paid to Shri Sri Prakasa, who was Governor of Madras for about five years. Teachers remember him with gratitude for one statement which he made as Governor of Madras. We know that the cry is for nationalization of everything. At one time there was a cry both from a section of the teachers and from a section of the public that all schools should be nationalized. We teachers know the evils of nationalization. Some of us were against this idea.

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But luckily for the teachers, Shri Sri Prakasa, on a number of occasions, spoke vehemently against the nationalization of education. I think he was the first Governor who boldly asserted that any kind of nationalization in the field of education was fraught with serious consequences. There will be regimentation of ideas, and everything will be regimented if schools are nationalized. I pay my humble tribute to him in my capacity as an office-bearer of the State Organization of Teachers.

The second statement in the Governor's Address is about the recent general elections which went off smoothly without any untoward incident. I entirely agree with those who said that the elections went off smoothly. Really they were smooth. The elections were conducted in a calm atmosphere. But whether they were impartial or not, it is for others to judge. So far as the officers who were posted to the polling stations are concerned, I can say that they were very important. The hon. Member Dr. Mahomed Usman paid a just tribute to the officers who were in charge of the elections. Another reason why the recent elections went off peacefully and in a calm atmosphere was that this time we had more polling stations and every polling station had to deal with only 500 or 600 voters.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : 800 to 1,000 voters were allotted to each polling station.

* SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Actually the number that polled came to 400. We had not to wait for a long time in the queue. This is another reason why there was calmness during the recent elections.

Sir, it has already been pointed out, I think by the hon. Member Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar, that many names were omitted from the voters' list. In my own street, the names of members of five or six houses were completely omitted. It is a wonder to me how these names came to be omitted. In August last I stood for a bye-election to the Council. I went to the Corporation to find out whether my name was correctly entered in the list. I found my name was put as T. P. Srinivasan. I had that changed to T. P. Srinivasavaradan. I got a certificate to this effect. In the last election I found in the printed notice my name being printed as T. P. Srinivasan. So, I again wrote to the Commissioner to have my name entered correctly. I got a correction slip changing my name from T. P. Srinivasan to T. P. Srinivasavaradan, but the correction was not carried out in the voters' list. But the Returning Officer was kind enough to accept my name as T. P. Srinivasavaradan, on the production of the correction slip. Hon. Members will agree with me when I say that either these clerks were illiterates or were supremely indifferent to their work. What is the use of having adult franchise when the voters are not properly enumerated? They come to us almost every day and take the list of the members of our house. As a matter of fact, on one occasion I gave a list of the members of my

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family. They could have easily copied the list. But they have not done so. I should like to bring this to the notice of the Government.

SRI V. K. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER : Only the teachers did the enumeration work!

* SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : I am sorry to say that the persons who appointed these teachers for enumeration work are responsible for this.

4 am. Sir, I come from the Teachers' Constituency. I stood last August for a bye-election. Till then we had postal voting. It has been changed to personal voting. This is a good thing. The teachers are under the influence of Headmasters and members of the Board of Management. They are also under the influence of the Presidents of local bodies and Chairmen of municipal bodies. In the case of postal voting, the teacher was not able to exercise his vote conscientiously. Therefore, this personal voting is a boon conferred on the teachers, and we welcome it. They had to follow some old voters' list. In district boards teachers are transferred from place to place every three years. I find that they transferred a teacher from Namakkal to Krishnagiri and that he was asked to come to Namakkal and vote. I have made mention of this subject. But, sufficient publicity was not given by the Government. Of course, there was also difficulty in finding out the address of teachers. Usually, they have the other polling booths in well-known places, say, in Corporation schools and schools like mine. But, the polling booths in the bye-election were located in places quite unknown to the people. That is the way in which our election was conducted. In respect of Teachers' Constituencies also, the booths should be in well-known places and the voters' list should be brought up to date.

About the food situation, the hon. Member Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai made a very forceful speech the other day. He brought to the notice of the Government the appalling situation in which we were placed to-day. I find from the newspapers that a Circular has been sent round by the Hon. Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh. I do not know how far it is true. From that circular, we find that he is 'definitely not in favour of maintaining the price level of the last 12 months. Agricultural commodities have fallen short of our requirements.' That is quite clear. We have to resort to imports. He seems to be obsessed with farmers' interest which alone, he thinks, deserves consideration by the Government. It seems as if the hardships of the other sections of the community were fully justified. On the other hand, Sri V. T. Krishnamachari, Vice-Chairman of the Planning Commission, has observed that there seems to be no prospect of a fall in prices even with the 40 per cent increase in production. We do not want that the prices should go down to an unremunerative level. But, what do we find? Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh wants the prices to go down and Mr. V. T. Krishnamachari says that there is no prospect of prices going down. Does that mean that the prices will be kept up like this

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and will be allowed to continue like this for ever? Already, we see that the price of rice which was 12 annas per Madras measure has gone up to Rs. 1-2-0. So, it is quite clear that the Government are unable to do anything and that it is the Centre that is dictating to the State. There is already the low *per capita* consumption. It is no wonder, therefore, that the people are suffering from so many diseases. All reference to 'starving millions' is mere tall talk and nothing can be achieved by such tall talks. Unless the Government bring down the prices, there is no salvation for the people. I request the Government to pay their earnest attention to this matter.

The hon. Member Sri Ethirajalu stated that the students and teachers should not participate in elections. I entirely agree with him. We teachers do feel that the teachers should not participate in elections. They can stand for elections, but then they should stand as independent candidates. That will be their responsibility. It was suggested last time that an Act should be enacted in this regard. Yes, the Government can enact an Act and punish the Headmasters, teachers and students also. But, that will not help. Unless the political parties in the country come to an understanding that they will not utilize the students for their political purposes, nothing could be gained in this regard. The mere passing of an Act will not be of any use to us. I made this suggestion to the various political parties last year in March or so. When there was a big agitation against the non-inclusion of Devikulam and Peermade in the Madras State, students were dragged into the agitation. Mr. Kuruville Jacob, myself and some other Headmasters issued an appeal to the political parties not to drag in students. But, our appeal fell on deaf ears. Once again, I appeal to all the political parties not to utilize the students . . .

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it not a fact that the Party in power was also responsible for dragging the students into the political arena during the non-co-operation days?

* SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : My appeal is to all the political parties. I make no distinction between one party and another. I do not belong to any party. If the Congress Party had been guilty of this charge, it must rectify the defect and set an example to others. I am not mincing words.

DR. V. K. JOHN : It will be the case of every Party saying that the other Party should not employ students. (Laughter.)

* SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : I cannot speak for the political parties. I am speaking on behalf of the teachers and students only. I do not belong to any party.

As regards the food situation, I would like to tell one thing to the Hon. the Leader of the House. I visited a number of villages during the last two months. During the last session, we hurriedly passed an Act giving 60 per cent rent to the cultivating tenants and 40 per cent to the landowners. Along with the grant of 60 per cent, there were certain obligations to be fulfilled by the tenants.

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But, the cultivating tenants were under the impression that they had to get only the 60 per cent share and that they had no obligations to fulfil. As a matter of fact, they do not know about these obligations at all. When they were told about them, they said that they did not want to discharge those obligations and that they would be satisfied if they were given 50 per cent instead of the present 60 per cent. This arrangement is, in fact, working in some villages.

I now come to certain statements made by the Governor in his Address on Education. I would only like to refer to two phrases used by him, viz., 'the programme of opening new schools wherever possible' and 'strengthening of existing schools'. These phrases mean many things. There are two factors. One factor refers to students and the other refers to teachers. A number of new schools have no doubt been opened in villages also. They are single-teacher schools. These teachers are untrained Graduates or untrained S.S.L.Cs. The Central Government have doled out something for relieving the unemployment problem. Therefore, these untrained teachers have been posted to these schools. Is it the way in which the students are to be treated? Is this the way in which the subject of education should be approached? Are you fair and just in entrusting the poor little children to the care of these untrained teachers? Do the Government honestly believe that anybody can be a teacher?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Does the hon. Member prefer the children going without education because of the fact that there are no trained teachers?

* SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Yes, I would even prefer the children to go without education. I only want to point out the undesirability of entrusting this work to untrained teachers. I am now going to give the solution to the problem. If their idea is to give some jobs to the unemployed, why not the Government give them jobs in some other field and why should they choose the Education Department for that purpose? I am strongly against this practice. If you consider the teaching profession as a skilled profession, by all means you should treat it as such and ask only trained and skilled men to take up the job of teaching the students. Do the Government post persons who do not know anything about agriculture to the Agriculture Department? I would respectfully submit that these untrained Graduates and others, whom the Government want to appoint, may be posted to some other fields. These Graduates when they are appointed to these schools always have an eye on some other better jobs and they utilize the salaries that they get from the schools for their postal charges. They never stick to the schools for more than two months. Sometimes, there will be no teacher in these schools. Is this the kind of school that they want to run? I am in charge of an institution. I know what it means. I wish the Government to extend their activities. I also desire that the remaining 50 per cent of the non-school-going children should be brought into schools. About strengthening the

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existing schools, if the Government take statistics of the teachers employed in the high schools and elementary schools in this State, they will find that many teachers are untrained. The Government have passed a rule that all teachers should retire after attaining the age of 55. This rule applies to all Government and Board schools. On the midnight of attaining the age of 55 the teacher retires. I do not know why they should be so retired. If the Government think that people become senile after attaining the age of 55, all of us above 55 are senile and that rule should apply to teachers in the aided institutions also. But what really happens? These teachers who retire come to us and get employment in aided institutions. Why should the Government send them away, after the age of 55? If the Government increase the age of retirement to sixty, most of the problems connected with this would get automatically solved. Very recently we got a circular from the Director of Public Instruction that the Government had authorized him to exempt teachers above sixty from the operation of this rule in view of the present dearth of trained teachers. Government have recognized that there is dearth of trained teachers. That being so, why should not the Government allow the retention of teachers in service normally up to the age of 60? As I said, that course, if adopted, would solve many of our problems.

I spoke about the untrained Graduate teachers employed in schools. The managements employing them have to get exemption from the Director of Public Instruction for this purpose because they cannot be employed for more than three years. These untrained people have no interest in the work. This is one of the causes for deterioration in educational standards.

Sir, I should express my thanks without any mental reservation to the Government for extending the recent increase in dearness allowance to teachers, that is, Rs. 5 plus Rs. 7. This is really a great thing. By this act the Government have removed the disparity which existed between the non-Gazetted officers and the teachers. But there is still another disparity between them, that is, in respect of the house rent allowance. I would plead with the Government to see that this is also paid to the teachers.

I take this opportunity to thank the Hon. the Minister for Education who has been ever sympathetic to the cause of teachers. I must also express my gratitude to him for another thing. This is the first State, which has granted pension to teachers, in the whole of India. But I must point out that though pensions have been granted to teachers, the rules framed for grant of pensions are so strict that not even one per cent of the teachers would be enabled to get their pensions. There is distinction between service rendered under local bodies and Government institutions and the aided institutions. In aided institutions service registers and such other things are not maintained. The teacher serves in one institution for two or three years and then goes to another institution. Only four years back this system of opening service registers was introduced. So, if the teacher is asked to produce the service register, wherefrom is he to produce it? I have expressed all these difficulties to the

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Hon. the Minister for Education already. He was sympathetic. I am saying again that these technicalities should be overlooked. Unless these are overlooked, I am afraid not many teachers would be benefited by this pension scheme.

Sir, on account of the increase in the cost of living and the increase in prices of many other essential articles, the schools are burdened with heavy expenses. To reduce this burden I should like to bring to the notice of the Government this fact. All the schools in the State except the schools in the City of Madras are exempted from payment of property tax. All the schools in the districts and municipalities have been exempted from it. In connexion with this matter, we waited in deputation on the former Education Minister. We represented that the Government might give two-thirds of the tax and the Corporation was asked to forego the tax. I think the Commissioner of the Corporation then was Sri Narasimham. The Government should kindly look into this matter and advise the Corporation to fall in line with the district boards and municipalities. That will be a great help in reducing the expenditure of schools in the City. My school was paying Rs. 500 or Rs. 600 some years back. Now it is paying Rs. 4,000 or so.

Then, Sir, wherever there are open spaces, the Government should reserve them for playgrounds and not allow slums to grow there. It is no use saying that the schools should have playgrounds of about ten to fifteen acres in extent. It is very difficult to get so much open space as playing grounds in cities like Tiruchirappalli and Madras. It is the duty of the Government to see that all open spaces are reserved as playing fields.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I won't take any more of your time. I will refer only to one more point. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition, Dr. A. L. Mudaliar, made a strong plea for the constitution of an Advisory Board for each Ministry. During the time when Sri Avinashilingam Chettiar was the Minister for Education and also during the time of Sri Madhava Menon there was such a Board. That was called the Provincial Advisory Board for Education. I do not know whether it is still in existence or has ceased to exist. I would request the Government to see that such a Board is again constituted if they really want that educational standards should be raised. The Government have appointed Committees to draw up syllabi for various subjects. It is very essential that we should have a State Advisory Board of Education to advise the Government from time to time.

Lastly, Sir, the Government permitted a number of people during the last few years to open educational institutions. These people have no buildings, and have no endowments. But, somehow, temporary recognition was given by the Government. After according temporary recognition, the Government prescribe a sacred rule that the school should have an endowment of Rs. 30,000 or Rs. 25,000. A school was started some years back and five to six

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hundred students are studying there. If this rule were to be enforced now, how could it continue? The management of that school makes a representation and that year recognition is given. In this way a number of schools have been given temporary recognition for many years. That is the state of many private schools. I should like to point out here the difficulty that is created by the grant of temporary recognition. The Government have granted fee concessions. The schools are not, therefore, getting much by way of fees. But they have to run the schools. They have to pay the teachers. Unless the Government give advance grants, the schools cannot be run properly and the teachers cannot be paid their salaries. Further, the temporary recognition is not granted at the beginning of the year. Temporary sanction is received only in January or February. Therefore, the managements find it difficult to pay the salaries of teachers. Such schools have been in existence for over five or six years. The Government cannot say overnight that they would withdraw the recognition, unless an endowment is created. Since such schools have to continue, the Government should see that advance grants are given to them so that the teachers serving in those institutions may not be put to any difficulty.

* SRI M. SUBRAMANYA KARAYALAR: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, coming as I do from Shencottah, a part of the newly integrated area, I deem it a great honour to be a Member of this House. As citizens of the then princely State, our experience, our mode of thought and Government are entirely different from those that are found in this State. However that may be, we have to fit in with the new set-up.

4-20
p.m.

Travancore is a dollar-earning area. There are so many rivers flowing westward and emptying their waters into the Arabian sea. These waters, if we are able to divert them to our area, will be of great benefit to the Ramanathapuram, Madurai and Tirunelveli districts. A far-sighted engineer of Travancore-Cochin State had prepared a scheme. He wanted that across all the rivers flowing westward, a series of dams should be constructed and that these dams should be interlinked. Then a tunnel should be cut across the Western Ghats and the waters stored on the other side should be brought to the eastern side. If this were done, it would be of great benefit to the eastern districts. The Government should take up this question on an all-India level and force the Central Government to sanction the scheme. If that were done, the southern district of our State will not only become self-sufficient but will also become surplus and be in a position to export enough foodgrains to Kerala and other places.

In the newly integrated area there are two municipalities which have protected water-supply. Till the integration this water-supply scheme was managed by the then Travancore-Cochin Government. After integration, information has been received from the Madras Government that the policy of the Government is to hand over the management of the water-supply schemes to the municipalities concerned. But till now the Government have neither handed over the schemes to the municipalities nor are they managing them.

[Sri V. S. Balasundaram]

[6th May 1957]

ஜலத்தை மற்றவர்களுக்கு விற்கின்றார்கள். வருஷத்திற்கு ஜலம் கொடுப்பதற்காக ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட தொகையோ அல்லது ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட அளவு நெல்லோ மற்ற தானியங்களோ வாங்கிக்கொள்கிறார்கள். இந்த வழக்கம் எங்களுடைய ஜில்லாவில் பல இடங்களிலே இருந்து வருகிறது. அதற்காக நான் சர்க்காருக்கு கூறுவது என்னவென்றால், அப்படிப்பட்ட இடங்களில் அரசாங்கம் பெரிய பெரிய கிணறுகளை எடுத்து, ஜலத்தை மேலே இறைப்பதற்கு பம்பு செட்டுகளைப் பொருத்தி, கிராமத்தில் இருப்பவர்களுடைய தேவைக்குத் தகுந்தாற்போல் விவசாயக் காரியங்களுக்குத் தண்ணீர் விநியோகிக்கவேண்டும். இந்தக் கிணறுகள் ஒருவருக்கு மாத்திரம் சொந்தமாக இல்லாமல், அரசாங்கத்திற்கே சொந்தமாக இருக்கவேண்டும். கிணறு தோண்டுவது, பம்பு செட்டுகளைப் பொருத்துவது முதலிய செலவு முழுவதும் அரசாங்கத்தினுடையதாகவே இருக்கவேண்டும். விவசாய சமுதாயத்திற்கு, குறிப்பாக ஏழை மக்களுக்குத் தேவையான தண்ணீரை இம்மாதிரி விநியோகம் செய்தால் மிகவும் நன்றாக இருக்குமென்று நினைக்கிறேன்.

தேசிய விஸ்தரிப்புத் திட்டம், சமுதாய அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டம் நமது ராஜ்யத்தில் பல இடங்களிலே பரவிக்கொண்டுவருகிறது. நேரத்தியான வேலைகள் நடந்து வருகின்றன. அதுவும் நமது முதல் அமைச்சர் ஸ்ரீ காமராஜ் அவர்கள் தேசிய விஸ்தரிப்புத் திட்ட இலாகாவை தங்களிடையே சொந்த மேற்பார்வையில் வைத்துக்கொண்டதை மிகவும் வரவேற்கிறேன். ஏனென்றால், இந்தத் திட்டங்களை நிறைவேற்றுவதற்கு மற்ற எல்லா இலாகாக்களுடைய ஒத்துழைப்பும் தேவையாக இருக்கிறது. மற்ற இலாகாக்களுடைய உடனடியான ஒத்துழைப்பு இல்லாவிட்டால் அபிவிருத்தித் திட்ட வேலைகள் செவ்வனே நடைபெறாது. எல்லா இலாகாக்களும் வெகு சீக்கிரமாகவும் ரொம்ப துரிதமாகவும் வேலை செய்து ஒத்துழைத்தால்தான் வேலை நடக்கும். இல்லாவிட்டால் வேலை நடைபெறாது. ஒரு இலாகா ஒத்துழைக்காவிட்டாலும் வேலை தடங்கலாக நின்றுவிடும். என்ஜினியரிங் அதில் தாமதம் ஏற்பட்டுவிட்டால் நிதி இலாகாவுக்கு அனுப்ப முடியாது. தேவையான நிதியைப் பெறமுடியாது. சீக்கிரமாக எஸ்டிமேட் தயார் செய்து கொடுத்தால்தான் நிதி இலாகாவுக்கு அனுப்பித் தேவையான பணத்தைப் பெறமுடியும். அப்பொழுதுதான் சீக்கிரத்திலே வேலையைத் துவக்கவும் முடியும். அந்தக் கஷ்டம் இதுவரையில் கொஞ்சம் இருந்தது. ஆனால், இப்பொழுது முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் இந்த இலாகாவை ஏற்றுக்கொண்டதிலிருந்து வேலைகள் ரொம்ப ஜோராக நடந்துவருகின்றன. இனிமேல் நடந்துவரும் என்பதில் எனக்குச் சந்தேகமே இல்லை. மற்ற எல்லா இலாகாக்களும் இதிலே ஒத்துழைக்கும் என்பதிலும் எனக்குச் சந்தேகம் இல்லை.

அது மாத்திரமல்ல. ஸ்ரீமான் காமராஜ் அவர்கள் ஒரு நவீன முறையை இப்பொழுது கையாண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். பத்திரிகையிலே கூட நீங்கள் பார்த்திருப்பீர்கள். ஜனங்களோடு நெருங்கிய தொடர்பு வைத்துக் கொள்வதற்காக, சிவப்பு நாடா முறையை அனுப்பதற்கான திட்டத்தைக் கையாளப்போகின்றார். எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் ஊத்துக்கோட்டை பிரிக்காவுக்கு இம்மாதம் 8-ந் தேதி அவர் வருவதாக ஏற்பாடு எல்லாம் ஆகிவருகிறது. இது சர்வசாதாரண காரியமாகத் தோன்றலாம். ஆனால், அதை ஆராய்ந்து ஜனங்களுக்கு வேண்டியதை உடனடியாகச் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்பதற்காக இந்த ஏற்பாட்டை அவர் செய்திருக்கிறார்.

ஏதாவது ஒரு பெட்டிஷனை அரசாங்கத்திற்கு அனுப்பினால் கீழிருந்து செக்ரடேரியட் வரை போய் மறுபடியும் கீழே திரும்பி வருவதற்கு குறைந்தது ஆறு மாதம் ஆகும். போன பேப்பர் இருக்கிற இடம்கூட சில சமயங்களில் தெரியாது. இதில் எனக்கு ரொம்ப அனுபவம் உண்டு. ஏதாவது பெட்டிஷன் போட்டால் ஒன்றிரண்டு நகல்கள் கைப் செய்யாமல் முதலிலேயே ஒரு டஜன் நகல்கள் தயாராக வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்.

[6th May 1957]

[Sri V. S. Balasundaram]

தாலுகா ஆபீசில் ஒன்று கொடுத்தோமானால், சில நாட்கள் சென்று கேட்டால், அது உதவி கலெக்டர் ஆபீசுக்குப் போய்விட்டதாகச் சொல்வார்கள். அங்கு போய்க் கேட்டால், பேப்பர் இருக்காது. அப்பொழுது ஒரு காப்பி கேட்பார்கள். அதைக் கொடுத்துவிட்டு, இன்னும் பேப்பர் வரவில்லையென்று கலெக்டர் ஆபீசுக்குப் போனால், அங்கேயும் பேப்பர் வரவில்லையென்று சொன்னால், அங்கு ஒரு காப்பி கொடுக்கவேண்டியிருக்கும். செக்ரடேரியட் வரையில் இம்மாதிரி நடந்து கொண்டு வருவதை அனுபவித்திருக்கிறேன். காரணம் என்னவென்றால் சிவப்பு நாடாத் தன்மைதான். இதை நான் சொல்லும்போது ஸ்ரீ ராமசாமி ரெட்டியார் அவர்கள் சிரிக்கிறார்கள். ஏனென்றால், அவருக்கு சிவப்பு நாடாத் தன்மை பிடிக்காது.

SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR : இந்தச் சபையில் கூட red curtain-ஐக் காண்கிறோம் !

* **SRI V. S. BALASUNDARAM :** சிவப்பு நாடாத் தன்மையை அறுப்பதற்கு இப்பொழுது கைக்கொள்ளக்கூடிய முறை ரொம்பவும் வரவேற்கத்தக்கது. அங்கங்கே ஜனங்களுடைய தேவைகளை அறிந்து, அங்கங்கே உடனே உத்தரவு—on the spot உத்தரவு—போடுவது என்பது மிகவும் வரவேற்கத்தகுந்த விஷயம். ஜனங்களுடைய குறைகள் அவ்வப்போதே நிவர்த்திக்கப்பட்டுவந்தால் நல்லது. அதனால்தான், எங்களுடைய ஜில்லாவிலே 8-ந் பட்டால்தான் நல்லது. அதனால்தான், எங்களுடைய ஜில்லாவிலே 8-ந் தேதி கனம் திரு. காமராஜ் அவர்கள் ஊத்துக்கோட்டை பிரிக்காவிற்கு விஜயம் செய்கிறார்கள். அதற்காக ரொம்ப ஏற்பாடுல்லாமல் ஆகிவருகிறது. கிராமவாசிகள் என்னென்ன குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்லவேண்டுமென்பதைப்பற்றி காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டி மூலமாகவும் வேண்டிய காரியங்கள் செய்யப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. சாத்தியமான காரியங்களை, உடனே செய்யக்கூடிய காரியங்களை, எடுத்துச் சொன்னால்தான் அவைகளை நிறைவேற்ற முடியுமே தவிர, உடனே நிறைவேற்ற முடியாத காரியங்களைச் சொன்னால் பிரயோஜனம் இல்லை. முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்களின் ஏற்பாட்டை ஜனங்களுடைய எல்லோரும் எங்களுடைய ஜில்லாவில் குதூகலமாக எதிர்பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். சமுதாய அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டத்தின் கீழ் இருக்கும் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். சமுதாய அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டத்தின் கீழ் இருக்கும் பிரதேசங்களில், ஏற்கெனவே கவர்னர் அவர்கள் சொன்னது மாதிரி, மின்சாரம், ரோடுகள் போடுவது, விவசாயிகளுக்குக் கடன் வசதி செய்து கொடுப்பது, கிணறுகள் வெட்டுவதற்கு மானியம் கொடுப்பது, விதைகள் வாங்குவதற்குக் கடன் கொடுப்பது போன்ற பல வகைகளிலும் காரியங்கள் நடந்து வருகின்றன.

சர்க்கார் பலவகைகளில் விவசாயிகளுக்கு உதவி செய்து வருகிறார்கள். சிறிய நீர்ப்பாசனத்திற்கு அங்கு ஏதாவது செய்யலாமென்றால், அதற்கு அங்கு வசதி இல்லை. ஆஸ்பத்திரி ஏற்படுத்த வசதி இருக்கிறது, பிரசவ விடுதிகள் ஏற்படுத்த வசதி உண்டு. பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் கட்ட வசதி இருக்கிறது. புத்தகசாலைகள் கட்டுவதற்கு வசதி இருக்கிறது. ஆனால், விவசாயிகளுக்கு புத்தகசாலைகள் கட்டுவதற்கு வசதி இருக்கிறது. ஆனால், விவசாயிகளுக்கு மிகவும் நல்ல பயனையும் சௌகரியத்தையும் அளிக்கக் கூடிய இந்த சிறு பாசன வசதிகளைத் தேடிக்கொள்ள யாதொரு ஏற்பாடும் அங்கு இல்லை. ஒரு ஏரிக்கு வரத்து இல்லையென்றால், அதற்கு யாதொரு வசதியும் செய்ய முடியாது. இன்னும் சிறிய அணைகட்டுவதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வேண்டும். சொற்பச் செலவு ஆகலாம். ஆயிரக் கணக்கில்தான் இருக்கும் ஆகவே, சிறிய அணைக்கட்டுகள் கட்டுவதற்கும் சிறிய நீர்ப்பாசன வசதி செய்வதற்கும் சமுதாய அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டத்தின் கீழும் தேசிய விஸ்தரிப்புத் திட்டத்தின் கீழும் உள்ள பிரதேசங்களில் ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். இதை என் சொல்கிறேன் என்றால், நம்முடைய முக்கிய நோக்கம் விவசாயத்தை அபிவிருத்தி செய்து, உணவுப் பொருள்களை அதிகப்படியாக உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதுதான். இது விஷயத்திலும் அரசாங்கம் கவனம் செலுத்துவார்கள் என்று நான் நினைக்கிறேன்.

இப்பொழுது மதுவிலக்குத் திட்டமானது எவ்வளவு தூரம் சரிவர நடந்து வருகிறது? இது மிகவும் கஷ்டமான திட்டம். நமது அனுபவம் வாய்ந்த மந்திரியான ஸ்ரீ பக்தவத்சலம் அவர்கள் இந்த இலாக்காவை பரிபாலிக்கிறார்கள். அதை நாங்கள் வரவேற்கிறோம். அவர் இந்த

[Sri V. S. Balasundaram]

[6th May 1957]

இலாக்காவை பரிபாலிக்க ஆரம்பித்ததும், போலீஸ் அதிகாரிகள் இந்த மதுவிலக்கு விஷயத்தில் துரிதமான நடவடிக்கை எடுத்து வருவதை நாம் பத்திரிகை வாயிலாகப் பார்க்கிறோம். இன்னும் ஆறு மாதங்களில் இந்தக் கள்ளச் சாராயம் காய்ச்சுவதை ஒழித்து பூரண மதுவிலக்கைக் கொண்டுவருவதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று நான் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆகவே இந்த மது விலக்கு பூரணமாக வெற்றி அடையும் என்பதில் யாதொரு சந்தேகமும் இல்லை. அதற்கு ஜனங்களுடைய ஒத்துழைப்பும், அங்கத்தினர்கள் எல்லோருடைய ஒத்துழைப்பும் இருந்தால் இந்தத் திட்டத்தை ஸ்ரீமான் பக்தவத்சலம் அவர்கள் பரிபூரணமாக வெற்றி அடையும்படி செய்வார்கள் என்பதில் சந்தேகம் இல்லை.

அடுத்தபடியாக, கல்வியைப் பரப்புவதற்கு பல பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் திறக்கப் போவதாக கவர்னர் அவர்களது உரையிலே கூறப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. முதல் ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டத்தின் கீழும் இரண்டாவது ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டத்தின் கீழும் ஏராளமான உயர்தரப் பள்ளிகள் ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக் கூடங்கள் ஆகியவைகளுக்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. சிறிய கிராமங்களிலெல்லாம், உயர்தரப் பள்ளிகள் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. படிக்கக்கூடிய மாணவர்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 500, 100 என்று இருக்கிறது. இந்த அளவு பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் பரவி இருக்கின்றன. இந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்குப் பயிற்சிபெற்ற ஆசிரியர்கள் வேண்டுமென்று ஸ்ரீ ஸ்ரீனிவாசவரதன் அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். பயிற்சி பெற்ற ஆசிரியர்கள் இருந்தால்தான் பிள்ளைகளுக்குப் பாடம் வருமா? பயிற்சி பெறாதவர்களுக்குப் பாடம் கற்பிக்கத் தெரியாதா? எல்லா உபாத்தியாயர்களுக்கும் பயிற்சி அளிப்பதென்றால் காலதாமதம் ஆகிறது. அதனால் பயிற்சி பெறாத ஆசிரியர்களை அமர்த்தலாம் என்று நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். பயிற்சி பெறாத ஆசிரியர்களைப் போட்டாலும் வேலை நன்றாகத்தான் நடக்கிறது. பயிற்சி பெற்ற ஆசிரியர்களுக்கும் பயிற்சி பெறாத ஆசிரியர்களுக்கும் அதிக வித்தியாசம் இருப்பதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. பயிற்சி பெறாத ஆசிரியர்கள் பிள்ளைகளுக்குப் பாடம் சொல்லித் தரமுடியாது என்பதை நான் ஒப்புக் கொள்ளவில்லை.

ஓராசிரியர் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களிலுமே ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். அப்பள்ளிகளில் பயிற்சி பெற்ற ஆசிரியர்கள் கிடைக்காததினால் பயிற்சி பெறாத ஆசிரியர்கள் அமர்த்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். மாணவர்களுக்கு அவர்கள் சரிவரப் பாடங்களைப் போதித்துக்கொண்டுதான் வருகிறார்கள்.

ஆசிரியர்களின் நிலைமை இப்பொழுது வெகுவாக மாறி இருக்கிறது. அவர்களுடைய சம்பளமும் பஞ்சப்படியும் உயர்த்தப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. இதை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன். ஆனால் அவர்கள் ரிடையர் ஆன பிறகு அவர்கள் வாழ வழியில்லாமல் பிழைப்புக்கு மிகவும் திண்டாடுகிறார்கள். மிகவும் திறமையுடன் வேலை செய்யும் ஆசிரியர்கள் மாத்திரமல்ல, தலைமை ஆசிரியர்களும் கூட கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்படும் பிராவிடண்ட் பண்டு மிகவும் மோசமாக இருக்கிறது. முப்பது வருஷ சர்வீசுக்குப் பிறகு 55-வது வயதில் ரிடையர் ஆகும்போது, அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கும் பிராவிடண்ட் பண்டுப் பணம் மிகவும் சொற்பம். ஆகவே எய்ட் பள்ளிகளில் இருக்கும் ஆசிரியர்களுக்கு பென்ஷன் கொடுக்க வேண்டியது அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. எனக்குக் கவர்னர் அவர்களின் பிரசங்கத்தின் மேல் பேசுவதற்கு வாய்ப்பளித்த தலைவர் அவர்களுக்கு மனமார்ந்த நன்றியைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு என் உரையை முடித்துக் கொள்கிறேன்.

* SRI JOHN ASIRVATHAM: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, we have been listening all these days to a plethora of speeches both in this House and in the other House, and I wonder if what I am going to say will be superfluous. However, you have been kind enough to permit me to say a few words.

[6th May 1957] [Sri John Asirvatham]

I shall first refer to the Governor's Address. The Governor says in his Address that the elections went off smoothly and in an orderly manner. I am sorry I must take exception to this statement, because during the elections, according to newspaper reports, we heard of one or two murders and of one man committing suicide in the Sattur constituency. Several incidents like this had happened, and to say that everything went off peacefully and in an orderly way is not a statement of fact. In my opinion, the net result of the last elections is that democracy in this State is fast descending into mobocracy. We know the dangers of mobocracy, and I am sure efforts will be made by the Government to avert this ever-growing danger in the Madras State.

Sir, I extend a hearty welcome to the new Leader of the House, 5 p.m. the Hon. Sri R. Venkataraman. I also welcome the new Ministry headed by the Hon. Sri K. Kamaraj Nadar. It has four veterans and fresh blood has also been brought into the Cabinet. I wish the Cabinet and the Government of Madras every success and the very best of luck in all their endeavours to promote the progress and prosperity of the State.

Sir, I must confess to a certain feeling of disappointment that there has been a significant omission in the Cabinet. I refer to the non-inclusion of a representative of the great and powerful minority, the Muslim community. The Muslims have had cultural, political and historic ties with this State from time immemorial. I do not believe in the number 'Eight'. I am not a believer in superstitions. But, still, I would prefer this number 'Nine'. I think there is a Tamil saying about that number as 'Paripoorna' or some such thing. It is not too late for the Chief Minister to include a Muslim in the Cabinet. Sir, I expected you to become a Minister. Anyway, I hope this omission will be rectified sooner or later.

As a Tamilian, I am very happy that Tamil will soon be used as the official language. An hon. Member referred to பச்சைத் தமிழன் and said, 'பச்சை will fade.' I am referring to 'Ever green' Tamil. But, in our anxiety to make Tamil the official language, we should not relegate English to the background. We must consider the utilitarian value of the English language. Do not consider English as the Englishman's language or the foreigner's language and all that. Consider it as a world language, as an international language because, that language is spoken in all World Councils and Assemblies.

Sir, several hon. Members referred to the soaring prices of commodities. I am sure the Government would make efforts to arrest the upward trend in prices. I know and I am sure that all the hon. Members also are aware of the fact that there are hundreds and thousands of families who live only on a single meal. I appeal to the Government to see that the poor families get at least two square meals a day.

[Sri John Asirvatham]

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Another welcome feature in the Governor's Address is his statement that there has been a steady decline in crimes. As a citizen of Madras, I could say that ever since the present Commissioner of Police took up office, as a result of his drive, alertness and vigilance, there has been a steady fall in crimes in the City.

Let me appeal to the Government that in the implementation of the Second Five-Year Plan, top priority should be given to the improvement of the lot of the poor teachers. I am a representative of that great army of teachers in this Council. So, it behoves me to speak on their behalf. My hon. Friend Sri T. P. Srinivasavaradan referred to the need for paying house rent allowance to the teachers. Now, there is the same scale of pay both for the City teachers and those who live in villages and other mufassal places. Here, in the City of Madras or in the City of Madurai, a teacher has got to pay Rs. 40 for a small portion in a big house whereas in a village, a teacher can pay Rs. 4 and have a mansion for himself. I appeal to the Government to give some kind of house rent allowance to teachers residing in great cities and towns like Madras, Madurai, Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli. This could be extended to municipal towns as well. Sir, certain reforms are impending in the field of secondary education. We cannot ask a discontented staff or body of teachers to work these reforms. I thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to speak on this occasion. I wish the new Ministry every success.

* SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Mr. Deputy Chairman, in supporting the amendment so ably moved by the hon. Member Sri Mohamed Raza Khan, I wish to make a few observations.

Sir, it is highly regrettable that nothing definite has been mentioned in His Excellency the Governor's Address with regard to the educational policy. Of course, there are two statements. One is that there will be an increase in the number of schools and that the present schools will be strengthened. Another statement that the Legislature Committee's Report is under the active consideration of the Government is also there. As for the first statement, I cannot but remark that it is only an attempt to add to the existing hungry battalion of teachers. Already there are about a lakh of teachers in this State, even after the separation of the Malabar and South Kanara districts. They are not getting even a living wage. If the Government want to consolidate and increase the number of literate children at the same time, they must first see that they do not increase the admissions into the training centres. It has been reported by many committees that at this rate, and with the present kind of schools this Government cannot expand education and meet all the finances. Already, for the 50 per cent of the children admitted into the elementary schools, and a smaller number at the higher stages of education we have to shell out nearly Rs. 11 or 12 crores out of our revenue of about Rs. 60 crores. If we are to increase the number of schools to double the admission, our recurring expenditure also will increase correspondingly.

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DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. Member opposed to the opening of new schools then?

* SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Yes, we are at present spending nearly 20 per cent of our revenues. If we are to double the number of schools, the expenditure will be nearly 40 per cent of our revenues. Even if we are to spend nearly 40 per cent of the total revenue on education, we will only be adding to the number of hungry teachers and the teachers will still remain in the 'below the living-wage levels' without any addition to their emoluments. That clearly shows that any attempt on the part of the Government to increase the number of schools with the present system of education is meaningless.

Now, Sir, a system was brought into force some three or four 5-10 years ago by which children could be taught for 2½ hours in the p.m. schools in all subjects. If any parent would take the trouble of diving deep into the text-books their children are reading, he would find much of anti-national matter in the history books, much of unpractical matter in mathematics and much of things unrelated to life in books on science. If all this wasteful matter, overlapping matter, anti-national matter is left out of the text-books, there would not be, I dare say, more than two and a half hours required for the imparting of instruction that is now being carried on, for five hours. So, will it not be better for the Government to see whether that scheme which was thrown overboard two or three years ago, is worth reconsideration? I do not know for what reasons that scheme was thrown overboard. The reasons are best known to the Government themselves. In the interest of the nation, in the interest of the children, and in the interest of the Members occupying the Treasury Benches themselves who are saying that they are following in the footsteps of the Father of the Nation, and the upholders of the privileges of the downtrodden in the villages, should not these Congressmen who are occupying the Treasury Benches think and find out whether the parents of these children who require the children's help at home and in the fields can allow their children to be in the school for more than two and a half hours? These poor children in the villages on account of their economic conditions do not find time to attend schools. On account of the need to help their parents, they cannot afford to remain for longer hours in the school. Irrespective of the other considerations which might have detracted the attention of the Government when that scheme was thrown overboard, if that scheme were to be introduced now, the present strength of teachers will do to educate all our children and the teachers also can be paid handsomely. The 20 per cent revenue can be raised to 25 per cent and with that we can educate all our children, and we will have cent per cent literacy. That is why I oppose the increase in the number of existing schools and I strengthen the existing ones under the present system. I will not now go into the question whether we should have single-teacher schools or not. I will take it up on another occasion.

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Then, Sir, we find in the Address a statement that the Report of the Legislature Committee on the White Paper on Education is under the active consideration of the Government. There have been many committees on Education but I do not find any of them having made a deep study of the content of education. I have just now pointed out that the content of education is the most important thing. We have much anti-national matter in the history books. In spite of the fact that we have enjoyed Swaraj for over ten years, the same history books are brought out and our students are made to study them. These books begin with a two race theory of Aryan and Dravidian, deal with the ways in which the Britisher subdued us and ended till of late with the glories of the British rule. Now they end with a short story about Swaraj Movement and the winning of freedom. In these books there are so many lessons which undermine the minds of our children, and their chief aim is to divide us and create splits amongst us. If to-day we find the atmosphere saturated with communalism, communism and otherisms it is on account of these history books, which we have allowed to continue to be published and prescribed as text-books. In the interest of the nation these poisonous text-books ought to have been thrown into the ditches even on the 14th of August 1947. But what is it that we find to-day? Even after ten years of Swaraj, even when we have a Congress Government, we have not been able to destroy them. The Government should have banned these history books and rewritten them in such a way as to improve the content of education. The various committees have been dealing with the duration of the course, age of admission and so on. The content of education has not been dealt with. That is why I say that this Government have no educational policy. If the Government have any educational policy, they should first of all, ban the cinemas. The real aim of education is the formation of character in the pupils to produce A-1 men of integrity and character. This is what Nehruji dreams of and wants. If the work of education should effectively go on in schools, should there not be a ban on cinemas which are nullifying the work of character formation in the schools? Is it not in the hands of the Central Government to do away with these cinemas? If the State Government cannot do it, cannot they recommend to the Central Government to do that? I have drawn the attention of the Government to this matter more than once. The real educator, the real school from Cape Camorin to Kashmir is the cinema. It gives education on kindergarten, it gives primary education, secondary education, college education and then it gives adult education also. Crimes have increased on account of the cinemas. Then, should we ban them in the interest of the nation at least to preserve the hard-won freedom? That we must do. The Government must exercise strict censorship on cinemas.

AN HON. MEMBER: There is the Censor Board.

* SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY: We know the Board is there and films are censored. We had a discussion about it here also.

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But the portions cut are exhibited in front of the cinemas theatres. There are ways and loopholes by which these could be done. What I say is that the censorship should be made very very strict.

Then comes the question of agency. How it crept into the educational system nobody knows. Perhaps in the days of the British rule education was cheap and we have got the agency system in education now also. The trouble with these private and aided institutions is that they are not able to dole out what the Government want them to dole out to teachers. Recently we had this question of increase in dearness allowance. There were bold letters published in the Press saying that the teachers would get an increase of Rs. 12, that is, Rs. 5 from November 1956 and Rs. 7 from March 1957. But really many teachers have not got it. The question of agency stands in the way of the teachers getting this increased dearness allowance. The Government passed an order that in respect of aided institutions which have a surplus, they must bear the whole of this Rs. 12 increase. In the case of schools which have a deficit, they will have to bear fifty per cent. If a school having a deficit is asked to pay 50 per cent, it will run into further deficit and, therefore, it is not willing to pay the teachers the increased dearness allowance. Once the Government feel that this increased dearness allowance should be paid to the teachers, arrangements should be made to see that it is paid. The teacher should not be made to suffer on account of the fact that the school is running with a deficit. Fifty per cent of the teachers or about 50,000 are employed in aided institutions and whatever has been announced in the Press by the Government by way of increase in dearness allowance does not reach the teachers properly. We do not know whether it would at all reach all of them or when it would reach them. We find that this question of agency has to be solved somehow or other. I have submitted constructively on the floor of this House a concrete suggestion. Let all the schools run by the present agencies come under a common formula. Whatever money is got by the school, by way of school fees, special fees, etc., is public money. This money should be accounted for by the managements to the Government. Let those moneys be deposited in the treasury. Let an auditor or the District Educational Officer scrutinize the accounts of these schools. Let the salaries of the teachers be paid straight by the Government under the signature of the Headmaster who should be treated just like a Gazetted officer. If this is done, the deficit or surplus will go to the Government. Under the present system, even the Government do not have a machinery to check the endowments of schools. There are very good endowments for some and there are no endowments at all for some others. After the introduction of audit, the surplus is asked to be kept separate and if there is a surplus, the Government should decide how it should be utilised.

With this question is connected the question of fee compensation, granted in respect of poor children up to III Form. So many elementary schools say that they are not able to levy fees and that they are not able to pay the salaries of teachers. The

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Government say to schools, 'You have made a profit and you should be able to pay'. But the managements say that they are in a deficit. There is no check of accounts in elementary schools. In fact, in the City schools, in many of them they levy a fee of Re. 1 for infant standard and up to Rs. 5 for higher classes. There is no doubt that they have been making a profit. But they are paying their teachers only the grant amount paid by the Government. They are not compelled by rules to pay more. They are not bound to pay more. Therefore, they don't pay more. Even to-day they are making huge profits. In the City many of the parents earn more than Rs. 100 a month and the income from fees is considerable. Therefore, I say it is the duty of the Government to see that the fees, the special fees and others paid by students are accounted for to the Government and remitted into the Treasury and the salaries of teachers paid by the Government.

5-2 p.m. Now, Sir, after so many years of pleading here and struggle outside by the teachers, the Government have sanctioned the pension scheme for the teachers, a quarter pension. But that pension has not reached any teacher though the scheme was sanctioned with effect from 1st April 1955. More than two years have elapsed but nothing has reached the teacher. I do not know what the difficulties are. We were told about some difficulty by the Hon. the Minister for Education on the floor of the House. But I do not know why there is still delay. As pointed out by one hon. Member previously, the rules have been framed in such a way that the pension would not reach the majority of teachers. There is a rule saying that if a teacher's service has been unsatisfactory, the pension can be cut. It is so vague as that. How much pension will be cut and who is to judge the teachers' service as unsatisfactory? There is another rule which says that if a teacher quits his institution voluntarily by resigning his post, his services prior to that resignation will not be counted for the purpose of pension. I may humbly submit to the Government, as I have done previously, that in the case of the teachers serving in aided institutions—whether elementary, secondary or even collegiate—who represent about 50 per cent of 112,000 teachers, resignation is the only possible way of getting out of the schools because the manager calls the teacher into his room and says: 'I do not want to spoil you and I do not want to write about you to the educational authorities. Please give your resignation in writing.' That is what managers have been doing. Now what would happen to those teachers? Would they be eligible for pension? Perhaps after the publication of the rules, the teachers may be careful, but what about those teachers who had put in more than 25 or 30 years' service and were eligible for pension from 1st April 1955?

5-30 p.m. Now, by the award of pension the Government have come to realize that all teachers are doing national service. But they must see that teachers are not put to unnecessary trouble because they serve under different agencies. Fifty per cent of the teachers in aided institutions do not have security of service whatsoever. Even a college principal and a Headmaster can be sent out at a moment's

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notice by the management by giving three months' salary or even without such salary for misbehaviour and neglect of duty. Why this insecurity of service? Is there any insecurity of service in the case of any other profession under the sun? Would any other profession have kept quiet if there had been such insecurity of service? If the teacher does not have security of service, he cannot have the peace of mind to mould the minds of his pupils. Education is something more than instruction. Education is the radiance of the personality of the teacher. Education is intended to put into the pupil integrity, honesty and character. The personality of the teacher counts. In our Madras State we say we have got the Director of Public Instruction and not the Director of Public Education. We must change the name of the Director of Public Education. Education should mould the personality of the pupil. Otherwise, that education is practically useless. For that purpose, the teacher should have peace of mind and should be kept above the living wage level. On account of the present system of education, there is indiscipline in schools. If we want really to tackle indiscipline in schools and colleges, we must ban the display of bad films in cinemas and give the teacher a living wage so that he may have peace of mind to mould the pupils. If that is done, pupils would be trained by teachers as men of character, integrity and honesty. Also the agency system should be governed by a uniform formula. Probably in 1947 when Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiar was Minister for Education, I submitted a formula on Agency system and suggestions on security of service, which could be easily made applicable to managements and teachers and which would not be harmful to anybody whomsoever. That formula would have given security of service to teachers. That has not been taken into consideration so far. I put this simple proposition. If a person commits a mistake, charges should be framed against him and his explanation obtained. If there should be suspension, during the suspension period subsistence allowance should be given to him. If there should be dismissal, it must be after enquiry. Are these steps justified in the case of school teachers alone? If these things are justifiable, then what difficulty is there in just issuing an order by one stroke of the pen, that teachers irrespective of the institutions they serve in, shall be on a par with Government servants in respect of security of service? But what is the position now? April in every year is called a 'harvest month' as far as teachers are concerned. It is only in April that teachers are being sent out of the schools. As pointed out by my predecessor, many teachers have only one square meal a day and sending out of a teacher means driving a family into the streets—five or six members and sometimes a dozen members because a teacher is supposed to have more children. (Laughter.) Is it not necessary and incumbent on the Government to bring in a legislation voluntarily without my asking, for protecting these teachers against all these things? There should be a Teachers' Protection Act.

Now, I come to the question of house rent allowance and medical concessions. There also the question of agency comes in. The

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agency system has been playing havoc and, therefore, I want that all agencies should be treated on a par with each other, irrespective of the denomination to which they may belong. It is on account of the agency system, that only 55 per cent of the teachers are given house rent allowance and medical concessions and that 45 per cent of them have been denied all such concessions. I have time and again referred to this matter on the floor of this House and assurances were given that it would be considered. When the Assurances Committee went into the matter, the Government said that it would be considered at the time of revision of salaries. Still the teachers are to get this house rent allowance. If an Hon. Minister pays a surprise visit to any teacher's house, the house of a teacher 'getting below Rs. 100 as salary, he will see that house is no better than a hovel. Can the teacher have good health? Such being the case, why do the Government deny even the house rent allowance to him? Even a teacher in a major panchayat gets Rs. 3. After all, the amount would not come to more than Rs. 5 or Rs. 6 lakhs. When Mr. Krishna Rao was Minister for Education, he said that it would come to Rs. 10 lakhs. Now that the Andhra area and two more districts have been separated from the Madras State, the amount would not come to more than Rs. 5 or 6 lakhs. For a Government which is getting nearly Rs. 60 crores, it is not a great thing. Why should one section of teachers alone be denied these allowances?

5-30 p.m. Now, I come to the teachers who retire at the age of 55 in the case of a local board. After his retirement, the teacher goes to an aided school. He teaches the same class of students and follows the same syllabus. It seems as though the same Deputy Inspector of Schools says to the teacher, 'You were 55 yesterday but to-day in an aided school, you are younger'. A change of agency does not matter, but he is not allowed to get Rs. 100, the last salary which he was getting at the time of retirement but he is given only Rs. 45, a fresh start in the scale. This is a great wrong done to the teachers who produced such great leaders as Mahatmaji and Nehruji. Can there be any injustice more than this? It is like Government saying "You teachers, you have done a great wrong; you produced great men like Gandhiji, Tilakji and Nehruji. You are now putting patriotism into the children to enable them to preserve the hard-won freedom. This is quite wrong. You must be punished for this and punished severely. Your salary is to be cut by Rs. 55 a month for doing such wrong during 25 or 30 years of your service. This is the case with Matriculate teachers. Then there is the case of L.Ts. who get a bigger cut, I want the hon. Members on the Treasury Benches to rememr that we do not lag behind anybody in patriotism. If we happen to sit on the Opposition, it is only to point out the loopholes that are in the administration of Government and in the policies that are outlined by them. They who are supposed to follow in the footsteps of Gandhiji should see that the teachers are rendered justice. Perhaps it may be that I say this after the teacher have been promised Rs. 12 a month but the lowest paid teacher even after this Rs. 12 gets Rs. 55 or Rs. 60.

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and considering the cost of living, the index of which is at 369, it does not mean more than Rs. 15 or Rs. 20. Therefore, no teacher has tasted and fruit, though he teaches about fruits and he is asked to teach about the vitamins of fruits. The teacher cannot get a pair of shoes, or an umbrella, with the salary he gets. Such is the teacher, the premier citizen, asked to equip the future citizens of the country with integrity, honesty and character.

Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given me, but before closing, I would request the Government to consider all these things and arrive at their conclusions in the following way: Whether an all-India scheme is not necessary; if they cannot produce an all-India scheme, whether at least a State scheme is not necessary; whether banning of cinemas . . .

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All cinemas? You want the whole thing to go?

* SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY: . . . cinemas in respect of children; not all cinemas, but unhealthy films; whether before introduction of reorganisation of education, they should not treat education as one whole and not as compartments; whether the scope of their Committees should not be to consider the content of education and then revise the scheme; whether it is necessary that they should realise that more than 2½ hours is not necessary for imparting of instruction that they should realise that the teacher is the pivot of education, that they should realise that the result of their work is extraordinary, just abstract which cannot be shown just as they show results in the case of dams and irrigation projects and other such things involving capital expenditure, that if they are interested in the nation, it is not fair to leave the teachers to suffer and die. The teachers are prepared to suffer and die if the appeals of their representative, Krishnamoorthy, do not mean anything to the Government; but posterity is affected. The appeal is more on behalf of the children of, among others, the Members occupying the Treasury Benches, and the Nation that is to bear on its shoulders the heavy burden of preserving the hard-won freedom of the country.

* SRI T. S. SANKARANARAYANA PILLAI: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, after the fiery speeches of two hon. Members, I find my task a bit . . . (The Hon. Sri R. Venkataraman: Fire-works, but misfired) . . . embarrassing. But none the less, I wish to say a few words in support of the Motion which was so ably moved by the hon. Member Srimathi Jothi Vencatachellum. Sir, my purpose is to emphasise the importance and urgency of certain matters that have been mentioned in the Address. Before I say what they are, I beg respectfully to endorse the sentiments which His Excellency has expressed about his illustrious predecessor, Shri Sri Prakasa.

DR. V. K. JOHN: May I remind the hon. Member that the term 'His Excellency' is inappropriate now?

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* SRI T. S. SANKARANARAYANA PILLAI: We all know what a constitutional Governor Shri Sri Prakasa was—I have omitted 'His Excellency'—and how he went about his task in an exemplary way. I believe, Sir, it will not be out of place on my part to extend to the present Governor, Sri A. J. John, our cordial welcome. The present Governor also is not a stranger to us. We have heard about him and known him. He was an outstanding personality in the former State of Travancore-Cochin. He has served the people of Kerala in various capacities, first as an able Chief Minister of the State Government, then as an ordinary Minister and then as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. Therefore, he is an administrator of ripe experience and also a gentleman of pious disposition. I cannot but remark that it is but fitting that such a distinguished son of Kerala should have been chosen to preside over the destinies of Tamil Nad. This, I believe, itself is an eloquent tribute to the goodwill and harmony that prevail amongst the peoples of Kerala and Tamil Nad.

I also extend my hearty welcome to the present Council of Ministers under the distinguished leadership of the Chief Minister, Sri Kamaraj. I also extend my welcome to the newly elected Members of the Legislative Council.

Sir, coming to the Address itself. I am afraid that there is considerable substance in the argument of some hon. Members that the Address has not disclosed the policy which the Government propose to follow. I believe, Sir, that in consonance with the constitutional principles and practices obtaining in all parliamentary democracies, the speech from the Throne should contain at least an outline of the policies and programmes which the Government of the day propose to follow and implement. Then the Governor has rightly taken credit for the speed and efficiency with which major irrigation and power projects are being executed in the State. So far so good. But I wish to submit to the House that major irrigation projects alone cannot and do not constitute the panacea for all ills. Possibly because of their enormous size and their enormous proportions or possibly because of their stupendous cost which we often find mentioned in astronomical figures, we are apt to attach to them an undue importance. But my own impression is that their utility is strictly limited in the nature of things, as the areas to be covered by them or to be served by them or to be benefited by them cannot be stretched beyond practical bounds. According to me, Sir, they represent but one step, though an important step, in the direction of the economic development of the State. What is of equal importance is the vast system of minor irrigation works on which agricultural production very largely depends. Our country, Sir, is studded with tanks, big and small, tens of thousands in number—I believe it is 35,000—most of which are in a state of disrepair, badly silted up and with their storage capacity grievously crippled. I request the Government to devote some special attention to this item of work. If they do that, I am sure that it will pay ample dividends in the shape of increased production.

[6th May 1957] [Sri T. S. Sankaranarayana Pillai]

Sir, it is gratifying to learn that all is well on the food front, though there is a passing, but disquieting, reference to soaring prices. I am afraid, Sir, I should agree with the hon. Member, Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai, that there is a feeling of compacency about this question, though high and soaring prices have almost become a permanent feature of our economy. They have practically come to say. We do not know what it is due to. It is not known whether these high prices are a symptoms of inflationary trends or an indication of the insufficiency of production. Whatever that may be, the malady seems to be persistent and would seem to call for drastic remedies. In a poor country like ours where the purchasing power of the people is very low, soaring prices of foodstuffs constitute a danger such as to cause grave concern to the large masses of people.

It is gratifying to note that our Prime Minister is going to inaugurate the Neiveli Project during this month. This is one of the very few heavy industries in our State. I request the Government to urge upon the Centre the need for starting one or two more heavy industries which alone would absorb the unemployed labour which, I think, is one of the objectives of the Second Five-Year Plan.

The Governor has correctly stated that seasonal conditions have been very good in the State with the unfortunate exception of the districts of Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari. Coming as I do from the district of Tirunelveli, I know what it is. I wish to inform the hon. Members here that seasonal conditions there have been bad for the past seven years. Certain taluks in the district like Tiruchendur and Nanguneri and most parts of the Kanyakumari district did not have the benefit of rainfall for the last seven years. I appeal to hon. Members to visualise a situation of that kind. There is no water to drink, there is nothing but parched earth and blazing and scorching sun, and nothing but mirage as far as eye could see. Therefore, I submit that it is no wonder that there is a marked exodus of people, men, women and children, to urban areas in search of food and employment. And this has created very great problems. The relief measures which the Governor has mentioned are, I submit, very inadequate to meet such a grave situation.

It is satisfying to note that the Government propose to extend Community Development and National Extension Service programmes to the whole State as quickly as possible.

I support the Motion moved by my hon. Friend Srimathi Jothi Vencatachellum.

* SRI T. V. DEVARAJA MUDALIAR: அவைத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது கவர்னர் அவர்களது சொற்பொழிவின் மீது விவாதம் நடக்கிறது. நான் இந்த உரையை முழு மனதோடு வரவேற்கிறேன். இந்த உரையில் “கடந்த தேர்தல் நல்ல வழியில் நடந்தது; தேர்தல் நல்லபடியாக நடந்தது” என்று பாராட்டியிருந்தது. அதை நன்றாகப் பாராட்டவேண்டியது அவசியமே. தேர்தலைப் பொறுத்த மட்டில், நான் சுற்றுப் பிரயாணம் செய்திருக்கிறேன். தேர்தலில் ஈடுபட்டு நானும்

[Sri T. V. Devaraja Mudaliar] [6th May 1957]

அதிக ஓத்தாசை செய்திருக்கிறேன். அதை வைத்துக்கொண்டு கூறுகிறேன். நல்ல போலீஸ் பாதுகாப்பும், அமைதியான சூழ்நிலையும் இருந்ததையொட்டித்தான் எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் நல்ல விதமாக, ஒருவித இன்னலும் ஏற்படாத வகையில், அமைதிக்குப் பங்குமில்லாத முறையில் நல்ல வழியில் தேர்தல் நடந்தது என்று நான் இந்தச் சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் எடுத்துக் கூற விரும்புகிறேன். நான் தேர்தலைப் பற்றித்தான் கூறுகிறேன். தவிரவும், முதல் அமைச்சரவர்கள் இந்தத் தேர்தல் நல்ல வழியில் நடக்க வேண்டும் என்றும் தேர்தல் நல்ல முறையில் நடந்தால் தான் நம் நாட்டுக்கு நல்ல பெயர் கிடைக்கும் என்றும் உபதேசம் செய்து வந்தார்கள். பாரதத்தில் கிருஷ்ண பரமாத்மா, திருப்பாற்கடலில், அமிர்தம் கடையும் போது, அது திரண்டு வரும்போது எவ்வளவு கஷ்டப்பட்டாரோ அம்மாதிரியான கஷ்ட நிலையில்தான் நமது இன்றைய முதல் அமைச்சரவர்களும் தேர்தல் காலத்தில் மின்னல் வேகத்தில் சுற்றுப் பிரயாணம் செய்து கொண்டிருந்தார். எல்லா ஊர்களுக்கும் மின்னல் வேகத்தில் சுற்றுப் பிரயாணம் செய்து, தேர்தல் நல்ல முறையில் நடக்கவேண்டும், நல்ல வழியில் நடக்கவேண்டுமென்று மக்களிடம் அன்பைப்பரப்பிக்கொண்டுவந்தார்கள். தேர்தல் நல்ல முறையில் நடக்க வேண்டுமென்பதே தமது கருத்து என்பதை அவர் எல்லோருக்கும் தெரிவித்து வந்தார். தேர்தலும் நல்ல வழியில் முடிந்திருக்கிறது. அதற்காக நான் நமது முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்களை மனதார, உளமார வாழ்த்துகிறேன். எங்களது ஜில்லாவைப் பொறுத்த மட்டில், அமைச்சர்கள் தேர்தலை நன்கு நடத்த அரசாங்க அதிகாரிகளும் மிகவும் ஓத்தாசையாக இருந்தார்கள் என்பதை நான் இங்கு குறிப்பிட விரும்புகிறேன். நான் கூடவே இருந்ததால் இதை எடுத்துச் சொல்லுகிறேன். இப்போதைய அமைச்சர் குழுவை அமைக்க உத்தமரான நமது முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் எடுத்துக்கொண்ட பொறுப்பை நான் பாராட்டுகிறேன். அரசாங்க அதிகாரிகளும், சட்டசபை உறுப்பினர்களும், முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்களும், ஏனைய அமைச்சரவர்களும் கிராமங்களுக்குச் சென்று பார்க்கட்டும். கிராமங்கள் முன்னேற்றம் அடையாவிட்டால் நகரங்கள் நல்வாழ்வு வாழ முடியாது. கிராமங்கள் முன்னேற்றம் அடைந்தால் தான் நம் நாடு முன்னேற முடியும். இதுவே யான் கண் கண்ட தெய்வம் என்று காந்தி மகான் அரைந்த அறமொழியை கடைப்பிடித்து முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் அதற்கான வழியில் இறங்கியிருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த வழியைப் பின்பற்றினால்தான் நம் நாடு சிறப்படையும் என்ற மன உறுதி கொண்டிருக்கிற நமது முதலமைச்சரவர்களுக்கு எனது நன்றியறிதலைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக இப்பொழுது ஒரு நல்ல அமைச்சு ஏற்பட்டிருப்பதை நான் பாராட்டுகிறேன்,

“படை குடி கூழ் அமைச்சு நட்பு-அறன் ஆறும்
உடையான் அரசருள் ஏறு.”

என்று திருவள்ளுவர் பெருமான் அரசியலைப் பற்றி வகுத்து வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படிப்பட்ட நல்லதொரு அமைச்சு இன்று நம் நாட்டில் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அப்படிப்பட்ட ஒரு நல்ல அமைச்சு வேண்டும் என்பதற்காகத் தான் குடி மக்கள் இன்று ஆட்சியிலிருக்கும் கட்சியினரைப் பெரும்பான்மையாகத் தேர்ந்தெடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இதே போல் ஒவ்வொரு ராஜ்யத்திலும் நல்ல அமைச்சு ஏற்படவேண்டும் என்று குடி மக்கள் பிரதிநிதிகளை நன்கு தேர்ந்தெடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். நல்ல ஆதரவு கொடுத்து இருக்கிறார்கள். நமது முதலமைச்சரவர்கள் கிராம சேவையில் இறங்கியிருக்கிறார்கள். மக்களுடன் நல்ல நட்புக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று அவர் விரும்புகிறார். ஓத்தால் உண்டு வாழலாம் என்ற அருள் மொழிக்கிணங்க, இச்சட்டசபை உறுப்பினர்களும், கீழ் சபை உறுப்பினர்களும், பொது மக்களும் சேர்ந்து நம் நாடு முன்னேறப் பாடுபட வேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். நம் நாட்டில் இன்று பசி, பட்டினி, பஞ்சம், பற்றுக்குறை போன்றவைகள் கொஞ்சம் நீங்கட்டும்.

[Sri T. V. Devaraja Mudaliar] 6th May 1957]

மேலை நாடுகளில், ரஷ்யா போன்ற தேசங்களில், உண்ண உணவுக்கும் உடுக்க ஆடைக்கும் உறங்க விடுதிக்கும் பஞ்சமில்லை என்று சொல்பவர்கள். ஆனால் நம் நாட்டில் இன்று உண்ண உணவில்லை, உடுக்க ஆகவே, நாம் கட்டுப்பாடுடன், ஒற்றுமையாக இருந்து, எல்லோரும் ஒத்துழைத்தால் தான், இச்சபை மெம்பர்கள், கீழ் சபை மெம்பர்கள் பொது மக்கள் எல்லோரும் ஒன்றுபட்டு உழைத்தால் தான் நம் நாடும் மேலை நாடுகளைப் போன்று முன்னேற்றம் அடைய முடியும். அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் இப்போது நல்வழியில் நடந்து கொண்டு, மக்களிடம் அன்பாயிருந்து, எதிர்க் கட்சி உறுப்பினர்களையும் இதரக் கட்சி உறுப்பினர்களையும் கலந்து கொண்டு நம் நாடு முன்னேற்றம் அடைவதற்குப் பாடுபட வேண்டும். இதற்குத் தகுந்த ஆதரவு அளிக்க வேண்டுமென்று அமைச்சர் குழுவைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். நாம் எல்லோரும் ஒன்று சேர்ந்து பாடுபட்டால்தான் நாமும் நம் நாடு நல்ல வழியில் முன்னேற்றம் அடைய முடியும் என்பதை நான் இந்தச் சந்தர்ப்பத்தில், எடுத்துக்கூற விழைகிறேன்.

தவிர, இந்த சட்டசபையில் இருக்கக்கூடிய அத்தனை பேரும் கவர்னர் பெருமான் உரையில் சில இனங்கள் இன்னும் அதிகமாகச் சேர்க்கப் படவேண்டும் என்று கூறியிருக்கிறார்கள். சிறிது முன்னேற்றம் அடையக்கூடிய திட்டங்களும் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. அந்தத் திட்டங்களை அமைச்சரவர்கள் கவனித்து ஆவன செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன். இப்போது குடி தண்ணீர் விஷயத்தில் அதிக இன்னல்கள் இருக்கின்றன. சாத்தனூர் அணியிலிருந்து திருவண்ணாமலைக்குக் குடி தண்ணீர்வசதிக்கு வேண்டிய வழிகளைத் தேட வேண்டுமென்று பணி வன்புடன் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

மணியக்காரர், கணக்கப்பிள்ளை, தோட்டி, தலையாரிகள் முதலியோரின் குறைகள் இப்போது கவனிக்கப்படவேண்டும். அவர்கள் ஒரு மகாநாடு போட்டு இப்போது வேலை நிறுத்தம் செய்யப் போவதாகப் பத்திரிகையின் வாயிலாகப் பார்த்தேன். அவர்களுடைய குறைகளை உடனடியாகக் கவனித்து, எவ்வளவு தூரம் அவர்களுக்குப் பற்றுக்குறை இருக்கிறது, அதை எவ்வளவு தூரம் தீர்க்க முடியும் என்று பரிசீலித்து, அதற்கு வேண்டியதை உடனடியாக அரசாங்கம் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று மிக்கத் தாழ்மையுடன் கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்.

ஒவ்வொரு கிராமத்திற்கும் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் செல்லும்போது அந்தந்தத் தொகுதி M.L.A.-க்கு புரோகிராம் அனுப்பப்படுகிறது. அப்போது அங்குள்ள M.L.A.-க்கள் வந்து கலந்து கொள்வதில்லை. அப்படி கலந்துகொள்ளாமல் இருக்கக்கூடாது. கலந்து கொண்டால்தான் மக்களுடைய குறைகளை அமைச்சர் அவர்களுக்கு எடுத்துக் கூற ஒரு சந்தர்ப்பம் கிடைக்கும். ஆகவே, அமைச்சரவர்கள் வருங்காலத்தில் கூட இருந்து பணியாற்ற வேண்டுமென்று சட்டசபை உறுப்பினர்களைப் பணிவன்புடன் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். எனக்குப் பேச வாய்ப்புத் தந்த உப தலைவர் அவர்களுக்கும் என் நன்றியைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House will now adjourn and meet again at 3 p.m. to-morrow.

The House then adjourned.

[6th May 1957]

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

* 46. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 5296, Industries, Labour and Co-operation, dated the 20th December 1956, regarding amendments to rule 95 of the Madras Factories Rules, 1950.

* 47. Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 137, Food and Agriculture, dated the 21st January 1957 regarding amendment to rule 3 of the Madras Livestock Improvement Rules, 1942.

48. Notification issued with G.O. No. 382, Public (Services), dated the 13th March 1957, regarding the inclusion within the Commission's purview of the temporary post of Development Officer for the Pottery Centre at Karigiri in the Madras Industries Subordinate Service [Laid on the table under Article 320 (5) of the Constitution of India.]

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 7th May 1957.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George at three of the clock, the Deputy Chairman (SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAJ) in the Chair.

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

I.—DISCUSSION ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS—cont.

* SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI : கனம் துணைத்தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்போது நடந்துகொண்டிருக்கும் விவாதத்தில் கவர்னர் அவர்கள் ஆற்றிய உரையில் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கும் விஷயங்களைப்பற்றி அனேகர் பேசியிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த விவாதத்தில் எனக்குத்தோன்றிய சில முக்கிய விஷயங்களைப்பற்றி மாத்திரம் நான் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். சமீபத்தில் நடந்த பொதுத் தேர்தல்களைப்பற்றிக் குறிப்பிட்டு, அவை ஒழுங்காகவும் சுமுகமாகவும் நடந்திருக்கின்றன என்றும் அதற்காகப் பொதுமக்களைப் பாராட்ட வேண்டுமென்றும் கவர்னர் அவர்களுடைய உரையில் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. எந்தவிதமான அசம்பாவிதமும் இல்லாமல் பொதுத் தேர்தல்கள் நடந்ததற்குப் பொதுமக்களைப் பாராட்ட வேண்டியது தான். இந்தத் தேர்தலில் குறிப்பாகப் போலீஸ் அதிகாரிகள் நடந்துகொண்ட விதத்தை நான் பாராட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். இப்போது, தேர்தலுக்குப் பிறகு என்ன நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்று பார்க்கவேண்டும். மறைந்து போய்கொண்டிருந்த ஜாதித் துவேஷங்கள் தேர்தலின் போது கிளப்பிவிடப்பட்டு, தேர்தல் முடிந்த பிறகு ஜாதித்துவேஷங்கள் பழையபடி தலை தூக்க ஆரம்பித்துவிட்டன. இருந்தாலும் தேர்தலின்போது நிலைமை எவ்வளவு கஷ்டமானதாக இருந்தாலும், ஒரு ஜாதியின் மீது இன்னொரு ஜாதியின் துவேஷத்தைக் கிளப்பி அதன் மூலம் தங்கள் நோக்கம் ஈடேறும்படி செய்வதற்கு அனேக தீய சக்திகள் மறைந்திருந்து முயற்சி செய்து வந்தபோதிலும், அவைகளையெல்லாம் சமாளித்து, சட்டவிரோதமான காரியங்கள் நடந்துவிடாமல் பார்த்துக்கொண்டு, பொறுமையுடன் போலீஸ் அதிகாரிகள் செயலாற்றியதை நான் மிகவும் பாராட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். நான் முதலில் குறிப்பிட்டபடி கிளப்பிவிடப்பட்ட ஜாதி விருப்பு வெறுப்புகள் வேறுன்றி நிலைத்திருப்பதுதான் தேர்தலுக்குப் பிறகு ஏற்பட்டுள்ள விளைவாகும் என்பதை இந்த சமயத்தில் யாரும் மறைக்க முடியாது. அபேட்சகர் எந்தக் கட்சியைத் சேர்ந்தவராக இருந்தாலும் கூட, எந்தக் கட்சியின் செல்வாக்கும் ஆதிக்கமும் இருந்தாலும்கூட, ஜாதியை அடிப்படையாக வைத்துக்கொண்டுதான் எந்த நபரும், எந்த காங்கிரஸ் அபேட்சகரும், தேர்தலில் தங்கள் பிரசாரத்தை ஆரம்பித்து வெற்றிபெறவேண்டிய நிலையில் இருந்தார் என்பதை யாரும் மறுக்க முடியாது. இது மிகவும் வருந்தத்தக்க விஷயம். இந்தப் பிரச்சினையை கனம் மந்திரிகளும் பொறுப்பிலுள்ள தலைவர்கள் அனைவரும் முக்கியமாகக் கவனித்து, ஜாதி விருப்பு வெறுப்புகளுக்கு இடம் கொடுக்காமல், ஜாதிபேதமற்ற சமுதாயம் சுமுகமாக அமைவதற்குப் பாடுபடுவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன். எங்கள் சாத்தூர் தொகுதியில் ஜாதித் துவேஷம் மிகவும் தூண்டிவிடப்பட்டிருந்த போதிலும், போலீஸ் அதிகாரிகள் திறமையாக செயலாற்றியதால்தான் தேர்தலின்போது அங்கே எந்தவிதமான அசம்பாவிதமும் நடக்காமல் இருந்தது. ஆனால், தேர்தலில் அங்கே தோல்வியடைந்த தீய சக்திகள் இப்போது தங்கள் குறும்பைக் காட்டுவதற்கு முன் நிற்பதாகத் தெரிகிறது. அதைத் தடுப்பதற்குத் தகுந்த நடவடிக்கைகளை அரசாங்கத்தார் ஜாக் கிரதையாக எடுப்பார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன். உண்மையில், எங்கள்

* Laid on the table of the House on 4th May 1957.

[Sri V. V. Ramaswami] [7th May 1957]

சாத்தூர் தொகுதியில் முதலமைச்சர் கனம் ஸ்ரீ காமராஜ் நாடார் தேர்தலில் ஜெயித்ததற்குக் காரணம் இந்த ஜாதிப்பற்றுதான் என்றும், எங்களிடையே ஜாதி உணர்ச்சி இருந்திராவிட்டால் வேறுவிதமாக நடந்திருக்கும் என்றும் நான் உறுதியாகச் சொல்வேன்.

இன்னொன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். பொறுப்பிலுள்ள காங்கிரஸ் காரர்கள், ஜாதிபேதம் ஒழியவேண்டுமென்று கூறும் வீனைய கட்சியினரை இந்த விஷயத்தில் ஆதரித்து, அவர்களுடைய ஆதரவுடன் கூட்டு முயற்சியால் ஜாதி பேதங்களை ஒழிக்க முன்வரவேண்டும்.

மேலும், தேர்தலின்போது, அனேக இடங்களில் வோட்டர்கள் வெகுதூரம் சென்று வோட்டுப்போடவேண்டியிருந்தது; ஒரு கிராமத்திலுள்ள வோட்டர்கள் வோட்டுப் போடுவதற்கு அந்த கிராமத்திலேயே வோட்டுச் சாவடி அமைக்கப்படுவது சாத்தியமாக இருந்தாலும் கூட, அங்கிருந்து இரண்டு, மூன்று மைல்களுக்கு அப்பால் வோட்டுச் சாவடி அமைக்கப்பட்டிருந்தது. அனேக இடங்களில் வோட்டர்கள் சிறு ஆறுகளையும் காடுகளையும் கடந்து வோட்டுச்சாவடிக்குச் செல்லவேண்டியிருந்தது. வோட்டுச் சாவடிகள் இப்படி தூரத்திலுள்ள இடங்களில் அமைக்கப்படுவதற்குக் காரணம் என்னவாக இருக்கலாம் என்று கூறவேண்டுமானால், பொறுப்பிலுள்ள தலைவர்கள் ஒழுங்கினைமாக நடந்து கொண்டதையும், அவர்கள் செய்த ஒழுங்கினைமான செய்கைகளைப்பற்றியும் சொல்லியாக வேண்டும். இருந்தாலும், அடுத்த தேர்தல்களில்—அவை ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தல்களானாலும் சரி, பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு தேர்தல்களானாலும் சரி, பொதுத் தேர்தல்களானாலும் சரி—வோட்டுச் சாவடிகள் வோட்டர்களுடைய சௌகரியத்திற்கு ஏற்றபடி அமைக்கப்பட வேண்டுமே தவிர, தங்கள் கட்சியினர் தேர்தலில் ஜெயிப்பதற்கு சௌகரியமான முறையில் வோட்டுச்சாவடிகள் அமைக்கப்படக்கூடாது என்பதை அரசியலார் மனதில் வைத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, நமது மாநில கவர்னராக இருந்த ஸ்ரீ ஸ்ரீ பிரகாசா அவர்கள் நமது மாநிலத்தை விட்டுச் சென்ற பிறகு, கேரளத்திலிருந்து நிர்வாகத்தில் திறமையுள்ள ஸ்ரீ ஜான் அவர்களை மாநில கவர்னராக கனம் ஸ்ரீ காமராஜின் அமைச்சரவை ஏற்றுக்கொண்டவுடன் எனக்கு ஒரு நம்பிக்கை பிறந்தது. அதாவது, கேரள நாடு, தமிழ் நாடு ஆகிய இரு மாநிலங்களுக்கும் உபயோகப்படக்கூடிய ஆறுகளின் பயனை இரு மாநிலத் தினரும் அடைய முடியும் என்று நம்பினேன். சென்னை மாநில அரசாங்கத்தார் கேரள மாநில அரசாங்கத்தாருடன் சுமுகமாகக் கூடிப் பேசி, தகுந்த ஆறுகளை இந்தப்பக்கம் திருப்பிலிட்டு, நமக்கு வேண்டிய தண்ணீரைப் பெற்று வரண்டு கிடக்கும் ராமனாதபுரம், திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாக்களுக்குப் பயன்படக்கூடிய நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டங்களை வகுப்பார்கள் என்ற நம்பிக்கை எனக்கு உண்டு. ஆகவே, கவர்னர் அவர்களுடைய உரையில் அப்படிப்பட்ட திட்டங்களைப்பற்றி குறிப்பிடப்படும், பம்பையாறு, கீரியாறு முதலிய திட்டங்களைப்பற்றி ஏதாவதொரு வார்த்தை இருக்கும் என்று எதிர்பார்த்தேன். ஆனால் கவர்னர் அவர்களுடைய உரையில் அவைபற்றி ஒன்றும் இல்லை. நிதி அமைச்சர் வரவு செலவுச் சொற்பொழி விலாவது இதைக் காணலாம் என்று நம்புகிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, இனிமேல் மின்சார இலாகாவை நிர்வகிப்பதற்கு மத்திய சர்க்கார் சட்டத்திற்கிணங்க ஒரு குழு (போர்டு) அமைக்கப்படும் என்று அறிவிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தின் சட்டத்திற்குப் பட்ட அந்த போர்டை அமைப்பதற்கு நமது அரசாங்கத்தார் இதுகாறும் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளாமல் இருந்துவிட்டு இப்போது ஒத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று தெரிகிறது. இந்த நிர்வாக போர்டில் யார் யார் இருப்பார்கள், நமது அரசாங்கத்தின் மேற்பார்வையில் இருந்தாலும் தனியாக அமை யும் நிர்வாக போர்டு பொதுமக்களுக்கு நன்மை பயக்குமா என்பதை யெல்லாம் பற்றி விளக்கமாக அறிய விரும்புகிறேன். இப்போது, கிராமங்களிலுள்ள பொதுமக்களும், நகரங்களிலுள்ள பொதுமக்க ளும், மின்சார வசதி ஆங்காங்கே விஸ்தரிக்கப்பட வேண்டுமென்று

7th May 1957]

[Sri V. V. Ramaswami]

விரும்பினாலும் சரி, மின்சாரக் கட்டண விகிதங்கள் குறைக்கப்படவேண்டு மென்று விரும்பினாலும் சரி, அவர்கள் தங்கள் கோரிக்கையை அரசாங்கத் திடம் தெரிவித்து உடனடியாக நிறைவேற்றிக்கொள்ள முடிகிறது. அவர் களுடைய கோரிக்கைகளைக் கேட்டு அதிகாரிகள் அவற்றை உடனுக்குடன் நிறைவேற்றி வருகிறார்கள். மின்சார இலாகா போர்டாக மாறிவிட்டால் அந்த சௌகரியம் இருக்குமா என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன். இப்போது பொதுஜனங்களின் அபிப்பிராயத்தை மதித்து அரசாங்கத்தார் உடனடி யாக உத்தரவு போடுகிறார்கள். மின்சார போர்டு வந்தால் அது மத்திய சர்க்காரின் ஆக்கினைக்குட்பட்டுச் செயலாற்றும்போது, டாரிப் ரேட்டை அவ் வப்போது உடனடியாகக் குறைக்கவோ கூட்டவோ முடியாமல் சங்கடம் ஏற்பட்டு பொதுமக்களுக்கு இடைஞ்சல்கள் ஏற்படுமோ என்ற ஐயப்பாடு எனக்கு இருக்கிறது. மேலும், மின்சார போர்டிற்கு வரும் லாபம் எந்தக் கணக்கில் போய்ச் சேரும், அந்த லாபம் நமது மாநிலப் பொதுக் கணக்குக்கு பயன்படுமா என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன். மின்சார போர்டிற்கும் பணம் போதாவிட்டால் நமது அரசாங்கத்தார் பணம் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமா அல்லது மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தார் பணம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமா என்றும் அறிய விரும்புகிறேன். மேலும், புதுப் புதுத் திட்டங்களைப் போடும்போது, மின்சார போர்டு மத்திய சர்க்காரின் அனுமதிகளைப் பெற்று செயலாற்றும் நிலையில் நமது காரியங்கள் தடைப்படுமோ என்று நினைக் கிறேன். ஆகையால் மின்சார போர்டின் அமைப்புபற்றியும், அதன் நிர்வாக முறைகளைப் பற்றியும் கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் விளக்கமாகச் சொல்ல வேண்டுமென்று விரும்புகிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, இரண்டாவது ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டத்தில் எடுத்துக்கொள் ளப்பட்ட வேண்டிய திட்டங்களுக்கோ குறைவு இல்லை. தொழிலும் தாம தம் இல்லாமல் முன்னேறி வந்தால் நல்ல பலன் ஏற்படும் என்பதில் ஐயம் இல்லை. அதன் வெற்றிக்கு ஒவ்வொரு ஊரிலுமுள்ள மக்களின் விருப்பங்களையும், நோக்கங்களையும் ஆராய்ந்து அதற்குத் தகுந்தபடி நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ள முன் வரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது கனம் முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர் கள் கிராமங்களுக்குத் தானே நேரில் சென்று மக்களின் குறைகளைக் கேட்டு உடனுக்குடன் அவைகளை நீக்குவதற்குத் திட்டம் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன். அப்படிப் பொதுமக்களின் விருப்பை வைத்துக்கொள்ளும் நடவடிக்கைகளில் அந்தந்த வட்டாரத்தில் உள்ள சட்டசபை உறுப்பினர்களைக் கலந்துகொண்டும், மக்களின் குரலை பிரதி பலிக்கக் கூடிய எல்லாத் தலைவர்களையும், எந்த விதமான கட்சி பேதமும் இல்லாமல் கலந்துகொண்டும் பணியாற்றுவோம். ஸ்தலத்திற்குப் போய் உடனுக்குடன் உத்தரவைப் போடுவதில் சென்னை மத்திய நிலையத்திற்கு (கோட்டை ஆபீஸ்) வரவேண்டாமா என்ற சங்கடம் பின்னால்தான் தெரியவேண்டும். எனினும் இதில் வெற்றி காணவேண்டுமென்றே விரும்புகிறேன்.

நெய்வேலி நிலக்கரித் திட்டம் இம்மாதம் 18-ம் தேதி கனம் பிரதம அமைச்சர் ஜவஹர்லால் நேரு அவர்களால் ஆரம்பித்து வைக்கப் படுமென்று தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்தத் திட்டமானது நிறைவேறு வதன் மூலமாக அனேக நன்மைகள் உண்டாகும் என்பதில் ஐயமில்லை.

முக்கியமாக அலுமினியம் தொழிற்சாலையும், இரும்புத் தொழிற் சாலையும் இவ்வாண்டிலேயே ஆரம்பிக்கப்படும் என்று எதிர்பார்க் கிறோம் அதைப் பற்றி ஒன்றும் சொல்லப்படவில்லை. உள்ள நிலையை அறிவதற்குப் பொதுமக்கள் ஆவலாய் இருப்பதால் கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்லும்போது விவரம் அளிக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

இன்றைய நிலையில் கைத்தறியாளருக்கு நூல் கொடுப்பது பெரிய பிரச்சனையாக இருக்கிறது. நமது ராஜ்யத்தில் புதிய மில்கள் ஆரம்பிப்ப தற்கு இங்கு மனுக்களை நமது சர்க்காரின் சிபார்சுப்படி டில்லிக்கு அனுப்பி இருக்கின்றனர். ஆனால் அதைப்பற்றி ஒரு முடிவுக்கும் வந்ததாகத் தெரிய வில்லை. பொதுவாக நூல் மில் ஆரம்பிப்பதற்கு மத்திய மந்திரி திருமொரார்ஜி தேசாய் அவர்களுக்கு விருப்பம் கிடையாது என்று

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கேள்விப்படுகிறேன். அப்படி இருந்தால், நமக்கு சங்கடமான நிலைமையானது. மேலும் கூட்டுறவு மில்லை (Co-operative Spinning Mills) ஆரம்பிப்பதற்கு பொதுமக்களிடம் சமார் 10½ லக்ஷம் ரூபாய் வரையில் வசூல் செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால், இந்தக் கூட்டுறவு மில்லுக்குக் கூட மத்திய சர்க்கார் லைசென்ஸ் கொடுக்காமல் இருப்பது விந்தையாக இருக்கிறது. ஆகவே, ஸ்ரீவில்லிப்பத்தூரில் ஒரு கூட்டுறவு நூல் மில்லுக்கு உடனடியாக அனுமதி கொடுக்கும்படி மத்திய அரசாங்கத்திடம் கேட்டு வாங்கவேண்டுமென்று நம் ராஜ்ய சர்க்காரிடம் வற்புறுத்த விரும்புகிறேன்.

நம் நாட்டில் பொதுவாக, தொழில்கள் ஏற்படுத்த வேண்டுமானால் பணம் மிகவும் அவசியம். இந்தமாதிரிப் பண உதவி செய்வதற்காக 'ஸ்டேட் எய்ட்' சட்டம் நல்ல முறையில் ஏற்கனவே திருத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆயினும் இலாகாப் பிரிவுகளினால் பணம் கொடுப்பதற்கு மிகக் காலதாமதம் இருக்கிறது. ஆவலாதி இருக்கிறது. அதைப் போக்க இந்த விண்ணப்பத்தையும் ஏதாவது ஒரு இலாகா உடனடியாக விசாரித்து முடிவு செய்வதற்கு தகுந்த அதிகாரம் கொடுக்கப்படவேண்டும் என்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்.

எங்கள் ஊரில் 'இண்டஸ்ட்ரியல் ஸ்கூல்' ஆனது ஒரு வாடகைக் கட்டத்தில் ஆரம்பிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. பொதுவாக சொந்தத்தில் கட்டடத்தைக் கட்டுவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் சாங்ஷன் செய்திருக்கிறது. அந்தக் கட்டடத்தைக் கட்டுவதற்கு டெண்டர்கள் வரவழைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் நிலம் இல்லாது இன்னும் சம்பந்தப்பட்ட இலாகாவிடம் ஒப்படைக்கப்படவில்லை. இது வினா தலைமையாக இருக்கிறது. அப்படி பொது மக்கள் காரியங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய நிலங்களை உடனுக்குடன் ஆர்ஜிதம் செய்து கொள்வதற்கு மாவட்டக் கலெக்டர்களுக்கு முழு அதிகாரம் கொடுக்கப்பட வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, தொழில் பேட்டைகள் (Industrial Estates) விருதுநகர், கிண்டி, ஈரோடு ஆகிய மூன்று ஊர்களில் ஆரம்பிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. விருதுநகரில் கட்டட வேலை ஆரம்பித்து நடந்துவருகிறது. ஆனால் எந்தெந்தத் தொழிலை யார் யார் எடுத்துச் செய்வதற்கு முன்வந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பது இன்னும் தெரியவில்லை. பொதுவாக எங்கள் பாகத்தில் உள்ள தனவந்தர்கள் தங்கள் பண வசதியைக் கொண்டு வியாபாரத்தைப் பெருக்கி வருகிறார்கள். ஆனால் கைத்தொழிலில் இதுவரை ஈடுபட்டவர்கள் இல்லை. இந்த நிலையில் கட்டடம் கட்டுவதற்கு ஒரு ஆண்டு செல்லலாம். எதாவது ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட தொழிலுக்கு வேண்டிய இயந்திரங்கள் வெளிநாடுகளிலிருந்து வரத் தயாராவதற்கு பத்து மாதங்கள் செல்லலாம். அவைகள் வந்தவுடன் அவைகளை நிலநாட்டி, தொழிலை ஆரம்பிப்பதற்கு மேலும் ஆறு மாதம் பிடிக்கலாம். பின்னால் சரக்குகள் உற்பத்தியாகி மார்க்கெட்டுக்கு வந்து பிரபலமாவதற்கு ஒரு ஆண்டு பிடிக்கலாம். ஆகவே குறைந்தது மூன்று ஆண்டுகளுக்கு அவர்கள் போடும் முதலுக்கு எவ்வித வட்டியோ லாபமோ பெறமுடியாத நிலைமையாக இருக்கும். ஆதலால் இந்தக் கைத்தொழிலை நடத்த வியாபாரிகள் முன் வருவதற்குத் தயங்குகிறார்கள். ஆகவே அவர்களை ஊக்குவிப்பதற்கு இண்டஸ்ட்ரியல் எஸ்டேட் உள்ள தொழில் இடங்களை மூன்று ஆண்டுகளுக்கு வாடகை இல்லாமல் உபயோகிப்பதற்கு கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லிக் கொள்ள ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். ஒருவேளை அப்படிச் செய்ய முடியாவிட்டால் subsidized rent என்று சொல்லப்படும் குறைந்த வாடகைக்காவது விடவேண்டும். இந்தமாதிரி சலுகை காட்டினால் லாபம் கிடைக்கும்போது ஈடு செய்துகொள்ளலாம்.

மதுரைமாநகரில் Small-scale Industries Service Institute என்று ஒரு தொழில் பயிற்சி நிலையத்தை ஆரம்பிப்பதற்கு மூன்று ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்பு மத்திய அரசாங்கம் அனுமதித்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் ஒருவித நடவடிக்கையும் எடுத்ததாகத் தெரியவில்லை. உடனடியாக வேலை ஆரம்பிக்கும்படி மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தைத் தூண்டும்படி நமது அமைச்சர் அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

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மாவட்டங்களைத் திருத்தி அமைப்பதற்கு ஒரு Sub-Commission நியமித்திருப்பதாகப் பத்திரிகையில் வாசித்தேன். அவர்களது முடிவு எப்போது வரும் என்று தெரியவில்லை. இப்போது உள்ள கன்னியாகுமரி, திருநெல்வேலி, ராமநாதபுரம் இம்மூன்று ஜில்லாக்களையும் ஒரே பரப்பாக எடுத்துக்கொண்டு மக்களிடையே நிலவிவரும் சார்பும் பரஸ்பரத்தொடர்பும் அற்றுப் போகாமல் கோர்வையாக இருக்கும் வண்ணம் மூன்று தனித்தனி மாவட்டங்களாகப் பிரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று யோசனை சொல்லுகிறேன். பெரிய ஜில்லாவைக் காட்டிலும் சிறியதாக இருந்தால் நிர்வாகத்திற்கு உதவியாக இருக்கும். ஏனென்றால், இப்போது ஒவ்வொரு மாவட்டத்திலுமிருக்கும் கலெக்டர்களுக்கு மூன்று பெர்சனல் அலிஸ்டெண்டுகளும் மூன்று ஸப்-கலெக்டர்களும் இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த எண்ணிக்கையையும் குறைக்கலாம். இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் இன்னொன்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன். அதாவது, விருதுநகரைத் தலைநகராகக் கொண்ட ஒரு ஜில்லா அமைக்கப்பட வேண்டுமென்று வேண்டிக்கொள்கிறேன். , இது 30 ஆண்டுகளாக இருந்து வரும் வேண்டுகோள். மேலும், எங்கள் ஊரான விருதுநகரில் உள்ள சர்க்கார் ஆஸ்பத்திரி நல்ல கட்டிடத்தில் இல்லை. , அந்தக் கட்டிடம் நல்ல நிலைமையில் இல்லை. இந்தக் குறை 40-ஆண்டு காலமாக ஆஸ்பத்திரி அதிகாரிகளாலும் பொது மக்களாலும் அரசாங்கத்திற்கு எடுத்துச் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அந்த ஆஸ்பத்திரியை வேறு கட்டிடத்திற்கு மாற்ற வேண்டுமென்று எத்தனையோ தடவைகள் நகராட்சி மன்றத்திலிருந்தும் சர்க்காருக்கு கோரிக்கை வந்திருக்கிறது. அந்த ஆஸ்பத்திரியை இன்னொரு இடத்தில் நிறுவுவதற்கு ஒரு லட்ச ரூபாயும் 20 ஏக்கர் நிலமும் தருவதற்கு ஒருவர் முன் வந்திருந்தும், அரசாங்கத்தார் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கவில்லை. ஒவ்வொரு அமைச்சரவையிலும் இந்தக் கோரிக்கையைத் தெரிவித்திருக்கிறோம். ஸ்ரீ ஓ. பி. ராமசாமி ரெட்டியார் அமைச்சரவையிடமும் இந்தக் கோரிக்கையைத் தெரிவித்தோம். இவ்வளவு நீண்ட காலமாக நாங்கள் இந்தக் கோரிக்கையைத் தெரிவித்து வந்தபோதிலும் இன்று வரையில் ஒரு நடவடிக்கையும் எடுக்கப்படவில்லை. விசாரித்ததில் இது சம்பந்தப்பட்ட விண்ணப்பங்கள் கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்களுடைய மேஜை மேலே பத்திரமாக இருப்பதாகக் கேள்விப்பட்டேன். எப்படியாவது சீக்கிரம் இன்னொரு இடத்திற்கு அந்த ஆஸ்பத்திரியைக் கொண்டு வரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, தென்னாட்டில் சென்னைக்கு அடுத்த துறைமுகமாக இருக்கும் தூத்துக்குடித் துறைமுகத்தைப் பெரிய துறைமுகமாக ஆக்க வேண்டும். சேது சமுத்திரத் திட்டத்தையும் நிறைவேற்றவேண்டும். இப்போது கல்கத்தா போகும் கப்பல்கள் கொழும்பிற்குச் சென்று இலங்கையைச் சுற்றிக்கொண்டு போகவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. இதைத் தடுப்பதற்கு பாலக் ஜலசந்திகளை ஆழப்படுத்துவதற்கான திட்டத்தை நிறைவேற்ற வேண்டும். தூத்துக்குடித் துறைமுகத்தை விஸ்தரிப்பதற்கு ஸர் ராமசாமி முதலியார் தலைமையில் அரசாங்கத்தார் ஒரு கமிட்டியை நியமித்திருந்தார்கள். அந்தக் கமிட்டியும் தன் ரிப்போர்ட்டை சமர்ப்பித்திருக்கிறது என்று தெரிகிறது. அந்த ரிப்போர்ட்டின் பிரதி சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கு ஏன் கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை என்று தெரியவில்லை. அந்தத் திட்டத்திற்காக முதலில் ரூ. 10 கோடி செலவழிப்பதற்கு மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தார் இணங்கியிருப்பதாகவும் இப்போது தாமதப்படுத்துவதாகவும் தெரிகிறது. அவர்கள் இப்போது ஏன் மறுக்கிறார்கள் என்று தெரியவில்லை. தென்னாட்டில் உள்ள இந்த நல்ல துறைமுகத்தை அபிவிருத்தி செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, பள்ளி மாணவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்படும் சலுகைகள் பற்றிக் கூற விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த விஷயத்தில், ஜாதி மத பேதமின்றி ரூ. 100-க்குள் வருமானமுள்ள எல்லோருடைய குழந்தைகளுக்கும் எஸ்.எஸ்.எல்.ஸி. வரை இலவசக் கல்விச் சலுகை அளிக்கப்படவேண்டும். இப்போது ஆதித்திராவிடர்களாக இருந்து கிருஸ்தவர்களாக மாறியவர்களுக்கு இலவசக் கல்விச் சலுகை இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களாக இருந்து கிருஸ்தவர்களாக மாறியவர்களுக்கு அந்தச் சலுகை இல்லை. இப்போது யார் மதம் மாறினாலும், அவர்கள் தங்கள் மதக் கொள்கையில் எவ்வளவு உறுதியாக இருந்தாலும் கூட பொருளாதாரக்

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கஷ்டத்தினால் தான் மதம் மாறுகிறார்கள் என்பதை யாரும் மறுக்க முடியாது. இருந்தாலும், இவர்கள் மதம் மாறியதன் காரணமாக குடும்பப் பொருளாதார நிலைமை மாறி விட்டதாகக் கருதமுடியாது. ஆகையால், பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களாக இருந்து மதம் மாறிய கிருஸ்தவர்களுக்கும் இலவசக் கல்விச் சலுகை அளிக்க, அடுத்த பள்ளி வருஷத்திற்கு முன்பே, உத்தரவு போடவேண்டுமென்று அரசாங்கத்தாரை வற்புறுத்திக் கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, நேற்று கனம் அங்கத்தினர் ஸ்ரீ கஜபதி நாயகர் அவர்கள் நம் நாட்டு மருத்துவத்தைப்பற்றி எடுத்துச் சொன்னார்கள். மேலும் வைத்தியத்தை விட்டுவிட வேண்டுமென்று நான் சொல்ல வில்லை. இன்றைக்கு நம் நாட்டில் பெரும்பாலாக நமது நாட்டு வைத்தியம் தான் கையாளப்படுகிறது. ஆகவே நாட்டு வைத்தியத்தையும் நன்றாக அபிவிருத்தி செய்ய வேண்டும். ரண சிகிச்சையிலும் ஊசி போடுவதிலும் மேலும் வைத்தியம் எவ்வளவு உயர்ந்திருக்கிறதோ அவ்வளவு உயர்ந்த நிலைக்கு நமது நாட்டு வைத்தியத்தை அபிவிருத்தி செய்வதற்கான யோசனைகள் கூறுவதற்காக நமது நாட்டு வைத்திய முறைகளை ஆராய்வதற்கு ஒரு குழுவை அமைக்கப்போவதாக கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கூறியுள்ளதாகப் பத்திரிகையில் படித்தேன். இந்தக் காரியத்தை அரசாங்கத்தார் சீக்கிரம் செய்ய வேண்டும். சித்த வைத்தியம் நமது நாட்டில் மிகப் பழைய காலத்திலிருந்து நிலைத்து வந்திருக்கிறது. அந்த வைத்தியத்திற்குத் தான் இன்று மிகுந்த மதிப்பும் இருக்கிறது. ஆகவே, தமிழ் நாட்டைப் பொறுத்தமட்டிலும், சித்த வைத்தியத்தை அபிவிருத்தி செய்ய வேண்டும். அதற்காக சம்பந்தப்பட்ட வைத்தியர்களைக் கூட்டி அதை சாஸ்திரிக வைத்திய முறையாக (ஸயன்டிபிக் லிஸ்டம்) அபிவிருத்தி செய்தவர்களை யோசனைகளைப் பெறவேண்டும். இங்கேயுள்ள மூலிகைகள்தான் மேலுக்குப் போய் திரும்பி இங்கே மருந்துகளாக வருகின்றன. அந்த மூலிகைகளை இங்கேயே மிக நல்ல மருந்துகளாகத் தயார் செய்ய முடியும். ஆனால் அந்த வைத்திய முறை நன்றாகப் பரவ வில்லை. காரணம் நம் நாட்டைப் பிடித்த பீடையானது, பழங்காலத்திலிருந்தே மருத்துவத்தையும் மற்றக் கல்வியையும், கற்றுக்கொள்ள விரும்பும் எல்லோரும் அறிந்துகொள்ள முடியாதபடி செய்து விட்டது. நிபுணர்கள் தங்களுக்குத் தெரிந்தவற்றை ஒரு சிலருக்குமட்டும் காதோடு காது வைத்தாற்போல் சொல்லிக் கொடுத்து வந்திருக்கிறார்களே தவிர எல்லோருக்கும் சொல்லிக் கொடுக்கவில்லை. நாட்டு வைத்திய முறைகளை அபிவிருத்தி செய்யக்கூடிய வழிகளையெல்லாம் தேடி அரசாங்கத்தார் அவைகளைக் கட்டாயம் அபிவிருத்தி செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று வற்புறுத்திக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்; இந்தக் காரியத்தை அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் செய்வார்கள் என்ற நம்பிக்கையும் எனக்கு இருக்கிறது.

3. அடுத்தாற்போல், விற்பனை வரியைப்பற்றிப் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். நாளை விற்பனை வரி சம்பந்தமான மசோதா சபைக்கு வரப் போவதால் இது விஷயமாக நான் இப்போது அதிகம் பேச விரும்பவில்லை. கனம் ரெவினியூ அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் விற்பனை வரி சம்பந்தப்பட்ட மட்டில் தமது பொறுப்பு நீங்கிவிட்டதாக நினைக்கலாம். ஆனால் அவர்கள் மந்திரிசபையில் இருப்பதால் அவர்களுக்கும் இதில் பொறுப்பு இருக்கிறது. முன்பெல்லாம் விற்பனை வரி சம்பந்தமான மசோதாக்களை சட்ட சபைக்குக் கொண்டு வருவதற்கு முன் அவைகளை நான்கு வாரங்களுக்கு முன் கெஜட்டில் பிரசுரித்து சம்பந்தப்பட்டவர்களின் அபிப்பிராயங்கள் அறியப்படும். இப்போது வியாபாரிகளுக்கு முன்னறிவிப்பின்றி திடீரென்று அவசரச் சட்டம் (ஆர்டினன்ஸ்) போட்டு விட்டு மசோதாவைக் கொண்டுவரப் போகிறார்கள். இதைப் பற்றியும் அமைச்சர்களிடத்திலும் அதிகாரிகளிடத்திலும் நாங்கள் 3 நாட்களாகச் சொல்லி வந்திருக்கிறோம்.

ஒரு முனை விற்பனை வரியைக் கட்டாயம் கொண்டு வர வேண்டுமென்று வியாபாரிகள் திரும்பத் திரும்பச் சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இது பற்றி 2-ம் தேதி “ஹிந்து” பத்திரிகையில் ஒரு அருமையான தலையங்கம்

[7th May 1957]

[Sri V. V. Ramaswami]

வந்திருக்கிறது. அதைப் பார்த்தாவது அரசாங்கத்தார் விற்பனை வரியை ஒரு முனையில் வசூலிப்பதற்கு மசோதா கொண்டு வந்திருக்கலாம். பம்பாய் மாநிலத்தைப் பின்பற்றியாவது அரசாங்கத்தார் ஒரு முனையில் விற்பனை வரியை வசூலிப்பதற்குத் திருத்த மசோதாவில் ஏற்பாடு செய்திருக்கலாம். ஒரு முனை விற்பனை வரி விதித்தால் வியாபாரிகளுக்குள்ள பல தொல்லைகள் நீங்கும். வியாபாரிகளிடமுள்ள ஒழுக்கக்கேடும் போய் விடும். அரசாங்கத்திற்கு இப்போது விற்பனை வரி மூலம் கிடைக்கும் வருமானம் கொஞ்சமும் குறையாத அளவிற்கு ஒரு முனை விற்பனை வரி மூலமும் வசூலிக்க முடியும் என்றும் அதற்கேற்றபடி ஒரு முனையில் விதிக்கக்கூடிய வரியைத் தாங்கள் கொடுக்கத் தயாராக இருப்பதாகவும் வியாபாரிகள் கூறி வருகிறார்கள். வியாபாரிகளிடம் ஒழுக்கக் கேடு இருக்கிறது என்று சொன்னால் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குச் சிரிப்பு வருகிறது. வியாபாரிகளிடம் உள்ள ஒழுக்கக் குறைவை விட அதிகமான ஒழுக்கக் குறைவு அரசாங்கத்திலுள்ள அதிகாரிகளிடம் இருப்பதை நான் எடுத்துச் சொல்ல முடியும். எல்லோருக்கும் பொறுப்பு இருப்பதால் நான் அரசாங்க அதிகாரிகளுடைய குறைகளை எடுத்துக் காண்பிக்க விரும்பவில்லை. தவறான சட்டங்களால் மக்களுடைய ஒழுக்கம் கெடுகிறது. உதாரணமாக, அவசியமில்லாத சமயத்தில் இருந்த உணவுக் கட்டுப்பாடு அரசாங்க அதிகாரிகள், வியாபாரிகள், பொது மக்கள் ஆகிய எல்லோருடைய ஒழுக்கத்தை யும் பாழாக்கியது. உணவுக் கட்டுப்பாட்டை நீங்கியதும் அவர்களுடைய ஒழுக்கக் கேடு நீங்கியது. ஆகவே பல முனை விற்பனை வரிச் சட்டத்தை நீக்கி ஒரு முனை விற்பனை வரிச் சட்டமும் கொண்டு வர வேண்டும். 2-ம் தேதி “ஹிந்து” பத்திரிகையின் தலையங்கத்திலிருந்து சில வாக்கியங்களை வாசிக்கிறேன்—

“If the mounting figures of prosecutions launched under the Sales Tax Act are any index, the Commercial Tax Department seems to be almost in a permanent state of war with dealers.” I would be glad if the “Hindu” had written, “The merchant community is in constant terror of the Sales Tax Department.” Again the “Hindu” writes—

“The Board of Revenue has complained that ‘there is a general tendency on the part of the dealers to evade tax by suppressing transactions’. There would be a good deal less of this tendency in evidence if the Government confined the sales tax to the big dealers with fairly large turnover and adopted a much simpler system of tax than the present multi-point levy”.

“ஹிந்து” பத்திரிகையில் எழுதியுள்ளதைப் பார்த்தால் ஒரு முனை விற்பனை வரியைக் கொண்டுவருவது எவ்வளவு அவசியமானது என்பது தெரிகிறது.

இந்த இலாகாவை இப்போது ஏற்றுக்கொண்டிருக்கும் புது அமைச்சர் அவர்களிடத்தில் ஒரு முனை விற்பனை வரியைக் கொண்டுவர வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறோம். இலாகாவை யோசனை கேட்டால் அவர்கள் முன்பு சொன்னதையேதான் சொல்வார்கள். பழைய பல்லவியைத் தான் பாடுவார்கள். அவர்கள் இதை ஆலோசிப்பதற்கு நிபுணர்களை அழைக்கப்போவதாகச் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஒரு முனை விற்பனை வரி விதிப்பதன் மூலமும் அரசாங்கத்துக்கு இப்போது விற்பனை வரி மூலம் கிடைக்கும் வருமானமான ரூ. 9 கோடி நிச்சயம் கிடைக்கும் என்று நாங்கள் கூறுகிறோம். அதற்கேற்ற ஒரு வரி விகிதத்தை அரசாங்கத்தார் ஒரு முனையில் நிர்ணயிக்கலாம். மேலும் ஒரு முனை விற்பனை வரி போட்டால், இப்போது பல முனை வரியின் மூலம் கிடைக்கும் வருமானத்தை விட அதிகமாகப் பெறுவதற்கேற்றபடி அதிகமான வரி விகிதத்தை நிர்ணயித்தால் அந்த அதிக வரியைக் கொடுப்பதற்கும் வியாபாரிகள் தயாராக இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அப்படி அதிகமான விற்பனை வரி வசூலித்தால் மற்றத் துறைகளில் வரியை அந்த அளவிற்குக் குறைத்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டும் என்பதையும் சொல்லிக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன்.

[Sri V. V. Ramaswami]

[7th May 1957]

இறுதியாக இப்போது தமிழ் நாடு சிறியதாக இருப்பது ஆட்சி நடத்துவதற்கும் மற்றும் பல காரியங்களுக்கும் சௌகரியமாக இருக்கும் என்று சொல்லப்பட்டது. தமிழை ஆட்சி மொழியாக்குவதற்கும் நாம் சட்டமியற்றிவிட்டோம். தமிழை ஆட்சி மொழியாகக் கொண்டு வருவதற்கு நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்க யோசனைகள் கூறுவதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் ஒரு குழுவை அமைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இது விஷயமாக சீக்கிரம் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லிக்கொள்கிறேன். மற்ற இடங்களில் நடவடிக்கைகளை சீக்கிரம் தமிழில் கொண்டு வரமுடியாவிட்டாலும், சட்ட சபையிலாவது எல்லா நடவடிக்கைகளையும் சீக்கிரம் தமிழில் நடத்துவதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

கடைசியாக, மாசில்லாத் தமிழன், பச்சைத் தமிழன், வாடாத தமிழன், சுத்தத் தமிழன் என்றெல்லாம் போற்றப்படுகிற ஸ்ரீ காமராஜின் மந்திரிசபை இருந்தம்கூட இந்த மாநிலத்திற்கு இன்னமும் தமிழ் நாடு என்று பெயரிடப்படாததற்காக நான் வெட்கப்படுகிறேன், வருத்தப்படுகிறேன் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு என்னுடைய வார்த்தையை முடித்துக் கொள்கிறேன். வணக்கம்.

3-30 p.m. **SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR.**—கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, தேர்தல் புயலிலே வெற்றிபெற்று அமைச்சர்களாக வந்திருப்பவர்கள் இளைஞர்கள். பொதுவாக நான் அவர்களை வரவேற்கிறேன். இன்னும் ஐந்தாண்டுகளுக்கு அரசாங்கம் நன்றாக வேலை செய்யுமென்று நம்புகிறேன். பல அங்கத்தினர்கள் இங்கே பேசினார்கள். பொதுவாக எல்லா இலாகாக்களையும் என்ன முறையிலே அரசாங்கம் கவனித்துத் திருத்தம் செய்ய வேண்டுமோ அந்த முறையைக் கையாள் வேண்டுமென்று பல அங்கத்தினர்கள் எடுத்துச் சொன்னார்கள். அவர்கள் பேசினதை நானும் சொல்லவேண்டும் என்று எண்ணவில்லை. ஏனென்றால் அவர்கள் பல துறைகளிலும் எந்தெந்தக் காரியங்களை எப்படி எப்படிச் செய்யவேண்டுமோ அவைகளைப்பற்றிச் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனாலும் நாம் எல்லாம் சட்டம் செய்துகொண்டு வருகிறோம். நன்கு ஆராய்ந்து சட்டங்கள் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். தினசரி சட்டங்கள் உபயோகப்படுத்தப்படுகின்றன. மத்திய அரசாங்கமும் ராஜ்ய அரசாங்கமும் எவ்வளவு சட்டம் செய்து பொது மக்களுக்கு நன்மை செய்யவேண்டுமோ அவ்வளவும் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அரசாங்கத்திலே எவ்வளவு திட்டங்களை நடைமுறையிலே கொண்டுவரவேண்டுமென்று எண்ணுகிறார்களோ, அவைகள் நிறைவேறுவதற்கான உத்தரவு போட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அந்த உத்தரவுகள் எப்பொழுது நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டன? எவ்வளவு உத்தரவுகள் நடைமுறையில் கொண்டு வரப்பட்டன என்பதை நாம் யோசிக்கவேண்டும். போடும் உத்தரவுகள் எப்படி நடக்கின்றன என்பதைக் கவனித்து நடவடிக்கை எடுத்தால், அதனுடைய பலனை ஜனங்கள் சீக்கிரமாக அடையும்படி செய்யமுடியும். இதைக் கவனிக்கும்படியாக கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். இங்கே கனம் அங்கத்தினர் ஸ்ரீ பாலசுப்ரமணிய அய்யர் அவர்கள் பேசும்போது “எல்லாம் பேப்பர்லே தான் இருக்கிறது, நடைமுறையில் ஒன்றும் செய்யப்படவில்லை” என்று எடுத்துச் சொன்னார்கள். இந்த நிலையில் தான் ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டம் இருக்கிறது. சாதாரணமாக அதிகாரிகளால் போடப்படும் எல்லா உத்தரவுகளும் அமலுக்கு வருவதில் தாமதம் ஏற்படுகிறது.

இரண்டாவது ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டத்திலே பல அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டங்களுக்குப் பணம் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதிலும் தேசிய அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டமும், சமுதாய அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டமும் தனியாக ஆரம்பிக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதை நான் பாராட்டுகிறேன். பழைய சமாதானமாக இருக்கிறதே, அதற்கு இங்கு பலன் இருக்கிறதா என்பதை நீங்கள் யோசிக்கவேண்டும். முன்பு பலன் ஏற்படவில்லை என்றால் இனியாவது அதற்கான ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்யவேண்டும் என்று நான் மறுபடியும் கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். இந்த அபிவிருத்தித் திட்டங்களில் முக்கியமாகக்

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கவனிக்கப்பட வேண்டியது இதற்காக வகுக்கப்பட்ட மதிப்பீடுகள் விரயம் ஆகாமல் சரிவரப் பணம் செலவழிக்கப்படுகின்றதா என்பது. இதையும் கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கவனிப்பார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, கிராமப்புறங்களில் ஏழைகள் ஜாஸ்தியாக இருக்கிறார்கள். சிறிய நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டங்கள் இல்லாமல் அவர்கள் மிகவும் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். சில செழிப்புள்ள இடங்களைத் தவிர மற்ற இடங்களில் வசிக்கும் மக்கள் போதுமான பொருளாதார வசதி இல்லாமல் வாழ்கிறார்கள். பிளாக் டெவலப்மெண்ட் ஸ்கீமிலே நான்கில் ஒரு பங்கு பணத்தை மக்கள் கொடுத்தால் வேலை ஆரம்பிக்கலாம் என்று இருந்தது. இப்பொழுது பாதிப் பணம் கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்று கேட்கிறார்கள். அதை மக்கள் கொடுக்க முடியுமா என்று கனம் தொழில் அமைச்சர் அவர்களைக் கேட்கிறேன். அவர்கள் இல்லாததால் சக அமைச்சராவது அவர்களுக்கு எடுத்துச் சொல்வார்கள் என்று சக நினைக்கிறேன். சாதாரணமாக இந்த மாதிரி ஸ்கீம்களில் எஸ்டிமேட் அதிகமாகக் கொடுக்கப்படுகின்றது. பிளாஸ்டிக் அண்டு டெவலப்மெண்டு இருந்த பொழுது எஸ்டிமேட் எவ்வளவு வந்தது, இப்பொழுது எவ்வளவு வருகிறது என்பதைக் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது வரக்கூடிய எஸ்டிமேட்டுகள் அதிகமாக இருக்கின்றன. ஆதலால் இதை அரசாங்கம் ஆராய்ந்து பார்த்து ஆவன செய்யவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

நிர்வாகச் செலவை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் அவசியமான இனங்களுக்குச் செலவு செய்யவேண்டும் என்றுதான் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவைகளெல்லாம் நடைமுறையிலே நடக்கிறதா என்பதைக் கொஞ்சம் கவனித்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். ஒவ்வொரு இனத்திற்கும் ஒதுக்கப்பட்ட பணம் அவ்வளவும் செலவு செய்யப்படவேண்டும் என்றுதான் சட்டங்கள் செய்கிறோம். ஆனால் நடைமுறையில் என்ன நடக்கிறது என்பதைக் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். நான் அமைச்சர்களையோ அரசாங்க ஊழியர்களையோ குறை கூறுவதற்காகச் சொல்லவில்லை. ஆனால் கொடுக்கும் பணமெல்லாம் ஜனங்களுக்குப் போய்ச் சேருவதில்லை என்பதைத்தான் குறிப்பிட விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த ராஜ்யத்தில் 100க்கு 99 பேர் ரொம்ப ஏழைகள். உண்மையில் பார்க்கப் போனால் நாம் இவர்களிடத்தில் வரிகள் வாங்கக் கூடாது. அவர்களுக்கு தினசரி வாழ்க்கை நடத்தவே வசதிகள் இல்லை. அப்படி இருக்கும்பொழுதும் நாம் அவர்களிடமிருந்து தான் வரிகளை வசூலிக்கிறோம்.

DR. V. K. JOHN : I find the Hon. the Leader of the House who is to reply to the debate is absent, though two other Hon. Ministers are present.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He is in the other House piloting some Bill.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : The other Hon. Ministers are taking notes.

SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR : ஒரு பிளாக் அபிவிருத்திப் பிரதேசத்தில் திட்டச் செலவு ரூ. 30,000 என்றால் அங்கே நிர்வாகத்திற்கு ரூ. 60,000 அல்லது ரூ. 70,000 செலவாகிறது. இந்த விஷயத்தையும் கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கவனிப்பார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன். அதிகமான நிர்வாகச் செலவைக் குறைத்து பணம் பொது ஜனங்களுக்குப் பயன்படும்படி செய்வதற்காக, அரசாங்க ஊழியர்களை ஊக்குவித்து அவர்கள் மனப்பூர்வமாக அரசாங்கத்துடன் ஒத்துழைக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும்.

நமது ராஜ்யத்தில் பெரிய நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டங்கள் இல்லை. பெரிய அளவில் நீர்ப்பாசன வசதி செய்யவேண்டுமானால், பக்கத்திலுள்ள ராஜ்யங்களிலுள்ள ஜீவ நதிகளை இந்தப் பக்கம் திருப்பிவிடுவதற்கு, ராஜ்ய

[Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar] [7th May 1957]

அரசாங்கமும் மத்திய அரசாங்கமும் சேர்ந்து முயற்சி செய்தாலொழிய வேறு வழி இல்லை. நமது ராஜ்யத்தில் பல சிறிய நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. பொது மராமத்து இலாகாவிலும் நீர்ப்பாசன இலாகாவிலும் அந்தத் திட்டங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகள் இந்த இலாகாக் களால் கவனிக்கப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. சிறு நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டங்கள் விஷயத்தில் இன்னும் அதிக அக்கரை காட்டவேண்டும்; ஏனென்றால் இப்போது மழை ரொம்பவும் குறைவு.

Sri V. K. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER : பரம்பிக்குளம் திட்டம் நமது ராஜ்யத்திலுள்ள பெரிய நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டம். பெரிய நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டங்களுக்காக மற்ற ராஜ்யங்களை அணுகுவதற்கு முன்பு இதை முதலில் கவனிக்கவேண்டும்.

Sri O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR : ஏதோ ஒரு பெரிய நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டம் இருக்கிறது. அது பெரிய நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டமல்ல என்று நான் சொல்லவில்லை. இருந்தாலும், அது சில பிரதேசங்களுக்குத்தான் பயன்படும். எல்லா இடங்களுக்கும் பயன்படக்கூடிய பெரிய நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டங்களை நிறைவேற்ற வேண்டியதுபற்றி நான் பேசுகிறேன். அனேக இடங்களில் ஒரு போகம் விளைய வேண்டுமானால் குளம் குட்டைகளில் வருஷத்தில் ஐந்து அல்லது ஆறு மாதங்கள் ஜலம் இருந்தாக வேண்டும். ஆனால் ராஜ்யத்திலுள்ள பெரும்பான்மையான குளம் குட்டைகள் 1½ அல்லது 2 மாதங்களுக்குப் போதுமான நீர் பிடிக்கக் கூடியவையாகத் தான் இருக்கின்றன. இருக்கும் தண்ணீரின் அளவை விட இரண்டு, மூன்று மடங்கு ஆய்க்கட்டுகளின் அளவு இருக்கும். எல்லா ஆய்க்கட்டுகளிலும் தண்ணீர் கிடைக்கச் செய்வதற்கு அரசாங்கம் ஒன்றும் செய்யவில்லை. இருக்கிற நீர்ப்பாசன வசதிகளும் கெட்டுப்போய்க்கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. இதற்கெல்லாம் காரணம் அரசாங்கமும் ஜனங்களும் தான். அரசாங்கமும் தவறு செய்கிறது. ஜனங்களும் தவறு செய்கிறார்கள். ஆய்க்கட்டுகளுக்குத் தேவையான ஜல வசதிக்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் ஏற்பாடு செய்வதில்லை. ஆனால் எல்லா ஆய்க்கட்டுகளுக்கும் அரசாங்கத்தார் வரி மட்டும் வாங்கிவிடுகிறார்கள். ஜலவசதியைக் குறைவாகச் செய்துவிட்டு அரசாங்கத்தார் வரியை மட்டும் ஜாஸ்தி வாங்கிவிடுகிறார்கள். இதன் காரணமாகக் குடிகளுக்கு நஷ்டம் ஏற்படுகிறது. குடிகளுக்கு நஷ்டம் என்றால் அரசாங்கத்திற்கு நஷ்டம் என்பதை மறுக்கமுடியாது. குடிகளின் பொருளாதார நிலை தாழ்ந்தால் சுபிட்சம் இல்லை. சுபிட்சம் இல்லை என்றால் வரி இல்லை. வரி இல்லை என்றால் அரசாங்கம் இல்லை. வரி போடாமல் அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்தமுடியாது. ஏனென்றால், அரசாங்க ஊழியர்கள் சம்பளம் இல்லாமல் சேவை செய்யமாட்டார்கள். ஆய்க்கட்டுகள் எவ்வளவு இருக்கின்றன என்றும், குளம் குட்டைகள் எவ்வளவு ஜலம் பிடிக்கின்றன என்றும், ஆய்க்கட்டுகளுக்குப் போதுமான தண்ணீர் குளம் குட்டைகளில் இருக்கிறதா என்றும் பார்த்து ஜலவசதியைச் செய்யவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்யாவிட்டால் மக்களின் சுபிட்சம் குறைந்து நமது பிழைப்பிற்கு மற்ற ராஜ்யங்களை அதிகமாக எதிர்பார்க்க வேண்டியிருக்கும். மற்ற ராஜ்யங்கள் தங்களைப்போன்ற சுபிட்ச நிலையிலுள்ள ராஜ்யங்களுக்குத்தான் உணவு தானியங்களை அனுப்ப விரும்புகிறார்களே தவிர நமது ராஜ்யத்திற்கு அனுப்ப அவர்கள் தயாராக இல்லை என்பதை நாம் உணரவேண்டும். சுபிட்சமாக உள்ள ராஜ்யத்திற்குத் தானியங்களை அனுப்பினால் அவர்கள் அதிக விலைக்கு விற்க முடியும். நமது ராஜ்யத்திற்கு அனுப்பினால் அவர்களுக்கு அவ்வளவு பணம் கிடைக்காது. ஆகவே அவர்கள் நமது ராஜ்யத்திற்குத் தானியங்களை அனுப்பத் தயாராக இல்லை. அவர்கள் மற்ற சுபிட்சமான ராஜ்யங்களுக்கு உணவு தானியங்களை அனுப்ப முயற்சி செய்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை நான் பத்திரிகையில் பார்த்தேன். இதை சனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். மத்திய சர்க்காரும் ராஜ்ய சர்க்காரும் சேர்ந்து, நாமும் அவர்களுடைய சகோதரர்கள்தானே என்பதை அவர்களிடத்தில் சொல்லி ஏதாவது மத்தியஸ்தம் செய்து வைத்தாலொழிய இந்தச் சண்டை வளர்ந்து கொண்டே போகும். இப்போது கேரள ராஜ்யத்தில் விளையும் உணவு தானியங்கள் அவர்களிடையே

[7th May 1957] [Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar]

சாப்பாட்டுக்கே போதாது. ஏனென்றால், அங்கே போதிய நீர்ப்பாசன வசதி இல்லை. அந்த நிலையில் அந்த ராஜ்ய அரசாங்கத்தார் நமது ராஜ்ய அரசாங்கத்தாரைத் தானியம் கேட்கும்போது நாம் கொடுக்க மறுத்து விட்டாலும் இங்கேயுள்ள வியாபாரிகள் அங்கேயுள்ள வியாபாரிகளுக்குத் தானியங்களை அனுப்பிக்கொண்டுதான் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே இங்கே உற்பத்தியாகிற தானியங்கள் இங்கேயுள்ள ஜனங்களுக்குப் பயன்படுவதில்லை. அந்த அந்த ராஜ்யங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய உணவு தானியம் கிடைப்பதற்கு மத்திய சர்க்காரும் ராஜ்ய சர்க்காரும் சேர்ந்து வழிசெய்ய வேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால் நமது ராஜ்யத்திலுள்ள தானியங்கள் மற்ற ராஜ்யங்களுக்குப் போவதை நிறுத்தமுடியாது. சபையில் எவ்வளவு ராஜ்யங்களுக்குப் பேசிக்கொண்டிருக்கலாம்; வெறும் பேச்சினால் இதை வேண்டுமானாலும் பேசிக்கொண்டிருக்கலாம்; பெறும் பேச்சினால் இதை நிறுத்தமுடியாது. “பசி வந்திடப் பத்தும் பறந்துபோம்” என்று சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது.

மேலும், நீர்ப்பாசன வசதிக்கு இப்போது கிணறுகளும், வெட்டப்படுவதில்லை. முன்பு கிணறுகள் வெட்டுவதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் பண உதவி செய்துவந்தார்கள். இப்போது அதுவும் நிறுத்தப்பட்டுவிட்டது. இந்த வருஷம் மறுபடியும் அந்த உதவியைக் கொடுக்கப்போவதாகக் கேள்விப் படுகிறேன். இதில் முக்கிய கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டும். இனிமேல் ராஜ்யத்தில் பாசனவசதி செய்யவேண்டுமானால் பூமிக்குக் கீழே இருக்கும் தண்ணீரைத்தான் கொண்டுவரவேண்டும்; நல்ல நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டங்கள் இல்லை.

Dr. V. K. JOHN : It is the Governor's Address that we are discussing now, and sinking of walls is not mentioned there.

Sri O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR : கவர்னர் அவர்களுடைய பிரசங்கத்தில் இதுபற்றிச் சொல்லப்படாமல் இருந்தாலும், அமைச்சர்கள்தான் கவர்னர் அவர்களைப் பேசும்படி செய்வதால் அமைச்சர்களுக்கு இதை நான் சொல்கிறேன். அமைச்சர்கள் தெரிவிப்பதைத்தான் கவர்னர் பெருமான் அவர்கள் பேசுகிறார்கள். ஆகவே இதை அமைச்சர்களுக்கு நான் சொல்லிக்கொள்கிறேன்.

மேலும், ஹரிஜன மக்களுக்குக் குழாய் (ப்யூப்) கிணறுகள் அமைத்துக் கொடுப்பதற்கு மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தார் ஏற்பாடு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அந்தக் கிணறுகள் பாசனத்திற்குப் பயன்படும் நிலைக்கு வருவதற்கு ரொம்ப காலம் ஆகிறது. உதாரணமாக நான் இருக்கும் ஊருக்குப் பக்கத்தில் 600 அடி பாதாளக்கிணறு ஒன்று வெட்டப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. கிணற்றில் ஊற்று எடுத்து ஒரு மாதம் ஆகிவிட்டது. அங்கே இப்போது ஜலம் எடுக்கமுடியும். ஆனால் இன்னும் அரசாங்கத்தாரிடமிருந்து அனுமதி வரவில்லை. ரெவின்யூ இலாகா மூலம் உத்தரவு வரவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அரசாங்கத்தாரால் தாமதப்படுத்தப்படுகிறது.

Dr. V. K. JOHN : கவர்ன்மெண்டுக்கு “இன்டெரெஸ்டு” கிடையாது.

Sri O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR : கவர்ன்மெண்டுக்கு “இன்டெரெஸ்டு” இல்லை என்று சொல்லமுடியாது. ஆயினும், நிர்வாகத்தில் ஏற்படும் தாமதங்களை நீக்கி திட்டங்கள் ஜனங்களுக்குச் சீக்கிரம் பயன்படும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். இந்தக் கிணறுகளிலிருந்து தண்ணீர் எடுப்பதற்குப் பம்புகள் ஷேண்டும். அவை ஆர்டிஷியன் கிணறுகள் அல்ல, தானாகத் தண்ணீர் வருவதற்கு. ஆயில் எஞ்சின்கள் முதலியவை வேண்டியிருக்கின்றன. மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தார் ரூ. 1,000 செலவு செய்து இந்தக் கிணறுகளை வெட்டிக்கொடுத்துவிட்டுப் பிறகு ராஜ்ய அரசாங்கத்தாரிடம் பொறுப்பை ஒப்படைத்துவிடுகிறார்கள். அவைகள் மக்களுக்குச் சீக்கிரம் பயன்படும்படி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று ஜில்லாக் கலெக்டர்களுக்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் உத்தரவு போடுவார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன்.

மேலும் விவசாயம் நன்றாக நடைபெறவேண்டுமானால் கால்நடைகளை நன்றாகப் பராமரிக்கவேண்டும். கால்நடைகளைப்பற்றி இப்போது அதிகமாகப் பேசப்படுகிறது. பக்கத்திலேயே, இந்த நகரத்திலேயே, என்ன நடக்கிறது

[Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar] [7th May 1957]

என்று யாரும் கவனித்ததாகத் தெரியவில்லை. சென்னை நகரத்தில் வருஷத்தில் 30,000 பசுக்கள் வாங்குகிறார்கள். இங்குள்ள ஜனத்தொகைக்கு இன்னும் அதிகம் பசுக்கள் வேண்டும். கன்றுகள் எங்கே செல்கின்றன? அவை இங்கேதான் (வயிற்றைச் சுட்டிக்காட்டி) செல்கின்றன. மாடு பால் கறக்கும் வரையிலும் நல்ல பொலி காளைகள் கிடைக்கின்றன. கன்றுகள் செத்துப் போய்விடுகின்றன. அவைகளை நாம் சாப்பிட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். (ஒரு கனம் அங்கத்தினர்: இறந்த கன்றுகளின் வயிற்றில் வைக்கோலைத் திணித்து அவற்றைப் பசுமாடுகளின் எதிரில் வைக்கிறார்கள்.) சில இடங்களில் வயிற்றில் வைக்கோலைத் திணித்து இறந்த கன்றுகளை வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள்.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They cheat the cows and get the milk.

Sri O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR: இம்மாதிரி கன்றுகள் சரியாகப் பராமரிக்கப்படாமல் அழிகின்றன. அவைகளை நன்றாகப் பராமரிக்க வேண்டும்.

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN: நாம் சொன்னாலும் அவர்கள் கேட்க மாட்டார்கள்.

Sri O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR: அரசாங்கத்தாரைக் குறை கூறுவதற்காக நான் பேசவில்லை. மேலும் மாடுகளை எப்படிப் காப்பாற்ற முடியும் என்று ஆராய்ச்சி செய்வதற்காக பால் மறத்த பசுக்களை salvage-க்காக எங்கேயோ கொண்டுபோய்விடுகிறார்கள். சில பசுக்களைத்தான் salvage செய்யமுடியும். இதற்கு ரூ. 1 கோடியோ, 2 கோடியோ ஒதுக்கி யிருப்பதாக அரசாங்கத்தார் சொல்கிறார்கள். எவ்வளவு பசுக்களைத்தான் salvage செய்யமுடியும்?

Dr. V. K. JOHN: ஒன்றும் செய்யமாட்டார்கள்.

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p.m.

Sri O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR: நாம் கால்நடைகளை நன்றாகப் பராமரிக்கவேண்டும். நமக்கு மாடுகள் வேண்டும், பால் வேண்டும், மற்றப் பொருள்களும் வேண்டும்.

சாதாரணமாக கன்றுகளை salvage-க்கு அனுப்பிவிடுகிறார்கள் இவைகள் உணவுக்கு உபயோகப்படுகின்றன. பிரசாரம் செய்வதற்காக ஜீவகாருண்ய சபை இருக்கிறது. அதைத் தடுத்து நிறுத்துவதற்காக நடவடிக்கை நடைமுறையிலே ஒன்றும் எடுக்கக்கூடாது. ஆகவே அரசாங்கம் இதை நிறுத்துவதற்கு வேண்டிய நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். இவைகளெல்லாம் நல்லமுறையில் நடப்பதற்கு கார்ப்பரேஷனில் ஆங்காங்கே “மில்க்” ஷெட்டுகளை ஏற்படுத்தி, பசுக்களை அங்கு கொண்டுபோய் கறக்கச் செய்து அந்தப் பாலே பட்டிகளில் ரொப்பி வினியோகிக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். இதை நல்லமுறையில் நடத்துபவர்களுக்கும் பசுவையும் கன்றையும் நல்லமுறையில் வைத்துக் கொண்டிருப்பவர்களுக்கும் பரிசுகள் வழங்குவதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்தால் நன்றாக நடக்கும் என்று நம்புகிறேன். இதன் மூலம் கன்றுகளைக் கொல்லுவதையும் நிறுத்துவதற்குப் பாடுபடவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன். மத்திய சர்க்காரும், ராஜ்ய சர்க்காரும் கார்ப்பரேஷனும் இதற்குத் தகுந்த நிதியை ஒதுக்கி இந்த ஏற்பாடுகளைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இதை இரண்டாவது ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டத்திலாவது சேர்த்துப்பணம் ஒதுக்கவேண்டும் என்று பேசுகிறார்கள். நடைமுறையிலே அவைகளை நடத்துவது சிரமமாக இருந்தபோதிலும் கன்றுகளைக் காப்பாற்றுவதற்காக, கசாப்புக் கடைகளுக்குப் போகாமல் தடுக்க, தக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். சட்டத்தில் எதையும் செய்துவிடலாம். ஆனால் பொது மக்களின் ஒத்துழைப்பு இல்லையேல் நாம் இதைத் தடுக்கமுடியாது. நான் அதிகமாகப் பேசவேண்டும் என்று இருந்தாலும் கனம் அங்கத்தினர்கள் இன்னும் பேச இருப்பதால் சீக்கிரத்தில் என் பேச்சை முடித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

[Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar] 7th May 1957]

கல்வியை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் கிராமங்களிலே இந்த வருஷம் 4,000 பாடசாலைகள் ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்களுடைய பேச்சிலிருந்து தெரிகிறது. ஆனால் எத்தனை பள்ளிகள் சரிவர நடக்கின்றன? இதைப்பற்றி நேற்று ஸ்ரீ ஸ்ரீனிவாசவரதன் பேசினார். இங்கு இருக்கும் அங்கத்தினர்களைப்போ, பொது ஜனங்களையோ திருப்தி செய்வதற்காக நான் இதை ஏற்படுத்திவிட்டேன் என்று சொல்வதில் பலன் இல்லை. கிராமங்களில் பார்த்தால் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் ஆசிரியர்கள் இருக்கிறார்களா என்பது சந்தேகம். ஆனால் பள்ளிக்கூடத்திற்குக் கிராண்டு மாத்திரம் போய்க்கொண்டே இருக்கும்.

Sri V. V. RAMASWAMI: அதற்கென்றல்லவா அவைகள் இருக்கின்றன.

Sri O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR: அந்த முறையிலே கிராமங்களிலே பள்ளிகள் நடக்கின்றன. பெரதுமக்களுக்கு நன்மை செய்யவேண்டும் என்ற எண்ணத்தோடு கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கவனித்தாலும்கூட, அவைகள் நல்ல முறையிலே நடக்கவில்லையென்றால் ஜனங்கள் நம்மைப் பார்த்துச் சிரிப்பார்கள். சாதாரணமாகப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் பெரிய கிராமங் பார்த்துச் சிரிப்பார்கள். சாதாரணமாகப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களைத் தெரியவில்லை. கனம் தவிர சிறிய கிராமங்களில் சரியாக நடப்பதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. ஆகவே கனம் சக அமைச்சர் கல்வி அமைச்சர் அவர்களுக்கு இதை எடுத்து உரைக்கவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். சபை இதற்காகவே இருப்பதால் இவைகளையெல்லாம் எடுத்துச்சொல்லவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது.

கிராமங்களில் குடிசைத் தொழில்கள் அதிகமாக்கப்படவேண்டும் என்று அரசாங்கத்தில் திட்டம் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது இதை நடைமுறையில் கொண்டுவருவதற்கு முயற்சி எடுத்துவருகிறார்கள். இந்த இலாக்கா இப்பொழுது வளர்ந்திருக்கிறதெயொழிய, வேலை தகுந்த முறையிலே நன்றாக வளர்ச்சி அடையவில்லை. அதற்குப் புதுபுது ஆபீசர்களைப் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படி இருந்தும் இப்பொழுது நடைமுறையில் என்னென்ன காரியங்கள் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்றால் “Nil” என்றுதான் சொல்லவேண்டும். இந்த இலாக்காவிற்காக செலவு செய்யும் பணத்திற்குத் தகுந்த முறையில் காரியங்கள் நடைபெறவில்லை. இன்னும் சொல்லப்போனால் கிராமப்புறங்களில் பெரும் கைத் தொழில்கள் இல்லை.

பழுப்பு நிலக்கரியைக்கொண்டு சேலத்தில் இரும்புத்தொழில்களை ஏற்படுத்துவது நலம். ஆனால் கோயம்புத்தூரில் இரும்புத்தொழிற்சாலை ஆரம்பிக்கப்போவதாகச் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். எங்கே மூலப்பொருள்கள் கிடைக்கின்றனவோ அங்கே தொழிற்சாலைகள் ஆரம்பித்தால் நல்லது. சேலம் ஜில்லாவிலே இரும்பு கிடைக்கிறது. அங்கே தொழிற்சாலை இல்லை. அங்கே ஆரம்பிப்பது நியாயம். அப்படி இருந்தும் கோயம்புத்தூரில் அங்கே ஆரம்பிப்பது நியாயம். எங்கே பணம் இருக்கிறதோ அங்கே ஆரம்பித் திருக்கிறார்கள். நிலக்கரி கிடைக்கக்கூடிய இடமாகிய நெய்வேலி கிறார்கள். பழுப்பு நிலக்கரி கிடைக்கக்கூடிய இடமாகிய நெய்வேலி சேலத்திற்கு அருகில் இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் கோயம்புத்தூர் சேலத்திற்கும் நெய்வேலிக்கும் அதிக தூரத்தில் இருக்கிறது. இதனால் போக்குவரத்துச் செலவு அதிகமாகும். ஆகவே செலவு அதிகமாகாமல் லாபம் அதிகமாகக் கிடைக்கக்கூடிய இடத்தில் ஆரம்பித்தால் நல்லது. மேலும் Finished Products வெளிவரும்போது விலை ஏறிவிடுகிறது. இன்னும் வெளிநாடு களுக்கு அனுப்பவேண்டுமானால் இப்படிப்பட்ட செலவுகளையெல்லாம் வைத்து அதிகமான விலைக்கு விற்க நேரிடும் என்பதில் சந்தேகம் இல்லை. ஆகவே இத்தொழிற்சாலையைத் தகுந்த இடத்தில் ஆரம்பிக்கவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். இம்மாதிரி பல துறைகளில் காரியங்கள் செய்ய வேண்டும். நெய்வேலித் திட்டத்திற்காக அந்தப் பிரதேசத்தில் அனேக கிராமங்களை சர்க்கார் ஆர்ஜிதம் செய்வதற்கு சட்டம் கொண்டுவரப்போவதாகச் சொல்கிறார்கள். இந்த விஷயத்தில் அங்குள்ள மக்களுக்கு ரொம்பத் தொந்தரவுகள் இருக்கின்றன. அங்கே 67 கிராமங்களை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப் போவதாக அரசாங்கத்தார் “நோடிபை” (notify) பண்ணியிருந்தார்கள். ஆனால் இப்போது 10 அல்லது 20 கிராமங்களைத்தான், அதாவது

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22,000 ஏக்கர் நிலத்தைத்தான், எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்போகிறார்கள். அரசாங்கத்தார் நிலத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டுவிட்டால் அங்குள்ள மக்கள் ரொம்பக் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் கடன் வாங்கவும் முடிவதில்லை. தனி மனிதர்களும் அவர்களுக்குக் கடன் கொடுப்பதில்லை. அவர்கள் மிகவும் ஏழைகளாக இருக்கிறார்கள். அங்குள்ள நிலங்களில் பயிர் செய்யலாம் என்றால் நீர்ப்பாசன வசதியும் இல்லை. பூமியை 500 அடி, 600 அடி தோண்டினாலொழிய தண்ணீருக்கு வழி இல்லை. அந்த ஜில்லாவில் குடி தண்ணீருக்கே 150 அடி தோண்டவேண்டும். இந்தியாவிலேயே அந்த மாதிரியான பிராந்தியத்தை எங்கேயும் பார்க்கமுடியாது. அந்த இடங்களில் குடியாக கிணறுகளையாவது தோண்டி தண்ணீருக்கு வசதி செய்யவேண்டும். இந்தத் திட்டப் பிரதேசத்தில் மக்களுக்கு ஏற்படும் தொந்தரவுகள் பற்றி அங்குள்ள அதிகாரியுடன் நான் அடிக்கடி சண்டை போடுவதுண்டு. எவ்வளவு சீக்கிரம் அரசாங்கத்தார் சட்டம் கொண்டுவர முடியுமோ அவ்வளவு சீக்கிரம் சட்டம் கொண்டுவரவேண்டும். சீக்கிரம் சட்டம் கொண்டுவந்து தேவையான நிலங்களை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு மற்ற வற்றை மக்கள் உபயோகத்திற்கு விட்டுவிடவேண்டும். யாருடைய நிலங்களை சர்க்கார் ஆர்ஜிதம் செய்கிறார்களோ அவர்களுக்குச் சீக்கிரம் நஷ்ட ஈடுப்பணத்தைக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இதற்கான மசோதாவை அடுத்த பட்ஜெட் கூட்டத்தில் கொண்டுவந்தால் மிகவும் நல்லது.

பல துறைகளில் பல காரியங்கள் செய்யவேண்டியிருக்கின்றன. தாமத மின்றி உடனுக்குடன் காரியங்களைச் செய்ய வேண்டும். இளைஞர்களாக இருக்கும் அமைச்சர்கள் ஊக்கத்துடனும் உற்சாகத்துடனும் ஜனங்களுக்குப் பயன்படக்கூடிய எல்லாக் காரியங்களையும் உடனுக்குடன் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு என்னுடைய வார்த்தையை முடித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

p.m. SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, four days of useful debate in this House will come to a close with the reply of the Hon. the Leader of the House to-day. If the Members sitting on the Treasury Benches take the debate here as usual and treat it as a formal affair, then all that has been done and the efforts made would be a sheer waste. But if it is taken in the spirit in which it has been conducted and if the Hon. Ministers have taken note of all that has been said not only by hon. Members belonging to this side of the House but also by those sitting behind the Treasury Benches, there would have been some usefulness as far as the debate is concerned. It is for them to consider the suggestions of hon. Members and put them into effect.

Sir, much has been said about the General Elections and I do not like to traverse the ground which has been covered by many a Member here. The hon. Member, Mr. Purushotham, has rightly drawn the attention of the Government to the way in which electoral rolls have been prepared. Let alone districts; I do not know what happened there. Even in the City of Madras, it is a bad testimony to the way and manner in which electoral rolls have been prepared. Streets after streets, areas after areas and I do not want to exaggerate it—divisions after divisions had been left out. I cannot understand why in the capital City of Madras with the Madras Corporation and the Collector's office in charge, such a state of affairs should prevail. It is a very, very sad reflection on the people who have been responsible for preparing the electoral rolls. After all, the General Elections are over, but

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there may be elections to the Corporation. Also there may be bye-elections. I am sure that the Government will examine the whole matter and see that the electoral rolls are made perfect and up to date. Still, a tribute has been paid by many a Member for the peaceful and orderly way in which the elections have been held. I also join hands with them. The hon. Member Mr. John Asirvatham said that there had been one or two murders. We have to thank God that there were only two murders. There would have been many more. Anyway, one swallow does not make a summer.

Now, I come to another aspect of the matter of which I have no personal experience. I myself do not know how the elections were conducted. I only went to the polling station on the polling day to record my vote. But there has been some talk about the corrupt methods adopted in the General Elections. I do not know of any particular case and I do not make any charge against any Party. But the fact remains that there were instances where corrupt practices were resorted to. If the Government say that it is not the case, then there is no need for me to expatiate upon it. If it is a fact, I think, democracy will never take its root in our country if we, as responsible people, in our anxiety to have a seat in the Legislature, resort to such practices. Therefore, I am sure that this tendency will be curbed and that we will be wiser in the coming elections, whether they be to the Corporation or to the District Boards or to the State Assemblies or to the Parliament. I hope the Government will take cognisance of all these things and try to see that such things are not allowed to recur in future. It is their duty to see that such corrupt practices are rooted out.

Some of the points that I want to refer to mostly concern the Hon. the Leader of the House who is now piloting a Bill in the other House and who is not present here. But all the same, I would like to make a few observations.

Firstly, much has been said with regard to the rise in food prices, which is really a sad reflection on the Government. Statements after statements were made by both the Ministers of the Central and the State Governments that production was increasing by leaps and bounds not only in the Madras State but also in other States. Efforts are also being made to increase production through Community Development Projects, and such things are being published in the Press. Such being the case, I am really at a loss to know why there should be such a rise in food prices in our State only. The Government should say that there is a shortage or deficit and there is no use of boasting that they have carried out some plans and that the food problem has been solved, for facts are to the contrary. Prices of foodstuffs have gone up abnormally. Rice of even the ordinary quality costs twelve to thirteen annas per Madras measure in the Madras City. No doubt, an attempt has been made by the Government to open some fair price shops where rice is being sold at Rs. 0-11-6 or 12 annas per

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4.10 p.m. Madras measure. I wonder whether the Hon. the Minister for Revenue has seen a sample of the rice sold in fair price shops. It is really of a very bad quality. Otherwise, these shops would have been flooded by the people and there would have been long queues. But the fact is that there is a lot of bags of rice there with no one to purchase. Therefore, it looks as though the Government of Madras had purchased all sorts of rotten rice from outside and that they have released it for the public to consume. There have been a lot of unwise transactions and even the ex-Chief Minister Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar may know what sort of transaction it was in respect of purchase of rice. (Interruption.) I do not know whether it happened during the time when he was Chief Minister; perhaps it happened either before or afterwards. (Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar: Afterwards only.) When it has once happened, it will go on happening. Whatever that may be, I am at a loss to understand how rice of such a bad quality happened to be purchased. There is no use of blaming the people for their not purchasing it.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Deliberately we did not go in for bad rice. It may be that good rice, having been kept in storage for a long time, became bad in some cases.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Is it due to that or is it because people whom the Government entrusted with this work mismanaged it?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : How can people deteriorate rice?

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Then the case of the Government is still worse. Because they had purchased rice some one or two years ago and stored it without releasing it in the market, it resulted in general deterioration. Naturally, the people are not prepared to purchase that stuff. Thus, when deterioration goes on and further when the rice has no market, who is to bear the loss? Certainly, the Ministers are not going to bear it. It will be thrown on the people of the State of Madras. They have to suffer. Whatever that may be, at least in future let the Government be wiser, because we should at least learn by experience.

Now, Sir, I want to make a reference to the question of Education. It is really good that we are having four hon. Members in this House representing the Teachers' Constituency and if the Resolution of this House is accepted by the Centre, we will have two more. But I am sorry to say—I do not mean any disrespect in making this reference because after all, the hon. Member belongs to my own side—that one of their representatives Sri G. Krishnamoorthi always speaks of teachers, teachers and teachers only. Of course, we also sympathise with the teachers. But in this country of ours, conditions being what they are, the teachers are not the

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only people who are suffering. Fortunately, they have representatives here. But there are also others who, unfortunately, may not have their representatives here. Therefore, I would particularly request my hon. Friend Sri G. Krishnamoorthy to espouse the cause of not only the teachers but also the private managements, whether at the school level or at the college level. The Government of Madras may well boast about educational progress and enumerate the number of colleges and schools in our State. But who is responsible for that progress? Certainly, it is not the Members on the Treasury Benches. It is due to the efforts of private managements and private people. Thanks to the Christian Missionaries, education came to be given so much importance. It was all due to private organizations and managements who came forward to start many a school, either a High School or a College or a Women's College. But what is the treatment which they got and what is the treatment which such people get now from the Government? The hon. Member Dr. Mahomed Usman might remember how in those days colleges like the Christian College and the Loyola College were getting grants in lakhs of rupees both towards capital expenditure and towards recurring expenditure. But what is the treatment meted out to private colleges to-day? A second-grade college cannot get more than Rs. 50,000 towards capital expenditure and a first-grade college more than Rs. 75,000. Then, what is the fate of the small high schools and elementary schools? If the hon. Member Sri G. Krishnamoorthy uses all his eloquence for sponsoring the cause of not only these unfortunate teachers, but also the private managements, the Government would do something for them also.

Incidentally, I wish to say that the Hon. the Minister for Finance who is also in charge of Education is not here. Last time when I spoke from the other Chamber—unfortunately, we have been driven away from that place—I pointed out that if the Government of Madras did not come to the rescue of the private colleges, particularly the second-grade colleges, ere long many of them would have to close down. My hon. Friend on my left Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar—I think he is on my left—raised a point about the Pre-University course. I am not an educationist nor do I like to be one. Therefore, I shall leave such things to educationists. But I am sorry to say that, knowing the implications involved in shifting from the old Intermediate course to the Pre-University course, we have not heard anything further on the promise made by the Hon. the Education Minister on the floor of this House, namely, that the State Government had written to the Central Government for some big grants and that when the grant was received, it would be distributed to the colleges. I wish to say that if we fail to get the grant in time, the second-grade colleges may have to be closed down. As the Hon. the Minister for Education is not here just now, I am sure his good friend the Hon. the Revenue Minister would inform him of our views here and request him to take care of these institutions, for those people who have started them have taken that step with great courage and they deserve to be helped.

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Sir, with regard to industries, I wish to say that we are happy that the Hon. the Leader of our House is in charge of Industries. It is unfortunate that in the field of irrigation, there is no prospect of further big projects in Tamil Nad. God has not bestowed on us the boon of big rivers in our State as in our neighbouring State. We have thus to be at the mercy of our neighbouring States, especially the Kerala State. If they do not come to some understanding with our State with regard to sharing of the waters, the only thing left for us is development of industries, including heavy industries. Well, I am not going to get myself involved in the unfortunate controversy of North *versus* South. Still, it is a fact that the South, as far as heavy industries are concerned, is very badly neglected. Members both in this House and in the other House and other persons on public platforms have said that Madras is neglected in the matter of development of industries. Whenever some proposals are put forward, arguments are advanced against them saying, "This is not available there or that is not available here." Thus, the result seems to be that, as far as industries are concerned, Madras State has to remain backward for many more years to come. Our only hope seems to be in Neiveli Project. I wish that project every success. I am sure that with the keen interest taken by both the Central Government and the State Government, the Neiveli Project will be a great success and that it will be a boon to the people of the Madras State.

When once we rule out the possibility of heavy industries being started in our State, our only hope in the State of Madras is in the development of small-scale industries. I am really happy that the hon. Member Sri V. V. Ramaswami Nadar. . . (Interruption: No Nadar, only Ramaswami.) Well, I take it that he has removed the appendage and that is another fashion of the day. He has removed 'Nadar', as the Hon. the Minister for Revenue has removed 'Naicker' from his name. I think the process will go on and our ex-Chief Minister also will remove 'Reddiar' from his name. But I do not believe in this change. I believe in retaining certain old things. That is by the way. All along I was under the impression that the hon. Member Sri V. V. Ramaswami was an authority only on his pet subject of sales tax, but to-day he proved himself an authority on small-scale industries also. It is a credit and compliment to the Government of Madras that they are making attempts in the right direction of seeing that small-scale industries are developed in the State of Madras. They have tried it as far as shoe-making is concerned, as far as match-making is concerned and in respect of one or two other industries also. (Interruption: Appalam-making also.) I do not know the fate of the appalam industry. My information is—it is subject to correction—that the appalams made or manufactured do not find a market; there is no demand or sale for them.

SRIMATHI S. MANJUBHASHINI: There is a big demand for them.

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SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: I am very happy to learn from the hon. lady Member that there is a large demand for these appalams. I wish that industry every success. That is by the way. Our only hope now is in the development of small-scale industries.

SOME VOICES: Is it appalam industry in the private sector or public sector? Are these appalams made by men or women?

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: Well, I cannot say. I feel, Sir, that our only hope, as far as the State of Madras is concerned, is in the development of small-scale industries. Last time when I made a speech, I said that there was no use of having these industrial units, without providing facilities to members of the public to have training, and that the Government should try to create an incentive in the people by advancing capital and giving all the other necessary facilities so that small-scale industrial units might be started and developed in our State which could give employment to the unemployed sections of the people. It is comparatively very easy to develop small-scale industries, but it is very difficult to find a market for their products, particularly at competitive prices. However, as the hon. lady Member said that there was a large demand for appalams, I feel sure that there will be a big demand for the products of other small-scale industries also.

Again, Sir, I come to a question which concerns the Hon. the Leader of the House who is not here at present. The hon. Member Sri Arunachalam—if he would not feel offended—referred to the handloom industry. Unfortunately, I am entering into matters about which I do not claim to have expert knowledge. But, as an ordinary person, I would like to have my say. We hear a lot about the help that is being given to the handloom industry. I am happy to hear this because Madras is the State which has got the largest number of handloom weavers. Lakhs and lakhs of rupees are being given to the handloom industry. May God take care of our State if the amount is anything like a crore of rupees. (Interruption.) I am told that a sum of one crore of rupees is being given to the handloom industry. But the very object of giving this help is to see that the handloom weavers, and not the middlemen or top men, are helped. May I ask whether really the actual weaver is getting the help or he is getting only a share in the amount? I find that the Revenue Minister is nodding his head. (The Hon. Sri M. A. Manickavelu: He is getting.) I think this is only on paper. Let me try to dilate upon this point. As per the statement made by the Hon. the Minister for Finance and also by the Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam (who is not present here now), only about 20 per cent of the handloom weavers are within the orbit of co-operative societies and the remaining 80 per cent are outside the co-operative fold.

SRI A. J. ARUNACHALAM: Thirty-five per cent of the weavers have now come into the co-operative fold.

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SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : After all, this extra 15 per cent does not make much difference. We do not want that the handloom weavers should be deprived of the benefits given to them. But I do say that this subject had been brought to the notice of the Government of Madras on many an occasion during the previous years. In fact, the hon. Member Sri Arunachalam knows that in the old Legislative Assembly—I am talking of the Assembly of 1946-52—(i) Members had no points to speak about, handlooms and handloom weavers were the only subjects they would speak on.

SRI A. J. ARUNACHALAM : It had become a general subject.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : What attempt has been made by the Government of Madras to probe into this matter and find out why it is that still about 65 per cent are outside the co-operative fold? I know the hon. Member Sri Arunachalam is an authority on the subject and I take his figures. He has devoted almost his whole life to the cause of handloom weavers. I am liberal in paying my compliments to him. Have the Government of Madras made any attempt to find out why it is that 65 or 70 per cent of the handloom weavers are outside the co-operative fold? This is an undeniable fact in spite of all the help that has been given to handloom weavers, whether by the Centre or by the State. After all, the money is paid by the people in the form of handloom cess at the rate of quarter anna per rupee on all the mill cloth sold. It is the duty of the Government of Madras, therefore, to find out why so many people as sixty-five per cent do not take advantage of the facilities afforded to them in joining the co-operative societies. I do not want to expatiate any more on this subject. It is high time that the Government of Madras appointed a Committee to enquire into the matter. The Government have got men who can speak with authority on this subject. These men should go into the question and find out what are the reasons for such a large body of handloom weavers remaining outside the co-operative societies. I am sure the Government will try to implement the suggestion that I make for what it is worth. I want to know whether the amount that is being given to the handloom weavers' co-operative societies is put to proper use. I do not mind that a sum of Rs. 1 crore is being given to the handloom industry. In spite of the rebate which is given at the rate of one anna six pies in the rupee, I find handloom goods are remaining unsold. The celebration of Handloom Weeks, meetings, etc., are not going to push up the sales of handloom goods. The public should develop a feeling that they should purchase handloom goods so that they may help the handloom industry. Even without this propaganda by the Government, there are people in Madras State who, for all their life, will not touch any cloth other than handloom cloth. I hope the Government will look into this question and do the needful.

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I do not know whether it is good or bad if our Revenue Minister—a very nice man—is not having sales tax in his portfolio. I do not know whether I should say that I feel happy or sorry that sales tax is not in his portfolio. But I want to say one thing.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I have exchanged wealth for health.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : If there is any one Revenue Minister in all the States of the Indian Union who should be given the certificate for having levied the maximum amount of sales tax, he is, fortunately or unfortunately, our Revenue Minister. The controversial question of single-point levy or multi-point levy is engaging the attention of the Government. I find that the Sales Tax Bill is coming up here for discussion to-morrow. In the case of some commodities, the Government are trying to levy the tax at one point. I am one with the Government when they are anxious that by making the change from multi-point levy to single-point levy, they should not suffer any loss in revenue. They are very anxious that they should not be put to any financial strain in the process. I agree with them in this matter. The hon. Member Sri V. V. Ramaswami read the editorial of the "Hindu" on our sales tax administration, and he also said how in Bombay the Government had adopted the single-point levy. The Bombay Government have not suffered any loss on that account. I do not understand why our Government should not have the same courage and try to include as many commodities as possible in the list of commodities for single-point levy, so that the difficulties and sufferings of the small and petty dealers may be removed.

I may say another thing here and that is that the Government of Madras are not aware of the evasion of sales tax, which is taking place in this Madras State, more particularly in the City. It is given only to this Madras Government—I do not know if my information is wrong—to levy an additional sales tax of one anna three pies in the rupee on cloth. In no other State in India there is this additional sales tax on cloth. Only in Madras State in the whole of the Indian Union this sales tax of one anna three pies in the rupee is levied. The levy is not per yard but it is in the rupee. The position in Madras State is that if a poor man is to go to the shop and purchase one yard of cloth for Re. 1-4-0, he has to pay about six to seven annas by way of taxes—excise duty due to the Centre, cess, and the additional sales tax of one anna three pies. I know that there is a feeling that in the Cabinet only lawyers should be there. But I feel that some businessmen also should be in the Cabinet so that they may take stock of business situation in the State. The position now is that all the business which was being done in the State of Madras has gone outside. I do not think businessmen, clever and intelligent as they are, will come to the City of Madras and purchase in bulk cloth to the value of Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 15,000 and pay to the coffers of the Madras Government at the rate of one

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anna three pies per rupees. Do the Government expect them to pay so much tax? All the business has shifted to the neighbouring States. Business which was formerly done in Madras has gone out. It is not right to say that business fluctuates and that it moves from one place to another. I am speaking of the honest dealer who suffers to-day, because if he wants to be honest, he has to make out a bill and then pay to the Government a huge amount by way of tax. Many transactions worth lakhs and lakhs of rupees in this very City are taking place without passing of any bills therefor. Because if a bill is to be made out, the dealer has to pay tax at the rate of one anna three pies in the rupee. The tax will surely be a huge amount. So, all sorts of transactions are taking place without passing bills therefor, and, as a result, the other taxes that are legitimately due to the Government are lost. Therefore, I feel, Sir . . .

4.30 p.m. (The Hon. the Leader of the House was seen entering the House lost. Therefore, I feel, Sir.

I am happy, Sir, the Hon. the Leader of the House is here when I am on the subject of sales tax. I know he is coming from the Assembly fresh. (An hon. Member: Not fresh, but tired.) He is too young to get tired. Why should we think that he is tired? Only we are getting old. We have heard a lot on the subject of sales tax during this meeting. We will have another opportunity to discuss this subject during the Budget debate. Because of this additional levy on the sale of cloth in the City of Madras, not only has business shifted to other States, but there is also a good deal of evasion of tax. This is a matter which the Government should take note of. Let the Government just repeal the Act and see what happens. Let us fall in line with the other States and do away with that Act. Sir, if I remember aright, this Act was passed during the time when Rajaji was Chief Minister. He brought it not with a view to augmenting the revenues of the Madras Government but only with a view to seeing that the people who used the mill cloth were penalised so that they might be induced to purchase handloom cloth. This was what was stated in the Preamble when the Bill was introduced. I do not remember the exact details of the discussion that took place on the Bill. I speak subject to correction. It was also stated then that the money collected would be utilized to improve and help the handloom industry. I am sure the Hon. the Leader of the House would take note of these things. The officials know that there have been diversion of trade and evasion of tax. The Revenue Board knows all this. When a layman like me knows all that would not the officials and the Revenue Board know that? Therefore, I say, it is time to do away with this obnoxious taxation.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have covered almost all the points. I will refer only to a few more. Yesterday we were happy to receive the Report of an official on enquiry into the working conditions in the beedi industry. Last time not only myself but the Hon. the Deputy Chairman also made a reference to this

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industry. On the eve of elections there was agitation in this industry. We cautioned the Government then not to take hasty steps because it involved a very difficult matter. The state of things in that industry cannot be improved overnight. Therefore, we cautioned the Government to take all the factors into consideration before bringing in any legislation in regard to that industry. Yesterday a Report was placed on the table of the House about that industry. I have not gone through it. But I might here say a word about it. The time has come for the Government to take steps to bring in a Bill and give a square deal to that industry. There may be difficulties in the way as I have already pointed out. People, poor people especially, are manufacturing beedis in their own houses. That is a difficult matter to deal with. But with regard to their wages and their tenure of service, it is really a sad chapter. In the State of Madras—I am told on reliable authority—the people working for twelve to fourteen hours daily in this industry find it difficult to get even Rs. 1-4-0 a day. It is a bad industry in the sense that the people working in the industry, these poor labourers, are affected physically but only get a pittance of Rs. 1-4-0 or Rs. 1-6-0 per day. Further, they are not able to secure work for six days in the week. It is time, therefore, for the Government, after considering the various aspects referred to in the Report, to bring in a Bill to safeguard the interests of the labourers working in that industry and also, at the same time, safeguarding the interests of the employers. I do not mean, when I say that the interests of the labourers should be safeguarded, that the interests of the employers should not be protected. If the employers do not exist, the labourers would not exist. Therefore, we have to strike a *via media* between the interests of the two sections.

Sir, another point, on which a lot has been said by Member after Member not only in this House but, I think, also in the other House as is evident from the reports in the Press, is that the Government have not come out with their policies. Nobody need think our Ministers are ordinary people. They are intelligent people. Now, the only charge against them is that they have not given out their policies. If they had given out their policies, we could criticize and condemn them. Therefore, perhaps they thought, "Why give them the trouble so soon? Let them wait for some time." I do not know whether even during the Budget sittings we would have an inkling of their policies. They are intelligent people, as I said. They know when to come out with the policies and when to avoid doing it.

I wish to refer to only one more matter as I do not want to disappoint the Deputy Leader of the House who is very anxious to have his say . . . (An hon. Member: The Deputy Leader of the Opposition.) One day he may be sitting on the Treasury Benches. (The Hon. Sri R. Venkataraman: We would welcome it.)

I shall now refer to accommodation control and rent control. I think, if I remember aright, it was in the year 1946 that this Act was placed on the statute-book. It has been on the statute-book

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for more than eleven years. All the time we have been hearing so much of the help that has been rendered by the Government of Madras to the people in respect of this matter. They say that so many buildings have been put up, that so many colonies have come up and that so many slums have been cleared. We have seen reports after reports saying that the Government have done so much, that the Corporation has done so much and that so much has been achieved by the City Improvement Trust and other bodies. That being so, I do not understand the reason, the logic behind the retention of the Act in the statute-book. The Government wanted to help only their low-paid servants by placing this Act on the statute-book. But this has created a good deal of hardship and trouble for the small landlords. I know of cases where tenants have their own houses. They are letting them at exorbitant rents but they live in the houses of others paying only a paltry sum of Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 as rent. I am not saying this with any personal motive. This is a fact. Last time when the matter came up before the Council, the then Hon. Minister, the Raja of Ramnad, who was piloting a Bill, said, 'Well, there is a demand for this Bill in the Legislative Assembly. I cannot take into consideration or take cognizance of the views of the Members of the Legislative Council. I do not want to go into what all he said then. What all I want to say in respect of this matter is this. When the Government have removed control particularly over foodstuffs—we are not sorry for that; far from it; we are happy about it—I do not understand the logic or the reason behind the retention of this Act in the statute-book. If the Act were repealed, there may be some trouble. I am sure of that. But I am also sure that things are bound to adjust themselves and improve. I hope and believe that the Government would repeal that Act.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member has only two minutes more.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: I will finish soon, Sir. I am happy that Government took note of one particular suggestion that we made on the floor of this House during the last session. Myself and the hon. Member Sri T. Purushotham were urging on the Government, while speaking on the Supplementary Demands for Grants, to look into the question of the enormous amount spent by the Government of Madras on the maintenance of cars, jeeps, lorries and other vehicles. I am happy that a high official of the Government, Mr. Chettur, has been appointed to go into the matter and submit a report. We are all awaiting the report with interest to see what economy is going to be effected. But it is a known fact—I do not want to particularise people—that whenever a car is given to an official, he seldom uses his own car. I say this not in a spirit of joke. Many times the battery of the official's car runs down because it is not used. This is really a sad state of affairs. When the Government are running short of finance, I feel that it is really wrong on their part to waste money on these things. It can easily be diverted and put to better and proper use.

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The Government are bound to come out before the House with their policies and programmes. I would only tell them, 'Please don't have too many policies and programmes. Have only as many as necessary and possible. (The Hon. Sri R. Venkataraman: Thank you.) The expenditure of the Government is going up enormously. It is a common feature that we find that whenever a department wants a post to be created, it is sanctioned at once. I know this has happened in the Police Department. All the districts have been given a post of an additional Personal Assistant to the District Superintendents. (Interruption.) It is Personal Assistant or something of that kind. Whenever a department wants an additional post to be created the Government are very liberal. Therefore I feel that the time and occasion has come for the Government to scrutinise the state of affairs on the expenditure side and see whether any economy could be effected. I am not one of those who say that people in the services, particularly in the lower ranks, should be disturbed. But I feel very strongly that the time has come for the Madras Government to examine the whole of their expenditure side at all levels district, Board of Revenue and Secretariat. After such an examination, if they feel, as I feel sincerely, that there is some scope for effecting economy, they should better go through that process.

Sir, I will conclude by offering my felicitations to the Hon. the Leader of the House who was not here as he was engaged in piloting a Bill in the other House. You, Sir, congratulated him on his being appointed Minister of this Government. I do not think that is the only thing on which he has to be congratulated. We should congratulate him on his being made Leader of this House. With his experience, I think, he will be really happy to be the Leader of this House because this is a very peculiar House where though we sit facing each other, actually there is no difference between us. Sometimes our speeches excel the speeches of those sitting on the other side. We are a happy family indulging in mutual appreciation. We are incapable of indulging in mutual 4-40
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recrimination because the whole atmosphere is like that. I am sure the Hon. Mr. Venkataraman will feel very happy in this atmosphere of mutual appreciation. Even now I am wondering whether he could make a good speech unless he is provoked sufficiently. Where is the provocation for him unless the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition who is ready to speak now comes to our rescue and makes his usual speech so that we may have a change and we may also hear a very good speech from the Hon. the Leader of the House? Thank you very much, Sir.

* DR. V. K. JOHN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is with a feeling of frustration that many hon. Members of this House speak either on the Governor's Address or on the Budget or on anything else as they feel that the suggestions that they make are not considered by the Government and that the proceedings in this House are a farce. But now it is softened by the way in which you have conducted the debate during the last four days and by the

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beaming smile on the face of the new Leader of the House, Mr. Venkataraman. Sir, with due respect to you and without embarrassing you, I must put it on record that the House is absolutely pleased with the wonderful way in which you have conducted the proceedings of the House during the last four days. No hon. Member has any complaint and I find that you have been very closely and patiently listening to the speeches of hon. Members. When you knew that all the points had been covered, you would tell the hon. Member that he had two minutes more and the hon. Member would resume his seat quite satisfied and with a smile. Everybody has been pleased.

While speaking about you and on the Governor's Address, I must give vent to a widespread and deep feeling among the members of one community that their claims had been ignored or overlooked when the present Cabinet was constituted. I am not one of those who believe that there should be communal representation at all. But if the Government adopt a policy of communal representation, then I think the great Muslim community in this State should have been represented on the Cabinet and, Sir, even without any communal consideration, a person of your ability and public service should very well have been in the Cabinet. I hope the Hon. the Chief Minister to whom this suggestion should be conveyed may hereafter consider it. This feeling is deeply prevalent in that community and also among persons who do not belong to that community like myself.

Secondly, I am glad that a new Leader of the House has been appointed. I always believe that persons when they are in office for a long time grow stale and that certain habits are formed, which is not conducive to good administration. I am happy that there is a change in the leadership of this House. I want to tell the present Leader of the House that slowly but steadily, step by step, measure by measure, this House has been reduced to a position of impotency. The utility and prestige of this House have been destroyed during the last few years. I have to say that, because in this very Hall when Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar was the Chief Minister and I was the Leader of the Opposition, the Opposition never took part in a discussion unless a majority of Ministers were present in this House. Then they used to arrange the sittings of the other House and this House in such a way that the Ministers attended the sittings and were benefited by the suggestions and criticisms made in this House. To-day, Sir, there is hardly any Hon. Minister present except the Hon. the Leader of the House who himself could not be present until a few minutes ago because he had to pilot some Bills in the other House. Other Ministers are neither there nor here. Now, this habit of Ministers being absent from the House when hon. Members speak, has grown up and that has reduced the utility, prestige and usefulness of this House. I would, therefore, request the Hon. the Leader of the House to so arrange the sittings of both the Houses that we do not have a simultaneous sitting of this House and the other House.

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Sir, for many years Bills have not been introduced first in the Council. Under the Constitution, only Money Bills must be introduced first in the Assembly. Other Bills can be introduced here but this House has been shabbily treated with hardly any Bill being introduced in this House. When Bills are introduced here, the Government could have better contribution from this House than from the other House. By saying this, I am not disparaging the other House. But I must point out that most of the Members of this House are elders.

Now, I want to refer to another matter. All the Bills passed by the other House come to this House the same day or the next day. According to rule 126, three days' time must be given after placing a Bill on the table of the House, for discussion. I ask you, Sir—you have been a Member of this House and you have been present here—whether there has been any instance during the last three or four years where a Bill was laid on the table of the House for discussion in accordance with rule 126? No time to study the Bill or to give notice of amendments was given. In fact, when I was the Leader of the Opposition in this House before the introduction of the new Constitution, I strongly protested when an attempt was made to rush through a Bill and said that the Opposition would not take part in the discussion, and the then President of the Council would not waive the rule. But, now, on this side there are some responsive and sympathetic persons who readily agree to waive three days' notice for the introduction of the Bill in this House. A Bill is passed in the morning in the Assembly, brought here in the afternoon or the next day, rushed through and is passed. I am not attempting to put the blame on anybody. This has been the habit. The utility of this House—and I am glad the Hon. the Leader of the House belongs to this House and the maintenance of its prestige and usefulness is his responsibility primarily—has been destroyed by the habit which has grown up for the last few years. Every hon. Member of this House dealing with legislative measures and Bills has regretted that instead of there being an exception to the rule, the exception has become the rule. Not only Bills are rushed through but not even one amendment of ours is accepted by the Government. Suggestions are made in this House, not only from our side but from the other side also, but the Government would never take into consideration even the suggestions given by Members of their side. Sri Bhashyam when he was here used to make very good suggestions; then the hon. Members Sri T. Purushotham and Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar who did not always agree with the Government made suggestions, but they were never accepted by the Government.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : It is a family matter!

* DR. V. K. JOHN : But the suggestions are made in the House; the suggestions are public. But the Government would not accept one amendment, for they did not want to go back with the amended Bill to the Assembly. Sir, in the Conference of

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Speakers and Chairmen of Legislative Councils which we had here last year, I spoke to almost every Chairman in the States other than Madras. I want to tell you, Sir, and it will be found, if the Hon. the Leader of the House would examine the proceedings of the Upper Houses in other States, that dozen after dozen of amendments have been accepted by the Government and sent back to the Assembly explaining the circumstances necessitating the acceptance of the amendments. If we look at the measures and Bills which the Government have introduced—and according to the Governor's Address, they are going to introduce many this year, all are Amending Bills, amending the 1955 Act, amending the 1951 Act, and so on. These frequent amendments of Acts are not complimentary to the Government. They are rushing through any number of amendments every year and these amendments are never carried out in the books of the lawyers; the amendments are not available to us to quote before Courts. Why? Because everything is rushed through. The Government do not take advantage of the learning, wisdom and experience of the hon. Members of this House when they move amendments. I would request the Hon. the Leader of the House to make this House really useful and see that this House functions as a useful body and thus raise its prestige both here and outside. I want the Government to realise that when I make suggestions here, I do so not as Dr. John, but as a representative of the Graduates; but if Burke's theory is accepted, I speak as a representative of every man in the State. It is in that representative character that Members both in this House and in the other House make their suggestions and not as private individuals. If I am making my suggestions as Dr. John, I do not mind if the Hon. Ministers are not listening; but when I speak as a representative, it is but fair that I should be heard.

Having said this, I regret to say that the Governor's Address which we are discussing—the Governor, of course, is not responsible for the Address—is the poorest Address ever delivered to a House of Legislature. Sir, the Governor's Address is like a white paper. There has been a convention which has been established for a long time on account of the criticisms made by us on the floor of the House that the Governor's Address must be distinguished from the Budget Speech. The Governor's Address, by convention and by practice, must be absolutely different from the Budget Speech; it must contain the policy and the programme of the Government. What does this Address say? It says that the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech—I am referring to paragraph 15—would deal with the policies and programmes of the new Ministry. What does this show? He does not even say that the Finance Minister would deal further with the policies and programmes of the new Ministry. The policy and programme of the Government are left entirely to the Finance Minister to deal with. Every year there is a Governor's Address and every year there is a Budget Speech. I suggest that the Hon. Sri Venkataraman must take particular care to see that the established convention in regard to the Governor's Address is maintained. The Governor's Address

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is meant for one thing and the Budget Speech for another. Let us not make them overlapping and let us not have overlapping discussions and debates. I say that the convention has been and ought to be that the Governor's Address must give us the problems facing the State and the various steps, the short-term and the long-term measures, that the Government would be taking to solve these problems. What are the problems facing this State? They are the problems of unemployment, poverty and want of proper housing. We do not have a Welfare State at all. What is a Welfare State? It is one in which every person who could be gainfully employed would be employed; where the people would be provided with food, clothing, shelter, sanitary conditions of life, medical assistance, education, recreation and social securities such as provision for unemployment, for old age, for widows and orphans and others in need. Now, if we want to establish a Welfare State, those are our problems. How do we solve those problems? What is the short-term solution? What is the long-term solution? If only the Governor's Address had mentioned those problems and how the Government proposed to solve them, it would have been better. My hon. Friend here, the Whirl of the Opposition said that the Ministers were clever and that they would not tell us the solutions they had in view. Well it is a left-handed compliment. If the Government had presented the problems to this House where there are Members who can give them some suggestions, they could have had that advantage of considering those suggestions. Therefore, I say that this Governor's Address is defective not only in not giving the problems, in not giving the way those problems are to be solved, but in going out of the way and deliberately saying that 'it is not my job, it is the job of the Finance Minister to say in his Budget Speech'. Now, I ask what is the Governor's Address for? Is it for fun? Did the Constitution lay down that fiction, this Governor's Address, for nothing? Is four days' time of this House spent for nothing? This Address ought to tell us the policies and programmes of the Government, the problems which face us with their solutions.

Sir, the Governor's Address is defective in other respects also. There is no continuity at all. Every time I speak on the Governor's Address, I have been saying that the man who writes one Address ought to be given copies of the previous Addresses of Governors. This time also—I do not know who wrote it—he did not read the previous Address of Shri Sri Prakasa delivered on the 8th August 1956. In that Address Shri Sri Prakasa has referred to linguistic homogeneity. Shri Sri Prakasa said after dealing with linguistic homogeneity, 'It is incumbent on us to safeguard the legitimate interests of these persons, especially in the matter of education in the mother-tongue; and, therefore, the transition would have to be gradual, well-thought out, to avoid hardship and controversy.' He was speaking about linguistic minorities. Does the Address under discussion say one word about it? Nothing at all. We are entitled to know what the Government are doing with regard to linguistic minorities. On the basis

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of linguistic homogeneity, why should we not claim Pondicherry? Why should it be under the direct control of the Government of India?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It will mean bringing hornets' nest about one's ears.

* DR. V. K. JOHN : It may, but on the floor of the House we should certainly ask for Pondicherry State also on the basis of linguistic homogeneity. But I am not on this now. Shri Sri Prakasa has stated in another portion of his Address delivered on the 8th August 1956, regarding the cyclone, 'We are now preparing a housing scheme under which about 5,000 pucca houses will be constructed in the worst affected areas for the use of Harijans and the poor folk who have lost their dwellings'. Should we not know something about this, when the Government contemplated the construction of about 5,000 houses last year? Should we not know whether the houses have been constructed or not? Why is there no continuity between the Address of the 8th August 1956 and the present Address? The Government raise hopes in the minds of the public and the legislators, and then they think that the public would not have the previous Address with them to verify the statements and that they would have thrown it into the waste paper basket. Then, I come to the Governor's Address regarding Education. In paragraph 16 of the Address of the 8th August 1956, it is stated. The White Paper on Education has been before the public and this Legislature and discussions on the new educational policy for the State are still going on. The Government hope to record decisions on these matters expeditiously and commence implementing them during the course of the year. Not one word is said in the present Address as to whether the decisions are being implemented. I find in the Address that this matter is under the active consideration of the Government. The Governor assures us that it is not under inactive consideration but under the active consideration of the Government. Last year they said that the Government hoped to implement the decisions in that year itself. Now, they say that the matter is under active consideration.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is still under consideration.

* DR. V. K. JOHN : What is meant by 'under consideration of the Government'? It means that there is red-tapism. Red-tapism means that it is never considered at all. I say the Governor's Address is defective on two grounds. Departing deliberately from the convention of dealing with policies and programmes and not ensuring continuity, this Address is the poorest Address ever delivered to the Houses. I say this without any disrespect for the Governor. The Address is prepared by the Ministry though it is delivered by the Governor. We are only discussing the Address as a convention. The Governor is not responsible for the Address.

There are three impediments in the way of implementing any plan in this State or in any other State. The first is that there is financial maladjustment between the State and the Centre. We

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are always begging for loans and grants, and we do not know what we are getting. We have borrowed very heavily from the Government of India. Money is collected from this State. In this connection, I very deeply sympathise with the D.M.K. movement. The D.M.K. Party has come into the Assembly in large numbers. On account of the maladjustment between the State and the Centre, we are unable to plan. We have no money, and the money is collected by the Centre. We must go and beg of them. I ask the Leader of this House to record—I think I am voicing the opinion of every Member of this House, not only of the Opposition—that this maladjustment must go. The second impediment is that there is too much interference by the Centre with every department in our State. The Leader of the Opposition spoke about it. The Government of India have a lot of money. They have got three dozen Ministers and so many departments. They do not know what to do with the money and what to do with the Ministers. This is nonsense. The Government of India ought not to interfere with the administration of the State Government. There must be decentralization. Why should the Government of India interfere with every department and with every economic or social activity of the State Government? We do not know how to manage our affairs? This is another reason why we are not able to plan. Then there is the third reason. The Government of India, because they have got plenty of our own money, pay their servants very much higher than what we can afford to pay to our servants. The result is that our Government servants are discontented. Why should this happen? This is one country. The Government of India are paying an employee of theirs Rs. 100 while the Madras Government pay a similar employee Rs. 50 or Rs. 60. This disparity must go. If this disparity does not go, I say we can never plan and carry on the administration (Interruption). I am not against the rate of pay given to Central Government servants. The rates must be the same for both. (SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR : You can increase the taxes to give higher salaries.) We cannot increase the taxes. I ask every Minister and even the Leader of the House to undergo apprenticeship with a tailor just to know how to cut the coat according to the cloth. We cannot increase the taxes beyond a certain amount. (THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Excepting myself, others have given up coats.) My point is that on account of these three factors, namely, financial maladjustment between the Centre and the State, the Centre's interference in the State Government's administration, and the Centre's payment to their employees of higher salaries, we cannot have any planning at all. I ask the Government of India to concentrate their attention on the question whether the Government of India should be a Federation, where the States will have autonomy, or whether it should be a unitary State where there will be no States. What is our Union? It is neither a Federation nor a Unitary State. It is a combination of the two—neither fish nor flesh. We are groping in the dark. I say, 'Make it a Federation or make it a Unitary State'.

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Then, Sir, another point which I want the Government to pay very serious attention to is with reference to our borrowings. In 1955 our borrowings were more than Rs. 110 crores, towards the interest of which, according to the figures supplied to us by the Government, we have to pay about 1/10th of our income. This is a ridiculous state of affairs. The amount has now gone up to Rs. 126 crores because even last year we borrowed. We invested Rs. 2 crores on some fertiliser company, (The Travancore Fertilisers). The paid up share of this company was Rs. 10 for a share. Now, it is quoted in the market at the rate of Rs. 5. We have lost more than Rs. 1 crore. Why go on investing our money like this? Why borrow money? Cannot the Government stop this? It is a very wrong thing to mortgage the future assets of the coming generation. When the Government borrow, they must utilize the borrowed money in such a way that it produces something by way of investment. The Government never do that. I ask the Government whether they have got Rs. 5 crores from their investments? They have not. They have got Rs. 3½ crores out of investments on electricity. In the case of irrigation, they have none. Rs. 3½ crores do not cover even the interest on the money that the Government have borrowed. Is this good Government? In the Governor's Address the Government have not disclosed that they borrowed Rs. 125 crores and that they are paying six crores of rupees as interest alone. The House is kept in the dark in respect of these matters.

One fundamental mistake exhibited in the Address and in all Government documents is that they only go on saying that they have spent so much on this and so much on that. But is there any statement about the results of that expenditure and spending? Have the Government ever given us particulars as to what they have achieved? The Government are, of course, spending huge sums of money. That might be a wasteful expenditure or beneficial expenditure. We know nothing at all about what they have achieved. When next they draft the Address, they must tell us how much they have achieved in addition to telling us how much they have spent.

Now, coming to the achievements of the Government, what is it that they have achieved? They say that the Five-Year Plan is the most important thing. I quite agree with that. In the Five-Year Plan what are they going to do? I think this Plan must have two fundamental objectives and only two. The first is to increase the purchasing power of the masses. Government must touch every family and see that it earns more. Government must first concentrate on increasing the income of every family and not be content with appointing block level officers, village level officers and so on. The other day while I was at Kodaikanal, I attended a Seminar on Community Development as a non-official delegate. I found the discussions mainly centred round women's programme, cottage industries, agriculture and health. I found that almost the whole of the money was being spent away on administration, in appointing village level officers and others. The Government are groping in the dark. I asked them to take up the rehabilitation of poor families in productive employment. Note it, rehabilitation

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and not relief, self-help and not charity. Every family must be enabled to rehabilitate itself. Have they done that? The village leadership should devote attention to rehabilitation of poor families. The Government must give away 90 per cent of the amount earmarked for these plans as credit facilities to Co-operative societies. I shall illustrate the scheme of rehabilitation by what we propose to do in Kodaikanal. I am glad the Hon. the Chief Minister is here now to hear of this scheme of rehabilitation of poor families in Kodaikanal. There are thousand such poor families there to be rehabilitated. We had a conference to discuss it. The conference was attended by Sri Rajaram, Joint Development Commissioner, to whom I must pay a compliment for his pluck and push, the District Collector of Madurai, the Director of Industries, the Registrar of Co-operative Societies Sri Palaniappan to whom also I must pay a compliment as a person with a great service mentality, Dr. Gurupatham, Dr. Aryanayakam and others. The conference came to the conclusion that the poor families in Kodaikanal should be rehabilitated. The rehabilitation is in three stages. The first stage is that the Co-operative Society should acquire and give each family 36 pedigree birds. The property will belong to the society until paid for. These birds can be looked after by ten-year-old boys and girls and by old men and women. These birds will give the family a net income of Rs. 300 a month. Out of this a hundred rupees may be given to the family which was getting only Rs. 30 or Rs. 40 before the first stage of rehabilitation and a hundred rupees will be set apart as capital for the society. The balance of hundred rupees will be accumulated for the next stage of rehabilitation. What is the next stage? It is to give the families each a pedigree cow or buffalo. That will increase the income again by a hundred rupees. Then we go to the third stage. Give every poor family out of their own accumulated savings two acres of land to grow crops and fruit trees and to keep their animals and birds. All this can be done in two years' time. I am pleased the Hon. the Chief Minister who is most interested in the rehabilitation of poor families—he is of the masses and with the masses—whose heart is in rehabilitating these poor families and increasing the purchasing power of these families, has taken over the Community Development portfolio. I want to assure him that this experiment would succeed in Kodaikanal. If it were to succeed there, it will make history. They will be able to supply thousands of pedigree birds to other parts of the State and the country and help in the rehabilitation of other poor families by engaging them in productive employment. I am responsible for this scheme of rehabilitation in Kodaikanal. Every family which is now getting Rs. 30 or Rs. 40 a month will be getting Rs. 500 or Rs. 600 a month in Kodaikanal and those families there will be supplying to other places thousands of chicks and eggs. The central idea in this scheme of co-operative endeavour is this: We have two classes of members in the Co-operative Society, beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. As a non-beneficiary member, I give a loan to the Co-operative Societies to rehabilitate these families and take no benefit

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from the society. Similarly others also may give loans. The well-to-do people will help the poor families to engage themselves in productive employment. This is what the Community Development Department, in my opinion, should and ought to do. If the Community Development work is to be a success, the Government should be able to tell us that they have rehabilitated poor families in productive employment and that their income and, therefore, their purchasing power also have increased.

The object of the Community Development Scheme should not only be to rehabilitate poor families in productive employment, thus increasing their purchasing power but also to increase the purchasing power of the rupee. The other day I was reading through the Address delivered by the President of the United States to the Congress. In that address what did he tell them? He said that he had two objects, first to increase the purchasing power of all people and second to increase the purchasing power of the dollar. What is the rupee worth now? It is worth only four or five annas. If you put a thousand rupees in a man's pocket, it is worth only three or four hundred rupees. The purchasing power of the rupee depends mainly on increased production. Therefore, we have first to increase the purchasing power of the masses on which the revenue of the Government depends. The second is to increase the purchasing power of the rupee. How can this be done? It can only be done through production and increased production. I have spent a lot of time, labour and money on research on the rehabilitation schemes. I have spent more than Rs. 15,000 on these experiments. I have done it all silently without giving publicity in the Press. I have come to the conclusion that the only way in which we can do any social service which is effective, is to rehabilitate poor families in productive employment. In no other way can the poor families be rehabilitated. Never give charities. It is very wrong to give charities. People must be made to work. They must be taught to depend on self-help and not on charity; they must be taught to rehabilitate themselves and not depend on relief. I believe these suggestions I have made would be taken into consideration. I won't mind even if they are rejected. But I only submit that a Member of this House should have the feeling not of frustration but have the feeling that this House has a utility, has a prestige and that everything that is said in this House will be considered by the Government of Madras. In this connection, I must repeat that the present arrangement of the sittings of the two Houses is done in such a way that the Ministers cannot be present in both the Houses. The practice is for one Minister to be present here and one or two in the other House and give the idle explanation that the one Minister here will take note of the points made by hon. Members and communicate them or discuss them with other Ministers. I know they will not do this. I am quite sure about it. The Hon. the Chief Minister will not know what the hon. Member Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar spoke on the floor of the House, very valuable words, a few minutes back. Even the Hon. the Leader of the House was not here. I am not saying all

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this in a complaining mood or in a spirit of finding fault with the Hon. the Leader of the House. When important Members of this House speak and give important suggestions, the Hon. the Leader of the House should make himself available to this House, and make this House useful.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, I am sorry I have taken longer time than I expected. I have taken five more minutes because the Hon. the Chief Minister came in when I was speaking and I decided to speak at greater length on the scheme of rehabilitation of poor families in productive employment.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Mr. Deputy Chair- 5.20
man, Sir, I fail to find words of adequate expression for the varied p.m.
warmth and cordial welcome which hon. Members of all sides of the House have extended to me. I take it as an expression of sympathy towards a new-comer and a promise of full and effective co-operation in the discharge of the onerous duties which have fallen on my shoulders. I join with hon. Members of this House in paying our tribute to Shri Sri Prakasa who had endeared himself during his term of office, to the people of this State. I also join with hon. Members in welcoming the new Governor who is no stranger to us and who has been with us in many walks of life.

Sir, the distinguished Leader of the Opposition took exception to the manner in which the Governor's Address had been drafted. The hon. Member Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar and to-day the distinguished Deputy Leader of the Opposition reinforced those objections. I have carefully gone through the speeches from the Throne delivered by the King or the Queen and I must confess that those precedents are less informative about the policies of the Government than our speeches from the Governors have been. Therefore, I do not think that there is really any great error of omission, as has been pointed out by many hon. Members here, on the part of the Governor in the speech which he has delivered. If hon. Members would kindly refer to Article 176 of the Constitution, they would see that the Governor has to give only the causes for the summons of the Legislature and this being the Budget Session, the Governor's Address naturally stated that the main purpose of the summons was for hon. Members to meet and discuss the Budget and pass it. In the course of the discussions on the Budget as well as the passing of Demands for Grants, the policies and programmes of the Government would be explained to hon. Members by the Minister for Finance. Sir, at the same time, I take it that there is a general desire on the part of hon. Members in this House that the Governor's Address should not be strictly that of the speech from the Throne but that it should contain more information about the policies and programmes of the Government. I shall take note of it and convey to the Government the feelings of the House.

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Sir, the task of getting the Motion of Thanks approved by this House has been considerably lightened by the very able way in which the Mover of the Resolution explained the salient features in the Governor's Address. With choice diction and a charming plea, the hon. Member Srimathi Jothi Vencatachellum mentioned all the important features of the Governor's Address and made a powerful plea for its unanimous acceptance. Precedents on the discussion on the Governor's Address show that this is an occasion when the Opposition tries not only to point out the defects in the various administrative functions of the Government but very largely concentrate on the principles and programmes of the Government. While considerable criticism is levelled against the various items relating to the administration of each department during the Budget discussion, normally only principles and policies are criticized during the discussion on the Governor's Address. And, from that point of view, I am unable to reply to some hon. Members who have specially dealt with problems relating to industry in their own particular district like Salem—Sri Subramanyam or Sri V. K. Palaniswami Gounder—and I am also unable to devote much attention to the problems of teachers so powerfully voiced by the hon. Members, Sri Krishnamoorthy and Sri Srinivasavaradan. I propose to take for reply only those particular aspects of administrative policy which have been mentioned by hon. Members in this House.

Elections came in for some criticism at the hands of the distinguished Leader of the Opposition and a few others. I am sure that every citizen in India and every elected representative of the people would join with me in paying our humble tribute to the very efficient and excellent manner in which the Election Commission functioned during the elections. The Election Commission functioned with utmost impartiality and with a sense of fairness which is a model for many countries to copy. If we would only compare the system of elections prevalent in South-East Asian countries or for that matter in the Asian-African group of countries, we would have every reason to congratulate ourselves that we have freedom of elections which is comparable with the best in the world. I do not say that there is no room for improvement and that we have reached the summit of our achievements. On the contrary, there is considerable need for improvement in the conduct of elections not on the part of Government servants and not on the part of the Election Commission but on the part of ourselves who contest the elections. Parties indiscriminately attacked each other. Parties indiscriminately charged each other and they did not live up to the high traditions of a democratic election. I do hope that with the experience we are now gaining, we shall soon learn to respect each other although we may be contesting a seat from opposite sides and to honour a political rival as we would respect a personal friend.

“ Sir, the distinguished Leader of the Opposition drew attention to the enormous expenditure that was involved in these Elections.

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That is a charge which, I am quite sure the House would agree with me, should be laid at the door of not one party, but of all parties. And the parties which pretended to be of proletariat origin and parties which pretended to be representatives of the lowest and the poorest in the country spent as much, if not more, on certain occasions as those who are declared representatives of the people. In this connection, the distinguished Leader of the Opposition also referred to the amendment of the Company Law which permitted contributions of a certain percentage towards charitable or other purposes and he said that this was likely to lead to abuse. I am sorry, Sir, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition is not here. But I would humbly ask hon. Members of the Opposition whether these business magnates did not, before the passing of the Company Law (Amendment) Act, contribute to political parties for their election purposes. Have they not without restriction made these contributions? The attempt in the Company Law (Amendment) Act to restrict such contributions to 10 per cent is a step in the right direction.

Dr. V. K. JOHN : May I also point out that the Bombay High Court has held that in making contributions to charities and contributions to political bodies, the Memorandum has to be amended by the Companies if they want to do so?

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Yes, Sir, in relation to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of that particular company. But I am talking of the Company Law (Amendment) Act as passed by Parliament. Therefore, Sir, I would say that it is far from being a wrong step; I would say that it is a step in the right direction, because it restricts the contributions made by particular companies. Before the Amendment, they used to make contributions without any limit and that is a fact which is known to everybody in the House. In this connection, I must also say that as Members begin to realize that the honour of being a Member of the Legislature is not worth that purchase, they would also cease to spend as much as they are now spending and the natural corrective to expenditure will grow from within.

Then, Sir, reference was made to the disturbing food situation in the country and the Government were charged with being in a complacent mood. Sir, the criticism of the food situation in the country as expressed in this House was erring on the side of being alarmist. The situation is not as bad as was painted before this House. Even today we would have noticed that the Central Government have said that they would import enough foodstuffs for the purpose of distribution of food to every needy area in the country and in the State and that the crops also have been fairly good, taking into account the entire country. Of course, there have been occasions when there has been a failure of crops—in certain districts—and that is particularly true as the Governor's Address itself admits, in Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari and a few districts in the South. But then it need not make us take a very alarmist view of

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the situation. If we in the Legislature would give the impression to the people that the food situation is in a bad state, that itself will lead to hoarding and an aggravation of the situation. I want to make it emphatically clear to the people of this State that the food situation is well under control, that the Government are in a position to handle the situation and that the people of this State can rest assured of adequate supply of food in all the areas.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : The price factor is there.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I am coming to that. The next criticism that was levelled against the Government was that the disturbing food situation was the result of tenancy laws which had been passed by this Government and that if the agriculturist had a quiet mind that his possession would not be disturbed and that he could at least look forward to retaining the fruits of his labour, there would be greater incentive to production. The hon. Member Mr. Balasubramanya Ayyar went further and said that it was because of the Tenants Protection Act which was passed by the Government that the incentive to production of food had been reduced. The hon. Member Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar went still further and in the picturesque language which he is capable of using, said that the "landowners were in perpetual tremor" and that "landowners were butchered to death". Sir, to a student of history it is a recurring phenomenon that the properties of landed classes from the days of feudalism have been in 'perpetual tremor' of losing their vested interests in property. Society has not suffered by the various land legislations that have been passed in other countries and in earlier times of history. I would say that owners of property should march with the times with the realization that equitable readjustments are inevitable in a progressive society.

Then, Sir, the next point raised was that even though food might be made available, the cost of it was rising and that the prices should be controlled. Sir, it is not always very easy, however efficient a Government may be, however able a Government may be, to control the forces of action and reaction in respect of economic factors. To a certain extent, we are trying to regulate, but nobody has ever been able to control completely the economic factors which go to determine the price of any commodity. In so far as fluctuations take place in the ordinary and normal course without very serious disturbance to the price level, the Government would not very much interfere with that movement. But, certainly, when the price shows a tendency to go on increasing and the consequent effect of such rise in price is to increase the cost of living, I am quite sure the Government would step in to protect the consumer against any abnormal rise in prices. Sir, when I say this, we do not contemplate any recourse to controls at all, but it would be by better supplies through channels which would make food available to the people.

Then, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar and a few other hon. Members complained very

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bitterly about hasty legislation. When the hon. Member Dr. John was speaking and complaining bitterly about the indifferent treatment given to the Council, I was expecting him to march next into the favourite subject of his, 'hasty legislation'. It is true, Sir, that in those days maintenance of law and order was the only function of the Government, and they had ample time to read the debate, deliberate, and spend a lot of time over the discussion on Bills. But due to the ever-expanding activities of the Government, it has become less and less possible to afford the same time which the Government gave in the past to legislations. I would say that situations arise in this country which call for urgent legislation, and unless the Government tackle those situations urgently, they would be failing in their duties. May I amend the charge and say that it is not 'hasty legislation' but it is really 'urgent legislation'? That is the feature of modern Government administration. I may, at the same time, assure Dr. John and other Members of the House that we shall endeavour our utmost to see that ample opportunity is given for the consideration of Bills and also consider the very valuable suggestion made by Dr. John that Bills, or some of them at any rate, should be introduced in this House.

Another suggestion which was made during the course of the debate related to the establishment of advisory committees to be attached to each Ministry. The system of advisory committees to be attached to the Ministry was thought of as an expedient in the pre-Independence days as a method of association non-official opinion with the bureaucratic administration. After Independence and after the people's representatives have taken charge of the administration, I do not think the idea of associating non-officials with the administration is appropriate. Nor is there any precedent for such association in the Commonwealth Parliaments. In the British Parliament, there is no such system. Before the inauguration of the Indian Republican Parliament, we had the system of advisory committees attached to each Ministry, but after the inauguration of the Republican Parliament, that system has been given up. Sir, the responsibility for the administration is rightly and squarely on the shoulders of the Minister in charge. Any attempt even to share it with somebody would not be the best way of extracting that responsibility from the person who assumes charge. I am unable to agree with hon. Members who have suggested a revival of this system for this reason, namely, that it appears inappropriate in the modern system of democratic administration.

From the cool, placid and non-controversial debate that proceeded the other day, we jumped into very critical speeches from my esteemed friend Sri V. Gurunandan Row and the distinguished Members representing the Teachers' Constituency, Sri Srinivasavaradan and Sri Krishnamoorthy. The hon. Member Sri Gurunandan Row appeared to be very angry with the Government for what they had done to solve the dispute relating to the plantation workers. I have been associated with the plantation workers' union from 1946, and in the tripartite conference in 1948, we

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secured for the plantation workers a small increase of about four annas in their wages. Subsequently in 1950, there was the Minimum Wages Committee which raised their wages to one rupee and five annas. Thereafter, there was adjudication in respect of wages, bonus, and other conditions of employment of the plantation workers. The award was given after a long time—nearly after four years. The delay was caused by the employers taking the matter to the High Court questioning the jurisdiction of the tribunal to hear the dispute. After waiting for five long years, the workers got an award, but very soon, the Supreme Court stayed even that award from coming into operation. I ask the hon. Member Sri V. Gurunandan Row whether it is not wisdom on the part of workers who have been waiting for such a long time to come to a compromise and accept something, on the analogy of 'a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush', instead of waiting again for another five years. At any rate, the decision was not taken by the Government. It was a decision taken by the responsible leadership of the trade union. It was a decision taken by one section which wanted to bury the hatchet and work at a certain wage level in the hope that later on they might be able to improve upon it. I have also realized that certain other sections were not satisfied with that decision. They are free even now to take the case to the Supreme Court and got the decision of the Supreme Court.

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW : May I ask, Sir, why then the agreement was entered into for five years, if the workers were to get something within a shorter time?

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The agreement was, I must again repeat, entered into by the workers. The workers knew their interest. They thought that the Supreme Court would take three years to decide a matter like this. In order to get the best from the other side, they entered into an agreement. I also believe that in entering into an agreement, there will be some breathing time for both sides to make a settlement before they again raise this dispute. This is the story of the plantation award. The hon. Member Sri V. Gurunandan Row said that it was shameful on the part of the Government to have brought about this agreement. In the first place, I deny that the Government brought about the agreement. The Government only facilitated the agreement between the workers and the planters. In the second place, I must say that the vocabulary of abuse is not limited, nor is it the monopoly of only one hon. Member. In any event, I must say that it does not replace arguments. Therefore, Sir, I must explain to the House that this decision, which was taken by the plantation workers, was, according to their lights, the best that they could take under the circumstances. If others are not satisfied, I may assure the hon. Member Sri V. Gurunandan Row that the Government will not force them to accept the decision. The Government will allow them to fight their case in the Supreme Court and get all the benefits that they can. If they succeed, probably the workers who have

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entered into the agreement will surely be benefited by it. (An hon. Member : There are chances of their losing.) I want to be an optimist. 5-50 P.m.

Sir, reference was made to the Magnesite Corporation. The Government are very anxious to see that the resources of this State are not wasted. But when they find that rival companies try to outdo each other and come forward with pernicious complaints about legality and validity, Government do not easily fall a victim to such representations. The hon. Member Sri Gurunandan Row said that the lease was void and illegal and that the company was still keeping the lease on. In the first place, the lease would expire on the 1st of January 1959. In the second place, the lease may be contrary to rules. But I would like to take legal advice from the hon. Member Sri Row whether every lease or every document contrary to rules is a void document or an illegal document.

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW : The Hon. Minister may consult his own staff in the Legal Department. According to me, it is void. He can consult his own legal experts about it.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Nor do the Government believe in raising a lot of legal disputes when they are assured that even in the next year or so the lease itself would expire.

Sir, the teachers were very critical of the Government. They said that they would much rather see the children of India go without education than be educated by the untrained teachers. I must join issue with my distinguished Colleagues in this House. It is one of the principles of State policy that we should encourage education as quickly and as early as possible and I am sure that the children in the primary schools will not be ruined if they are educated by untrained teachers. If we have to wait for educating our children till we get trained teachers, perhaps we may have to wait for eternity because the rate of growth of population, I am afraid, is far greater than the growth of trained teachers. (Laughter.) (An hon. Member : Unfortunate.) Therefore, Government are unable to accept this suggestion.

Certain other suggestions were made about raising the age of retirement of teachers. They will be considered in proper time and I should like to say that they would be germane to a discussion on the Education Budget.

Sir, I have not had the opportunity of hearing the speech of the hon. Member Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar and part of the speech of the hon. and distinguished Member Sri Mohamed Raza Khan. I think I am the poorer for it. If I am unable to reply to some of the points which they have raised, I am deeply sorry for it. But I shall take note of what all they have said and on the proper occasion meet some of their points.

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The hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Dr. John, was, of course, very vehement in his usual manner about the discourtesy shown to this House. May I assure him that I have joined his fraternity and I shall not take any discourtesy from anybody? It is, as I said in the beginning, not a deliberate intent on the part of Government to be discourteous to anybody. The exigencies of administration sometimes make the Government resort to expeditious procedures and they should not be considered as discourtesy to the House. But, in any event, I may assure the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Dr. John, and my other colleagues in this House that we shall give no room for complaints of this kind in the days ahead of us and that we shall try to make the best use of this House. (Cheers.)

Sir, before I conclude, I must pay my warm tribute to the able manner in which you conducted the proceedings of this House. (Cheers.) You did not make us feel that you are a stranger occupying the rightful place of the Chairman. On the contrary, you made us feel at home as if you were born to the heritage. (Cheers.) To the sceptics about the utility of a Second Chamber, I intend offering an invitation to visit the Madras Legislative Council. (Cheers.) In its composition, in the wide and vast experience of its Members and in the high level of debate that takes place in this House, the justification for a Second Chamber is established. (Cheers.) I look forward to very happy association with all of you in the next few years. Sir, I suggest that the Motion which has already been moved may be adopted unanimously. (Cheers.) Thank you.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Only one amendment has been moved by the hon. Member Sri Mohamed Raza Khan. I wish to know whether in view of the reply by the Leader of the House, he desires to withdraw his amendment or press it.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : After hearing the fine speech delivered by the Hon. the Leader of the House, I do not propose to press my amendment.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is—

“ That an humble Address be presented to the Governor that the Members of the Madras Legislative Council thank him for the Address delivered to the Members of the Legislature on the 1st May 1957 ”.

The motion was put and carried.

II.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *RE* MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have to announce to the House that I have received the following message, dated the 7th May 1957, from the Hon. the Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly :—

“ In accordance with rule 114 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras General Sales Tax, Sales of Motor

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Spirit Taxation and Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1957 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1957), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 7th May 1957 and signed by me, for the recommendation of the Council.

“ I certify that this is a Money Bill within the meaning of Article 199 of the Constitution of India.”

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The House will now adjourn and meet again at 3 p.m. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned.

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

* *Report on the Enquiry into the working conditions in Beedi Industry in Madras State.*

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 8th May 1957.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, the Deputy Chairman (SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAJ) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Grant of mining lease to the Magnesite Syndicate, Limited

* 2 Q.—SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from the citizens of Salem as to the validity of mining lease granted to the Magnesite Syndicate, Limited; if so, what they are and the action taken thereon;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to take over and run the Magnesite Mines themselves; and

(c) whether the Government have received any application for a mining lease in respect of the same area and, if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: (a) Yes, Sir. It was pointed out in these representations that the mining lease granted to the Magnesite Syndicate, Ltd., Salem, should be treated as void on the grounds that the area covered by the lease was not in conformity with the provisions of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1949, and that the connected lease deed was not executed by the company within six months after leave was granted for such execution as required under these rules. The lease was originally granted in the year 1899 for a period of 30 years and renewed in the year 1929 for a like period. The Government have considered the representations and decided that even if the technical irregularities pointed out were true, it would not be fair to cancel the lease at the fag end of the lease period and that the lease which is to expire on 10th January 1959 should be allowed to run its course, by rectifying the alleged irregularities, if any. Accordingly, the question whether there are any irregularities as alleged and if so, how they are to be rectified is under the consideration of the Government.

(b) No, Sir. But the general question of reserving certain minerals in this State including the magnesite deposits in Salem district for State exploitation is under the Government's consideration.

(c) Yes, Sir. The application was rejected on the ground that it was for the portion of the areas already held on mining lease and as such was premature.

[8th May 1957]

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: Sir, may I ask whether the Government have already passed orders refusing to transfer the lease from the Magnesite Syndicate, Ltd., to Messrs. Burn & Co., Ltd.?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: That matter is under consideration.

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: Have the Government communicated their decision that the transfer has been rejected to the company which applied for the lease?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Yes, Sir.

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: Are the Government reconsidering the question of allowing the transfer of lease to Messrs. Burn and Company from the Magnesite Syndicate, Limited?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I have already stated that the matter is under consideration. The lease will expire only in January 1959 and there is no hurry to decide the question now.

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: The Government have passed orders that the transfer would not be allowed. Now, are the Government reconsidering the question of allowing transfer?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I think the hon. Member is labouring under a misapprehension. The application by a new company, that is, Tiffin Barrets, was rejected. The application by Messrs. Burn and Company for transfer is still under consideration.

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: The transfer cannot be asked for by Messrs. Burn and Company but only by the Magnesite Syndicate, Limited. Once an order has been passed, the only remedy available to the party is to appeal to the Central Government.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: As the matter is under consideration, this aspect will also be considered.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: May I know from whom representation has been received by the Government?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Representation has been received from a particular gentleman—I do not want to mention the name of the individual—and also from Members representing Assembly and Parliamentary constituencies.

SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI: இப்போது ஒப்பந்தத்திலுள்ள கம்பெனி எந்த நாட்டைச் சேர்ந்தது? புதிதாக குத்தகைக்குவிட மறுக்கப்படுகிற கம்பெனி எந்த நாட்டைச் சேர்ந்தது?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: இப்போது நடக்கிற கம்பெனி வெள்ளைக்காரக் கம்பெனி. இது ஆங்கில நாட்டைச் சேர்ந்தது. அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுத்திருக்கும் லீஸ் இன்னும் முடியவில்லை. புதிதாக இப்பொழுது லீஸ் கொடுக்க மறுக்கப்படும் கம்பெனி நமது நாட்டைச் சேர்ந்தது.

[8th May 1957]

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: Can we have an assurance from the Hon. the Leader of the House who is also incidentally the Minister for Industries that, when the lease expires in the year 1959, the Government of Madras themselves will run it if they are capable of doing so? If it is not possible, will they give it to a company which would give maximum benefit by way of payment of royalty in proportion to the income which they will get by exploiting the mine?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I would only invite the attention of the hon. Member to the Industrial Policy Resolution which reserves exploitation of certain minerals including magnesite by State enterprises. State enterprises would mean both the Central and State Governments. The matter is now under examination. The suggestion made by the hon. Member that it should be exploited to the best advantage of the State, is the special responsibility of the Member answering the question.

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: Is the reconsideration of the transfer due to any communication received from the Central Government or is it only on the application of Messrs. Burn and Company?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: The Government are reconsidering the question as a result of several representations received from all parties, including representations from Members of the Legislative Assembly and Parliament.

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: Has there been any communication from the Ministry of Iron and Steel in this connection that the transfer could be allowed to Messrs. Burn and Company?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: No, Sir.

SRI A. SUBRAMANYAM: இந்த நாட்டைச் சேர்ந்தவர் தகுதி உடையவராக இருந்தால் லீஸ் கேட்டவுடன் அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்க முடியுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: அதுதான் பரிசீலனை செய்யப்படும் என்று சொன்னேன்.

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: Will the Government immediately take up these magnesite mines and exploit them to augment the revenues of the State?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I have already told Mr. Mohamed Raza Khan that the Government are interested in exploiting the mineral resources of the State to the best advantage of the State.

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: I am only stressing the word 'immediately'.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Immediately it cannot be done. It will be done only after the expiry of the lease.

[8th May 1957]

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : When the lease was renewed in 1929, may I know whether the royalty was increased at that time or in subsequent years or it remained at the same level when the lease was granted originally?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I must confess the Member has caught me. I do not have that information.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Question is over.

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

II.—MOTION UNDER RULE 41 (1) OF THE COUNCIL RULES RE AGITATION FOR ERASURE OF CERTAIN WORD FROM HOTEL NAME BOARDS.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Sri T. Purushotham has given notice of a motion under rule 41 of the Council Rules and I now call upon him to speak.

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Mr. Deputy Chairman, under rule 41 of the Council Rules, I wish to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Minister for Home through the Hon. the Leader of the House a matter of urgent public importance, viz., the serious situation that has arisen in Triplicane as a consequence of the agitation on the part of certain people for erasure of certain word from hotel name boards. Last night at about 8 p.m. there was a large gathering of people in front of one of the hotels in that locality, " Sundaresa Vilas " in Pycrofts Road, and when the Proprietor of the hotel resisted the attempts on the part of the people gathered there to remove certain word from the name board, the demonstrators threw the entire tar paste on the head of the hotel proprietor. Feelings ran high in the locality leading to a strained situation. Such ugly developments, I am sure, ought to be effectively checked in the interest of public peace and tranquillity and I, therefore, bring this to the notice of the Minister for enquiry and needed action.

3-10 p.m. * THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I deeply regret that it is not possible to make a statement to-day. However, all available particulars have been called for and the Government are carefully looking into the situation. The Police have been examining the situation well and they will take necessary action in the matter.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Just a point of information, Sir. Was there such a large crowd before the hotel because the people wanted to witness the demonstration or because the hotel proprietor promised to supply free tiffin to the people assembled there?

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I have no information on that point. It is very difficult to collect that information.

**MOTION UNDER RULE 41 (1) OF THE COUNCIL RULES re 175
AGITATION FOR ERASURE OF CERTAIN WORD FROM
HOTEL NAME BOARDS**

[8th May 1957]

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Sir, may I invite the attention of the House to the fact that under the rule there cannot be any discussion on this motion?

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Yes, I know.

(The Deputy Chairman was standing to take up the next item.)

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : May I know . . .

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : When the Chair is on its legs, the hon. Member should resume his seat.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : I am sorry, Sir.

(Dr. A. Sreenivasan resumed his seat.)

III.—ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

(1) ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have to inform the House that only eight candidates have so far been duly nominated for election to the Committee of Privileges for the financial year 1957-58. As the number of candidates nominated is less than the number of vacancies to be filled, viz., nine, I appoint, in pursuance of Regulation 2 (5) of the Regulations made by the Chairman, further dates for receipt of nominations, scrutiny of nominations, withdrawal of candidature and for poll, if necessary, as follows :—

Time and date for the receipt of nominations—5 p.m. on 2nd July 1957.

Time and date for the scrutiny of nominations—12 noon on 3rd July 1957.

Time and date for the withdrawal of candidature—5 p.m. on 3rd July 1957.

Poll, if necessary—Between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 5th July 1957.

(2) MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have also to announce to the House that I have received the following messages, dated the 7th May 1957, from the Hon. the Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly :—

(1) I have the honour to transmit a copy of the following Resolution for the association of five members of the Council with the Committee on Estimates of the Assembly, as passed by the Assembly on the 7th day of May 1957, and signed by me :—

" That this House recommends to the Legislative Council that they do nominate five members from the Council to associate with the Committee on Estimates of this House for every financial year and communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated."

[Deputy Chairman]

[8th May 1957]

(2) I have the honour to transmit a copy of the following Resolution for the association of five members of the Council with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Assembly as passed by the Assembly on the seventh day of May 1957 and signed by me :—

“ That this House recommends to the Legislative Council that they do nominate five members from the Council to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of this House for every financial year and communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated.”

(3) I have the honour to transmit a copy of the following Resolution for the association of three Members of the Council with the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of the Assembly, as passed by the Assembly on the 7th day of May 1957, and signed by me :—

“ That this House recommends to the Legislative Council that they do nominate three Members from the Council to associate with the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of this House for every financial year and communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated.”

IV.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MADRAS GENERAL SALES TAX, SALES OF MOTOR SPIRIT TAXATION AND ENTERTAINMENTS TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1957 (L.A. BILL NO. 1 OF 1957).

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move—

“ That the Madras General Sales Tax, Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation and Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1957* (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1957), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration.”

Sir, the Bill contains mainly provisions of Madras Ordinance No. 1 of 1957 which it seeks to replace. Certain additional amendments since found necessary have also been incorporated in the Bill.

The salient features of the Bill are as follows :—

The Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 (Central Act 74 of 1956) provides that in respect of any sales or purchases of goods declared to be of special importance in inter-State trade or commerce, the State cannot impose a tax exceeding 2 per cent of the sale price thereof and such tax cannot be levied at more than one stage. The Bill seeks to amend the Madras General Sales Tax Act suitably to bring it in accord with the provisions of the Central Sales Tax Act.

Another important feature of this Bill is that according to section 14 (3) of the Indian Coinage Act, 1906 (Central Act III of 1906), as amended by the Indian Coinage (Amendment) Act, 1955 (Central Act XXXI of 1955), which came into force on the 1st April

* Printed as Appendix on pages 212-218 infra.

THE MADRAS GENERAL SALES TAX, SALES OF MOTOR SPIRIT TAXATION AND ENTERTAINMENTS TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1957 (L.A. BILL NO. 1 OF 1957).

[8th May 1957] [Sri R. Venkataraman]

1957, all references in any enactment, to any value expressed in annas and pies shall be construed as references to that value expressed in terms of decimal coins, that is, naye paise, the fractions of which are rounded off to the nearest naye paise. This would have the effect of increasing the present general rate of sales tax payable under the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939 (Madras Act IX of 1939) from 1-9/16 per cent to 2 per cent. It is considered that the present rate of tax should be maintained notwithstanding the introduction of the decimal coinage system. The Bill seeks to give effect to this proposal and to make other consequential changes necessitated by the new decimal system of coinage in the Madras General Sales Tax Act.

Then, the other important aspect is that the Madras General Sales Tax (Fifth Amendment) Bill, 1956, which provides for a tax at a single point on a number of commodities, could not be passed by the Legislature at its last meeting for want of time.

It is considered unnecessary and undesirable that different systems of sales tax should be in vogue in different parts of the State with their attendant administrative difficulties. The Bill seeks to extend the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939, and the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939, and the Madras Tobacco (Taxation of Sales and Registration) Act, 1953, to the Kanyakumari district and the Shencottah taluk of the Tirunelveli district and repeal the corresponding laws in force in those areas. If different systems of sales tax were prevailing in the same State, there is likely to be a flight of trade from one part to the other and sales would be purported or shown to have been effected in the area where sales tax is less. The Bill seeks to amend the existing Acts accordingly.

Sir, these are the salient provisions of the Bill. I wish to repeat to this House the statement which I made in the other House, namely, that Government propose to examine the whole question of the levy of sales tax with a view to simplifying the law and making it more generally acceptable to the people. For this purpose, Government will consider all representations and bring forward a consolidated Amending Bill and place it before this House, a Bill which will be easy to understand, simple in its application and free as far as possible from any harassment to the traders concerned. Sir, in view of the fact that the Government propose to examine the whole question *de novo*, I would humbly request this House to pass this legislation so that we may give our entire attention, our thought and all the importance that the subject deserves when the new Bill comes up before us.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Motion moved—

“ That the Madras General Sales Tax Act, Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation and Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1957 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1957), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration.”

The motion is now for discussion.

[8th May 1957]

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY : Sir, I oppose the very idea of sales tax. Apart from that, except giving the grist to the mills of Government taxation, I do not believe that sales tax is going to improve the economic condition of the people in this State. On the contrary, it is an instrument of great harassment to the mercantile community, and there has been a cry against it from foodgrain merchants. I believe that the General Sales Tax Act, apart from being a source of harassment to the merchants, also falls heavily upon the poorer classes of the people, because foodgrains are not exempted, and I also think that in any measure that might be brought forward, foodgrains would not be exempted from the voracious mouth or teeth of this measure. Therefore, Sir, I am not at all very enthusiastic about passing this measure, however much it may be commended by the Hon. the Leader of the House who has brought it forward for our consideration.

3-20 p.m. SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, I do not want to oppose this Amending Bill, because this is only a Bill intended to amend the General Sales Tax Act of 1939. The Hon. Minister has given us an assurance that the whole question will be considered and a simpler Bill, which will be acceptable to the people and which will work without harassment to the traders, will be brought forward later on. I welcome this assurance from the Hon. the Leader of the House who is also the Minister for Industries. Much of the task that I wanted to perform has been greatly lightened by this assurance. But there are two aspects of the Bill, to which I want to refer. When the Ordinance was promulgated, it was questioned in a Court of Law. There is the writ petition questioning the enhancement of the licence fees in regard to hides and skins. There is another writ petition pending disposal. The matter is *sub judice* now. Nothing has been done, because it is now vacation for the High Court. This Ordinance was passed on the 26th March 1957 and it came into effect on the 1st April 1957. If the Ordinance is held to be void, this Bill will not be held void. This Bill contains other provisions. That portion of the Statement of Objects and Reasons stating that this Bill is intended to replace the Madras General Sales Tax Ordinance of 1957, which was promulgated when the Legislature was not in session, would not have much force if the Ordinance is held to be void. The provisions contained in the Bill are difficult to understand, and I hope the Hon. Minister will clarify them. Sub-clause (2) of clause 1 says, 'The provisions of sub-section (2) of section 8 shall be deemed to have come into force on the 26th January 1950'. This is a clause which is not found in the Ordinance promulgated by the Government. In the Ordinance it is stated that it shall come into force on the 1st day of April 1957. Sub-clause (2) of clause 8 says, 'In the place of section 22 aforesaid, the following section shall be substituted, namely: New section 22 sought to be introduced by sub-clause (2) of clause 8, contains a sub-section [sub-section (2)],

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which says, 'The provisions of this section shall not affect the liability to tax of any sale or purchase under any other provisions of this Act'. Which sub-section (2) is referred to in sub-clause (2) of clause 1 is not clear. I suppose it means the coming into force of new section 22. New section 22 reads as follows:—

"22. Sale or purchase deemed to have taken place inside the State in certain cases.—(1) Any sale or purchase which took place on or before the 6th day of September 1955 shall be deemed to have taken place inside the State if the goods have actually been delivered as a direct result of such sale or purchase for the purpose of consumption in the State, notwithstanding the fact that under the general law relating to sale of goods the property in the goods has by reason of such sale or purchase passed in another State, and be subject to tax under this Act accordingly."

On account of the Supreme Court's decision in 1956, interpreting Article 286 in respect of inter-State sales, the difficulty arose and, therefore, the Validating Act was passed by the Central Legislature, and that Act is called the Sales Tax Laws Validation Act, 1956. In section 2 of that Act, it is stated, 'Notwithstanding any judgment, decree or order of any court, no law of a State imposing, or authorising the imposition of, a tax on the sale or purchase of any goods where such sale or purchase took place in the course of inter-State trade or commerce during the period between the 1st day of April 1951 and the 6th day of September 1955, shall be deemed to be invalid or ever to have been invalid merely by reason of the fact that such sale or purchase took place in the course of inter-State trade or commerce; and all such taxes levied or collected or purporting to have been levied or collected during the aforesaid period shall be deemed always to have been validly levied or collected in accordance with law.'

In this section I find that the period mentioned is between the 1st day of April 1951 and the 6th day of September 1955. But sub-clause (2) of clause 1 of the Bill says that the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 8 shall be deemed to have come into force on the 26th January 1950, that is, from a date earlier than 1st April 1951, by one year and more. Nothing is mentioned in the Statement of Objects and Reasons as to the necessity for this provision. The difficulties of the dealers in being subjected to sales tax for the period earlier than 1st April 1951 are quite apparent. Sales that took place after the 1st April 1951 had been subjected to the tax and the tax also would have been collected. But to include sales that took place before the 1st April 1951 up to the 26th January 1950 will cause very great difficulties. The difficulty will arise in this way. Sales might have taken place and tax also would have been collected. Many people, after the Supreme Court's judgment, *bona fide* refunded the amount to the buyers. These are all settled transactions. These settled transactions will have to be reopened if the date is put at 26th January 1950 instead of 1st April 1951.

[Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar] [8th May 1957]

3-30 p.m. Sales tax in our country has become a very difficult affair. For the purpose of collecting this tax, Rs. 45 lakhs have to be spent. (This is the figure according to the administration report.) Of course, this figure is with reference to the composite State. After 1st November 1956, the amount might have become a little less. Still a very large amount is being spent on the collection of sales tax. For the purpose of making this collection work very effective, I suggest that Government restrict the levy of this tax only to dealers whose turnover is over Rs. 25,000 and leave off the small, retail dealers. I fully realise that there may be suppression of transactions. On account of the very large number of dealers the department has to deal with, a large number of officers have to be appointed. The dealers also are to put to a lot of trouble. The hon. Member Sri V. V. Ramaswami read out yesterday the editorial in the *Hindu* on this subject. The *Hindu* has remarked that the Commercial Tax Department is in a state of permanent war with the dealers. Probably, in respect of all taxes, the same is the position. I do not want to exaggerate the situation. On account of the very large number of dealers who are not able to pay this tax because of their small incomes, the tendency on their part is to suppress their transactions. Therefore, there is this tendency on the part of the department to ferret out the transactions. Hence, to a very large extent, there is this perpetual war between the department and the dealers. Therefore, I ask whether it will not be possible for the Government to restrict the scope of levy of the tax.

Another point is whether we should not completely adopt the system of levying a single-point tax. In a large conference of small retail dealers and merchants in Madras two years ago the whole question was discussed from the point of view of the Government and the people. They did not want that the collection of sales tax should be reduced. Ever since it was introduced in the Madras State by the Rajaji Ministry in the year 1939, it has become a source of very good revenue to the State. (An hon. Member : Kamadhenu.) This was introduced for the purpose of making good the loss on account of enforcement of Prohibition but it has gained a permanent place on the Statute-Book. But now we should consider whether we should not have a single-point tax only. Many representations were made to Government by merchants in this regard. Frequently memoranda were submitted to them and the Hon. the Revenue Minister who was at that time in charge of sales tax also was sympathetic. He said that he would consider the matter.

Then, Sir, I welcome two very good features in the Bill, namely, that a number of commodities will be exempted from the levy of the tax and that on a number of others also the tax would be levied on the first sale. We all quite agree with these. But there is still a large variety of foodstuffs that will have to be exempted from the levy of the tax. The difficulty with this tax is that it is

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regressive and indirect in that the tax finally falls on the heads of the consumers. That nobody can deny. Even though the merchant may pay the tax, he is, after all, an agent for the purpose of collecting the tax. The merchant transmits the tax to the consumer. Therefore it is that I am asking whether the Government should not consider this policy of having only single-point levy, and strike at the root of multiple levy once and for all.

So far as skins and hides are concerned—I think the hon. Member Sri Mohamed Raza Khan would agree with me—(Sri Mohamed Raza Khan : Yes) for the last one and a half years that trade has not at all prospered. Many in the trade have been affected. But still you will find a provision in the Bill which says—

‘Sale of hides and skins, whether in a raw or dressed state, shall be liable to tax only at such single point in the series of sales by successive dealers as may be prescribed but at the rate of two per cent on the turnover at that point.’

The original rate was three pies in the rupee, that is, 1-8/16 per cent. They could have retained that rate. Instead, in the Amending Bill they have raised it to 2 per cent. But in the Statement of Objects and Reasons they say that they want to retain the present rate of tax. Even according to the decimal coinage system, the rate will be a little more. That is why they are bringing in this Amending Bill. In the case of hides and skins which are declared to be essential commodities under the Essential Goods Act, 1952, Government have increased the rate of tax to 2 per cent. This is a new provision. They could have omitted it because the trade has already been very much affected. Already Government have increased the licence fees. As regards this, there is a writ petition pending before the High Court. For the purpose of validating the assessment and collection of the tax during the period 1955-56, Government have put in a special provision, whatever the judgment of the High Court on the writ petition may be. We will come to that later. My submission is that foodgrains may well be omitted, and that the provision fixing the rate of tax as two per cent on hides and skins need not be there.

These are some objections that one would have to the Amending Bill even if the Bill is intended merely to validate the provisions contained in the Ordinance. But the Government have added two or three new provisions in the Bill, not found in the Ordinance. Therefore, there are further objections to the present Bill, as I have already mentioned. Long before an assurance was given by the Hon. Minister, I had tabled some amendments. I did it on certain principles only. If those principles would be considered later, I do not want to disturb the course of the present Bill. That is a matter for the Hon. Minister to consider. When I move the amendments. I will speak about them.

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Then, Sir, I was a little perturbed and alarmed when I read through clause 10 of the Bill. The clause says—

“ . . . for the words ‘ one anna and six pies ’, the words ‘ thirty-eight naye paise ’ and for the words ‘ six pies ’, the words, ‘ ten naye paise ’ shall be substituted ”.

Thirty-eight naye paise are not equivalent to one anna and six pies. Therefore, I sent a note to the office. I was told that there was a notification raising the tax to six annas and that, therefore, it was now put at thirty-eight naye paise. Six annas work out to 37½ naye paise and it has been rounded off to 38. (Sri T. P. Srinivasavaradan : It is ignored in many cases.) This should have been made clear in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. If it had been mentioned there, I would not have worried the office. (An hon. Member : Is that all right?) It seems to be all right so far as I am concerned. If other hon. Members want to raise objections, they may do so. I say so because there is another clause which says that fractions of less than half a naya paisa would be ignored and half and above would be rounded off to the next higher naya paisa. Therefore, 37½ has been made 38.

The difficulty in considering such Amending Bills regarding sales tax is that there are so many laws, so many amendments, and so many rules. For example, clause 9 says—

‘ Tax may be assessed or collected and licence fees levied or collected for the year 1955–56 notwithstanding the retrospective operation of the amendments to the Madras General Sales Tax Rules, 1939, and the Madras General Sales Tax (Turnover and Assessment) Rules, 1939, and all assessments made, taxes collected and licence fees levied for the year 1955–56 shall be deemed to have been made, collected or levied, as the case may be, as if those rules as amended were in force at all relevant times.’

We must know what these rules are, why they were made retrospective and why in spite of their being made retrospective, another clause has been introduced in this Bill and so on. These are many difficulties which one experiences when considering a measure of this kind. The last portion of the clause, namely, ‘ . . . shall be deemed as if those rules as amended were in force at all relevant times ’ seems to be intended to validate these assessments and taxes and especially the enhanced licence fees levied on skins and hides during 1955–56. I think that there are also amendments to the rules which are given retrospective effect. Even though they are made retrospective, the difficulty is that the demand will still be held invalid.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Protection is given to them under the proviso.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, it is stated in the proviso that no act or omission on the part of any person shall be punishable as an offence. This is an unsatisfactory state

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of affairs. Instead of that, why not leave those transactions untouched? It would not matter very much, because the licence fee is collected. The Government are trying to validate all those assessments. Their own intention was to give them retrospective effect. But now they find that it hits at some collections. Therefore, they have inserted that proviso. The whole thing appears to be cumbersome.

So far as the payment of sales tax is concerned, I do not like the procedure of going to Courts. But the difficulty is that the dealers are not able to pay the tax. That is why they resort to writ petitions. In these statutes, especially in taxation statutes, there are loopholes. There is also another very important provision. It is stated that the burden of proving that any dealer or any of his transactions is not liable to tax under section 5 or section 5-A shall lie on such dealer. In a taxation statute, the burden of proving whether the tax should be levied or not should be on the authority imposing the tax, but here the burden is on the dealer. These are some important things which I like to point out. On the whole, what I would plead with the Government is that they should consider the question of introducing the single-point sales tax once and for all. In respect of foodgrains, already the prices are soaring, and they should be exempted from the levy just like tobacco, handloom yarn and other articles. The rate on skins and hides should not also be raised to 2 per cent.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, all the legal aspects of the question have been ably dealt with by my hon. Friend Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar. Much of the thunder that has been let in by the hon. Member Sri V. V. Ramaswami, who is an authority on sales tax on the floor of this House, has been taken away by a very timely statement made by the Leader of the House here to-day and in the other House yesterday. If you take the whole process of the sales tax legislation in our State, I should say that no other Act has been so much mutilated all these 10 or 15 years as this Act. But it was only to the advantage of the Government. Sitting in the Opposition as I do, I do not envy the Government getting some more money, so long as it is going to be utilized for the welfare of the public, but it is our duty to bring to the notice of the Government, particularly to the notice of the Minister-in-charge, the difficulties which are experienced by many a trader.

The Government have been kind enough to say that far from raising the tax consequent on the introduction of naye paise to 2 per cent, they would be retaining it at 1 and 9/16 per cent. It will be all right so far as the dealings of the wholesaler with the retailer are concerned, but the Government should appreciate the difficulties of the consumers who make purchases worth Re. 1 or Rs. 2. The dealer should collect either at the rate of one naya paisa or at the rate of two naye paise and there will always be difficulty for him.

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it would be a very difficult process for the retailers to get less or to pay more and face the music from their customers. I do not know whether the Government have given proper consideration to this aspect of the question.

We are thankful to the Government for their experiment in introducing the single-point sales tax in respect of certain commodities. After all, public opinion had its way and, after so much of agitation and so much of discussion here, the Government have brought it. The credit for this should go to the Hon. the Minister for Revenue because it was he that wanted to introduce this Bill in the last session of the Assembly and the Council. I wish to thank him for small mercies shown. I think the Government should have brought some more items under the system of single-point sales tax and it is for the Hon. the Leader of the House to take the cue.

The other day, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar brought to the notice of the Government how it was easy for them to include petrol in this category as there were only three or four companies in the State of Madras which supplied petrol to the various bunks. He also pointed out that the Government could make the collection very easily. I think the Hon. Minister is aware that many a time petitions are received from dealers saying that they are not able to pay the money and that they want some time. The Government cannot, of course, exempt them from payment of this tax. The Government would do well if they bring petrol and also other commodities under the system of single-point sales tax. I do not know how the Government, or for that matter the Minister-in-charge, missed these salient points.

My hon. Friend Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar made a very pointed reference to the skins and hides trade and asked why that trade, which has been undergoing so many hardships during the last two or three years, should be made to pay a penalty of half a per cent more. I do not want to make any propaganda against the Hon. the Minister for Revenue who hails from the district of North Arcot where the bulk of the trade takes place. Most of the tanners and dealers live there. If this measure had been brought in before the elections, I know that the Revenue Minister also would have had some trouble. (Laughter.) I know that this trade is going through a difficult phase during the last three or four years. It is a very dangerous trade because one has to invest a large amount of money which is remaining idle. The whole process takes five or six months. The hides and skins have to be tanned and stored and have to be exported to foreign countries because purchases are made mostly outside India. Of course, it is a Central subject. Due to fluctuations in prices, many businessmen in North Arcot, who would otherwise be multi-millionaires, have become paupers because of the fate of auctions held in Britain.

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : There are cases *vice versa*. They also become rich overnight.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : As in the case of politicians, it happens in the case of businessmen also. That is a different thing. What I wish to drive at is that the increase in the rate of tax from 1 and 9/16 per cent to 2 per cent will add to their difficulties. This particular trade earns a good deal of foreign exchange and, subject to correction, it brings a revenue of nearly Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 25 crores either to the Indian Union or to the Government of Madras. The policy of the Central Government is to promote exports in order to earn foreign exchange and they have established an Export Promotion Council for that purpose. When such is the policy of the Central Government, I do not think that there is any logic in increasing the rate to two per cent.

Regarding the vagaries of the Sales Tax Department, I wish there is a Committee to go into that question. I think it is a very important thing.

For two or three years the Department was keeping quiet because the authorities thought that this trade need not pay any sales tax on goods purchased from outside. Suddenly, after a lapse of two years, the Government said 'Well, we are sorry, we will have to collect tax from you for the entire period. Now you have to pay it.' The result was that a sum of Rs. 80 lakhs or even one crore of rupees had to be collected in this State. Many businessmen felt it very horrible to pay such a large amount to the Government. But the Government said 'You are very good people. We do not want you to pay immediately. You may pay it in 70 or 80 monthly instalments.' But still it is a very difficult thing for the businessmen. All along they were thinking that they were not expected or bound to pay sales tax to the Government. But suddenly the Government came with the order, 'You will have to pay the tax with retrospective effect and here we are to collect it'. I am just showing the vagaries of the Department. Sometimes we enact legislation without knowing its implications and it affects the trade considerably.

Here, Sir, if I am not going beyond the subject, I will give one instance. I do not know whether the Hon. the Minister for Industries is aware of it. Some of us are aware that many people purchase motor cars under the hire-purchase system. Of course, the first tax is being collected by the company which sells them. The other hire-purchase company or whatever it may be, naturally comes in as the intermediary only to finance the purchase. They do not purchase the motor cars and sell them, but they merely finance the transaction. Some one in the Sales Tax Department made the order or interpretation that this was also a sale, and the hire-purchase company was called upon to pay sales tax. So, sales tax is paid once by the company and again by the Credit Corporation or

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whatever it may be. What is the result? The Credit Corporation are not foolish to pay their own money. They are not going to pay the tax out of the interest which they will get. But they collect another Rs. 300 or Rs. 400 from the persons who have the misfortune of purchasing motor cars in the State of Madras. The result is that the man has to pay tax twice. Now it seems that the matter has gone to the High Court and a decision is yet to be given in this matter. Incidentally, Sir, there are also cases of tax evasion. Yesterday I was making a pointed reference when the Leader of the House was not here as to what kind of evasion of tax this was. As the Hon. Minister is aware, some people purchase motor cars not in the State of Madras, but in Bangalore or the neighbouring States, because they will be getting a benefit of 4 or 5 per cent. I think the Leader of the House will bear this point in mind. It is a fact that people go and purchase their cars from Bangalore or some other place because there is no disparity between the sales tax which they have to pay in the State of Madras and Bangalore or elsewhere. After all, a man can easily go to Bangalore and purchase the car because he is benefited by it to a great extent.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: May I invite the attention of the hon. Member and say that there will be a single-point levy on this?

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: I am telling you the whole thing. I am telling you how people are behaving. Yesterday I referred at length to the sales tax of one anna and three pies on mill cloth which our State alone was having. I do not like to digress much on it as I have dealt with it sufficiently and if there is any necessity, I will deal with it during the Budget discussion. There is the other aspect of it also. The Government have imposed this rigorous tax on the trades in State of Madras. If the people in the State of Madras have to buy cloth, they have to pay one anna and three pies as sales tax. It only makes people dishonest. That is a very inconvenient position because every Officer in the State of Madras is quite aware of the fact that transactions in cloth amounting to lakhs of rupees take place without passing of bills. Some of the businessmen yet feel very happy and say, 'Why should we pay Rs. 1,500 or Rs. 1,600 as tax on this purchase of cloth?' But to what difficulty is the honest dealer put thereby? These are defects which the Government should consider and try to rectify. Of course, as I have said earlier, the Leader of the House has made a statement that the whole aspect of the case will be considered. So, I do not like to dilate more on this subject. But still I feel, Sir, that with regard to the tax on skins and hides, the Hon. Minister will do well to retain the old rate. I submit, Sir, that it will work very hard on the traders. Already that business is not in a happy position as it used to be formerly. Therefore, I think there is at least some justification for the Hon. Minister to concede that point.

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Sir, I do not like to give the Hon. Minister a compliment so soon. Let me also wait for the Bill which would emerge because it has been my unfortunate lot to have seen three or four Ministers who have been in charge of sales tax. Somehow I feel—I am not saying this for the sake of fun or joke—that whoever was in charge of sales tax in the State of Madras, he had a peculiar characteristic, that is, he was always having a smiling face in the House. That was my experience. The former Finance Minister Sri Gopala Reddi was like that.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: It appears to be an infectious disease.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: It was so. The Hon. Sri M. A. Manickavelu was also like that. He will come with a Bill. He will smile and then somehow we will be captivated and the Bill will be passed.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: He does not mean it.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: Therefore, I feel, Sir, that when we really want to make out a strong case, the Leader of the House with his smiling face will try to disarm us and get the Bill carried. But I plead that the businessmen, the trade and the local consumers will be thankful to the Government of Madras if they try to make an enquiry and have an overall picture of the whole situation. But I do promise, I think my promise will be not of much avail or value, but the authority on sales tax, Sri V. V. Ramaswami, will promise that the income which accrues to the Government of Madras will never be diminished by the changes proposed. The Government can have it examined. As I said yesterday, when Bombay has made an experiment, why not Madras? Should not Madras which gives a lead to the other Governments in all matters give a lead in this matter also? Of course, the Hon. Minister's promise is there that he will try to examine the whole aspect, consult the people who are in the line, bring in a comprehensive Bill and relieve to an appreciable extent the difficulties of the people. At the same time, I assure the Government on behalf of the Opposition that as far as the amount which the Government are anxious to have, is concerned, they will be receiving the same amount and even something more. It is also certain that there will be less expenditure. There will not be this amount of confusion which takes place in the collection of sales tax. It will develop our machinery to such a perfect order that evasion will be stopped for ever. We will be in a position to root out evasion. Whatever be the tax, no one should try to cheat the Government because cheating the Government is not cheating the Ministers, but the people of this State. We cannot be a party to that. Therefore, we shall wait to have a legislation of that kind. Thank you, Sir.

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SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I do not understand why there has been an urgency in bringing in this Bill. I am, of course, thankful to the Hon. the Leader of the House for saying that a consolidated Bill relating to sales tax will be brought in. That is put forward as a reason for us to pass this Bill. I am not quite sure when that consolidated Bill will come up. If urgency can be considered to be the real reason, the only urgency is about the conversion of sales tax into decimal coinage. There is no urgency for any other provision contained in the Bill. Even on the question of decimal coinage, it is only mathematics and conversion of three pies, six pies, nine pies, etc., into decimal coinage. It is only a mathematical thing. There is no urgency for other things. I do not see any other urgency for the Bill except that the Government want to increase the tax and their revenue, to avoid certain decisions of the High Court and to get over certain observations of the High Court. These are the things that are really in the Bill. Then, the poor Kanyakumari district and the Shencottah taluk have to pay the higher rate of tax. That is also another reason for bringing in this Bill. There is no urgency for any of these things at all.

Firstly, I should like to bring to the notice of the hon. Members that, as pointed out by my hon. Friend Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar, in many cases while converting there is a definite increase in the rate. If it is mere conversion, why should there be an increase? Why should mathematics be so poor? If the Government really want to increase the tax, let them say so. Let them not call it a conversion Bill, Sir.

4 p.m. If they want more money, let them frankly tell us that they want to tax more and collect more money. Do not go behind this conversion and create an idea that this is only a formal Bill for conversion into *naye paise*. Under the cover of conversion, how could one anna and six pies become 38 *naye paise*?

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: It is six annas and not one anna and six pies.

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: Has it already been made six annas?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: By issue of a notification, it has been increased to six annas.

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: If it could be done by means of a notification in the case of six annas, then why is this Bill brought in? If the object of the Government is only to convert annas and pies into *naye paise*, then this Bill is not necessary at all.

Now, Sir, there is one objectionable matter in this Bill itself. The Government attempt to create now two classes, one of them

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enjoying what is called 'favoured treatment' by way of single-point tax and other concessions. Previously there was only section 5 which provided the conditions for the grant of licence to all classes. Now, this Bill seeks to create two categories by having section 5 and section 5-A. According to section 5-A, people dealing in hides and skins need not take out a licence and they need pay tax only at a single point. I want to know why hides and skins have been given this benefit. But, according to section 5, dealers in beedi, cigar, cigarette and raw tobacco have to take out a licence. Why is this differential treatment? It is not a classification of goods. It is a classification of dealers because it is the dealers that will have to take out a licence. It is not the goods that have to take out a licence. I do not understand on what basis this classification of dealers has been made. Why should more benefits be given to certain types of dealers who have not even taken out a licence? There must be *raison d'être* for this classification.

With regard to licence fees also, if only hon. Members look into the rules, they would find how the licence fee is collected. The licence fee depends upon the turnover. If a man's turnover is increased, the licence fee is also increased. So much so, a licence fee of even Rs. 2,000 is also levied in a year. Why should a big dealer dealing in only raw tobacco or other goods be asked to pay Rs. 2,000 as licence fee and why not the dealers in hides and skins pay this licence fee? There seems to be no justification for this sort of thing. It would have been proper if all the categories were brought under section 5-A or if there were no section 5 at all and no licence fee at all.

Now, I come to another objectionable matter contained in the Bill. I do not remember the exact clause of the Bill which says that for every place of business, a dealer has to pay licence fee in relation to his turnover. I am dealing with cases especially relating to the beedi business. This business is usually done by the Head Office and several branches or depots as they are known. For every depot, he has now to take out a licence and pay the licence fee according to his turnover. So much so, a dealer sometimes has to pay Rs. 2,000 as licence fee. I refer to sub-section (2) of section 5 which says—

"The licence fee may be computed on the total turnover of the dealer in respect of each place of his business and such fee shall be and shall always be deemed to have been validly levied as if it were a tax or addition thereto."

This is the most objectionable clause of the Bill.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: May I crave the indulgence of the hon. Member so that we may cut across a lot of arguments? It is only in respect of the turnover in a particular place. I said so in the other House when the same point was raised. That has been the rule so far also.

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SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: What I am objecting to is this. A case in respect of that matter is pending before the High Court. As a matter of fact, I must say that I myself filed that case. Actually, this Bill is only anticipating the judgment of the High Court in that case. I am not quite sure whether even this Bill will stand. But that is a different question.

The whole history of the sales tax legislation is that whenever there is an adverse judgment of the High Court, the Sales Tax Act is amended. Not a year has passed without the enactment of an Act amending the original Sales Tax Act. So, this Bill is absolutely of no use and it will only mean money for lawyers. Except for this, I do not see any need for this Bill.

With regard to the rules framed under the Act, it is not possible to get an up-to-date copy of the Sales Tax Acts and the rules from the Government Press because everyday the rules are being changed. Every year there are about two Acts amending the original Sales Tax Act. It is impossible to keep in touch with the amendments to the rules which are so numerous, and nobody seems to know them. Therefore, I am only saying that to anticipate a judgment and bring in this sort of legislation is not proper on the part of the Government. Let them await the judgment, see what the judgment is and afterwards, bring in a legislation, if necessary. But to anticipate something and have a law for that is not good. I am glad about the assurance given by the Hon. the Leader of the House that this means that only turnover at each place of business would be taken into account. Then, supposing a man has branches in other places, I wish to know whether the whole business will not be taken into consideration. (Interruption: The beedi business is a bad business.)

Sir, one other objection I have is this. One provision quietly says that section 3 (4) be omitted. On seeing this, one would imagine that there is nothing serious in it. Sir, in the original Act, it was the only protection available as far as rules under the Act were concerned. It is that provision which is now sought to be deleted. In the original Act the provision was that unless the Legislative Assembly approved these rules by a resolution, they would not come into force. Similarly, section 19 (4) is also sought to be omitted. What does this mean? The Government could merrily go on making rules, and daily changing them. That is a very dangerous thing, Sir. At least there was some check previously. Even that is now sought to be taken away.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I would ask the hon. Member to refer to section 19 (6) where it is laid down that the rules made shall be placed before the Legislature, and thus they are subject to amendment by the Legislature.

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SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW: I am sorry I do not have a copy of the original Act. I have been trying to get one, but even in the Government Press, I could not get it. (The Hon. Sri R. Venkataraman: I sympathise with you.) (At this stage, a copy of the original Act was passed on to the hon. Member by Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar.) Previously, under section 19 (4), they could make a rule only for weeks after the publication of the same. By omitting that section now, they can go on making and changing rules everyday.

Another thing I wish to say is that this sort of amendment need not be rushed through like this. What is the hurry for it now? I am not against sales tax at all. Government must get revenue. But there must be a policy as to how sales tax has to be collected and the Act administered. Merchants are suffering and their organisations have been demanding that only a single-point tax should be levied. There has also been a demand that in the case of manufactured goods there must be only Excise duty, even though it means collection of increased Excise duty, instead of this sales tax, so that the merchants would be saved from much botheration and worry. Even in the case of imported goods, there may be a surcharge at the time of levying Customs duty, and proportionate subvention may be made to the State in respect of goods imported. The question is how best to administer this tax, avoiding all harassment and doing away with this machinery for the purpose of administering this tax.

Sir, another demand that has been completely overlooked is in respect of the turnover limit to be enhanced to Rs. 30,000. I do not know how much loss of revenue the Government would sustain because of this. Whatever it is, it could be offset by levy of higher rates of tax on luxury articles like motor cars, refrigerators, etc. There is no objection to that and there cannot be any objection. People who can afford to go in for such luxury articles can also afford to pay higher rates of taxes. The question is that the ordinary man, the dealers in the lowest rung of the trade, must be given relief.

Another point is with regard to section 5-A. It deals with several types of goods. The curious part of it is that we find included therein articles like coffee, kerosene, tea, etc. I know from experience that as far as kerosene and tea are concerned, these commodities do not pass through more than two hands before they reach the consumer. So far as kerosene is concerned, it is only the Burmah Shell Company and their agents that sell it to retailers, and from retailers it goes to the consumers. There are only two transactions. Again, in respect of tea, it is definitely known that it is mainly sold by Liptons and Brookbonds; their salesmen go from hotel to hotel and from shop to shop and sell their goods, and from the retail shops the commodity goes to the consumers.

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Previously in these cases they had to pay only $2 \times 1\frac{9}{16}$ which will come to only $3\frac{1}{8}$ per cent; but to-day they are asked to pay 5 per cent. Therefore, the cost of these commodities to the consumers would be much more to-day. I think the Hon. the Leader of the House will not press this Bill, because it will mean more burden on the general public.

4-20
p.m.

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I wish to associate myself with the views expressed by the hon. Member Mr. Balasubramanya Ayyar regarding the difficulties of merchants and the unsatisfactory methods of the Sales Tax Department. Yesterday when the hon. Member Mr. V. V. Ramaswami was speaking on the question of sales tax, he referred to the introduction of single-point tax and he also assured the House that the introduction of the single-point sales tax would not in any way result in loss of revenue to the Government. It is so pleasing that the Hon. Minister in charge of Commercial Taxes has assured us that a comprehensive legislation would be brought forward shortly to remove the difficulties that have been experienced in the actual working and administering of this taxation. Various suggestions have been made in this House from time to time, whenever any question relating to sales tax has come up, that a thorough overhaul of this legislation should be undertaken by Government. Presumably because the Revenue Minister, who was then in charge of Commercial Taxes, had to devote greater attention to land reforms, he could not bestow fuller attention on this department. So it is, I believe, that the two departments have now been separated and a separate Ministry has been constituted to work out a comprehensive legislation relating to commercial taxes acceptable to all concerned. This Act was brought into force originally in 1939, and various amendments were brought forward now and then. In regard to the changed circumstances, we proposed time and again that the minimum turnover for the levy of sales tax should be raised from Rs. 7,500 to Rs. 10,000. Even here the Government had not been able to see eye to eye with hon. Members, and no relief was granted to the merchants. Even on the question of grant of exemptions, there has not been any definite policy, and exemptions have been given in a haphazard manner now and then. If perishable articles are to be exempted from the levy of sales tax, suggestions were made again and again in this House and in the other House that all categories of perishables like milk, milk products and coconut should be exempted from the levy of sales tax. Of course, the Hon. the Minister for Revenue, when he was in charge of the administration of commercial taxes, admitted that these were also perishable articles and assured us that due consideration would be given for exempting these articles and for a rational re-assessment of all exemptions under section 5 of the Sales Tax Act. I am glad that the Minister for Revenue assures us now that the matter is receiving due consideration at the hands of the present Government, I do hope this question will not be put off till the comprehensive legislation promised by the new Minister is brought

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forward. I wish that this question is sympathetically considered and hope that exemption will be granted to these articles in the coming Budget.

Reference has been made to leakage in sales tax revenue. My hon. Friend the ex-Chief Minister Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar in one of his speeches on this very question of sales tax dwelt on this problem of leakage in revenue under this head. He told us that there was large leakage and that effective steps should be taken to plug at various channels of leakage. I sincerely hope that when the comprehensive legislation is taken up, this problem will be fully considered and that steps would be taken to arrest this leakage that has been so forcibly referred to by the ex-Chief Minister.

One other matter also I have to mention in this connection. Several exemptions have been given in regard to this tax in the case of sugar and such other articles in favour of refugees and displaced persons. How far these concessions have worked and whether there is any leakage of revenue in that direction, should be explored. An influential deputation of Sugar Merchants' Association led by the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition waited some time back on the Revenue Minister and a memorandum was presented pointing out to the Government how there was unjustifiable loss of revenue to the State consequent on the misuse of the concessions granted to some of these people in regard to the levy of sales tax on sugar. I do not know what action has been taken on that memorandum. I would request the Minister in charge to examine all these problems when the promised legislation is brought forward. As far as this Amending Bill is concerned, the hon. Member Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar has conceded that this can go through. We always depend on his opinion expressed in this House on the legal aspect of several legislations that are brought forward. I second the proposition put forward by him that this Amending Bill may go through. I hope that the difficulties experienced by the merchants and also the departmental vagaries—as the hon. Member Sri Mohamed Raza Khan would put it—would all receive due consideration at the hands of the Government.

With these words, I support the Bill moved by the Minister in charge of Commercial Taxes.

* **SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI** : கனம் துணைத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்தப் புது விற்பனை வரி திருத்த மசோதாவைப் பற்றி எனக்கு முன்பு பேசிய மெம்பர்கள் எல்லாம் விரிவாகவும், தெளிவாகவும் பேசிவிட்டபடியால் நாள் சுருக்கமாகச் சில விஷயங்களைச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். சென்ற சட்ட மன்றக் கூட்டத்திலே கவர்னர் ஆற்றிய உரையில் பரீட்சார்த்தமாக எட்டுப் பண்டங்களிலுந்து ஒரு முனை விற்பனை வரி விதிக்கப்படும் என்று சொன்னதற்கு இணங்க இந்தச் சட்டம் இப்போது கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருப்பதால் இது எனக்கு மிகச்சிறி அளிக்கிறது. ஆகவே இதை வரவேற்கிறேன். இதில் ஏற்படும் அனுபவத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு மற்றப் பண்டங்களுக்கும் ஒரு முனை வரி விதிப்பதைப்பற்றி ஆலோசனை செய்யலாம் என அரசாங்கத்தார் முன்பு சொல்லி இருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த மாதிரியாக

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of the Madras General Sales Tax proposed in the Amending Bill confers powers on the State Government retrospectively from 26th January 1950, that is, a date which is even before the date warranted under the Central Sales Tax Validation Act, 1956, till 6th September 1956, to levy sales tax on inter-State sales from non-resident dealers in respect of goods delivered for consumption in Madras State. This amendment is unnecessary in the face of the Central Sales Tax Laws Validation Act, 1956, and goes beyond the terms of the latter. The enforcement of the newly modified provision from 26th January 1950, will result in hardship to the trade. The tax will be collected even if the seller has not collected the same from the purchaser from 26th January 1950."

அவர்களிடம் கொடுக்கப் பண்ணே இல்லை.

"The purchaser will in turn be called upon by the seller to meet the tax demand on transactions completed and concluded years ago. If the settled transactions are reopened, the purchaser in this State will have to bear the tax burden ultimately. In several cases, refund has been made by the seller *bona fide* on the strength of the judgment of the Supreme Court before the date of the Validation Act of the sales tax or deposit to the buyer and the new section will disastrously unsettle such concluded agreements. There will also be a multiplicity of proceedings as a consequence. As the Central Sales Tax Laws Validation Act is comprehensive, no justification exists for modification of section 22."

ஆகவே, தயவுசெய்து கட்டாயமாக இதைக் கைவிடவேண்டுமென்று மிகவும் தாழ்மையுடன் வேண்டிக்கொள்கிறேன். ஏனென்றால், இதனால் பாதிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறவர்களில் நானும் ஒருவன். (சிரிப்பு) உண்மையைச் சொல்கிறேன். தவிர, ஒரு முனை வரியைக் கொண்டுவந்து விட்டால் இந்த மாதிரிப்பட்ட சங்கடங்கள் போய்விடும். நமது அமைச்சரவர்கள் என்னிடம் நேரிலும் இச்சபையிலும் கொடுத்திருக்கிற வாக்குறுதியை வைத்துக் கொண்டும் இந்தச் சட்டத்தை இப்பொழுது நிறைவேற்றினாலும் நடைமுறையில், வியாபாரிகள் வந்து தங்கள் சங்கடங்களைச் சொல்லும்போது அவர்களுக்கு இருக்கிற சங்கடங்களை நீக்க ஏதாவது 'ஸ்டே' வேண்டுமானாலும் கொடுத்து உதவ வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு எனது பேச்சை முடித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். வணக்கம்.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is not comfort to any Minister to pilot a taxation measure and yet considering the way in which I have escaped almost unscathed by the attack, I have every reason to congratulate myself. It is again another evidence of the extra cordiality which the House has been pleased to extend to me.

Sir, I cannot agree with that class of critics who say that sales tax is in itself wrong or obnoxious. All over the world, sales tax exists in one form or another and it is one of the main sources of revenue in every civilized country. I shall not waste much of your time in answering these critics.

Sir, it is, however, true that sales tax is regressive, as was pointed out by my hon. and esteemed Friend Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar. But there are certain taxes which every citizen has to

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pay in order to sustain the administration of the country and the endeavour we should make is to see that the tax does not fall very heavily on the class of persons who cannot afford it.

The number of speeches which have been made both with regard to the items charged with the tax as well as the manner in which they have been taxed only reinforces the argument that the sales tax system requires a thorough revision. With the goodwill of the Members of the Legislature, I have undertaken this somewhat ambitious task and I very humbly hope that I shall do my utmost to bring in a piece of legislation (Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar: We will be thankful to you) which would be acceptable to all Members in some measure.

The point which was raised both by the hon. Member Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar for whose legal acumen we have very great regard and respect and by the hon. Member Sri V. V. Ramaswami whose experience is as great as the legal acumen of the hon. Member Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar that that part of section 22 which gives retrospective effect from the 26th day of January 1950 is likely to be harmful or that it is something wrong, is not borne out by the legislative history of this particular section.

I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Members to the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1952. Section 1 of the Order reads as follows:—

"1. (1) This Order may be called the Adaptation of Laws (Fourth Amendment) Order, 1952. 4-10 p.m.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 26th day of January 1950."

Section 2 says:

"In the Seventh Schedule to the Adaptation of Laws Order, 1950, after the directions relating to the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939 (Madras Act IV of 1939), insert—

THE MADRAS GENERAL SALES TAX ACT, 1939 (MADRAS ACT IX OF 1939)

22. Act not deemed to impose or authorize taxation in certain cases.—Nothing contained in this Act shall be deemed to impose, or authorize the imposition of, a tax on the sale or purchase of any goods, where such sale or purchase takes place

(a) (i) outside the State of Madras, or

(ii) in the course of the import of the goods into the territory of India or of the export of the goods out of such territory, or

(b) except in so far as Parliament may by law otherwise provide, after the 31st day of March 1951 in the course of inter-State trade or commerce,

and the provisions of this Act shall be read and construed accordingly," etc.

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Thus it will be seen that section 22 of the present Act has been inserted there. Therefore, we are not doing anything new here, but merely carrying out in this piece of legislation what has been done in the Adaptation of Laws Order.

Then, objection was taken to section 5-B relating to burden of proof. It is true that the burden of proof is certainly on the prosecution in a criminal case, but where certain facts are within the exclusive possession of certain individuals, then naturally the burden shifts to those persons who are in possession of those facts. What does section 5-B say? The burden of proving that any dealer or any of his transactions is not liable to tax shall lie on such dealer. It is an information which is exclusively within the knowledge of the dealer and, therefore, the burden is placed on his shoulders and I do not think that it violates any principle of jurisdiction.

It is true that in some cases we have carried out the exact equivalent of three pies and in certain other cases we have rounded it off to the nearest naya paisa. These are all matters which, as I said, would be taken into consideration when we frame the new law in respect of this matter. The hon. Member Sri V. Gurunandan Row, who is unfortunately not here, raised a number of points. Firstly, he said that there was no urgency for this legislation. It surprised me, Sir, as it came from a lawyer of his eminence. If this Bill is not enacted within six weeks, the Ordinance will lapse and the benefit, which has been given to the public by way of single-point tax in respect of eight commodities, will not be available to them. Therefore, there is every justification and every urgency for bringing in this measure now before the House. Then, he dilated on the class of transactions covered by sections 5 and 5-A. I wish to point out that section 5-A covers cases governed by the Central Sales Tax Act and we have no option in the matter. It is only because certain cases are now governed by the Central Sales Tax Act and certain cases by the Madras Sales Tax Act that certain anomalies arise and that reinforces the need for a revising statute.

In 1939, we levied certain taxes on certain articles, but since then, the consumption pattern has changed. Naturally, it is necessary that from time to time we have to make amendments to suit the changing consumption pattern in the country. That is why, as I said in the other House, the Madras Sales Tax Act looks like a banyan tree with aerial roots spreading all round with the result that it is difficult for anybody to embrace that banyan tree. I am grateful to all the hon. Members for the useful suggestions that they have made. If I were in a debating mood and perhaps if the hon. Member Mr. V. Gurunandan Row were here, I would have pointed out that the levy of certain per cent of tax on commodities like cane-jaggery, cement, kerosene, etc., is to the advantage of the consumer. I fail to understand this argument. When persons press for a single-point tax, they say that the number of transactions is very large and that, therefore, the consumer has to pay the added accumulated

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tax at the end of each transaction. But when we levy single-point tax thereby reducing the number of transactions to one or two, they complain that the tax is heavy. I wish they would make up their minds and come to a decision as to which is advantageous to the people, whether a small multi-point tax or a slightly higher single-point tax. It has been the complaint of the business community that this multi-point tax works as a source of harassment, and they have generally favoured the adoption of a single-point tax. Therefore, I do not think that the hon. Member Mr. V. Gurunandan Row represented the common man's point of view when he complained about this matter.

I thank the House for the indulgence shown to me, and I request that the Bill be taken into consideration.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is—

“ That the Madras General Sales Tax, Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation and Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1957 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1957), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Clause 2.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The motion is—

“ That clause 2 do stand part of the Bill.”

Hon. Members may now move their amendments to this clause.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, I move the following amendments :—

“ In sub-clause (a), after the word ‘ dealer ’ and before the words ‘ shall pay ’, insert the following, namely :—

‘ whose turnover is Rupees Twenty-five thousand or more ’.”

The amendment was duly seconded.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, by moving this amendment, I only voice the feelings of many people who want that the application of the term “ dealer ” may be restricted to those persons whose turnover is Rs. 25,000 and above. Of course, it will be a little revolutionary so far as the present Sales Tax Law is concerned, but I would request the Hon. Minister to consider that aspect of the matter. Therefore it is that I make bold to move this amendment. This amendment, if accepted, will leave a large class of small dealers out of the purview of the Bill and this will also facilitate the collection of the tax by the Government. I have not gone into the figures and I do not know how far the revenue

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position will be affected. But I gather from the discussions held at the Conference of Merchants that this would not appreciably decrease the revenue. On the other hand, it would help the Government in the matter of easy collection of sales tax.

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : What will be the percentage of dealers who will be liable to be taxed if this limit were applied?

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : I can't say it off-hand. But I would request the Government to consider this matter.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Sir, in view of the promised legislation, is it necessary to press this amendment?

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, let us have the opinion of the other Members also.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : This is one of the points which will be considered when the general scheme of the reform of sales tax is taken up.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, then I do not wish to press my amendment.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 3.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The motion is—

“ That clause 3 do stand part of the Bill.”

Hon. Members may now move their amendments to this clause.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, I move the following amendment :—

“ In clause 3, sub-clause (1), after item (v), add the following as item (vi), namely :—

(vi) The sale of paddy and other foodgrains shall be exempt from taxation under section 3, sub-section (1). ”

The amendment was duly seconded.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, I have mentioned about this in my original speech. The object of my amendment is to exempt from taxation the sale of paddy and other foodgrains. Sir, hon. Members are aware that the price of paddy is going on rising. The Government have not given any reason why the prices are soaring. Recently there was a symposium on the rising prices in which I also participated. Nobody was really able to say why the prices were going on rising. Sir, the main reason is that the commodity passes through a number of hands. Let us take paddy,

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Sir. It is first sold by the landowner. Then it goes to the mill and from there it goes to the various dealers. It passes from hand to hand. Some people from Kerala and other outside places also make large purchases. Naturally the price here increase. Therefore, I would request the Government to deeply consider this aspect of the matter. Of course, there may be some loss of revenue. After all, the tax on foodgrains will fall on the head of the consumer. On the whole, therefore, will it not be better to exempt foodgrains from the tax? Just as the Government have exempted handloom cloth and some other foodstuffs, it is better to exempt foodgrains also from this tax. Foodgrains have been exempted from tax in some other States. Bombay has exempted foodgrains from the tax. Kerala also has done the same thing. (An hon. Member : Copy Kerala.) Therefore, our Government will not be doing anything new or original. Let us not copy Kerala in all matters. I am not asking the Government to copy Kerala in all matters. I am here to state that so far as this matter is concerned, it requires consideration by the Government.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : This matter has been considered several times and, in view of the enormous loss of revenue it will entail, it has not been possible to accept the suggestion. However, as I said, when the whole scheme is examined, this will be one of the points that will be considered.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause 3 was put and carried.

Clause 4.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The motion is—

“ That clause 4 do stand part of the Bill.”

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I move the following amendment :—

“ In clause 4, sub-clause (4), for the words ‘ two per cent.’ substitute the words ‘ one and nine-sixteenth per cent.’ ”

I would press this amendment to a division because I find this is a matter where the Government have increased the tax. Though it is a small increase, still it will affect materially the hide and skin dealers who have been already not prosperous in that trade. I know it very well. That is a trade which is very peculiar to our State. That commodity is exported in large quantities from Madras. That is a trade in which our departed friend Sri Abdul Hakim, a great charitable person, was engaged. So, I feel that the tax should not be increased in this case. I am not asking the Government to decrease the tax. I feel that this is a question of principle. The Government have already stated that they do not want to increase the rate at all. Even after converting into

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decimal coinage, they want to keep the tax at the same rate and put it at 1-9/16 per cent. They want to keep the rate as it is. That is a good intention on the part of the Government. They can exhibit that good intention in this particular matter also.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: I second the amendment, Sir. I was wondering why the Hon. Minister did not reply to this point. The point has already been nicely explained by my hon. Friend Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar. I may give another piece of information, Sir. Raw hides and skins are not available here and the bulk of them is purchased from other States. So, this commodity is already subjected to a tax there at one point. It may be 1 per cent or 1½ per cent, I do not know. Therefore, we should take into account the totality of the tax which this commodity is burdened with. It is taxed up to 2 per cent or 3 per cent. That is really too much. A considerable quantity of this commodity is exported from this State. I think the Government will do well to accept the amendment. I think the Hon. the Leader of the House is in a mood to accept this amendment because it is a reasonable one and has been put forward in a very reasonable manner. The only difficulty is that the Assembly will not be in session to-morrow. But it can pass the Bill when it meets next. I, therefore, request the Hon. Minister to accept this amendment.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is in order to conform to the principle that we have to tax this commodity at 2 per cent. This commodity forms part of the declared goods. All the declared goods are taxed at 2 per cent and it would, therefore, be making a distinction among the declared goods. We do not want to make any discrimination between one commodity and another among the declared goods. That is the reason why I am not able to accept the amendment.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: In the Essential Goods Act, raw hides and skins are mentioned as a commodity essential for the good of the community. (An hon. Member: That has been repealed.) Anyhow, the Government can take that into consideration and stretch a point further in favour of hides and skins. That is all I would say, especially when the trade is much affected. I would press my amendment, though the result may not be different.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The motion is—

“ In clause 4, sub-clause (4), for the words ‘ two per cent ’ substitute the words ‘ one and nine-sixteenth per cent ’.”

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 4 was put and carried.

Clauses 5 and 6 were put and carried.

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Clause 7.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The motion is—

“ That clause 7 do stand part of the Bill.”

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: Sir, I move the following amendment:—

“ Omit sub-clause (b).”

The Hon. the Mover of the Bill pointed out that there was already a provision in section 19 (6) of the Act. But that is different from this. Existing section 19 (4) ensures the previous publication of the rules in the *Fort St. George Gazette* for a period of not less than four weeks. This gives an opportunity to the trade concerned to express its opinion and to make its representations to Government. It is a very valuable thing in democracy. All rules are not placed before the Legislative Council, but they are placed only before the Assembly. (Sri T. Purushotham: They are placed before both the Houses.) In spite of Sri Purushotham's constant representation, I say that. The Hon. the Finance Minister once stated that the Legislative Assembly represented the people better than the Legislative Council. During the sessions, even if the rules are placed on the table of the House, unless our attention is drawn to them by merchants or other persons affected, we will not be in a position to understand the rules. With great respect to Members, I say we do not attach so much importance to the rules as to Bills and Acts. Therefore, I would state that the publication of the rules in the *Gazette* is a very valuable right which the persons concerned in the trade are having. Before four weeks the rules will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. Immediately the people concerned will come to know of them and make their representations, if any. So far as the hide and skin trade also is concerned, as mentioned by the hon. Member Sri V. V. Ramaswami, if the rules were published in the *Gazette*, they would have found out the defects and made representations to Government. Therefore, this is a salutary thing and is very valuable and useful. That is why I have moved this amendment, Sir.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: I second the amendment, Sir.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, I cannot pretend that the pre-publication of the rules is an added facility to the people. At the same time, insistence on pre-publication to the extent of four weeks causes certain amount of inconvenience to Government. But the rights of the Legislature are fairly protected by section 19 (6). Because, the moment the rules are published, they will be placed before both the Houses and modifications can be made. So, I am unable to accept this amendment at this stage. But I shall certainly bear this point in mind.

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*SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI : இதை கெஸ்ட்டில் பிரசுரித்தால் நான்கு வாரங்கள் அவகாசம் கிடைக்கும். அதுவும் இல்லாமல் போய்விட்டது. நண்பர் ஸ்ரீ பாலசுப்பிரமணிய அய்யர் அவர்கள் குறிப்பிட்டிருப்பதுபோல் இது அதிகமாக வியாபாரிகளைப் பொறுத்த விஷயம். இதை கெஸ்ட்டில் பிரசுரிப்பதில் என்ன கஷ்டங்கள் இருக்கின்றன என்பதை கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் விளக்கவில்லை. ஆகவே இதைக் கட்டாயம் கெஸ்ட்டில் பிரசுரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். இது ஓரளவு முடியா விட்டாலும் விதிகளைத் திருத்தும்போதாவது அல்லது விதிகளைத் தயார் செய்யும்போதாவது சம்பந்தப்பட்ட வியாபார சங்கங்களுக்கு அனைவருடைய பிரதிகளை அனுப்பி வைக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

5 DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Is the hon. Member Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar withdrawing his amendment?

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : I am withdrawing my amendment.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause 7 was put and carried.

Clause 8 was put and carried.

Clause 9.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, I am not moving my amendment.

Clause 9 was put and carried.

Clauses 10 to 13 were put and carried.

Clause 1.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The motion is—

“That clause 1 do stand part of the Bill.”

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, I move the following amendment :—

“Omit sub-clause (2), or in the alternative in sub-clause (2), for the words and figures ‘26th January 1950’ substitute the words and figures ‘1st April 1951’.”

The amendment was duly seconded.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, in my opinion this is an important amendment. The Hon. the Mover of the Bill mentioned section 22 when he referred to the Adaptation of Laws Order. Now, in this Bill section 22 is sought to be substituted by a new clause. This is not really for the purpose of carrying out the President's Order for the protection of the rights of the States because the President's Order later passed into Central Act No. 7 of 1956 protected only transactions entered into

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during the period between the 1st April 1951 and the 6th September 1955. This is what that Act, the Sales Tax Laws Validation Act, 1956, says—

“Notwithstanding any judgment, decree or order of any court, no law of a State imposing, or authorizing the imposition of, a tax on the sale or purchase of any goods where such sale or purchase took place in the course of inter-State trade or commerce during the period between the 1st day of April 1951 and the 6th day of September 1955, shall be deemed to be invalid or ever to have been invalid merely by reason of the fact that such sale or purchase took place in the course of inter-State trade or commerce; and all such taxes levied or collected or purporting to have been levied or collected during the aforesaid period shall be deemed always to have been validly levied or collected in accordance with law.”

It is not merely adaptation. They want to go back a year and fix 26th January 1950. They cannot go beyond that because the Constitution came into force only on the 26th January 1950. My point is that the transaction carried out in the intervening period between the 26th January 1950 and the 1st April 1951 need not be brought within the purview of the rights given. Especially when there is the Sales Tax Laws Validation Act passed by the Parliament, there is no need to have this clause, unless the Government want to give retrospective effect from the 26th January 1950.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, as I understand it, section 22 of the Madras General Sales Tax Act as it stood is valid from the 26th January 1950 by virtue of the Adaptation of Laws Order of 1952. Therefore, the Madras Sales Tax Act of 1939 with section 22 shall be deemed to have been there from the 26th January 1950. We are only seeking to replace that particular section 22 of the 1939 Act by making it effective from the date on which the Adaptation of Laws Order came into force.

Sir, if we go into the legislative history of the whole matter, we will find that the Madras High Court said that by virtue of the sales effected elsewhere—none at all in Madras—they were liable to tax. But the Andhra High Court took a contrary view. That would create a lot of confusion, in view of the decision of the Madras High Court. In order that it might be valid, we said that it would be valid from the time the original section 22 was valid. That is why we are unable to accept the amendment.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Is the hon. Member Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar withdrawing his amendment?

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : I am not pressing my amendment.

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The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause 1 was put, and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I move—

“That the Madras General Sales Tax, Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation and Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1957 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1957), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be passed.”

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Motion moved—

“That the Madras General Sales Tax, Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation and Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1957 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1957), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be passed.”

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Sir, I do not want to make a long speech. I only want to get from the Hon. the Leader of the House some information. Some time ago, the Hon. the Minister for Finance said in a Press interview that at a Conference of Central and State Ministers, it was decided to substitute the sales tax levied by State Governments on certain commodities like cloth by a Central excise duty and give the respective shares to the State Governments. It was also stated at that time that it would come into force from April or May this year. I would like to know at what stage the matter stands.

5-10 p.m. * THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, there have been several suggestions on this matter. It is rather difficult for me to specify which are the items in respect of which a Central tax is to be levied. But certainly there is a proposal in respect of certain commodities where a Central tax should be levied, collected and distributed to States on the basis of population.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, I wish only to say one word. We are very grateful to the Hon. Minister for his assurance that a comprehensive legislation—not in the sense in which the hon. Member Sri Ramaswami understands it—comprehensive legislation in the real sense of the term would be brought in. Comprehensive Bill means a Bill which will take into account all aspects of the question, all difficulties that have hitherto been raised either in courts of law, or by public bodies or by people's representatives. Therefore, I hope all aspects of the question would be considered and a comprehensive Bill which will meet all those difficulties would be brought in by the Hon. Minister. He is a talented young man, with energy and intelligence. Therefore, I have got great hopes that he would proceed with the measure with great vigour and vigilance and with sympathy for

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the merchants, especially the small retail dealers. For, I am more anxious about them than about other big merchants who can take care of themselves. But so far as the small retail dealers are concerned, I know their acute distress, for I saw it myself exhibited in a big meeting which was organized in Madras. Many hon. Members would have attended it and some might not have attended. But I attended it, just for knowing for myself about them and not in any capacity as a merchant. I myself am not a merchant and I have no transaction with merchants except as a consumer. But I am anxious that the Government should take this whole question into consideration and as the Madras Government were the premier Government in the matter of starting the levy of sales tax in 1939, this very Government of Madras should see that the whole thing is satisfactorily settled. I wish that this big book, law book, on sales tax would no longer be here but that there would be a simple law which would have taken into consideration all aspects of the question, which would leave no room for lawyers to quibble about and which would avoid litigation. I hope in the rules under the proposed legislation, there will be no room for harassment by officers and no room for perpetual state of war between dealers and Commercial Tax Officers. Of course, I am not casting any reflection on the officers. But I know, as a matter of fact, that there is harassment, that there is difficulty and that there is distress to dealers. Once and for all, I hope the Hon. Minister will put an end to all these difficulties and if he does so, he will earn a great name for himself and the Ministry.

DR. MAHOMED USMAN : May I know from the Hon. the Leader of the House when the new legislation contemplated by him would come up before us?

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Sir, I wish to congratulate the Hon. Minister Sri R. Venkataraman on the passage of the first Bill that has been piloted by him. I hope that the new Bill promised by him will also come before us soon, though it may be difficult for the Hon. Minister to say just now when it would be introduced. Still, I am sure that there will not be much time lost before he would be able to bring forward the promised legislation.

* SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI : கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, 22-வது செக்ஷன் சம்பந்தமாக வியாபாரிகளுக்கு இருக்கிற சங்கடங்களை நமது அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் அனுதாபத்துடன் கவனித்து, அவற்றை நீக்குவதற்கு உறுதிமொழி கொடுத்திருப்பதை வியாபாரிகளின் சார்பில் நான் பாராட்டுகிறேன். மேலும், நாங்கள் அரசாங்கத்தாருடன் பூரணமாக ஒத்துழைப்போம் என்றும், எங்கள் குறைகளை நீக்குவதற்கு கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் முன்வந்திருப்பதை என்னைன்றைக்கும் நன்றியுடன் நினைவில் வைத்துக்கொண்டிருப்போம் என்றும் வியாபாரிகளின் சார்பில் நான் உறுதிமொழி அளிக்கிறேன். நீதிமன்றத்திற்குப் போகாமலேயே நாம் சமூகமாக இந்தக் காரியம் செய்யப்படும் என்பது குறித்து நான் சந்தோஷப்படுகிறேன். எங்களுக்கு சங்கடங்கள் வரும்போது வேறு வழியில்லாமல்தான் படுகிறேன். எங்களுக்கு சங்கடங்கள் வரும்போது வேறு வழியில்லாமல்தான் நீதிமன்றத்திற்குப் போகிறோமே தவிர, வீணாகச் செலவழித்து அரசாங்கத் துக்கம் வியாபாரிகளுக்கும் இடையே ஏன் கசப்பை வளர்த்துக்கொள்ள

[Sri V. V. Ramaswami]

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வேண்டும்? விரிவான மசோதாவைக் கொண்டுவரும்போது சங்கடங்களை நீக்குவதுபற்றி கவனிப்பதாகவும், இந்தத் தேதியைத் தள்ளிப்போடுவதனால் வியாபாரிகளுக்கு ஏதாவது சங்கடங்கள் வந்தால் அவற்றை நேரில் வந்து தம்மிடம் தெரிவித்தால் கவனிப்பதாகவும் கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கூறினார்கள். சீக்கிரம் அப்படிச் சொல்லவேண்டி வரும். அப்பொழுது நிவாரணம் கிடைக்கும் என்ற நம்பிக்கையுடன் மறுபடியும் கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்களுக்கு என்னுடைய பாராட்டுதலைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members for all the kindness they have extended to me. It is my ambition, and I shall be judged by the achievement of that ambition, to place on the Statute Book of Madras State a legislation dealing with sales tax which will be acceptable, which will be understandable, which will give no room for harassment and which will also preserve the revenues of the State. (Cheers.) In that endeavour I am quite sure. I will have the co-operation of the hon. Members here. I may also state that the whole question will be examined not only from the fiscal point of view, but from the administrative point of view and from the point of view of the convenience of merchants as well as the consumers. If it takes a little time, I hope the House will bear with me, because the endeavour to be made is to make the measure as acceptable to the people as possible.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is—

“That the Madras General Sales Tax, Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation and Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1957 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1957), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be passed.”

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed.

V.—GOVERNMENT MOTIONS.

(1) ASSOCIATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS WITH THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES OF THE ASSEMBLY.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, I move—

“That this House nominates the following five members to associate with the Committee on Estimates of the Legislative Assembly for the financial year 1957-58:—

1. Dr. T. V. Sivanandam,
2. Sri T. S. Sankaranarayana Pillai,
3. Srimathi Jothi Venkatachellum,
4. Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai, and
5. Sri V. V. Ramaswami.”

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DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Motion moved—

“That this House nominates the following five members to associate with the Committee on Estimates of the Legislative Assembly for the financial year 1957-58:—

1. Dr. T. V. Sivanandam,
2. Sri T. S. Sankaranarayana Pillai,
3. Srimathi Jothi Venkatachellum,
4. Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai, and
5. Sri V. V. Ramaswami.”

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Sir, I am really glad that this motion has come before this House. Hon. Members would be aware that this and the other two motions to be moved next have had a long history. We were anxious that the Council Members should also be associated with the Committee on Estimates, the Public Accounts Committee and the Subordinate Legislation Committee of the Assembly. I am really glad that the Assembly has been able to accept the proposition put forward by us and I must also thank the Hon. the Leader of the Assembly who promised us in this House that he would get these Resolutions put through as early as possible. As the original Mover of this proposition, I am really glad that the Members of this House will have an opportunity to make themselves more useful in the discharge of their duties by association with these Committees. Even in the Union Parliament, we find that there is such association of the Lok Sabha members and the Rajya Sabha members in financial matters. I am glad the principle has been accepted here and there will be the opportunity in these Committees to work together. I will be failing in my duty if I do not thank the Hon. the Leader of this House for having brought in this motion so promptly. I once again thank him and the Finance Minister for getting this done for the Members of this House.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is—

“That this House nominates the following five members, to associate with the Committee on Estimates of the Legislative Assembly for the financial year 1957-58.”

- Dr. T. V. Sivanandam,
- Sri T. S. Sankaranarayana Pillai,
- Srimathi Jothi Venkatachellum,
- Sri T. M. Narayanaswamy Pillai, and
- „ V. V. Ramaswami,

The motion was put and carried.

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(2) ASSOCIATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS WITH THE COMMITTEE
ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I move—

“ That this House nominates the following five Members to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Legislative Assembly for the financial year 1957-58 :—

Sri N. Nallasenapathi Sarkarai Manradiar,
 „ T. Purushotham,
 Srimathi S. Manjubashini,
 Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, and
 Sri Mohamed Raza Khan.”

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is—

“ That this House nominates the following five Members to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Legislative Assembly for the financial year 1957-58 :—

Sri N. Nallasenapathi Sarkarai Manradiar,
 „ T. Purushotham,
 Srimathi S. Manjubashini,
 Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, and
 Sri Mohamed Raza Khan.”

The motion was put and carried.

(3) ASSOCIATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS WITH THE COMMITTEE ON
SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION OF THE ASSEMBLY

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I move—

5.20 p.m. “ That this House nominates the following three members to associate with the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of the Legislative Assembly for the financial year 1957-58 :—

Sri S. P. Sivasubramanya Nadar.
 „ V. Bhashyam Iyengar.
 “ K. Balasubramanya Ayyar.”

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Motion moved—

“ That this House nominates the following three members to associate with the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of the Legislative Assembly for the financial year 1957-58 :—

Sri S. P. Sivasubramanya Nadar.
 „ V. Bhashyam Ayengar.
 „ K. Balasubramanya Ayyar.”

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Sir, I have given notice of certain amendments to the Council Rules in regard to these Committees. Now that we are adopting these motions, the rules will have to be

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suitably amended. As I have already given notice of necessary amendments, I hope they will be taken up for consideration in due course and that these propositions taht we are passing now will be incorporated in the Council Rules.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is—

“ That this House nominates the following three members to associate with the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of the Legislative Assembly for the financial year 1957-58 :—

Sri S. P. Sivasubramanya Nadar.
 „ V. Bhashyam Iyengar.
 „ K. Balasubramanya Ayyar.”

The motion was put and carried.

III.—ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—*cont.*

(3) PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE MEETING IN JUNE AND JULY 1957.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have to report to the House that at the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee held at 2-15 p.m. to-day, the following tentative programme for the presentation and consideration of the Budget has been decided :—

29th June 1957, 3 p.m. .. Presentation of the Budget for the year 1957-58.

1st July 1957 to 5th July 1957 General discussion on the Budget. (5 days).

6th, 8th, 10th and 11th July Consideration of Government Bills and Motions passed by the Assembly and any other business. (4 days).

22nd July 1957, 3 p.m. .. Presentation of Demands for Grants for Excess Expenditure, if any.

25th July 1957 Discussion on the Demands for Grants for Excess Expenditure.

26th July 1957 Consideration and passing of Appropriation Bills.

The Council will meet from 3 to 6 p.m. on all days.

The House will now adjourn *sine die*.The House then adjourned *sine die*.

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

* Bill passed by the Legislative Assembly and received therefrom in the Council.

The Madras General Sales Tax, Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation and Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1957 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1957).

* Circulated in the Chamber and sent by messengers on 7th May 1957.

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APPENDIX.

(Vide item IV on page 176 supra.)

L.A. BILL No. 1 OF 1957.

(As passed by the Assembly)

A Bill to extend the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939, and certain other Acts to the transferred territories in the State of Madras, and further to amend the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939, the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939, and the Madras Entertainments Tax Act, 1939.

WHEREAS it is expedient to extend the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939 (Madras Act IX of 1939) and certain other Acts to the transferred territories in the State of Madras and further to amend the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939 (Madras Act IX of 1939), the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939 (Madras Act VI of 1939), and the Madras Entertainments Tax Act, 1939 (Madras Act X of 1939), for the purposes hereinafter appearing; BE it enacted in the Eighth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. Short title and commencement.—(1) This Act may be called the Madras General Sales Tax, Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation and Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Act, 1957.

(2) The provisions of sub-section (2) of section 3 shall be deemed to have come into force on the 26th January 1950.

2. Amendment of section 3, Madras Act IX of 1939.—In section 3 of the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939 (Madras Act IX of 1939) (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act)—

(a) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, every dealer shall pay for each year a tax on his total turnover for that year calculated at one and nine-sixteenth per cent of such turnover;

Provided that if and to the extent to which such turnover relates to articles of food or drink or both sold in a hotel, boarding house, restaurant, stall or any other place, the tax shall be calculated at two and a half per cent of the turnover relating to those articles if that turnover is not less than twenty-five thousand rupees”;

(b) in sub-section (2)—

(i) for the words “Rate of tax for every rupee in the turnover relating to such goods”, the words “Rate of tax on the turnover” shall be substituted;

(ii) for the words “One anna three pies”, “One anna”, “Six pies” and “Three pies” wherever they occur, the words “Eight per cent”, “Six per cent”, “Three per cent” and “Two per cent” shall respectively be substituted;

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(iii) items (iv) and (v) and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted;

(c) to sub-section (3), the following Explanation shall be added, namely:—

“*Explanation.*—For the purpose of exemption from taxation under this sub-section, the total turnover shall be deemed to include—

(1) the turnover exempted under section 6 of this Act, and

(2) the aggregate of the sale prices received and receivable by the dealer in respect of sales of any goods in the course of inter-State trade or commerce as determined in accordance with the provisions of the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 (Central Act 74 of 1956), as also in respect of sales in the course of export”;

(d) sub-section (4) shall be omitted;

(e) in sub-section (5), for the proviso, the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:—

“Provided that in respect of the same transaction of sale, the buyer or the seller, but not both, as determined by such rules as may be prescribed, shall be taxed.”

3 Substitution of new section for section 5 in Madras Act IX of 1939.—For section 5 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“*5. Exemptions and reductions of tax in certain cases.*—

(1) Subject to such restrictions and conditions as may be prescribed, including conditions as to licences and licence fees—

(i) the sale of handspun yarn and of any cloth woven on handlooms wholly with handspun yarn and sold by persons dealing exclusively in such cloth, shall be exempt from taxation under section 3, sub-section (1);

(ii) the sale of bullion and specie shall be liable to tax under section 3, sub-section (1), only at such single point in the series of sales by successive dealers as may be prescribed but at the rate of one-half of one per cent on the turnover at that point;

(iii) the sale of cigars and cheroots at less than twelve naye paise per cigar or cheroot, and bidis, snuff, chewing tobacco or any other product manufactured from tobacco, shall be liable to tax under section 3, sub-section (1), only at the point of the first sale effected in the State of Madras by a dealer who is not exempt from taxation under section 3, sub-section (3), but at the rate of three per cent on his turnover;

(iv) raw tobacco, whether cured or uncured, shall be liable to tax under section 3, sub-section (1), only at the point of the first purchase effected in the State of Madras by a dealer who is not exempt from taxation under section 3, sub-section (3), but at the rate of three per cent on his turnover;

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Provided that where a dealer who has paid tax in respect of his turnover relating to goods included in clause (iii) has also paid the tax on the purchase of raw tobacco used in the manufacture of such goods under clause (iv) he shall be entitled to a rebate to the extent of tax paid in respect of the raw tobacco so used;

(v) the sale of the following goods shall be liable to tax under section 3, sub-section (1), only at the point of the first sale effected in the State of Madras by a dealer who is not exempt from taxation under section 3, sub-section (3), but at the rate specified against them :—

Serial number.	Description of goods.	Rate of tax on the turnover.
(1)	(2)	(3)
		PER CENT.
1	Cotton yarn other than handspun cotton yarn ..	1
2	Chemical fertilizers	3
3	Cane jaggery	5
4	Coffee	5
5	Cement	5
6	Kerosene	5
7	Tea	5
8	Motor vehicles including motor cars, motor taxi-cabs, motor cycles and cycle combinations, motor scooters, motorettes, motor omnibuses, motor vans and motor lorries	6
	Chassis of motor vehicles	
	Component parts of motor vehicles	
	Articles (including rubber and other tyres and tubes and batteries) adapted for use as parts and accessories of motor vehicles, not being such articles as are ordinarily also used for purposes other than as parts or accessories of motor vehicles.	
9	Refrigerator; air conditioning plants; component parts of refrigerators or air conditioning plants.	6

(2) The licence fee may be computed on the total turnover of the dealer in respect of each place of his business and such fee shall be and shall always be deemed to have been validly levied as if it were a tax or addition thereto."

4. Insertion of new sections 5-A, 5-B and 5-C in Madras Act IX of 1939.—After section 5 of the principal Act, the following sections shall be inserted, namely :—

"5-A. Tax on sales or purchases of certain goods.—(1) The sale of the following goods shall be liable to tax under section 3, sub-section (1), only at the point of the first sale effected in the State of Madras by a dealer who is not exempt from taxation under section 3, sub-section (3), but at the rate specified against them :—

Serial number.	Description of goods.	Rate of tax on the turnover.
(1)	(2)	(3)
		PER CENT.
1	Coal, including coke in all its forms	2
2	Iron and steel, that is to say—	2
	(a) pig iron and iron scrap;	
	(b) iron plates sold in the same form in which they are directly produced by the rolling mill.	
	(c) steel scrap, steel ingots, steel billets, steel bars and rods;	

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Serial number.	Description of goods.	Rate of tax on the turnover.
(1)	(2)	(3)
		PER CENT.
	(d) (i) Steel plates, (ii) Steel sheets, (iii) Sheet bars and tin bars, (iv) Rolled steel sections, (v) Tool alloy steel;	Sold in the same form in which they are directly produced by the rolling mill. 2
3	Jute, that is to say, the fibre extracted from plants belonging to the species <i>corchorus capsularis</i> and <i>corchorus olitorius</i> and the fibre known as <i>mesta</i> or <i>bimli</i> extracted from plants of the species <i>hibiscus cannabinus</i> and <i>hibiscus sabdariffa</i> var. <i>altissima</i> , whether baled or otherwise.	2
4	Oil-seeds other than groundnut, that is to say, seeds yielding non-volatile oils used for human consumption, or in industry, or in the manufacture of varnishes, soaps and the like, or in lubrication, and volatile oils used chiefly in medicines, perfumes, cosmetics and the like.	2

(2) Groundnut shall be liable to tax under section 3, sub-section (1), only at the point of the first purchase effected in the State of Madras by a dealer who is not exempt from taxation under section 3, sub-section (3), but at the rate of two per cent on his turnover.

(3) The sale of cotton, that is to say, all kinds of cotton (indigenous or imported) in its unmanufactured state, whether ginned or unginned, baled, pressed or otherwise, but not including cotton waste, shall be liable to tax under section 3, sub-section (1), only at such single point in the series of sales by successive dealers as may be prescribed but at the rate of one per cent on the turnover at that point.

(4) The sale of hides and skins, whether in a raw or dressed state, shall be liable to tax only at such single point in the series of sales by successive dealers as may be prescribed but at the rate of two per cent on the turnover at that point.

5-B. Burden of proof as to non-liability to tax in certain cases.—The burden of proving that any dealer or any of his transactions is not liable to tax under section 5 or section 5-A shall lie on such dealer.

5-C. Liability to taxation under this Act of transactions taxable under other laws.—(1) The tax under this Act shall be levied on any transaction of sale or purchase deemed to take place inside the State under this Act or any other law for the time being in force.

(2) The provisions of this Act relating to taxation of successive sales inside the State only at a single point or only at one or more stages apply only to the sales inside the State other than the sales in the course of inter-State trade or commerce and the tax under the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 (Central Act 74 of 1956), shall be levied at the appropriate rate notwithstanding that a sale or purchase of the same goods has been taxed under this Act."

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5. Amendment of section 6, Madras Act IX of 1939.—In clause (i) of sub-section (1) of section 6 of the principal Act, for the words “any specified class of goods”, the words “any specified goods or class of goods” shall be, and shall be deemed always to have been, substituted.

6. Amendment of section 8-B, Madras Act IX of 1939.—In section 8-B, sub-section (2), of the principal Act, for the words and figures “any amount by way of tax under this Act, on or after the 1st day of April 1947”, the words, figures and brackets “any amount purporting to be by way of tax under this Act, on or after the 1st day of April 1947 (whether or not any tax is due from him under this Act in respect of the transaction in which he has collected or collects such amount)” shall be substituted.

7. Amendment of section 19, Madras Act IX of 1939.—In section 19 of the principal Act—

(a) in sub-section (2), after clause (a), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(aa) determining the turnover of a dealer for the purposes of this Act”;

(b) sub-section (4) shall be omitted.

8. Substitution of new section for section 22 in Madras Act IX of 1939.—(1) Section 22 of the principal Act shall be omitted.

(2) In the place of section 22 aforesaid, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

“22. *Sale or purchase deemed to have taken place inside the State in certain cases.*—(1) Any sale or purchase which took place on or before the 6th day of September 1955 shall be deemed to have taken place inside the State if the goods have actually been delivered as a direct result of such sale or purchase for the purpose of consumption in the State, notwithstanding the fact that under the general law relating to sale of goods the property in the goods has by reason of such sale or purchase passed in another State, and be subject to tax under this Act accordingly.

(2) The provisions of this section shall not affect the liability to tax of any sale or purchase under any other provision of this Act.”

9. Validation of certain assessments and levy of licence fees for the year 1955-56.—Tax may be assessed or collected and licence fees levied or collected for the year 1955-56 notwithstanding the retrospective operation of the amendments to the Madras General Sales Tax Rules, 1939, and the Madras General Sales Tax (Turnover and Assessment) Rules, 1939, and all assessments made, taxes

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collected and licence fees levied for the year 1955-56 shall be deemed to have been made, collected or levied, as the case may be, as if these rules as amended were in force at all relevant times:

Provided that no act or omission on the part of any person shall be punishable as an offence which would not have been so punishable if this section had not been enacted.

10. Amendment of Madras Act VI of 1939.—In section 3, sub-section (1) of the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939 (Madras Act VI of 1939), for the words “one anna and six pies”, the words “thirty-eight naye paise” and for the words “six pies”, the words “ten naye paise” shall be substituted.

11. Amendment of Madras Act X of 1939.—In the Madras Entertainments Tax Act, 1939 (Madras Act X of 1939)—

(a) in section 4—

(i) in sub-section (1), for the words “five annas” in both places where they occur, the words “thirty naye paise” and for the words “one rupee eight annas” in both places where they occur, the words “one rupee and fifty naye paise” shall be substituted;

(ii) for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(2) In the determination of the amount of tax payable on each payment for admission under sub-section (1), fractions of a naya paisa less than half a naya paisa shall be disregarded and fractions of naya paisa equal to or exceeding half a naya paisa shall be regarded as one naya paisa.”;

(b) in section 4-A, sub-section (1), for the words “Two rupees eight annas”, the words “Two rupees and fifty naye paise” and for the words “One rupee eight annas” the words “One rupee and fifty naye paise” shall be substituted.

12. Extension of Madras Acts IX of 1939, VI of 1939 and IV of 1953 to the transferred territories and the repeal of corresponding laws.—(1) The Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939 (Madras Act IX of 1939) and the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939 (Madras Act VI of 1939), as amended by this Act, and the Madras Tobacco (Taxation of Sales and Registration) Act, 1953 (Madras Act IV of 1953), as amended by the Madras Tobacco (Taxation of Sales and Registration) Amendment Act, 1956, (Madras Act XXXII of 1956), and any rule, bye-law, order, notification or other instrument having the force of law made thereunder (hereinafter referred to as the Madras law) and in force on the commencement of this Act are hereby extended to, and shall be in force in, the transferred territories.

(2) If, immediately before the commencement of this Act, there is in force in the transferred territories, any law corresponding to the Madras law, such corresponding law shall stand repealed on such commencement:

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Provided that anything done or any action taken under any such corresponding law shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the Madras law corresponding thereto and shall continue to have effect accordingly, unless and until superseded by anything done or any action taken under the Madras law.

(3) Unless the context otherwise requires, the Madras General Clauses Act, 1891 (Madras Act I of 1891), shall apply for the interpretation of the Madras law.

(4) For the purpose of facilitating the application of the Madras law in the transferred territories, any court or other authority may construe such law with such alterations not affecting the substance as may be necessary or proper to adapt it to the matter before the Court or other authority.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this section, the expression 'the transferred territories' shall mean the Kanyakumari district and the Shencottah taluk of the Tirunelveli district.

13. Repeal of Madras Ordinance I of 1957.—(1) The Madras General Sales Tax, Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation and Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957 (Madras Ordinance I of 1957), is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken in the exercise of any power conferred by or under the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939 (Madras Act IX of 1939), the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939 (Madras Act VI of 1939), and the Madras Entertainments Tax Act, 1939 (Madras Act X of 1939), as amended by the said Ordinance, shall be deemed to have been done or taken in the exercise of the powers conferred by or under the said Acts, as if this Act were in force on the day on which such thing was done or action was taken.

I certify that this is a Money Bill.

U. KRISHNA RAU,
Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly.

FININCIAL MEMORANDUM.

Clause 12 of the Bill provides for the extension of the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939, the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939, and the Madras Tobacco (Taxation of Sales and Registration) Act, 1953, as amended by the Madras Tobacco (Taxation of Sales and Registration) Amendment Act, 1956, to the Kanyakumari district and the Shencottah taluk of the Tirunelveli district and for the repeal of the corresponding laws, if any, in force in those areas. This is likely to involve additional expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State due to the employment of additional staff for the enforcement of the provisions of the Acts referred to. It is, however, not possible at this stage to estimate the expenditure that will be incurred.

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Plantation Agriculturists Income-tax (Appeal and Revision) Rules, 1955, amendments to—(G.O. No. 178, Revenue, dated 11th January 1957)

Public Service Commission (Madras) and Tribunal for Disciplinary Proceedings, Madras, activities during the half-year ending 30th September 1956 [G.O. Ms. No. 3939, Public (Services-C), dated 23rd November 1956]

Public Service Commission (Madras), report for the year ending 31st March 1956 [G.O. No. 3685, Public (Services), dated 30th October 1956]

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Exemption of brown sugar from the levy of additional—[G.O. No. 274, Revenue, dated 19th January 1957].

Exemption of certain commodities from—in transferred areas under the States Reorganization Act [Memo. No. 96402-N/56-10, Revenue, dated 16th January 1957].

Exemption of certain co-operative societies of oil producers from [G.O. No. 4391, Revenue, dated 3rd December 1956]

Exemption of hostels attached to educational institutions from—[G.O. Ms. No. 435, Revenue, dated 7th December 1956]

Exemption of seeds sold by the Agricultural Department from—[G.O. Ms. No. 4421, Revenue, dated 6th December 1956]

Exemption of unserviceable leather sold by the Central Leather Research Institute, Madras, from—[G.O. No. 4653, Revenue, dated 24th December 1956]

Suppression of Immoral Traffic Rules, 1952, deletion of rule 33 re cases of voluntary inmates continued to be governed by executive orders (G.O. Ms. No. 317, Home, dated 5th February 1957)

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