



Bombay Legislative Council Debates

Official Report

Monday, February 17, 1958

**(PART II—PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN QUESTIONS AND
ANSWERS)**

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1958

Vol 5, No. 1.

THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

GOVERNOR.

His Excellency Shri SRI PRAKASA.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

- (1) Shri Y. B. CHAVAN (Chief Minister, Political and services and Home).
- (2) Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance).
- (3) Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH (Minister for Revenue).
- (4) Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH (Minister for Labour and Law).
- (5) Shri M. S. KANNAMWAR (Minister for Public Health).
- (6) Shri RATUBHAI M. ADANI (Minister for Prohibition, Village Panchayat and Cottage Industries).
- (7) Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK (Minister for Agriculture including Aarey Milk Colony).
- (8) Shri B. G. GHADE (Minister for Forests).
- (9) Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH (Minister for Local Self-Government excluding Village Panchayats).
- (10) Shri S. K. WANKHEDE (Minister for Planning and Development Electricity and Industries).
- (11) Shri D. S. DESAI (Minister for Public Works).
- (12) Shri HITENDRA DESAI (Minister for Education).
- (13) Shri S. G. KAZI (Minister for Civil Supplies, Housing, Printing Press and Fisheries).
- (14) Shri T. S. BHARADE (Minister for Co-operation).
- (15) Shri N. K. TIRPUDE (Minister for Social Welfare and Rehabilitation).

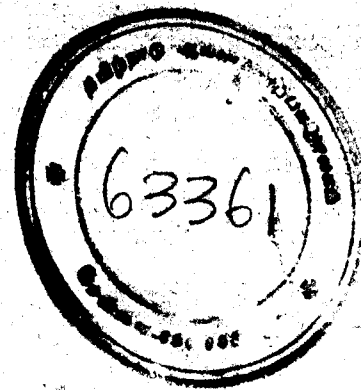
DEPUTY MINISTERS.

- (1) Dr. BHASKAR R. PATEL (Prohibition).
- (2) Shri PREMJI B. THAKKAR (Roads, Buildings and Ports).
- (3) Shri SHANKARRAO CHAVAN (Revenue).
- (4) Shrimati NIRMALA RAJE BHOSLE (Education).
- (5) Shri DEVISINGH V. CHAUHAN (Agriculture).

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- Karve, Dr. Dinkar Dhondo (Maharashtra—Graduates).
 Kashikar, Shrimati Subhagabai Shreedhar (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Khair, Dr. Gajanan Shripat (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers).
 Korpe, Shri Jagannath Nathuji (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Kotecha, Shri Harijiwan Vithaldas (Saurashtra—Local Authorities).
 Kulkarni, Shri Bidesh Tukaram (Greater Bombay—Graduates).
 Kulkarni, Shrimati Sushila Jayadeo (Nominated).
 Lagu, Dr. Balkrishna Chintaman (Nominated).
 Lala, Shri Bhogilal Dhirajlal (Gujarat North—Local Authorities).
 Lingras, Shri Shankar Vithal (Maharashtra North—Local Authorities).
 Mali, Shri Gajmal Dalpat (Maharashtra North—Local Authorities).
 Maniar, Shri Lallubhai Kishordas (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Mehta, Shri Chandrakant Chhotalal (Gujarat—Graduates).
 Meta, Shri Chhabildas Pragji (Saurashtra—Local Authorities).
 Mohamed Taher Habib, Shri (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Munshi, Shri Ramrai Mohanrai (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Nagpure, Shri Vithalrao Tukaram (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Nagori, Smt. Madinabai Akbarbhai (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Nemichand Kisandas, Shri (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Ogale, Shri Shankar Laxman (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers).
 Page, Shri Vithal Sakharan (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Pandit Rao, Shri (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Parashar, Shri Vinayakumar Ramlal (Vidarbha—Local Authorities).
 Parekh Smt. Bhanumatiben Manilal (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Patel Shri Ambalal Lalooobhai (Gujarat—Teachers).
 Patel, Shri Bhaskar Rambhai (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).

- Patel, Shri Chunibhai Muljibhai (Gujarat South—Local Authorities.)
 Patel, Shri Maganbhai Bhikhabhai (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)
 Patel, Shri Shamaldas Khemchand, (Gujarat North—Local Authorities.)
 Pathan, Shri Sulemankhan Abdullakhan (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)
 Patel, Shri Kashirao Raibhan (Vidarbha—Local Authorities.)
 Patwari, Shri Prabhudas Balubhai (Gujarat North—Local Authorities.)
 Ratanlal Mohanlal, Shri (Nominated.)
 Rawat, Shri Bachubhai Popatbhai (Nominated.)
 Rebello, Dr. Alfred Camillo Peter (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)
 Sanghavi, Smt. Dhirajben Popatlal (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)
 Sathaye, Dr. Vaman Dinkar (Maharashtra—Graduates.)
 Sathe, Shri Ganpatrao Dhondiba (Maharashtra South—Local Authorities)
 Shah, Smt. Anasuya Chhotalal (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)
 Shah, Shri Chimanlal Kuberdas (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)
 Shaw, Shri David Fakirchand (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra West—Local Authorities.)
 Shende, Shri Bhaurao Vithoba (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)
 Shukla, Shri Balkrishna Dinamanishankar (Saurashtra—Local Authorities).
 Shukla, Shri Damubhai Chhaganbhai (Gujarat—Graduates.)
 Shukla, Shrimati Jyotsnaben Bhusukhran (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)
 Sipahimalani, Kumari Jethi T. (Nominated.)
 Sodhi, Shri D. S. (Nominated.)
 Thacker, Shri Karsondas Hirji (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)
 Thakore, Shri Thakorlal Shripatrai (Gujarat—Teachers.)
 Thete, Shri Gopal Ramji (Maharashtra North—Local Authorities.)
 Thorat, Shri Sambhajirao Maruti (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)

- (6) Shri JASWANTALAL S. SHAH (Co-operation).
 (7) Shri S. R. PATIL (Sarvodaya, Forests Labour Societies and Khar
 lands Board).
 (8) Shri G. D. PATIL (Planning and Development).
 (9) Shri CHHOTUBHAI M. PATEL (Transport and Jails).
 (10) Shri N. N. KAILAS (Public Health).
 (11) Shri M. D. CHOUDHARY (Irrigation).
 (12) Shri BAHADURBHAI K. PATEL (Social Welfare).

Shri HOMI J. H. TALEYARKHAN (Hon. Parliamentary Secretary to
 the Chief Minister.).

BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.
 OFFICERS.

Chairman—Shri B. D. LALA.
 Deputy Chairman—Kumari JETHI T. SIPAII MALANI.
 Secretary—Shri S. H. BELAVADI.
 Assistant Secretary—Shri Y. N. ACHAREKER.
 Officers on Special Duty—Shri H. B. SHUKLA and Shri S. R. KHARABE.
 Special Officers—Shri M. J. TAMANE and Shri M. K. PANDIT.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS.

Acharya, Shri Labshankar Devshankar (Saurashtra—Local Authorities).
 Agarwal, Shri Dayashankar Biharilal (Maharashtra South—Local
 Authorities).
 Agrawal, Shri Kashinath Mannalal (Elected by Bombay Legislative
 Assembly).
 Agrawal, Shri Sukhadeo Shaligram (Elected by Bombay Legislative
 Assembly).
 Alshi, Shri Mahadeo Supadaji (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Ambekar, Shri G. D. (Nominated.)
 Awode, Shri Haridas Damaji (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Badave, Shri Baburao Pralhad (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).
 Balbudhe, Shri Ramrao Narayanrao (Vidarbha—Local Authorities).
 Barfivala, Shri Chunilal Damodar (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra
 West—Local Authorities).
 Benadikar, Shri Sadashiv Laxman (Elected by Bombay Legislative
 Assembly).

Bhadlavala, Shri Chhaganlal Nanji (Elected by Bombay Legislative
 Assembly).

Bhat, Shri Atmaram Raoji (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).

Bhatt, Shri Rasiklal Shankarlal (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).

Bhave, Shri Ramchandra Narayan (Maharashtra South—Local Authorities).

Bhide, Shri Hari Bhaskar (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).

Bhimrao Shesh Rao, Shri (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).

Chinai, Shri Babubhai Maneklal (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly).

Daboo, Shri Dinshawji Ratanji (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assem-
 bly).

Dahanukar, Shri Shantaram Mahadeo (Elected by Bombay Legislative
 Assembly).

Dalal, Shri Bejoaji Aderji (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra West—Local
 Authorities).

Desai, Shri Maganbhai P. (Nominated).

Deshmukh, Shri Ishwar Bagji (Vidarbha—Local Authorities).

Deshmukh, Shri Vasantrao Balvant (Maharashtra South—Local Autho-
 rities).

Devji Rattensey, Shri (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra West—Local
 Authorities).

Donde, Shri Moreshwar Vasudeo (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra
 Teachers).

Dongre, Shri V. S., B.A. (Bar-at-Law) (Nominated).

Gadgil, Shri Pandurang Vasudeo (Elected by Bombay Legislative
 Assembly).

Gaikwad, Shri Madhav Bayaji (Maharashtra North—Local Authorities).

Galwankar, Dr. Sadanand Keshav (Maharashtra North—Local Authori-
 ties).

Ghodke, Shri F. D. (Nominated).

Girme, Shri Jagannath Haribhau (Maharashtra South—Local Authorities).

Gulam Haider Walimahamed, Shri (Elected by Bombay Legislative
 Assembly).

Hamied, Dr. K. A., B.Sc., M.A., Ph. D., (Berlin), A.I., F.R.C.S. (London);
 (Nominated.)

Jawade, Shri Janrao Harbaji (Vidarbha—Local Authorities).

Joshi, Shrimati Subhadrabai Dattatraya (Elected by Bombay Legislative
 Assembly).

Tilawant Ali, Shri (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)
 Trivedi, Shri Dwarkadas Nanji (Saurashtra—Local Authorities.)
 Upadhyaya, Shri Ramshankar Jeshankar (Nominated.)
 Veer, Shri Kisan Mahadev (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)
 Vin, Shri Motilal Hargovandas (Gujarat South—Local Authorities.)
 Yardi, Shri Vaman Gangadhar (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly.)

Vacant (Greater Bombay—Graduates.)

Vacant (Vidarbha—Graduates.)

Vacant (Vidarbha—Graduates.)

Vacant (Vidarbha—Graduates.)

Vacant (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers.)

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Vacant (Vidarbha—Teachers.)

Vacant (Gujarat North—Local Authorities.)

Vacant (Gujarat South—Local Authorities.)

Vacant (Gujarat South—Local Authorities.)

Vacant (Gujarat South—Local Authorities.)

Vacant (Marathwada—Local Authorities.)

Vacant (Marathwada—Local Authorities.)

Vacant (Marathwada—Local Authorities.)

AGENDA.

Agenda for the First Session, 1958, of the Bombay Legislative Council commencing at the Council Hall, Bombay, on Monday, the 17th February 1958 at 2-00 p.m.

- I. OATHS OR AFFIRMATIONS OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.
- II. ADDRESS BY THE GOVERNOR.
- III. MOTION OF THANKS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.
- IV. NOMINATION OF PANEL OF CHAIRMEN BY THE CHAIRMAN.

V. NOMINATION OF MEMBERS BY THE CHAIRMAN ON

- (1) Committee on Petitions,
- (2) Subordinate Legislation Committee,
- (3) Committee on Rules,
- (4) Committee of Privileges.

VI. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

VII. DISCUSSION ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

VIII. PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1958-59.

IX. GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET.

X. PRESENTATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS.

XI. DISCUSSION OF SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS.

XII. DISCUSSION ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES FOR THE YEAR 1955.

XIII. ELECTION OF MEMBERS ON THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE OF THE BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

XIV. ELECTION OF MEMBERS ON THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE OF THE BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

XV. GOVERNMENT BILLS—

- (1) L. A. Bill No. XLIX of 1957 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Primary Education Act, 1957).
- (2) L. A. Bill No. LIII of 1957 (A Bill to abolish Inami Tenure and certain other special land Tenures in the City of Bombay).
- (3) L. A. Bill No. LIV of 1957 (A Bill to provide for uniformity in the provisions of the Indian Registration Act, 1908, in its application to the State of Bombay, and further to amend the said Act).
- (4) L. A. Bill No. LV of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883, and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884, to the Hyderabad and Saurashtra areas of the State of Bombay and to amend the said Acts for certain purposes).

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- (5) L. A. Bill No. LVI of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Non-Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1928, to the rest of the State of Bombay).
- (6) L. A. Bill No. LVII of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Indian Treasure-trove Act, 1878, to Hyderabad and Saurashtra areas of the State of Bombay).
- (7) L. A. Bill No. LIX of 1957 (A Bill to provide in the interests of the general public, for the control and regulation of the production, movement, supply and distribution of, and trade and commerce in, certain commodities, and the maintenance and movement of cattle).
- (8) L. A. Bill No. LXX of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Lifts Act, 1939, to the rest of the State of Bombay).
- (9) L. A. Bill No. LXXI of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Devdasis Protection Act, 1934, to the rest of the State of Bombay).
- (10) L. A. Bill No. LXXII of 1957 [A Bill to extend the Bombay Hindu Places of Public Worship (Entry Authorization) Act, 1956, to the rest of the State of Bombay].
- (11) L. A. Bill No. I of 1958 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Land Improvement Schemes Act, 1942 to the rest of the State of Bombay and to amend it for certain purposes).
- (12) L. A. Bill No. II of 1958 (A Bill to amend the Land Acquisition (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1948).
- (13) L. A. Bill No. III of 1958 (A Bill to amend the Bombay Ministers' Salaries and Allowances Act, 1956).
- (14) L. A. Bill No. IV of 1958 (A Bill to amend the Madhya Pradesh Temporary Postponement of execution of Decrees Act, 1956).

XVI. ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT BUSINESS OF WHICH NOTICE MAY BE GIVEN.

XVII. NON-OFFICIAL BILLS—

L. C. Bill No. I of 1958 (A Bill further to amend the Poona University Act, 1948)—First, Second and Third Readings. Shri S. L. Ogale, M.L.C.

XVIII. DISCUSSION ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

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Resolutions by Shri T. S. Thakore, M.L.C.

1. "This Council recommends to Government to appoint a Committee to examine and recommend ways and means to improve the academic standard of education in the Primary and Secondary schools which is now deteriorating due to greater emphasis laid on the training in Crafts, physical training and other extra curricular activities."

2. "As the present system of imparting physical education at odd hours in schools is detrimental to the health of students; this Council recommends to Government to open Gymnasia at convenient places for the students going to schools and make it compulsory for them to receive physical training at these Gymnasia instead of at schools."

3. "This Council recommends to Government to withdraw the prohibitive order for the use of fountain pens by students in schools."

4. "As the expenditure on compulsory primary education is wasteful, this Council recommends to Government to go slow with its present policy of compulsory primary education."

Resolution by Shri H. B. Bhide, M.L.C.

"This Council recommends to Government to sanction Rs. 25 per month as old-age pension to persons of 70 years and above who are not in receipt of Government Pension or do not derive benefit of any funds like Provident Fund, etc. and have no means of subsistence."

Resolution by Shri Sukhdeo Agrawal, M.L.C.

"With a view to fetching adequate price for the agricultural produce brought by cultivators in Gondia of the Bhandara District, this Council recommends to Government to take early steps to apply the provisions of the Madhya Pradesh Agricultural Produce Market Act of 1935 to Gondia so as to declare that place a market for sale and purchase of agricultural produce."

XIX. PAPERS PLACED ON THE COUNCIL TABLE.

(List attached.)

S. H. BELAVADI,
Secretary,
Bombay Legislative Council.

Council Hall,

Bombay, 17th February, 1958.

List of Papers placed on the Council Table (First Session, 1958).

Note I.—The Notifications shown at Serial Nos. 1 to 25 which were placed on the Council Table during the Third Session (November-December) 1957, of the Bombay Legislative Council have been placed over again on the Council Table as they were not placed for the requisite period.

Note II.—The last date for giving notice of a resolution for modifying or rescinding such of the rules specified in column 2 which are liable to be modified or rescinded in pursuance of the provisions of the relevant Acts specified in column 4, is *31st March 1958*.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
1	Erratum No. 1 issued by the District Deputy Collector, Dindori Prant, Nasik, amending notification No. VPT/Na-1-39-III, dated 3rd October 1956, issued by the Director of Local Authorities, Central Division, Poona, and Erratum No. 2 issued by the District Deputy Collector, Dindori Prant, Nasik, amending his previous notification No. VPTWS/42/56, dated 13th October 1956.	9-12-57	*
2	Rules for the reservations of seats for the representatives of women in 10 group Village Panchayats of the Sargana Mahal of Nasik District made by the District Deputy Collector, Nasik, Dindori Prant, Nasik, under his notification No. VPTDP/Sar/III, dated 3rd December 1957.	13-12-57	*
3	Rules for the imposition of certain compulsory taxes by the Village Panchayats in the Broach District made by the Collector, Broach, under his notification No. VPA 42, dated 5th December 1957.	13-12-57	*
4	Rules for reservation of seats for the representatives of women, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in 21 Village Panchayats in the Malegaon Taluka in the Nasik District, made by Assistant Collector, Malegaon Division, Malegaon, under his notification No. WSI 6766/57, dated 6th December 1957.	13-12-57	*
5	Government Notification, Revenue Department, No. TNC 5857/128700 (a) (M), dated nil, publishing rule under section 177 (2) of the Madhya Pradesh Revenue Code, 1954.	17-12-57	Section 237 (4) of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954.
6	Government Notification, Home Department, No. MTA 1757/37586-XII, dated 30th September 1957, relating to the exemption from payment of motor vehicle tax in respect of motor vehicle No. BML 4043 belonging to the Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangha, Sangli.	17-12-57	Section 18 of the Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax Act, 1935.

* Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
7	Government Notification, Home Department, No. MTA 1757/58360-XII, dated the 27th September 1957, relating to the exemption from payment of motor vehicle tax in respect of motor vehicle Nos. BYM 1899 and BYS 2214 belonging to the M. S. University of Baroda.	17-12-57	Section 18 of the Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax Act, 1935.
8	Government Notification, Home Department, No. MTA 1757/47456-XII, dated the 4th October 1957, relating to the exemption from payment of motor vehicle tax in respect of motor vehicle No. BYB 1798 belonging to the Darbar Shree Gopal Das Desai Anti-Tuberculosis Clinic, Anand, district Kaira.	17-12-57	Do.
9	Government Notification, Industries and Co-operation Department, No. IML-3757-T, dated 11th December 1957, publishing amendments to the Saurashtra Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Rules, 1955.	17-12-57	Section 13 (3) of the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories (Saurashtra) Amendment Act, 1955.
10	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representative of women, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in three Village Panchayats in Choryasi Taluka in Surat District made by the Assistant Collector, Surat District, under her Notification No. VP/Adwa, dated 10th December 1957.	17-12-57	*
11	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of women, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in four Village Panchayats made by the Assistant Collector, Surat, under her Notification No. VP Bhatha, dated 10th December 1957.	17-12-57	*
12	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of women, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in three Village Panchayats made by the Assistant Collector, Surat, under her Notification No. VP Ichchapor, dated 10th December 1957.	17-12-57	*
13	Government Resolution, Home Department, No. MVR 1857/28092-XII, dated 30th October 1957, relating to amendments to the Motor Vehicles Rules in force in the new areas of the State.	17-12-57	Section 133 (3) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

* Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

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Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
14	Government Notification, Home Department, No. MTA. 1755/85873-XII, dated 12th July 1957, relating to exemption from payment of Motor Vehicles Tax in respect of Motor Vehicle No. BMS 8564 belonging to the Bombay State Road Transport Corporation, Bombay.	23-12-57	Section 18 of the Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax Act, 1935.
15	Rules for the levy by the Saran Group Village Panchayats in Wagra Taluka of a tax on Marriages, Feasts and Adoptions made by the Collector of Broach under his Notification No. VPA-42, dated 8th December 1957.	23-12-57	*
16	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in three village Panchayats in Modasa Taluka in Sabarkantha District, made by the Prant Officer, Modasa Prant, under his Notification No. VP-Modasa-S. K., dated 12th December 1957.	23-12-57	*
17	Rules for the Constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women and Scheduled Castes in four Village Panchayats in the Satara Division made by the Prant Officer, Satara Division, under his Notification No. VPT 739, dated 15th December 1957.	23-12-57	*
18	Rules for the Constitution of Wards, distribution of seats among the Wards and allocation of reserved seats in particular Wards for the election of Members of certain group Village Panchayats of Jhagadia Taluka made by the Prant Officer, Rajpipla, under his Notification No. V. P. (R), dated 16th December 1957.	23-12-57	*
19	Rules for the levy, by the Matiad Village Panchayat, Ankleshwar Taluka, of Shops and Hotels Tax made by the Collector, Broach, under his Notification No. V. P. 42, dated 12th December 1957.	23-12-57	*
20	Rules for Constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 11 group Village Panchayats in Dindori Taluka of Nasik District, made by the District Deputy Collector, Dindori Division, Nasik, under his Notification No. V. P. T. D. P./C/Din./57, dated 6th December 1957.	23-12-57	*

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

17 FEB. 1958]

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
21	Rules for the Constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 10 group Village Panchayats in the Kalwan Taluka of Nasik District, made by the District Deputy Collector, Dindori Division, under his Notification No. VPT DP/C/K/808/57, dated 6th December 1957.	23-12-57.	*
22	Rules for the Constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 13 group Village Panchayats in the Point Mahal of Nasik District, made by the Deputy Collector, Dindori Division, under his Notification No. VPTDP/C/P/606/57, dated 4th December 1957.	23-12-57.	*
23	Rules for the Constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 17 group Village Panchayats in the Igatpuri Taluka of Nasik District, made by the District Deputy Collector, Dindori Division, under his Notification No. VPTDP/C/Igat/610/57, dated 6th December 1957.	23-12-57.	*
24	Rules for the Constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women in three Village Panchayats made by the Assistant Collector, Surat, under her Notification No. VP Pali, dated 19th December 1957.	23-12-57.	*
25	Rules for the Constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Kavas Group and Pipdra group Village Panchayats made by the Assistant Collector, Surat, under her Notifications No. VP. Kavas and V. P. Pipodra both dated 21st December 1957.	26-12-57.	*
26	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department, No. VPA. 1157-P, dated the 25th September 1957, amending the Bombay Village Panchayats Election Rules, 1948.	3-1-58.	*

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

[17 FEB. 1958]

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
27	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Bhaur Village Panchayats in Kalwan Taluka of Nasik District, made by the District Deputy Collector, Dindori Division, Nasik, under his Notification No. VPTDP/612/57, dated the 21st December 1957.	3-1-58.	*
28	Rules for the constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Chandori Village Panchayat in Niphad Taluka of Nasik District, made by District Deputy Collector, Niphad Division, Nasik, under his Notification No. VPTWS-3371, dated the 19th December 1957.	3-1-58.	*
29	Rules for the Constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in six Village Panchayats in Choryasi Taluka of Surat District, made by the Assistant Collector, Surat, under her Notification No. V. P., dated the 26th December 1957.	3-1-58.	*
30	Rules for the constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Sutrel Village Panchayat of Wagra Taluka in Broach District, made by the Assistant Collector, Broach Division, Broach, under his Notification No. V. P. Wards, dated the 27th December 1957.	3-1-58.	*
31	Rules for the Constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Dolia Group Village Panchayat of Jambusar Taluka in Broach District, made by the Assistant Collector, Broach Division, Broach, under his Notification No. V. P. Wards, dated the 27th December 1957.	3-1-58.	*
32	Rules for the constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in two Village Panchayats of Amod Mahal in Broach District, made by the Assistant Collector, Broach Division, Broach, under his Notification No. V. P. Wards, dated the 27th December 1957.	3-1-58.	*

*Section 108(3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

[17 FEB. 1958]

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
33	Rules for the Constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Ora Group Village Panchayat in Wagra Taluka of Broach District, made by the Assistant Collector, Broach Division, Broach, under his Notification No. V. P. Wards, dated the 27th December 1957.	3-1-58.	*
34	Rules for the constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Kavli Village Panchayat in Jambusar Taluka of Broach District, made by the Assistant Collector, Broach Division, Broach, under his Notification No. V. P. Wards, dated the 27th December 1957.	3-1-58.	*
35	Rules for the constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Umarva Group Village Panchayat in Nandod Taluka of Broach District, made by the Prant Officer, Rajpipla Sub-Division, Rajpipla, under his Notification No. V. P. Cons., dated the 31st December 1957.	3-1-58.	*
36	Rules for the constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Puni Group Village Panchayat in Palsana Mahal in Surat District, made by the Assistant Collector, Surat, under her Notification No. V. P. Puni group, dated the 28th December 1957.	3-1-58.	*
37	Rules for the Constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in three Village Panchayats in Olpad Taluka of Surat District, made by the Assistant Collector, Surat, under her Notification No. V. P., dated the 27th December 1957.	3-1-58.	*
38	Rules for the Constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Pipodra Group Village Panchayat in Mangrol Taluka in Surat District, made by the Assistant Collector, Surat, under her Notification No. V. P., dated the 21st December 1957.	3-1-58.	*

*Section 108(3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
46	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 36 Group Village Panchayats of Modasa Division of Sabarkantha District, made by the Prant Officer, Modasa Prant, under his Notification No. V.P. (1957-58) Modasa Division, S. K., dated the 1st January 1958.	8-1-1958.	*
47	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 76 village panchayats of Himatnagar Division of Sabarkantha District, made by the Deputy Collector, Himatnagar Division, Sabarkantha District, under his Notification No. V. P., dated the 31st December 1957.	8-1-1958.	*
48	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in— (i) 16 village panchayats in Sinnar Taluka, (ii) 8 village panchayats in Nandgaon Taluka, and (iii) 5 village panchayats in Chandor Taluka, in Niphad Division of Nasik District, made by the District Deputy Collector, Niphad Division, Nasik, under his Notifications— (i) No. VPTWS-194, dated the 4th January 1958, (ii) No. VPTWS-195, dated the 8th January 1958, and (iii) No. VPTWS-243, dated the 10th January 1958, respectively.	14-1-1958.	*
49	Government Notification, Home Department, No. MVR-1056/104564-XII, dated the 9th December 1957, amending rule 158 of the Bombay Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940.	14-1-1958.	Section 133 (3) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.
50	Rules for the Constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in one village panchayat and seven group village panchayats in Jhagadia Taluka in Rajpipla Division of Broach District, made by the Prant Officer, Rajpipla, under his three Notifications Nos. V. P. (R), V. P. (R) and V. P. /Cons, all dated the 11th January 1958.	14-1-1958.	*

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

Agenda

[17 FEB. 1958]

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
39	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in nine group village panchayats in Choryasi Taluka in Surat District, made by the Assistant Collector, Surat District, Surat, under her Notification No. V. P., dated 25th December 1957.	3-1-1958.	*
40	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Damka Group Village Panchayat in Choryasi Taluka in Surat District, made by the Assistant Collector, Surat, under her Notification No. V. P., dated the 28th December 1957.	3-1-1958.	*
41	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in eight group village panchayats in Choryasi Taluka in Surat District, made by the Assistant Collector, Surat District, Surat, under her Notification No. V. P., dated the 29th December 1957.	3-1-1958.	*
42	Government Notification, Home Department, No. MVA. 3066/79655-XII, dated the 16th October 1957, amending rule 136 of the Bombay Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940.	3-1-1958..	Section 133 (3) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.
43	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department, No. MUN-3457, dated the 13th December 1957, framing Hyderabad District Municipalities Election of President and Vice-President (Bombay) Rules, 1957.	3-1-1958..	Section 308 (I) of the Hyderabad District Municipalities Act, 1956.
44	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department, No. MUN-3457, dated the 4th November 1957, framing Hyderabad District Municipalities Election Tribunal (Bombay) Rules, 1957.	3-1-1958.	Section 308 (I) of the Hyderabad District Municipalities Act, 1956.
45	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Deledwa Group Village Panchayat in Choryasi Taluka of Surat District, made by the Assistant Collector, Surat District, Surat, under her Notification No. V. P. Deledwa group, dated the 29th December 1957.	3-1-1958.	*

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
64	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 4 Village Panchayats and 5 group Village Panchayats in the Jhagadia Taluka of Rajpipla Division, made by Prant Officer, Rajpipla, under his two Notifications No. V.P. (R), dated the 20th January, 1958.	29-1-1958	*
65	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 7 Village Panchayats and 17 group Village Panchayats in the Rajpipla Division made by Prant Officer, Rajpipla under his two Notifications No. V. P./Cons., dated the 20th January, 1958.	29-1-1958	*
66	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women and Scheduled Tribes in 13 Village Panchayats and 13 group Village Panchayats in the Nanded Taluka of Rajpipla Division, made by the Prant Officer, Rajpipla, under his Notification No. V.P./Cons., dated the 21st January, 1958.	29-1-1958	*
67	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women in 3 Village Panchayats and 2 group Village Panchayats in the Sagbara Taluka of Rajpipla Division, made by Prant Officer, Rajpipla under his Notifications No. V. P. (R), dated the 21st January 1958.	29-1-1958	
68	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 15 Village Panchayats and 7 group Village Panchayats in the Nadiad Sub-Division, made by the Assistant Collector, Kaira Prant, Nadiad, under his Notification No. V.P. V. C. No. 98, dated the 13th January, 1958.	29-1-1958	
69	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women and Scheduled Castes in 10 Village Panchayats in the Kaira District made by District Deputy Collector, P. P. Petlad, under his Notification No. VP.39, dated the 21st January, 1958.	29-1-1958	*

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1948.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
70	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women in two group Village Panchayats in Nadiad Taluka of Kaira District made by the Prant Officer, Nadiad, under his Notifications Eng. No. V. P., dated the 21st January 1958, and Gujarati No. NIL, dated the 22nd January 1958.	29-1-1958	*
71	Rules for the imposition of a compulsory tax on shops and hotels in Ochhan group Village Panchayat in Wagra Taluka of Broach District made by the Collector, Broach, under his Notification No. V. P. A. 42, dated the 17th January 1958.	29-1-1958	
72	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in— (i) Intalva Village Panchayat of Navsari Taluka, and (ii) Sondlakhara Village Panchayat of Olpad Taluka in Surat District, made by the Assistant Collector, Surat, under her Notifications— (i) No. V. P. Intalva, dated the 15th January 1958, and (ii) No. V. P. Sondlakhara, dated the 20th January 1958, respectively.	29-1-1958	
73	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women in the Village Panchayat of Karmipura in Pralij Taluka of Sabarkantha District, made by the Prant Officer, Modasa Prant, under his Notification No. V. P. Modasa-S. K., dated the 19th January 1958.	29-1-1958	
74	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 13 Village Panchayats in Peint Taluka of Dindori Prant, made by the District Deputy Collector, Dindori Division, Nasik, under his Notification No. VPTD. P/C/II/58, Peint, dated the 21st January 1958.	29-1-1958	

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1948.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
51	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in two group village Panchayats in Surat District, made by the Assistant Collector, Surat District, Surat, under her Notification No. V. P., dated the 8th January 1958.	17-1-1958.	*
52	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in thirteen village panchayats and one group village panchayat in Nadiad Taluka of Kaira District, made by the Prant-cum-Project Officer, Nadiad, under his two Notifications No. V. P. W. S. 54, dated 9th January 1958 and No. Nil, dated 10th January 1958, respectively.	20-1-1958.	*
53	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in four village Panchayats in Niphad Division of Nasik District, made by the District Deputy Collector, Niphad Division, Nasik, under his Notification No. VPTWS-256 and 271, dated the 14th January 1958.	22-1-1958.	*
54	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in twenty-two village Panchayats in the Kaira Prant, made by the Assistant Collector, Kaira Prant, Nadiad, under his Notification No. V.P.W.S./97, dated the 13th January 1958.	22-1-1958.	*
55	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in nineteen village panchayats in Nandod Taluka of Broach District, made by the Prant Officer, Rajpipla, under his Notification No. V. P. /Cons., dated the 18th January 1958.	22-1-1958.	*
56	Government Notification, Industries and Co-operation Department, No. WM. 1756-A, dated the 14th January 1958, amending the Bombay Weights and Measures Rules, 1934.	23-1-1958.	Section 41(3) of the Bombay Weights and Measures Act, 1932.

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
57	Corrigendum No. V. P., dated the 10th January 1958, issued by the Deputy Collector, Himatnagar Division, Sabarkantha District, amending his previous Notification No. V.P., dated 31st December 1957.	23-1-1958.	*
58	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 83 village panchayats in Broach Division, made by the Assistant Collector, Broach Division, Broach, under his 83 notifications No. V. P. Wards, dated the 18th January 1958.	25-1-1958.	*
59	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 10 group village panchayats in Broach Division, made by the Assistant Collector, Broach Division, Broach, under his 10 notifications No. V. P. /Wards, dated the 18th January 1958.	25-1-1958.	*
60	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department, No. MUN. 3457, dated the 16th December 1957, framing the Hyderabad District Municipalities Conduct of Business (Bombay) Rules, 1957.	29-1-1958.	Section 308 (I) of the Hyderabad District Municipalities Act, 1956.
61	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department, No. HBA/1157, dated the 13th December 1957, framing the Hyderabad District Boards Conduct of Business (Bombay) Rules, 1957.	29-1-1958.	Section 199 (3) of the Hyderabad District Boards Act, 1955.
62	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 16 Village Panchayats and 34 group Village Panchayats in Rajpipla Division made by the Prant Officer, Rajpipla, under his five Notifications No. V. P. (R), dated the 17th January 1958.	29-1-1958.	*
63	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 5 group Village Panchayats in Valia Mahel of Rajpipla Division, made by Prant Officer, Rajpipla, under his Notifications Nos. V.P. (R) and V. P./ cons., dated the 20th January 1958.	29-1-1958.	*

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
75	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in five group Village Panchayats of Broach District, made by the Assistant Collector, Broach, under his five notifications all No. V. P. Wards, dated the 17th January 1958.	4-2-1958	*
76	Rules for the constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in— (1) Four Village Panchayats of Amod Taluka, (2) Eight Village Panchayats of Broach Taluka, (3) Three Village Panchayats of Hansot Mahal, (4) Three Village Panchayats of Jam-busar Taluka, and (5) Sixteen Village Panchayats of Wagra Taluka of Broach District, made by the Assistant Collector, Broach Division, Broach, under his thirty-four separate Notifications No. V.P. Wards, dated the 17th January 1958.	4-2-1958	*
77	Corrigendum No. VPTWS-195, dated the 18th January 1958, issued by the District Deputy Collector, Niphad Division, Nasik, amending his previous Notification No. VPTWS 195, dated the 8th January 1958.	5-2-1958.	
78	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in— (1) 27 group Village Panchayats and 19 Village Panchayats in Nandod Taluka, (2) One group Village Panchayat in Nandod Taluka, and (3) 20 group Village Panchayats in Dedipada Taluka of Rajpipla Division, made by the Prant Officer, Rajpipla, under his Notifications— (1) No. V. P. (R), dated the 25th January 1958 and No. V. P./cons., dated the 25th January 1958, (2) No. V. P. (R), dated the 27th January 1958, and (3) No. V. P. (R) and No. V. P./cons., dated the 30th January 1958, respectively.	6-2-1958.	

*Section 108(3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
79	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Dindoli Group Village Panchayat of Choryasi Taluka of Surat District, made by the Assistant Collector, Surat District, Surat, under her Notification No. V. P. Dindoli group, dated 28th January 1958, substituting the rules previously made by her under her Notification No. V. P. Dindoli group, dated 25th December 1957.	6-2-1958	*
80	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in— (1) 26 Village Panchayats of Sanand Mahal, and (2) 8 Village Panchayats of Dhandhuka Taluka of Ahmedabad District, made by the Assistant Collector, Dholka Prant, Dholka, under his notifications— (1) No. V. P. Sanand, dated 29th January 1958 and (2) No. V. P. Dhandhuka, dated the 30th January 1958, respectively.	6-2-1958	
81	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservations of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 11 group Village Panchayats of Nadiad Prant, made by the Assistant Collector, Kaira Prant, Nadiad, under his two Notifications No. Nil, dated 24th January 1958 and No. V.P. WS. 156/1, dated the 23rd January 1958.	6-2-1958	*
82	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department, No. MUN-3457, dated the 7th January 1958, framing the Hyderabad District Municipalities Correspondence (Bombay) Rules, 1958.	6-2-1958 ...	Section 308 (1) of the Hyderabad District Municipalities Act, 1958.
83	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in two village Panchayats and three group village Panchayats in Himatnagar Division of Sabarkantha District, made by the Deputy Collector, Himatnagar Division, Sabarkantha District, under his Notification No. V. P., dated 23rd January 1958.	6-2-1958	*

*Section 108(3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
84	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 10 group Village Panchayats of Surgana Mahal, made by District Deputy Collector, Dindori Division, Nasik, under his Notification No. VPTD P/C/III/58-Surgana, dated 21st January 1958.	6-2-1958	*
85	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 2 village Panchayats of Sinnar Taluka, made by the District Deputy Collector, Niphad Division, Nasik, under his Notification No. VPTWS-430, dated 24th January 1958.	6-2-1958	*
86	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 15 Village Panchayats of Yeola Taluka, made by the District Deputy Collector, Niphad Division, Nasik, under his Notification No. VPTWS-448, dated 27th January 1958.	6-2-1958	*

*Section 108(3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

Council Hall,
Bombay :

S. H. BELAVADI,
Secretary,
Bombay Legislative Council.

Monday, the 17th February, 1958

Address by His Excellency Shri Sri Prakasa, Governor of Bombay to both Houses of the Legislature at a Joint Session in the Assembly Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m., on Monday, the 17th February, 1958.

(After the Governor took his seat).

Shri UDHAVRAO SAHEBRAO (Osmanabad) : We, the Members of the Opposition, without any disrespect to Your Person, are compelled to stage a walk-out as a protest against the continued policy of the Government to perpetuate injustice, resulting from the imposition of bilingual State in spite of the decisive verdict of the people, expressed through the last general elections and all the bye-elections—Jalna, Nagpada and Mazgaon—subsequently held.

શ્રી રમણીકલાલ ટી. મણીયાર : નામદાર રાજ્યપાલ પ્રત્યે કોઈ પણ જાતની અવિરોધની ભાવના સિવાય, ગુજરાતી ભાષા બોલતી પોણા બે કરોડ જેટલી પ્રજાને, વિશાળ દ્વિભાષી મુંબઈ રાજ્ય સ્થાપીને જે અન્યાય કરવામાં આવ્યો છે અને પ્રજાનો વિરોધ છતાં અનૈતિક તથા બિનલોકશાહી રીતે ચાલુ રાખવામાં આવ્યો છે, તેના વિરોધમાં અમે સભાત્યાગ કરીએ છીએ.

(The Opposition then staged a walk-out by shouting the slogans :

જાલના નિવહણુકીચા કૌલ લક્ષાંત ઘ્યા,

મહા-ગુજરાત જ્ઞાલાચ પાહિજે,

મુંબઈસહ સંયુક્ત મહારાષ્ટ્ર જ્ઞાલાચ પાહિજે.)

The CHAIRMAN : The Governor will now be pleased to address Members of both the Houses of the Legislature assembled together.

GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members.

I am happy to have this opportunity of extending to you all a cordial welcome to this Session of the State Legislature which marks the commencement of your labours in the New Year. As a result of the hard and sustained work put in by Honourable Members during the previous Sessions considerable progress has already been made in the immediate tasks arising out of the States Re-organisation.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that in the year which has just closed, it was possible to take a number of important steps to consolidate and re-organise the administration of the new State, by promoting unity among its different parts ; securing the integration of the services ; laying down uniformity of administrative patterns ; and decentralising the process of administration through a larger delegation of powers. Side by side, steps have also been taken to democratise the institutions of local Government, and to offer increased opportunities for popular participation in development work at all levels. Not only has the working of our democratic Government been thereby made more broadbased, but the administrative machinery is also becoming a better and more efficient instrument in the service of the people. I should like to refer briefly to the principal measures taken to achieve these ends.

In order to give more effective representation to the local people in our day-to-day administration, Government has decided to set up Panchayats so as to cover every village during the course of the next few years. A State Council consisting of officials and non-officials, has been established to advise the State Government on matters relating to Village Panchayats. Similar Councils have also been established at the Divisional level. The question of having a unified Village Panchayat law for the whole State is being examined, and Government hopes to bring forward a Bill to this effect during this Session of the Legislature. In all areas of the State, local bodies have been made elective. The question of strengthening their finances has also received close consideration. It has been decided to raise substantially the level of grants to local bodies, and to have a uniform system of financial assistance throughout the State. The grant to Village Panchayats in all regions, will now range from 25 per cent. to 30 per cent. of land revenue according to the classification of the Village Panchayats, to be prescribed by Government. The grants to municipalities and District Local Boards to meet 50 per cent. of the expenditure on account of dearness allowance to their staff, have hitherto been given only in the area of the old Bombay State, and in respect of Harijan members of the staff in Saurashtra. These grants are now being extended throughout the new State. The general grants by the State Government to District Boards calculated as a percentage of land revenue, also vary from region to region. These too are being revised and made uniform. The Boards will now get annual grants equal to 5 per cent. of land revenue collected in their respective areas excluding only the municipal areas. This revised basis will improve the receipts of local bodies, and in the case of District Local Boards in the Old Bombay State and Kutch, and will do away with the instability due to the present system under which their share diminishes from year to year with the establishment of new Village Panchayats. A share of 2 per cent. of the forest revenue which is paid in the old Bombay State, is also to be given to all District Local Boards throughout the State. Development Boards at the District Level have now been established throughout the State in addition to Development Councils for each Division. It is hoped that the Development Programme will thereby get a new impetus and local people will utilise these opportunities of closer association with various activities.

In accordance with the measure passed by this Legislature during the last Session, senior officers of Government are being shortly appointed as Commissioners of Divisions. They will be entrusted with substantial powers hitherto exercised directly by Government. Powers are also being delegated by Government to the various Heads of Departments so as to reduce to the minimum the need for making references to higher authorities. Delegation is a continuous process. Proposals for further delegation of powers are, therefore, being investigated and will be implemented from time to time. I am sure, these measures would be welcomed by the people at large as they would enable them to settle most of their matters locally, thereby making administration more simple, expeditious and economical.

With the enlargement of the State, an urgent task before the Government has been the integration of the various service cadres, administrative procedures, and laws prevalent in the different parts of the State. The old Bombay cadres have been taken as the basis for organising the new ones. On the

equation of posts, the scales of pay prescribed for the corresponding posts in the former Bombay State, have been made applicable to the personnel from the former States of Madhya Pradesh, Hyderabad, Saurashtra and Kutch, with retrospective effect from the 1st November 1956. In appropriate cases, option has been given for the retention of the pay scales applicable in the former States. Where corresponding posts did not exist in the former Bombay State, the personnel is being continued on the pay scales applicable prior to the re-organisation of States; and where such pay scales are appreciably low, suitable pay scales are being prescribed having regard to the pay scales attached to the posts carrying similar responsibilities and duties in the former Bombay State. Instructions have been issued for speedy implementation of the orders issued by Government on integration of services. Progress is watched through periodical reports. Rules for absorption, fixation of seniority, and pay and allowances of government servants allocated to the new State have been published, and it is expected that the integration of services will be completed early. The other conditions of service applicable to Government servants have also been unified by extending the Bombay Civil Services Rules to the personnel allocated from the States other than the former Bombay State. However, in the case of rules relating to leave and pension, option has been given to the personnel to be governed by the rules of the former States applicable to them before the 1st November 1956.

In view of the different administrative set-ups existing in the different areas of the State, the need for a detailed review of the strength, training and organisation of the staff and the system of work in the Revenue Offices in the districts, has been felt by Government for some time. Government has, therefore, asked a senior officer to go into this question and make recommendations.

With a view to eradicating the evil of corruption wherever that may exist in the administration of the State, Committees have been formed at the Head of Department and District levels. The Departmental Committees consist of three or four officers and representatives of different levels of administration. Their functions are to help the anti-corruption establishments, and to examine and suggest changes in the rules and procedure which could diminish opportunities of corruption. For better co-ordination of work, Government has sanctioned the establishment of an Anti-Corruption Bureau under the direct supervision and control of Government in the Home Department. This Bureau will be independent of the Police, and will thus obviate the criticism that had been levelled against the Department. Government is most anxious that all corruption should be stamped out from the Administration, and it is hoped that an independent Anti-Corruption Bureau will amply meet the needs of the situation. I would, however, add that no anti-corruption measure can be quite effective without full co-operation from the public. I have no doubt that Government will get such co-operation in greater measure.

The work relating to the unification of laws in the State is also making good progress. Certain measures have been passed in this behalf, by the Legislature during its last Session. On the more complicated matters such as tenancy, consolidation of holdings, Primary Education and Industrial

relations, the necessary measures aiming at uniformity are under preparation and some of them will be brought before the Legislature during this Session. A Sales Tax Inquiry Committee has been set up to recommend a uniform system, and to suggest improvements in the administration of sales-tax. The Committee has already issued a questionnaire, and is expected to make its recommendations to Government by the end of June next.

The speed with which the initial problems of re-organisation have been solved is reflected in the upward trend of development in the current financial year, and the larger programme of development which is proposed to be taken up next year. The Plan of the new Bombay State is now being implemented with vigour, and Government is anxious to see that the various schemes included in the programme of different regions are completed early and their benefits fully utilised. Certain difficulties due largely to the limited financial resources of the country have, for some time, made their appearance in the implementation of India's Second Five-Year Plan; but as our Prime Minister has so often reminded us, these are essentially difficulties of development, and had to be faced in one form or another, by all countries which have gone through the process of rapid development. It is a healthy sign that these difficulties have already been taken note of and are being met by the Government of India and the State Governments who are all anxious that the programme of development should be carried out to the maximum extent possible. The record of works in this State during the last year has shown a distinct improvement on the previous year, and the administration is well set for a more determined effort in the next year.

Due to unsatisfactory rains in certain districts last year, scarcity conditions have unfortunately made their appearance. Government has, however, taken prompt measures to meet the situation. Among these, mention may be made of starting relief works to provide immediate employment, distribution of gratuitous relief to those who are unable to work, and taking of measures to conserve and augment the availability of drinking water. Besides, local officers have been instructed to give water free of cost for irrigation purposes in such areas. Waste lands adjoining tanks are also allowed to be cultivated, and cultivators are being allowed to dig katcha wells in tanks beds to raise irrigated fodder. Fodder reserve stocks have also been built up in these areas.

In spite of the set-back due to scarcity conditions in some parts, agricultural production during the last year, has recorded a substantial improvement. This is due to the various measures which Government has taken to step up agricultural production. Even so, the over-all food position is by no means satisfactory. In order to make foodgrains available at reasonable prices, the fair price shop scheme has, therefore, been extended throughout the State.

Government has now introduced in Greater Bombay the Household Food-grain Card System through which limited quantity of rice is supplied according to the stocks made available by the Government of India. A sufficient quantity of wheat also is sold from the same shops. Government is watching the situation in other large cities like Ahmedabad, Poona and Nagpur. For

ensuring sufficient supplies to the foodgrain shops, Government has opened necessary godowns in the districts. Loans to the extent of Rs. 1,000 per village panchayat, are also being given to encourage more village panchayats to undertake the work of distribution of foodgrains. In order to economise the use of rice, restrictions have been placed on the service of rice or preparations made of rice in catering establishments, and in the number of participants in functions and parties where such preparations are served. The general food situation will continue to receive the close attention of the Government, and all necessary steps will be taken to ensure adequacy of supplies for all.

It is, however, clear that it is necessary to undertake certain programmes of increasing food production if we have to rid ourselves of this recurring problem of food shortage. This problem has received the closest possible attention of the Government for the last several months, and necessary steps have already been taken to launch an all out drive for the purpose. This has entailed a rephrasing of the Plan so as to complete some of the important schemes of agricultural production much ahead of the schedule as originally visualized in the Plan. The process has already been started in the current year; and as large a programme as is feasible, has been prepared for the next year. In a State like Bombay where agriculture is entirely dependent on rainfall, construction of irrigation works naturally receives a high priority. This was duly recognised at the time of the formulation of the Second Five-Year Plan, and a fairly large programme of Major and Medium Irrigation Works was therefore included in it. As a number of these projects will take time to complete, Government has undertaken a large additional programme of Minor Irrigation Works, especially construction of wells throughout the State. A programme for the construction of 35,000 new wells and repairs to 28,000 old wells, has been prepared for the remaining three years of the Second Plan. This scheme is expected to bring under irrigation, over 2½ lakhs acres of land. The scheme has already been started; and during the current financial year 5,500 new wells are being constructed and 4,000 old wells repaired.

Under this Scheme, long term tagai loans and subsidy would be granted in all the regions of the State. For sinking of new wells, financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 2,500 per well would be given of which 25 per cent. or Rs. 500 whichever is less will be treated as subsidy and the rest as loan. The procedure for grant of these loans has also been simplified. The response to the wells scheme has been encouraging and within the last month over 10,000 applications for construction of new wells have been received.

Steps have been taken to strengthen and reorganise the Irrigation Wing of the Public Works Department. A new post of Chief Engineer in charge of Irrigation Projects has been created. A special Circle called Water Resources Investigation Circle has been established for undertaking a comprehensive basinwise appraisal of the utilizeable water resources available for irrigation and power production in the State. A Central Designs Office has been set up to function as a part of the Irrigation Projects Organisation for the purpose of carrying out detailed designing of the various components of the

major irrigation projects and for more systematic study and preparation of new projects with a view to their consideration for the Third and subsequent Plan periods. Government has also decided to set up a Board of Irrigation the State of Bombay. The Board will include officials as well as non-official members, and will be charged with the duty of advising Government on all general questions of irrigation policy and development. Having regard to all these measures, we may reasonably entertain the hope that the administrative set up for Irrigation in the State will be fully, able to cope with the important work falling in this field.

Measures have also been taken to ensure that water from projects which have already been constructed, is utilised to the fullest extent. A State Water Utilization Committee has been established to study the short-fall in the utilisation of irrigation water, and to review the progress made from time to time on the basis of reports of the Committees for every block having a sizable unutilised irrigation potential. The District Development Boards have also been asked to take a review of the small-scale irrigation projects in their respective districts and suggest ways and means for full utilisation of the water available from such projects. Where the area which can be irrigated but is not being irrigated is sufficiently large, special officers are being appointed to step up utilisation. The Agriculture Department is establishing about 40 trial-cum-demonstration farms in the commanded areas of the irrigation projects to bring home to the cultivators the advantages of irrigated farming, and to advise them on the cropping pattern in those areas.

To enable cultivators to familiarise themselves with the use of water for irrigation purposes, certain concessions have now been announced by Government for the initial years for irrigation works recently completed or in progress. In respect of 'food grains and fodder crops', no water rate will be charged for the first year; 1/3rd water rate will be charged in the second year; and 2/3rd in the third year;—full normal water rate being charged from the fourth year onwards. For crops other than food grains and fodder crops, the charge, in the first year, will be ½ of the normal water rates; and full water rates will be charged from the second year onwards. It is hoped that by the adoption of these measures, the full benefit of irrigation works which have already been completed, will be realized. Another important scheme which is expected to lead immediately to increased production, relates to soil conservation by contour bunding. This activity has been undertaken in this State for the last 10 years, and is now being intensified. In two talukas of one district, over 1½ lakhs of acres would be bunded by June, 1958. The experience gained in these areas will be utilised for organisation of similar schemes on a wider scale in the next year. In order to provide improved seed for all cultivated lands, 450 seed farms, each comprising an area of about 25 acres, are being established, one in each taluka. This programme is to be completed before the onset of the monsoon in June, 1958. The Japanese method of cultivation of paddy which has already yielded encouraging results in several parts, is being extended to cover about 1½ lakhs acres. You will thus see that a fresh sense of urgency has already been imparted to the programme of agricultural production. I am confident that the people of

this State who have show a spirit of enterprise and co-operation in many spheres, will avail themselves of these opportunities, and show the way to a really substantial increase in agricultural production as well. In achieving this, we shall be providing the necessary condition for the success of our entire development programme not only in this State but throughout the country.

While immediate efforts have to be made to increase food production in the manner mentioned above, it is evident that for any long term solution of the problem in this State, special attention has to be given for many years to schemes of major irrigation. The irrigation programme of the new Bombay State included in the Second Plan, whether viewed from the standpoint of its scope, or the capital expenditure involved, or the targets of areas to be irrigated, signifies a determined effort on the part of the State Government to implement the same. Last year as also in the year previous to it, works carried over from the First Five-Year Plan, were given priority for completion. Even so, preliminary work on new projects has been started in most cases where these have been technically sanctioned and approved by the Planning Commission. The needs of all regions are being carefully borne in mind. In the case of Vidarbha, as the provision allotted in the Plan was not considered sufficient, a representation was made to the Planning Commission which has now agreed to an additional amount of Rs. 2.5 crores for that region. Out of this, a provision of Rs. 75 lakhs is being made available during the year 1958-59. The additional provision would enable Government to make a beginning with the four medium-sized projects i.e. Bagh, Itiadh, Dinanadi and Katepurna in addition to Bor and Nalaganga projects on which work has already begun.

The programme of Community Development and National Extension Service was further extended during the last year to cover about 45 lakhs of rural population in 68 blocks. Greater emphasis is now being laid on the programme of increase in agricultural production, execution of construction works through Village Panchayats, and active participation of the Village Panchayat in the various activities of community development. The programme for women and children is being co-ordinated with that of the State Social Welfare Board, and Government has also started five pilot projects for women in different districts. In each of the villages covered by these projects, a local woman worker is trained to organise the activities of women's programme. Honorary women workers are also being appointed after giving them training for about two months.

A brief reference may be made to the administrative reorganisation carried out in regard to Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development. The policy of providing Regional Officers on the basis of Divisions adopted for General Administration, was accepted by Government for 'agriculture', 'animal husbandry' and 'dairy development' Departments. Thus, for each of the six Divisions of the State, there would be Superintending Agricultural Officers and Deputy Directors of Animal Husbandry. They will be assisted by specialists and would supervise all the activities of their respective Departments.

Hitherto, the Veterinary Department was concerned merely with the cure and prophylactic measures for controlling cattle diseases, and the work of animal husbandry was handled by the Director of Agriculture. In view of the desirability of unified control, Government has constituted a new Department designated 'Animal Husbandry Department'. Similarly, in view of the importance of urban and rural milk supply schemes, and the need for tapping to the maximum extent, milk supply in the rural areas, Government has decided to constitute a 'Dairy Development Department' with Regional Officers for different Divisions of the State.

In order to meet the demand for trained personnel, Government is establishing a Veterinary College at Nagpur for which assistance from the Government of India is expected. The College is expected to start functioning from June 1958.

In the matter of land reforms, Government's policy to remove intermediaries and to make the tiller of the soil the occupant of the land, is being extended to all areas. The changes required in the tenancy laws of the various regions have been taken in hand. In the case of the Marathwada area, the necessary amendment of the tenancy law was brought before the last session of the State Legislature. Tenancy laws in the areas of Vidarbha, Saurashtra and Kutch do not provide for conferring occupancy rights on tenants or for fixing ceiling of land holdings. The question of undertaking suitable legislation for these areas is, therefore, under consideration. The implementation of the various measures regarding abolition of land tenures, has been pursued with vigour during the last year. Amendments regarding the law in Saurashtra and in the Bombay merged territories, have already been carried out last year. The remaining work in respect of the areas of Kutch and Marathwada is expected to be completed next year. As you are aware, it has been the policy of Government to abolish inams of all kinds. Service inams have hitherto been excluded from the purview of such abolition mainly on the ground that these have far-reaching financial and administrative consequences. The question of the abolition of inams of inferior village servants including Mahars, has been considered previously, but it could not be pursued further owing to the large financial commitments involved in replacing the existing system by part-time or whole-time Government servants remunerated in cash. Government has again taken up this matter and come to the conclusion that a beginning must be made in the direction of abolition of the inams of these inferior village servants. The proposals are being worked out and will be placed before the Legislature during this Session.

Other programmes of rural development are also being steadily expanded so as to make for an all round improvement of our economic life. For this purpose, the fullest possible advantage is being taken of the Co-operative Movement on the lines suggested by the All India Rural Credit Survey Committee. The principle of direct and indirect participation in the Share capital of the Co-operative Credit Institutions at all levels has been accepted

and is being implemented with a view to enabling these institutions to undertake the responsibility of meeting the financial needs of agriculturists for credit-worthy and productive purposes, and for linking up credit with marketing. Government has since established the Bombay State Warehousing Corporation for the establishment of Warehouses at suitable selected centres for meeting the longstanding need of the agriculturists regarding storage facilities with a view to putting them in a better bargaining position. Out of the fifteen Co-operative Sugar Factories which have obtained licences for import of machinery, nine Co-operative Sugar Factories have so far gone into production with a total crushing capacity of 8,400 tons of Sugarcane a day. Six more Sugar Factories are expected to complete their erection programme during the present crushing season and to go into production in the next season.

Government has assumed direct responsibility for the development of small-scale and cottage industries. The financial assistance given to them directly or through institutions sponsored by Government, has been steadily increasing. Facilities for their location, and for testing and marketing of their products, are also being provided on a wider scale. A scheme for quality marking of their products has been prepared. The products of the small-scale and cottage industries generally suffer from lack of standardisation and consequently are not uniform in quality. The small entrepreneurs therefore find it difficult to sell their products. Under the quality marking scheme, it is proposed to prepare specifications and to assist the small scale manufacturers to produce goods according to these specifications. To begin with, it is proposed to include in the scheme such consumer goods as paints, varnishes, soaps, pressure-stoves, pressure-lamps, burners and shoes.

Regarding large-scale industries, a steady progress has been maintained during the last year. The number of licences issued during the year by the Government of India for the establishment of new units and for substantial expansion of existing concerns in this State, is 125 involving a capital investment of nearly Rs. 25 crores and with an employment potential of over 12,000. With the formation of the new State, the scope for mining activities as considerably increased. A full fledged Directorate of Mining has accordingly been created with its headquarters at Nagpur; and this Directorate has been functioning since May 1957. Besides its normal work, the department will undertake the survey and prospecting of minerals, the exploitation of which is the exclusive responsibility of the State under the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956. In particular, the department has taken up the survey and prospecting for bauxite deposits in Udgiri area in Kolhapur District for which an assistant Geologist has been posted at Udgiri. This is with a view to finding out the possibility of the establishment of an aluminium plant in that region for which power will be available from the Koyna project.

Industrial relations continue to be peaceful. In recent months, the accumulation of stocks of cloth has adversely affected several cotton mills. Some of them have actually discontinued their second and third shifts, and

a few others have put up notices of such stoppage. This has resulted in some unemployment. Some steps have already been taken to bring down the prices of medium varieties of cloth. As a result, the off take of cloth during the last few weeks has improved. Other measures are also being devised to improve the situation. The Narsinggirji Mills at Sholapur had closed-down since August 1957, for financial reasons, throwing a considerable number of workers out of employment. With the object of providing relief to them, Government has taken over the Mills on lease to run them as an Unemployment Relief Scheme. Government has decided to fix minimum wages for employees in shops and commercial establishments. A notice declaring Government's intention to that effect has already been given, and minimum wages will be fixed from 1st April 1958. The State Government has recently constituted a Wage Board for Cotton Textile Industry in the Vidarbha region. This step will meet the long standing need of the employers and the employees in this industry in that region. During the current financial year, eight new Employment Exchanges are being opened in the State. It is proposed to start seven new Exchanges next year.

Government is keenly aware of the housing shortage in the State, and has reviewed afresh the whole position so as to accelerate and enlarge the housing programme. Meanwhile the Housing Schemes already introduced are making good progress. Since the Reorganisation of State, Government has constructed 4,968 tenements at a cost of Rs. 246.37 lakhs under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme; and work on about 11,000 more tenements is in progress. It is proposed to construct 7,000 new tenements. Government has also granted loans amounting to Rs. 1.9.89 lakhs for construction of houses under the Low Income Group Housing Scheme. This scheme has been recently modified so as to permit Government to construct houses direct, and give them on rent to persons with low income. Government will take full advantage of this modification by constructing tenements on a rental basis.

Government has always attached great importance to slum clearance, and considerable progress has been made in formulating such schemes in the more congested areas. Schemes have now been formulated by the Corporations of Bombay, Ahmedabad and Poona, and forwarded by the State Government to the Government of India. The Nagpur Corporation is also formulating its schemes. In view of the large scope for this programme, the possibility of finding more funds is being examined in consultation with the Government of India.

Last year's programme of road construction has been fully implemented, and in the next year's programme a number of new roads in sugarcane areas are being included. An additional provision of Rs. 2.5 crores for roads in the Plan for Vidarbha, has recently been agreed to by the Planning Commission. Of this, a provision of Rs. 75 lakhs is being made for the next year.

Government is pursuing the policy of vigorous expansion in all sectors of education. In order to consider problems arising out of Reorganisation, two Integration Committees—one for Primary and the other for Secondary education—have been appointed. In working out a uniform policy, the special

needs of different regions will be kept in view. As Honourable Members are aware, the educational programme in this State has always kept the development of primary education in the forefront. In doing this, the conversion of existing schools into basic schools, the provision of facilities for training of teachers and adequate remuneration to primary teachers, have been constantly borne in mind. As a result of the reorganisation of the State, the question of the integration of salaries of primary teachers in the combined areas is being actively considered on the lines recommended by the Government of India. As a measure of immediate relief, Government has already applied the old Bombay Dearness Allowance rates to the new areas at an average annual cost of Rs. 1.27 crores to the State. The question of strengthening the Junior Division of the National Cadet Corps has been recently reviewed by Government. The Junior Division was started in the old Bombay State in 1952-53, but was discontinued soon thereafter due mainly to the fact that it covered a small percentage of the Secondary Schools pupils mainly in the urban areas, some of whom dropped out soon after joining. On the reorganisation of the State, 188 Junior Division troops including 164 for boys and 24 for girls from Saurashtra, Kutch, Vidarbha and Marathwada areas, came in the new Bombay State. In order to have uniformity throughout the State and to give fillip to the N. C. C., movement Government has decided to introduce the Junior Division Scheme in the area of the former Bombay State also.

In the field of higher education, there has been steady expansion, and a significant increase in the financial assistance extended by Government. The Committee for the establishment of a University for Marathwada, has recently submitted its report which is under the consideration of Government. It is hoped that the University will come into being by June 1958. I have no doubt that the establishment of this University will help greatly towards the all-round progress of the Marathwada region.

In view of the growing importance of small savings to the Second Five-Year Plan, a Directorate of Small Savings has been set up in the Finance Department, to supplement the efforts of the National Savings Organisation of the Government of India. The Directorate has in consultation with the Government of India, secured several facilities for investments and incentives to small investors. For example, the Treasury Savings Deposit Certificates are now being made available in the denomination of Rs. 50 instead of the earlier minimum of Rs. 100. The Government of India have also amended the Payment of Wages Act in order to make the deduction from salaries at the source possible for the purpose of contribution to Small Savings with the consent of the employees. At the State level, the Directorate of Small Savings has taken various measures to popularise the scheme among the masses and to liberalise the various agency schemes so as to encourage individuals and institutions in all walks of life to take up this work. The security amount required for the General Authorised Agents in all places except Bombay and Ahmedabad, has been reduced from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 1,000. In order to cover the rural areas, Government servants in the categories of Talatis, Circle Inspectors, Gram Sevaks, Doctors, Compounders and Agricultural Assistants have been permitted to become agents. Various social welfare institutions can also become agents

on a nominal security of Rs. 100 only. Moreover, Co-operation of the public has been sought by associating non-officials on the Advisory Committees for Small Savings set up at the State, Divisional and District levels. For training of the Small Savings workers, two training camps were organised—the first at Satana in the Nasik District in June 1957, and the other at Baroda in December last. These camps were the first of their kind in the country. To make people savings conscious, a small savings fortnight was celebrated throughout the State from the 27th January 1958. The reports received from the districts regarding the investments made during the fortnight, are very encouraging. I hope the enthusiasm generated during the fortnight will be sustained and every citizen however humble, will contribute his mite towards the successful implementation of this scheme, which not only supplements the resources for the Five-Year Plan but also helps to cultivate the habit of thrift amongst the people.

The long felt need for setting up a single organisation for implementing the social welfare programme of Government with the desired co-ordination, speed and efficiency, was fulfilled this year by the establishment of the Directorate of Social Welfare. It will now be possible to expand the social welfare programme and have better co-ordination with similar programmes implemented in the Community Development Blocks and by the State Social Welfare Advisory Board. The schemes relating to juvenile delinquency, beggary and social and moral hygiene and after-care, and specially to the establishment of State Homes and Shelters, are being extended. The administrative machinery at the district level is being reorganised so as to enable it to discharge more executive functions. The movement for eradication of untouchability is also being intensified, and the administration of schemes of assistance to Backward Classes is being simplified so as to make their benefits more easily available to the people.

Development activities of the State to which I have made a reference, are an indication of the effort that is being made by the State to fulfil the aspirations of the people as embodied in the Second Five-Year Plan. It has not been possible for me to mention all such activities. During the tours recently organised by Government, several Honourable Members of this Legislature have already seen for themselves the work which is being done in different parts of the State. Government would be very glad to profit by their suggestions for improvement. The knowledge gained by Honourable Members will also be of great value in the deliberations of this Legislature. The task which lies in front of us, is essentially that of service to the people, and I am confident that in the performance of that task, the utmost co-operation and good-will of all will always be available. May I, therefore, take this opportunity of extending to you all my best wishes for a successful Session, and a useful and prosperous year of activity. (Applause).

(The Assembly and the Council were adjourned at 2-50 p.m. till 3-05 p.m.).

The Council assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 3-05 p.m. on Monday, the 17th February, 1958. The Chairman Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published).

MOTION OF THANKS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

Shri V. S. PAGE (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly): Sir, I beg to move the following motion:

"We, the members of the Bombay Legislative Council assembled in this session, offer our sincere thanks to the Governor for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver."

श्री गुलाम हैदर बलीमुहम्मद (बम्बई विधान सभा द्वारा निर्वाचित): सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य श्री पागे ने गवर्नर साहब के ऐड्रेस के लिए शुक्रिया की जो दर्खास्त रखी है उसकी में तारीफ करता हूँ।

Motion proposed.

The CHAIRMAN: The amendments, if any, to be moved to the Motion may be sent to the office by 5 p.m. tomorrow.

NOMINATION OF PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

The CHAIRMAN: I appoint the following Members to form the Panel of Chairmen, namely:—

Shri P. B. Patwari,
Shri J. N. Korpe,
Dr. V. D. Sathaye,
Shri Pandit Rao.

PROGRAMME FOR ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEES.

The CHAIRMAN: Under the rules 130M and 130N of the Bombay Legislative Council Rules, this House has to elect six members each to represent it on the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee of the Bombay Legislative Assembly. The members are to be elected according to the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

I have fixed the following programme for the election:—

Last date for the receipt of nominations.	Wednesday, the 19th February, 1958, upto 5 p.m.
Scrutiny of nominations ...	Thursday, the 20th February, 1958, upto 12 noon.
Withdrawal of nominations...	Thursday, the 20th February, 1958, upto 5 p.m.
Poll, if necessary ...	Friday, the 21st February, 1958.

The nomination forms can be obtained from the Legislative Council Branch of this Department. They should be duly filled in and delivered to Shri Shukla, Officer on Special Duty.

ASSENT TO BILLS.

(The Officer on Special Duty read out the list of the following Bills as having received the assent of the President.):

(1) L. A. Bill No. XL of 1957 (A Bill to provide for the development of Gandhidham, for the control on erection of buildings therein, and for certain other matters).

(2) L. A. Bill No. XLII of 1957 (A Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, in its application to the pre-Reorganisation State of Bombay, excluding the transferred territories, and to the Saurashtra area of the State of Bombay).

(3) L. A. Bill No. XLIII of 1957 (A Bill to provide for the protection from eviction of tenants of agricultural lands in the Vidarbha region of the State of Bombay, for the stay of proceedings pending or commenced therefor, and for the amendment, for certain purposes hereinafter appearing, of the Berar Regulation of Agricultural Leases Act, 1951, and the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954).

(4) L. A. Bill No. XLV of 1957 (A Bill further to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, in its application to the pre-Reorganisation State of Bombay, excluding the transferred territories).

(5) L. A. Bill No. LXI of 1957 (A Bill to provide for the offices of Commissioners of divisions, in the State of Bombay, for prescribing their powers and duties and to make provisions consequent on the provision for such offices and for certain other matters).

(6) L. A. Bill No. LXVI of 1957 (A Bill to amend the Bombay Taluqdari Tenure Abolition Act, 1949).

(The Officer on Special Duty read out the list of the following Bills as having received the assent of the Governor.):

(1) L. A. Bill No. XXXVIII of 1957 (A Bill further to amend the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda Act, 1949).

(2) L. A. Bill No. XXXIX of 1957 (A Bill further to amend the Poona University Act, 1948).

(3) L. A. Bill No. XLI of 1957 (A Bill to amend certain Acts relating to the establishment or recognition of Universities in the State of Bombay).

(4) L. A. Bill No. XLIV of 1957 (A Bill to amend the Saurashtra Local Development Fund Act, 1956).

(5) L. A. Bill No. XLVI of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Mamlatdars' Courts Act, 1906, to the rest of the State of Bombay).

(6) L. A. Bill No. XLVII of 1957 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Provincial Municipal Corporations Act, 1949).

(7) L. A. Bill No. XLVIII of 1957 (A Bill further to amend the Central Provinces and Berar Sales Tax Act, 1947).

(8) L. A. Bill No. L of 1957 (A Bill further to amend the Central Provinces and Berar Municipalities Act, 1922).

(9) L. A. Bill No. LII of 1957 (A Bill to amend the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1948, as extended to the Kutch area of the State of Bombay).

(10) L. A. Bill No. LXII of 1957 (A Bill to provide for the limits of taxable income in respect of agricultural income-tax payable under the Hyderabad Agricultural Income-tax Act, 1950, for the financial year commencing on the 1st day of April 1957 and every subsequent year thereafter, and the rate of tax therefor, and to provide also that the Hyderabad Agricultural Income-tax (Amendment) Act, 1957, shall be deemed to have taken effect on the 1st day of April 1957 and not earlier).

(11) L. A. Bill No. LXIII of 1957 (A Bill to amend the Saurashtra Prohibition of Leases of Agricultural Lands Act, 1953).

(12) L. A. Bill No. LXVIII of 1957 (A Bill to amend the Bombay Legislature Members' Salaries and Allowances Act, 1956).

(13) L. A. Bill No. LXIX of 1957 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act).

(14) L. A. Bill No. LXXIII of 1957 (A Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Bombay to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March 1958).

The CHAIRMAN: Today's business being over the House will now adjourn and meet on Wednesday, the 19th February 1958 at 2 p.m. We are not meeting tomorrow.

The House was adjourned at 3-20 p.m. till 2-00 p.m., on Wednesday, the 19th February 1958.

Wednesday, the 19th February, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 19th February, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published).

DISCUSSION ON GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

Motion again proposed :

"We, the Members of the Bombay Legislative Council assembled in this Session, offer our sincere thanks to the Governor for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver."

The CHAIRMAN : To the Motion of Thanks, 38 amendments have been tabled by nine hon. Members. Out of these, I have disallowed amendment No. 1 of the hon. Member Shri Agarwal, so that 37 amendments remain. Before I call upon the Mover of the Motion to speak, I will ask those hon. Members who have tabled amendments to move them one by one.

Before I call upon the hon. Member Dr. Sathaye to move his amendment, I understand that one new hon. Member has not yet taken the oath. If he is present in the House now, he may do so. (After a pause) He is not present in the House. The hon. Member Dr. Sathaye may move his amendment.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL : May I know, Sir, why my amendment No. 1 has been disallowed ?

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member may see me in my Chamber.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : Sir, I beg to move the following amendment :

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

"but regret that there is no reference in the Address to the present inadequate facilities for admission to medical colleges in the State. (No. 32).

Amendment proposed.

Shri S. L. OGALE : Sir, I beg to move the following amendment :

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

"but regret that the Address does not mention the efforts which Government has made or intends to make for the inclusion of outlying Marathi Speaking areas in the State of Bombay." (No. 34).

Amendment proposed.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR : Sir, I beg to move the following amendment :

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

"but regret to draw the attention of Government to the dissatisfaction growing among the people owing to unemployment, shortage of housing, indecision in the solution of the language problem in education, and the increasing gulf between the Government and the people owing to the bulky and unwieldy size of the bi-lingual State" (No. 28).

Sir K. R. PATIL : Sir, I beg to move the following amendments :—

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that no mention is made in the Address as regards adequate provision of funds for irrigation in the Vidarbha region.” (No. 17).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that the Address is silent on the vital issue of securing fair prices for the agricultural produce especially foodgrains.” (No. 18).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret to draw the attention of Government to the failure of Land Reforms Legislation in the State, especially in the Vidarbha region.” (No. 20).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret to draw the attention of Government to the undemocratic formation and unnecessary existence of the District Development Boards as they have been made tools at the hands of the ruling party.” (No. 4).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret to note the deterioration in the efficiency of the administrative machinery of the State.” (No. 6).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that the Address is silent as regards the continuance of the educational facilities which were available to the students in the Vidarbha region.” (No. 31).

Amendments proposed.

Shri M. B. GAIKWAD : Sir, I beg to move the following amendment :

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that Government has underestimated the grave situation arising out of scarcity and famine condition in certain parts of Maharashtra and failed to take necessary steps for relief in these parts.” (No. 10).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that no mention has been made about fixing floor prices for the agricultural produce.” (No. 11).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret to draw the attention of Government to the undemocratic representation on the various District Development Boards and Taluka Development Boards.” (No. 3).

Amendments proposed.

Shri R. S. BHATT : Sir, I beg to move the following amendments—

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that the Address does not take any note of the grave situation created by the prevalence of high prices of foodgrains in the State.” (No. 15).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret to note that the Government has failed to take necessary steps to implement the land reforms effectively and also to prevent the landlords from evicting their tenants from the lands.” (No. 22).

The following words may be added at the end of the motion, namely :—

“but regret that the Address is silent about the increasing unemployment in silk, cotton and woollen textile industry in the State and the Government's failure to solve the problem satisfactorily.” (No. 25).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that the measures mentioned in the Address for eradicating the evil of corruption are not adequate.” (No. 9.)

Amendments proposed.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member Shri Bhide may move his amendments. (After a pause) He is not present in the House. The amendments standing in the name of the hon. Member Shri C. P. Mehta may be moved.

Shri C. P. Mehta : Sir, I beg to move the following amendments.

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that Government has failed to take notice of the sentiments and demand of the Gujarati and Marathi speaking people to form unilingual States.” (No. 35).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that Government has failed to reduce the rates of land revenue prevalent in the former States of Saurashtra and Kutch which are higher than those in other areas of the States.” (No. 21).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that Government has failed to implement the waterworks and drainage schemes of the 32 Municipalities of Rajkot Division, approved by the former Saurashtra Government.” (No. 36).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that Government has failed to remove unemployment and poverty in the State.” (No. 24).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that Government has failed to check the increasing incidence of crime in the State and especially in the Rajkot Division.” (No. 7).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that Government has failed to take notice of hundreds of deaths which occurred in Rajkot Division this year due to the epidemic of small-pox.” (No. 37).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that Government has failed to remove corruption and abolish red-tapism from the State.” (No. 8).

The following words may be added at the end of the motion, namely :—

“but regret that Government has failed to settle immediately industrial disputes of the laborers and also to enforce fully the awards given by the industrial courts in labour disputes.” (No. 23).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that Government has failed to fix adequate pay scales of chowkidars and passyatas of the former Saurashtra State.” (No. 6).

The following words may be added at the end of the Motion, namely :—

“but regret that Government has failed to solve the problem of food and accommodation.” (No. 14).

Amendments proposed.

The CHAIRMAN : I now call upon the Mover of the Motion to address the House. Before I do so, I would like to know how many hon. Members wish to take part in the discussion. I think many hon. Members would be anxious to take part in the discussion. At present I do not want to fix any time limit on the speeches, but I may say that I will give the Mover of the Motion 30 minutes, the seconder 15 minutes and to each of the movers of the amendments 20 minutes. Government will have 45 minutes and the Mover of the Motion, who has a right of reply, will be given 20 minutes. Of course, other Hon. Ministers who may intervene in the debate will be given 25 minutes.

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each and those hon. Members who have not moved any amendments will be given 15 minutes each. I have tried to calculate the time available for us and I find that in all there would be 9 hours. Out of them, about 5 hours would be taken up by the Mover of the Motion, the secondor, and the Movers of the Amendments. Then one more hour would be taken by the reply of the Mover of the Motion and by Government. That means that about 3 hours would be available for other hon. Members. I would request all the hon. Members not to repeat the arguments and they should be as brief as possible.

Shri V. S. PAGE (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am glad that I have the privilege of moving the Motion of Thanks to the Governor as he was pleased to Address the Joint Session of both the Houses on the 17th February. His Excellency's Address refers to as many points as are referred to in the various amendment tabled here. I need not go into all those points nor would I refer to every point in detail. But I may only say that His Excellency has dealt with only the outstanding and special problems that were tackled by Government during the period from the last Session to this session. The important problems, such as the food problem, clothing, housing and others were discussed at length last time. This year in the beginning we are told that the labours which the hon. Members put in have borne fruit. The main task that was before Government was regarding the integration of the various territories that were added to the State, the integration of the services and the unification of laws. A mention was made to these problems in the Address of the Governor last time and we were told that two Committees were appointed for integration of the services, one at the Ministerial level and the other at the official level and the work of implementation of the principles that were already agreed to at the Conference of the representatives of the various areas was going on. This time we are told that the work has progressed much. On page 3 of the Governor's Address we find measures that have been taken up in this respect and we are assured that the task has been completely achieved. We are told that the work has shown a distinct improvement over that of the previous year.

Then, Sir, the work of unification of laws is not yet complete. Last time we were told that there were certain laws the unification of which was easy to achieve but there were certain other Acts in respect of which that task would be a complicated one and that Government had taken up the question of unification of Sales Tax Acts. We are told that after that is done, the several land reforms would be unified.

The next outstanding problem is as regards giving more and more voice to the public in local administration and particularly in the administration of Gram Panchayats which is the lowest administrative unit in the State. We are told that every village must have a Gram Panchayat and we are also told what measures are being taken for strengthening the finances of the local bodies viz. grant of a higher percentage of land revenue to them. Similarly, if we expand the programme of having Gram Panchayats for every village, the revenue which was going to the share some of the District Local Boards which were covering some villages which had no Gram panchayats would now go to the Gram Panchayats and to that extent these District Local

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Boards would suffer a loss. Therefore, 5 per cent. of the land revenue will, hereafter, be given to the District Local Boards also to compensate them for the loss due to the expansion of the programme relating to Gram Panchayats.

Another question that has been dealt with is about the eradication of the evil of corruption. There are a few amendments regarding this question. In some amendments it is said that the evil has not been rooted out. That is an admitted fact. I need not comment on the amendments at this stage but I only want to say that nobody has denied that the evil of corruption has not been completely eradicated. It is for this purpose that several measures have been taken. Now some of the amendments allege that these measures are inadequate. But suggestions are always welcome on this point and I am sure Government would like to know in what respects the measures adopted by them are inadequate and it will certainly be glad to act upon the suggestions made during the course of the speeches in support of these amendments. I will wait till those suggestions are put before the House.

The next question that is referred to in the Address is as regards the increase in food production. This problem has now assumed greater importance. This problem was also discussed last time and in order to tackle it several fair price shops were opened. Even then, due to scanty rainfall, we find conditions either of scarcity or akin to scarcity prevailing in certain parts of the State and various measures have been taken to ameliorate the conditions of the people living in those parts. The main thing is to give those people some work and this has been proposed to be done in various ways. Though not in detail, this matter has also been referred to in His Excellency's Address. So far as the question of increasing the food production is concerned, the measures that have been taken by Government are already known to the people. The most important thing that Government has done is to encourage the digging of wells and repairing them. In the year 1949 or 1950 also such measures were adopted and now also a subsidy up to Rs. 500 and a loan up to Rs. 2,000 would be given for sinking new wells. A very big programme of construction of 35,000 wells has been taken in hand. Our past experience in the matter of digging wells and repairing them is well known. There were very few defaults in the repayment of loans and the loans which were taken were actually used for digging wells. I have personal knowledge of this as I was working as the Secretary of the Rural Development Board in South Satara. The loan which was given to the agriculturists was primarily used for the purpose for which it was given. I may mention that not even 5 per cent. failures were there in the proper utilization of funds. Then again some States were integrated at that time in the old Bombay State. Just as Vidarbha, Marathawada, etc. have now been integrated with this State, similarly in 1949 various States were integrated with the old Bombay State and the people living in those parts could not avail themselves of the subsidy and loans given for this purpose. I am glad that once again we have started the same scheme and I hope that, in the coming year, the funds allotted for this purpose will be utilised to the fullest extent, thus increasing the number of wells to a very great extent.

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Then certain measures as regards irrigation have been taken. Both minor and major irrigation works have been started.

Then, Sir, the soil conservation programme has also been intensified. This was very necessary and it has a special importance because this programme is carried out where the land is not so fertile. If irrigation projects are carried out in parts where the land is fertile, then the tendency of the agriculturists is to utilise the irrigated water for producing money crops. But the soil conservation programme is such that it will definitely add to the food production. Therefore certain measures to expand and intensify this programme have been taken.

As regards irrigation a Board of Irrigation is being set up for the State of Bombay, consisting of officials and non-officials. We are also told that the whole of the second Five Year-Plan will have to be revised for augmenting the food production.

Then, Sir, the Address also refers to the various measures that have been taken, in the matter of land reforms, abolition of vatans, etc. We are also told that steps are being taken to abolish Mahar Vatans. That was a demand from persons belonging to the Scheduled Caste. I am glad that steps are being taken in that behalf even at the risk of heavy burden that it will entail on the treasury of the State. We have allowed those Mahar Vatans to continue uptill now. As a matter of fact, they ought to have been abolished much earlier, but because of financial difficulties the programme was delayed so far. We were, in fact, waiting for a measure abolishing this type of vatan.

The problem of giving more credit to co-operative societies and aiding the sugar factories which have been newly established has also been referred to in the Governor's Address. We are told that 9 out of the 15 Co-operative Sugar Factories have gone into production and the others are waiting for the machinery to be installed. I hope that the other Co-operative Sugar Factories also will go into production during the next season.

Then, Sir, a reference has been made to small-scale and cottage industries and we are told that a scheme for improving the quality of these products has been prepared and that attempts are also being made at standardization of the products of the small scale and cottage industries.

Lastly, Sir, we are told that the Small Savings Scheme has assumed greater importance and a drive to that effect is being undertaken. We find that that drive is succeeding. People have realised more and more the importance of this scheme in a planned economy. I may cite here the example of a village in my district which has collected about Rs. 1½ lacs. That is a village which is populated largely by agriculturists. The population of that village is about 15,000. Every house, and practically every family, has participated in that programme. If we go on at this speed in our villages, then the complaint that we are lagging much behind the other countries in the world will not

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stand. It is a very important problem and I hope that this drive will gain more and more momentum in time to come and that this will relieve the pressure on funds for the implementation of the plans that we are determined to carry out.

Thus, as I said, almost all the outstanding problems have been referred to and we have been given all information about them in this Address. In the end we are told that service to the people should be the aim of all of us and more and more suggestions are invited from hon. Members bearing this in mind, particularly as they were given an opportunity of touring the State in order to see the various projects for themselves. It is expected that the knowledge that they have gained by visiting the various projects will be very useful in the deliberations of this House and in making various suggestions to Government for the implementation of these projects in a better way.

At the end, His Excellency has extended his best wishes for a successful session and a useful and prosperous year of activity hereafter.

In the beginning, Sir, I said that I need not refer to the various amendments that have been tabled. All these amendments, as usual, refer to the omissions in His Excellency's Address. It is well and good. After all, this is an occasion when a survey has to be taken of the administration from the last session to this session and the Head of the State takes the whole survey. Government policies are also laid down. Sometimes coming events are also discussed. Various measures that are going to be taken are also referred to. However, there might be omissions here and there and it is for the hon. Members who table amendments to supplement that review. Various points have been suggested to which His Excellency has not referred. They are political, economic and administrative and some of them are minor complaints or grievances of a particular class. For instance, there is one amendment which refers to the formation of Samyukta Maharashtra as well as integration of the Marathi speaking border territories to this State. Another amendment refers to a complaint that the facilities given to the students in Medical Colleges are inadequate. One amendment refers even to the epidemic of small-pox. I may say that the amendments refer to many questions, such as, grants to local bodies, constitution of Development Boards at the Taluka and District levels, efficiency of the administration in general, anti-corruption measures, scarcity, food production, language and education. As I said earlier, I do not want to voice my opinion as regards those problems, unless I have heard the movers of those amendments and know their mind in full. But one thing I wish to say, and that is that the Governor has taken the whole review and has specially referred to those points which have assumed importance during the period from the last session to this session. It is not that the Government is expected to refer to each and every point or several schemes that are being implemented by Government. That is not the task of the Governor. I have looked at the Address from this point of view. Whatever may be the problems before Government, certainly the problem of consolidation of re-organisation of the State as a whole is an important problem and in this consolidation certainly two matters assume prime importance and they

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must be given top priority. The first is the integration of services. I feel that this object has been achieved. The second is not only the unification of laws, but also of the unification of the system of giving grants to various institutions and people. The system of giving grants differs from territory to territory. Many instances may be given in this respect, but I do not wish to dilate upon this point at this stage. There are various schemes in vogue in the different parts of the new Bombay State. For instance, we learn from the Budget Estimates that there is a scheme in Vidarbha, for giving help to some of agriculturists whose holding of land is below a certain level. No such scheme was in operation in the old Bombay State. I do not know what is the system in Saurashtra or in the other parts of the State. But the scheme of giving help to sons of agriculturists is an essential scheme which people from this State also want to have. So, the question of giving grants to various institutions and people is also important and the same is under the active consideration of Government. We have achieved the task of integration of services. The question of unification of laws and that of giving grants is to be tackled. The task of integration is not an easy one. The task of integration of territories in the whole of India, particularly in the State of Bombay, has been carried out with such dexterity and skill that I think we must thank Government, and especially the head of the Government, the Governor, and I think the least that we can do in this connection is to move and pass a Motion of Thanks.

Sir, as I said, I do not want to take more time of the House, and whatever I have to say on the amendments I will say at the end of the debate.

The CHAIRMAN: The seconder of the Motion may now offer his remarks, if he wants to.

Shri G. V. MOMIN: Not now, Sir.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE (Maharashtra-Graduates): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would refer briefly to the amendment which has been moved by me, and then make some general observations on the Address of the Governor.

Sir, in 1955, I had moved a similar amendment to the Motion of Thanks for Governor's Address, pointedly referring to the facilities for medical and engineering education. Fortunately, since then, so far as facilities for engineering education is concerned, the position has definitely improved in the last few years. But so far as facilities for medical education is concerned, the situation has not improved. I have, therefore, taken this opportunity of bringing this problem before the House. In this connection, I would mention one or two points. I understand that the Sholapur Medical Association has made a representation to Government for starting a medical college at Sholapur. Now, to start such a college, three things are necessary, namely, (1) Finance, (2) a hospital and patients, and (3) the requisite staff qualified to impart medical education. So far as Sholapur is concerned, I am quite sure that the last two things are there. There may be the difficulty of funds, and I would suggest to Government that

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they should either themselves start a medical college there, or help private effort in this direction. I understand that Surat is also thinking of starting a medical college. So far as Surat is concerned, the first two requisites are present there. Therefore, there would not be any difficulty in starting a medical college there. If Government is alive to the need for having more medical colleges in the State, I hope it will help in starting the medical colleges.

I would like to say a few words about admissions to medical colleges. Admissions to medical colleges in the first year are made every year taking into consideration the number of marks obtained by the students seeking such admission at the I. Sc. Examination. I understand that, during the last one or two years, some of the subsequent vacancies were not filled by this test, in the transfer of students from medical colleges outside the State. Those students who were refused admission in our colleges on their I. Sc. marks got themselves admitted into some medical colleges outside the State, and such students were allowed to be transferred to our colleges. In reply to a question on the subject in the last session, Government admitted that in three or four cases there was some mistake in the admission of students. I would like to state that just as we are particular about new admissions to medical colleges here, we should also be particular about admission of students on transfer from colleges outside the State—colleges outside the jurisdiction of our universities.

Now, I would like to say a few words regarding the Address. Various amendments have been moved to the Motion of Thanks covering most of the points in the Address. I had expected the Mover of the Motion of Thanks to cover in his remarks some of the points not covered in the Address. However, I would go to the Address proper. Out of the nineteen pages of the Address, nearly five pages have been devoted to food and allied problems, like irrigation, increase in agricultural production, etc. That means that Government is alive to the acute food problem so far as this State is concerned. Then, two pages have been devoted to the so-called bigger Bombay State and to the integration of the new areas. This means that nearly half the Address is covered by food and allied problems and the integration of certain areas into the new Bombay State. While going through some of the points referred to in the previous Addresses by the Governor, I found that reference has been made in two Addresses to the progress made in implementing the policy of prohibition, namely, once in January 1952 and again in May in the same year. After that till today no reference has been made in the Governor's Address to the progress made in the implementation of the policy of prohibition. This is one omission in the Address.

The second omission, in my opinion, is this. Public health is an important thing, and it affects the day to day life of the public. We should have been told something about it in the Address and what Government proposes to do in the matter.

Then, the third, and according to me, a significant omission in the Address is the non-mention of the progress made in the Koyana scheme (*Interruption*). Koyana problem is a live problem so far as this State is concerned, and I had expected that it would be referred to in the Address.

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Then, the fourth omission is non-reference to what is proposed to be done with regard to irrigation and water supply scheme. We should have welcomed some information as to what is proposed to be done in the matter in the next year.

Then, Sir, unemployment is an acute problem, and that should have found a place in the Address. Incidentally, I would refer to page 33 of the Bombay Legislative Council Debates of 17th February, 1955, when the present Deputy Chairman then moved the Motion of Thanks for the Governor's Address. She said then :

"I was just mentioning that out of the eight major irrigation schemes some have been completed, some are being completed and by 1957 all the schemes will be completed, bringing more prosperity to the State as a whole and doing away with the menace of scarcity and famine. These schemes will be bringing 18½ lakhs of acres of land under cultivation and I may be permitted to repeat that the rural population will see days of prosperity, ... we will not have to face unemployment and our Government will also have more revenues from the irrigated areas."

This was the rosy picture drawn before the House then by the Mover of the Motion of Thanks. I would like to know what progress has been made so far as these expectations are concerned.

Another point mentioned, once in 1952 and again in 1953 Debates of the House, is about the Welfare State. The Hon. the then Chief Minister, while speaking on the Governor's Address, had said (B. L. C. Debates, dated 8th May, 1952, page 100)—

"We have never claimed that a Welfare State has been established in the State."

That was in 1952. I would like to know what the position now is. Have we achieved the so-called 'Welfare State' and how far or near are we on the way towards achieving this goal?

After these general observations, I would refer to a few specific points in the Address. On page 1 of the Address a reference has been made to local self-Government and there it has been mentioned—

"Side by side steps have also been taken to democratise the institutions of local Government."

Curiously enough, so far as the Poona Corporation is concerned, a similar reference to local Government was made in the previous Address also and at that time it was complained that, so far as the Poona Corporation was concerned, a grant of about Rs. 5 lakhs was not given to it in 1953. Now today also I would make a complaint that, whereas Government is giving a prominent place in the Address to the question of democratising the institutions of local Government, so far as the Poona Corporation is concerned that problem has not been attended to. We find that only last week a resolution which was passed by the Poona Municipal Corporation by a majority has been voted by the local Government and I would bring this point to the notice of this House.

Then, Sir, it has been mentioned that the administrative efficiency has been increased. I would not completely agree with that statement. So far as the general reaction is concerned, I think the administrative efficiency has not progressed to the extent that we have been told in this Address.

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So far as District Development Boards are concerned, there are two amendments in this respect and the hon. Members concerned will make a reference to this question. We had a debate on this question in the last session when we had a resolution regarding the composition and formation of District Development Boards.

Then, Sir, pages 3, 4 and 5 refer to the so-called integration and the bigger Bombay State. Here also there are amendments, as some hon. Members feel that this experiment of a bigger bilingual State is not working to the satisfaction of at least some sections of the public. I would only say that probably this bigger bilingual State is a glaring example of political gerrymandering and all that I would like to say in this connection is that there is a sort of undemocratic working so far as the Marathi-speaking areas are concerned, because so many of our aspirations have been put down by the so-called adjustment of majority and minority groups so far as these areas are concerned.

On page 4 there is a mention about corruption. The very fact that corruption has found a place in the Governor's Address goes to show that this evil of corruption is rampant in the State, and I would like to mention here, as one of the hon. Members has put it, the more the rules and laws, the more the opportunities for corruption and I would bring this point to the notice of Government.

As regards rice control, we know that so far as the city is concerned, rice has been tabooed for two days in a week and the general reaction to such a measure is not very favourable and I would like to bring this to the notice of Government.

On page 8 of the Address it has been mentioned that Government has set up a new Irrigation Projects Division. It means that, so far as irrigation projects are concerned, Government has felt the necessity of having a separate division to see that the work is carried on efficiently. Then later on there is a reference to the tour of hon. Members to some parts of the State. I understand that, so far as some of the irrigation works in Gujarat are concerned, the water there is at a lower level and the fields are at a higher level. That was the complaint which was made and probably it is time that such irrigation schemes are reviewed. If this creation of a division is going to bring in more efficiency, I would certainly say that it is a welcome measure.

Then, later on, in the next paragraph, besides the creation of a new Irrigation Project Division, Government has felt the necessity of having a Water Utilisation Committee. There was a complaint, when we were discussing the report of the Public Accounts Committee or the Estimates Committee, that in one of the particular project the project was complete but water was not being given to the agriculturists. That was the complaint which was made and, therefore, this Water Utilisation Committee has perhaps been set up to see that the canals and other schemes are properly utilised.

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Then, Sir, I find that some irrigation concessions have been given. I think it is a welcome measure to see that whatever money that has been spent on irrigation works is well utilised and it is productive so far as agricultural production is concerned.

There is also some reference in the Address to Seed Farms. In the previous debate there was some complaint about the seed programme not working satisfactorily and I hope Government will look into this problem from this point of view.

Then, Sir, it has been mentioned in the Address that a fresh sense of urgency has been imparted to the programme of agricultural production. I should say that the urgency was there all along and there is, therefore, no question of any fresh or new urgency so far as this problem is concerned.

So far as National Extension Service and Community Development Projects are concerned, we always pride ourselves by saying that, so far as the first Five-Year Plan is concerned, we have exceeded the target so far as the spending part is concerned, but when we have spent all the money, we have to see that we receive sufficient return for the money that is spent. I would suggest to Government that so far N.E.S. and Community Development Projects are concerned, a survey of the particular areas should be carried out to see what has been the improvement in the economic life of a family. Such a survey should be undertaken by Government and placed before this House.

Then, Sir, so far as dairy development is concerned, the Aarey Milk Scheme is a pride of this State. The two achievements which, I should say, are really remarkable are the Aarey Milk Colony and the State Transport Service, which are two of the undertakings of this Government. I would again here bring to the notice of Government that, so far as milk is concerned, there has been a complaint that the price of milk is rather high and it should be brought down as far as possible.

So far as the tenancy laws are concerned, there are some amendments. The tenancy law is not working to the extent and satisfaction that was originally expected and I am sure that question will be tackled by the mover of the amendments.

Then, Sir, on page 15 of the Address, there is a mention about some cotton mills not working full shifts. Now, so far as the Sholapur Mills are concerned, one of the Mills is taken over by Government. It would be a very good experiment, as, in one way, Government is now entering the field of textiles also.

Then there is the question of housing shortage. In this connection my suggestion is that we should decentralise some of the offices from the city of Bombay and that would solve the housing problem to some extent. Even in the days of acute shortage of housing, the office of the Inspector General of Police was transferred from Poona to Bombay. I wonder whether it was

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a very desirable step. But I would like to bring to the notice of Government that if some of the offices which are not necessary to be located in Bombay are taken to places like Nagpur and Poona, it would solve the problem of housing shortage to some extent.

Then, Sir, on page 16 of the Address, there is a significant sentence so far as the problem of education is concerned. It is stated there that, in working out a uniform policy, the special needs of different regions would be kept in view. I would urge in this connection that not only the special needs of the different regions but also the special sentiments of the people residing in particular regions should be taken into consideration. To give one example, in the last session there was a Resolution by the Hon. Member Dr. Khair regarding starting of English in the IV and the V standards. I think that so far as the Marathi speaking districts are concerned, it is their general demand that the study of English language should be started from the IV or the V Standard. Therefore, what I am urging is that if particular regions want that the study of a particular language should be started from a particular standard, then that request should be granted.

Then, Sir, it is stated on page 17 of the Address that the N. C. C. Scheme was discontinued due mainly to the fact that it covered a small percentage of the Secondary Schools pupils mainly in the urban area, some of whom dropped out soon after joining. But I think that this scheme was discontinued 4 or 5 years back because of a definite policy of Government in those days and the reason that is given here is not very correct.

These were some of the remarks which I wanted to make.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ (Greater Bombay cum Maharashtra—Teachers): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am moving practically the same amendment which I had moved while I was speaking on the Governor's Address last time and it is as regards the inclusion of some of the Marathi speaking areas in this State. I was hoping that I would be able to congratulate Government on its having solved the problem during the period that has intervened. But to my great regret, not only the problem has not been solved, as we were assured last time that the problem would be solved to the satisfaction of all, but so far as we know no step has been taken towards the solution of this problem. I was, therefore, compelled to move the same amendment this time also only with a slight change in the wording that I regret that the Address does not make any mention to the efforts that Government had made or will make, because I presume that Government might have made some efforts for the solution of this problem, especially because a meeting of the Zonal Council had been convened. We understand that it was during the meetings of these Zonal Councils that the border problems were to be discussed and solved. I am particularly interested in those Marathi speaking areas which have unfortunately been transferred to the other States. Dr. Hare Krishna Mehta, the then Governor of Bombay, had stated in his Address as follows: "I take this opportunity of sending my best wishes to the Districts of Karnataka and Taluka which now form part of other States and trust that they will find their fulfilment in their new environments."

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It was with this sentence that he ended the Address. But so far as the people of Belgaum, Khanapur and Nipani are concerned, it has been proved by various reports which we read in the newspapers and the information that we get that not only their aspirations have not been fulfilled but they have come to a sense of frustration by virtue of their areas being included in the State of Mysore. I am of the opinion right from the beginning that Belgaum, Khanapur and Nipani etc. ought to have been included in the Bombay State. I am, moreover, interested in moving this amendment because, whenever the Hon. the Chief Minister talks about the bilingual States, the favourite burden of his song is that there is at least one satisfaction for us in this bilingual State that all the Marathi speaking people have been brought together. Therefore, if he is sincere about what he is saying, then he should try his level best to bring back to the folds of the Bombay State the areas of Belgaum, Khanapur, Nipani and other Marathi speaking areas which have unfortunately been excluded from this State. We have not been informed about anything that happened behind the scene when the first session of the Zonal Council was held. On the other hand, if the reports from newspapers are correct, this problem was not at all included in the Agenda and, therefore, there is a greater cause for dissatisfaction amongst the people living there. We can have an idea as to how they are being harassed and I shall cite with your permission only one or two instances in this connection. In 1957, for the S. S. C. Examination held by the Bombay S. S. C. Board, the students from Belgaum were allowed to appear. The Marathi speaking people had very great hopes that their children would be allowed to appear in 1958 also for the S. S. C. Examination held by the Bombay S. S. C. Board. But, to their great disappointment, on the 17th of August 1957, an order was issued that the Bombay S. S. C. Board was not going to hold the S. S. C. Examination for the Marathi speaking pupils from Belgaum region. This was a great shock to those people. We know that formerly, for the Matriculation Examination, the students coming even from Goa, which belongs to a different territory altogether, were allowed to appear. But here, after giving the concession only for one year, the S. S. C. Board decided that it would no more hold the S. S. C. Examination for the students from Belgaum area. Then as many as 14 High Schools joined together and wrote a letter to the S. S. C. Board requesting it to change its decision and to look to the convenience of the Marathi speaking students from the Belgaum area. It was after 1½ months that they were informed by the Board that, in consultation with Government it had changed its previous decision and that it would hold the S. S. C. Examination for the students from Belgaum areas also. Then people from Belgaum were certainly glad when they heard about this decision. But this joy was also short lived because they found later on that Belgaum was not included in the list of centres where the S. S. C. Examinations were to be held and the nearest centre for the students from Belgaum area was about 80 miles away from Belgaum. They had to go either to Sangli or to Kolhapur. During these days of financial stringency, the guardians find it very difficult to send their children to a distant place. So they again wrote to the S. S. C. Board, Bombay, to arrange for a centre at Belgaum, but look at the harassment of the people living there! The Mysore

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S. S. C. Board was going to accept the forms up to the 20th of January 1958. That was the last date and, therefore, many students wanted to know whether the Bombay S. S. C. Board would arrange for a centre for their examination at Belgaum before at least the 18th of January 1958. In order that their forms should reach the Mysore S. S. C. Board on the 20th of January; they had to despatch them at the most on the 18th of January. So very eagerly they were hoping that they would hear something by the 18th of January. But as they did not hear anything by the 18th of January, they filled in the forms on the 18th of January for appearing for the examination of the S. S. C. Board, Mysore, and sent them to Mysore and on the 19th of January came the order of the Bombay S. S. C. Board that a centre had been arranged at Belgaum. Look at the inconvenience and the harassment that has been caused to the people in this connection!

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : This is administrative efficiency!

Shri S. L. OGALÉ : Still many students did want to appear for the examination of the Bombay S. S. C. Board and, therefore, they appealed to the Mysore Government that though they had filled in their forms for the examination to be held by the Mysore Government, now that the Bombay S. S. C. Board had come to the decision of having a centre at Belgaum, they would appear for that examination and, therefore, they requested the Mysore Board to refund the fees already paid by them; but the Mysore Board was not kind enough to that extent also. I know that the Bombay S. S. C. Board actually sent two of their officers to Belgaum and those officers were in Belgaum till the 29th. They accepted the forms of those students up to that date but nothing was known to these people about the refund of their fees. That only means that students whose guardians are rich and can afford to pay examination fees charged by the Mysore Board and the Bombay S. S. C. Board could fill in the forms in two States, but there were other students who wanted to appear for the examination held by the Bombay S. S. C. Board if the Mysore Board were going to refund the fees already paid by them. The last date for filling in the forms was 29th January, 1958, for the Bombay S. S. C. Board Examination and on the 30th January 1958 an order came from the Mysore Government that the fees will be refunded, after the students had already decided not to pay fees for the examination of the Bombay S. S. C. Board, because they had no means to pay fees for both the examinations. This is only an example to show how the Marathi speaking people in the Mysore State have been harassed. As if to add insult to injury, there are threats given to the Marathi speaking people from Belgaum and other surrounding places. The Marathi speaking people had been agitating the point of inclusion of this area in the Bombay State right from the beginning, even before any decision was taken about the re-organization of States. After the re-organization of States also they were agitating for that point. As I told this House last time, it was due to the assurance given by the Hon. the Home Minister, Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, that they stopped all agitation, hoping that the word of the Home Minister at the Centre would be honoured and out of respect for him they stopped all agitation. Time and again they have tried to ventilate

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their grievances. I narrated during my last speech how one Minister after another of the Mysore State was coming out with a threat to the bi-lingual people. "Look here, if you make any movement or agitation in the matter, you should remember that you are under our control now" and at the same time I expressed my surprise at the meticulous silence observed by our Ministers on this point. I am glad that Hon. Dr. Jivraj Mehta is here. He is one of the three Ministers who represent Bombay State on the Zonal Council. The Chief Minister is unfortunately absent. I hoped that at least the work of giving threats to the people at Belgaum would have stopped after the first Zonal Council meeting. But we now learn from newspapers and also from authentic reports that the Ministers from the Mysore State have not stopped it. At Bidar on 26th January 1958, the Republic Day, which is a sacred day to us, the Hon. Deputy Home Minister of Mysore is reported to have given a violent threat that if this agitation continues any more, it will be stopped with bullets and nothing else. Naturally, the people who had kept their trust in the word of the Central Home Minister and who were waiting still with patience that some decision favourable to them might be taken are agitated. We can imagine how their patience might be disturbed by threats given by these Ministers holding high office in that State, and, therefore, I want to know if any efforts from our side are being made to find out a reasonable solution for this problem. But, as I said, during the first Zonal Council meeting no progress towards this solution was made. The subject was not even included in the Agenda. What happened behind the scene we are not in a position to know. I am sure that whatever work that is being done behind the scene is favourable to the reclaiming of the Marathi speaking people from Belgaum and other regions back to our Bombay State. Other Zonal Councils have started doing work in right earnest. We read that some Zonal Councils have taken a decision on the establishment of an inter-state police force. Similarly the question of boundaries between Andhra and Madras States has been settled, thanks to Shri Pataskar who has settled the boundary dispute between Andhra and Madras States. I find that, for bringing the Marathi speaking people from Belgaum and other regions, no steps have been taken and even at the risk of repetition. I have moved my amendment. After having brought this matter to the notice of this House, I am sure that Hon. Dr. Jivraj Mehta will at least give the same assurance as he gave last time that all efforts will be made to find out a solution satisfactory to all. If he reveals something more, I will be still more glad. I do not, however, know whether he is at liberty to reveal that.

After having finished with the subject of my amendment, I wish to take this opportunity to say a few words about the Fair Price Shops, since the Hon. Minister for Civil Supplies is here. My contention about the food supply and The Fair Price Shops is that the policy of our Hon. Minister is halting, and if he does not take proper steps to see that the orders issued by him are properly executed, it will create a very difficult situation. I say that the policy is halting, because in one of my speeches I had suggested to him that in order to avoid customers from far off localities crowding at a particular shop where grain is available, some restriction should be put as to who should

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buy from which shop. The Hon. Minister did not like that idea at that time. In one of his replies he has told me that he did not like that because that would amount to issuing of cards and issuing of cards would amount to rationing. I can refer to his reply if he wants; but I know that his memory is fresh and he remembers it. Let us now see what has happened in Bombay. Exactly what he did not want to do has been done in Bombay and, therefore I say that the policy of our Supply Minister is not firm, is not determined. I do not, of course, blame him because, while speaking on the resolution for appointing a Committee on food supply etc., I frankly confessed that this problem of food is no more a State subject and we are completely dependent on the policies adopted by the Centre. Therefore, our State Food Ministers are simply helpless. Their efficiency lies in executing the orders and in carrying out the policies laid down by the Centre. I, therefore, do not blame him if he once emphasises the policy of not issuing the cards and then he adopts that policy of issuing them, but if he had then said that he would issue cards and would put restrictions suggested by me if the situation demanded it, that would have been a better answer in my opinion.

Then, I will again refer to the order the Hon. Minister issued in order to have a psychological solution of the problem. He said this first in June and then again in July. First, in June, he said "I remember to have issued orders, to shop-keepers or to Collectors or to the proper agencies, whatever it may be to issue as much grain as was demanded by a customer up to one maund at a time even if that customer came 20 times a day". That is what he said in June. I enquired at the grain shops when I went to Poona in June and I was told that the shop-keepers were not aware of any such order having been issued. Therefore, I again asked the Hon. Minister when this order was issued. When I went back to Poona, I again enquired whether such an order had been issued and the shop-keepers told me that they had not received the order. In July I again complained to him and in his reply the Hon. Minister told me that he had just called his Under Secretary and enquired of him about it and he learnt from his Under Secretary that the orders must have been issued. I tried to correct myself as a safeguard that the orders might have been sent to Poona but might not have been received by the shop-keepers. When I went to Poona I again enquired with the shop-keepers. The orders had not reached Poona. When I again went in August I found that the orders were issued on 26th July. On 24th July I made my speech when the Hon. Minister tried to verify it from his Under Secretary and then on the 26th July the Collector of Poona issued orders to the shop-keepers to the effect that any amount of wheat up to one maund should be given. That means that no order was issued and was received by the shop-keepers till the 26th of July. Some shops have already received the order either on the 29th or the 30th of July. A press note was issued on 25th May that any amount of wheat would be issued. I should like to know what happened between 25th May and 26th July following. During these two months, why was not an order issued? On the contrary, the shop-keepers of Poona got the order as late as July 30th with the result that the public of Poona suffered during the two months and did not get advantage of the concession. I wanted to bring this fact to the notice of the Hon. Minister.

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Then I would refer to the paddy cultivation problem, which is closely connected to the food problem. The Address boasts that Government has now undertaken to cultivate about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs acres of land under the Japanese method of paddy cultivation. I will be glad if this target is fulfilled next year. But I was interested in finding out what happened to the target of the last year. A big amount by way of supplementary grant was sanctioned for financing the scheme of Japanese method of paddy cultivation. Special officers were to be appointed both in the Agriculture Department and in the Co-operation Department so that the scheme might be put through quickly. Five different areas in the State were selected for the purpose, and 20,000 acres of land were to be brought under cultivation in each area under this method. I think the information that I got, after inquiries about the actual cultivation is correct, because when I referred to this subject on one or two previous occasions the Hon. Minister for Agriculture did then confess that the target had not been reached. My information is that, out of the targetted figure of 20,000 acres, only 8,000 acres at the most have been brought under cultivation. So, after so much of expenditure and after appointing high salaried officers in the Agriculture and Co-operative Departments, only one-fourth of the target could be reached. If the same performance is to be repeated this year also, then what is the use of the boast made in the Address that so many lakhs of acres of land would be brought under the Japanese method of cultivation? I should be glad if one of the Hon. Ministers enlightens me as to why the word 'Japanese' has been used. One of the farmers who brings rice to me occasionally was asked by me as to whether his land had come under the Japanese method of paddy cultivation. From his reply I could see that he was overawed by the word 'Japanese' and seemed to wonder as to how we, Indians, could know about the Japanese method of paddy cultivation. This is a method adopted by the industrious and enlightened cultivator in Japan and we illiterate farmers cannot adopt it here. There is also the fact that in an article in an issue of the Times of India I read that this method of cultivation was not Japanese method at all.

The CHAIRMAN: This is an occasion when we should discuss only questions of Government policy and not such details.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ: Sir, I was trying to make out the point that, if we aim at such a big target as $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of land to be brought under this method of cultivation, and if our farmers are scared of the method of cultivation because of the association of the word 'Japanese' with it, will it not be better if we omit the word 'Japanese'?

an hon. MEMBER: Did you explain the method to the farmer?

Shri S. L. OGALÉ: I am not an authority on agriculture; otherwise I would have replied in the affirmative to the hon. Member's query.

As I was saying, Sir, if the word 'Japanese' is going to be a scare-crow to our farmers, we had better dissociate that word with the method of paddy cultivation.

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Then, I turn to education. Only a small portion of the Address is devoted to education. It is barely a page, and out of that page about 16 or 17 lines have been devoted to primary education. Secondary education has been relegated to a subsidiary place. No hopes have been held out to the teachers who have been clamouring for a change in their scales of pay, change in hours of work, etc. I should have welcomed a reference to these problems in some part of the Address.

Then, Sir, I was amused to read that the junior N. C. C., which was stopped, is going to be introduced again. As the hon. Member Dr. Sathaye has rightly pointed out, the reason given in the Address for the discontinuance of the junior NCC in Poona and other places is not correct. The reason given is, "the junior division.....was discontinued soon thereafter due mainly to the fact that it covered a small percentage of the secondary schools pupils mainly in the urban areas, some of whom dropped out soon after joining." But, so far as my information goes, this reason is not correct. The real reason was financial stringency, because those schools that agreed to continue to share 33-1/3 per cent. of the expenditure were allowed to continue the course. One-third of the expenditure is to be shared by Government, one-third by the schools concerned and one-third by the parents or guardians of the students concerned. Therefore, I may repeat that the reason given in the Address for the discontinuance of the N. C. C. course in certain places in the old Bombay State is not correct. But, Sir, I am still more amused to read the reason why it is going to be continued again. The reason given is this:

"...In order to have uniformity throughout the State and to give fillip to the NCC movement, Government has decided to introduce the Junior Division Scheme in the area of the former Bombay State also...."

This means that because some areas like the Vidarbha, Marathwada, Saurashtra and Kutch have now come into this State, the junior N. C. C. is proposed to be introduced again to have uniformity. But this does not, to my mind, sound logical, because in the last session of this legislature, when the hon. Member Dr. Khair moved a resolution in this House that English should be made an optional subject from the fifth standard, Government said in reply to the resolution that Government did not want to discontinue what was going on till then in the State, and that they wanted to maintain the *status quo*. There the question of having uniformity in that matter did not arise. But it has been considered proper to have uniformity in the matter of the junior N. C. C. scheme. Besides, are we to suppose that the financial stringency, because of which the course was discontinued, is now over? When I say all this, it is not that I am opposed to the re-introduction of the scheme. What I wanted to point out was that the whole paragraph in the Address regarding the junior N. C. C. is wrongly worded.

The CHAIRMAN: I may remind the hon. Member that he has already taken thirty minutes. He has only two minutes more left within which to conclude his remarks.

Shri S. L. OGALE : With your permission, Sir, I will conclude in another five minutes.

The Address refers to the introduction of democracy right up to the lowest rung of the ladder, namely, the village panchayats. In one of the previous Addresses by the Governor we have been told that the local bodies in the Marathwada area were not cent per cent. democratic, but now that a suitable amending Act has been passed, they are cent. per cent. democratic. But when I toured some time ago along with other hon. Members of this legislature, I found that elections to the local bodies were postponed time and again and the people were clamouring for elections to be held as early as possible.

If the promise given by the Rajpal in his previous Address had been fulfilled when this Address was given, it would have been far better in my opinion.

I do not want to take any more time of the House. I only want to congratulate Government on some of the good points in the Address, namely, the establishment of a Warehousing Corporation which would enable the farmer to make their sales through strength and not weakness, once they have the facilities for storage and marketing. I also want to congratulate Government on their intention, not decision, to erect an aluminium plant in the Kolhapur area which has long been clamouring for such a plant because of the rich deposits of bauxite in that area. I also congratulate Government on their decision to start a University for Marathwada early in June 1958. I also thank the Finance Ministry for the vigorous effort that it has been making in connection with the Small Savings Scheme. I do not know how far they have succeeded, but they have held some training camps also for the workers in the Small Savings movement which, the Address says, are the first of their kind in the whole of India. I would also refer here to the Committee reference to which was made by the hon. Member Dr. Sathaye, namely, the Water Utilization Committee. The importance of this Committee lies in this, that our farmers, either due to their prejudices or ignorance, are averse to take advantage of the various projects which we have built at a very great expense. I hope that the Water Utilization Committee will try its best to enlighten our illiterate farmers, so that, by the time our projects are complete, they will be mentally prepared to use the water that has been made available to them.

Lastly, Sir, I want to refer to the tours that have been recently organised by the State for its legislators. I personally congratulate Government on their arranging such tours because I have been considerably benefited by the scheme. I have joined only one tour so far of the Marathwada area which I had never visited before and during that tour I also got an opportunity of seeing some of the works relating to the Community Development Projects and so on. During that tour, so far as the Marathwada area is concerned, if I may be allowed to say so, the people had a lot of grievances and I think I have become both sadder and wiser after the tour because I came to know many things personally and I have to thank Government for arranging such visits by Members to the different areas in the State.

Thank you.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers): Mr. Chairman, Sir, during the course of the last six years of my presence in this House, this is probably the seventh or the eighth Address of the Governor before the Houses of the Legislature. These opportunities were utilised in various ways by the then existing Governors. Sometimes they were records of what had happened in the past, sometimes they were generalisations, sometimes they were only brief summaries of what had happened in the State, sometimes they were promises, sometimes they were merely like a Convocation Address. The present Address falls in the category of a sort of promises, and naturally so. The new Ministry and the new Government that has come into power has probably found sufficient time to revise and to reorganise and to lay a new its policies and has decided as to what, in addition to what is being done in the State, this Ministry should specially do during the tenure of its office. It is from this point of view that I look at this Address, and its real test will be after two or three years when there will be an opportunity to see whether what Government intends to do in the course of this Address has been done, whether the achievement has been commensurate with the promises made. It is from this point of view that I look at this Address. It is, to some extent, a statement of the special policies of the present Cabinet. The Address refers to various points regarding the administration of Bombay State. Naturally one can understand that it is not possible to make a mention of all the points in the administration but only of those which Government considers to be important from the viewpoint of policies or from the viewpoint of facts and in the course of the short Address, naturally it is possible to touch the points without covering them sufficiently, but that gives us an opportunity of discussing and bringing to the attention of Government either some of the omissions or some of the points of emphasis that are necessary from our point of view.

I shall first mention two or three points which, I think, are most important, from the viewpoint of policy of the new administration. The first is Government's resolve to eradicate corruption and this seems to me to be a sort of a pious resolution. Government wants to have a sort of machinery within the administration itself for removing and eliminating corruption. The only thing that I can say is "wish you success", because, after all, corruption has taken a deep root and it would take some time to eradicate it, and we, the public, will co-operate with Government in this matter, and if the fruits of the new machinery that has been created by Government are visible to the public, then the public also will wholeheartedly extend their co-operation in this matter.

The second important point which I find is the importance that is given to irrigation. A special Irrigation Wing has been established and Government intends to utilise all the water resources of the State by having small and major plans for irrigation. So a new machinery has been set up, which I welcome.

Similarly, from the viewpoint of social welfare, the creation of the Directorate of Social Welfare, is, I think, a step in the right direction. I only hope that this Directorate will co-operate with the voluntary and private agencies that have been working in the State for many years.

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Similarly, I also welcome the creation—recreation I should say—of the Junior Division of the National Cadet Corps which was unreasonably and unnecessarily stopped a few years ago and for which various imaginary reasons were given. I am glad that Government has found reason to be reasonable and reintroduced this very wholesome and useful scheme in the field of education. These are, to my mind, some of the outstanding things and from the point of view of policy it would be necessary to watch whether Government pursues them seriously and achieves the success in the field or not.

Then I shall refer to some of the omissions also in the field of Government policy and administration. During the last year, in the course of the discussion either of the Governor's Address or of the Budget Speech, one or two indications were given by Government as regards industrial development. A suggestion was made in the House that Government should have a Master Plan for industrial development for the whole State, and I think that, in the course of the discussion of the Governor's Address last year, Government indicated that that was the policy of Government. But during the last year we have not come to know of any such Plan which Government has framed, or of any such activity which Government is pursuing with regard to the formulation of a Master Plan for the industrial development for the whole State. That, to my mind, is a sort of omission and it would have been better if some light had been thrown on the promise which was given on the floor of the House last year. This, to my mind, is a very important step in the direction of economic development of the State. I know that some mention has been made of the development of small-scale and cottage industries. But there should have been a sort of an integrated plan as to what the State wants to do during the next Five-Year Plan, as well as in respect of the location of these industries, the policy of industrial development with regard to the urban areas and with regard to the cities like Bombay or Sholapur and shifting of these industries to other places. All these things can be a part of the Master Plan. But we do not know anything as to what has happened during the last year in this connection.

Similarly, on the floor of this House, there have been on many occasions references made to the shortage of housing and the hon. Members of this House have made several suggestions as to what Government should do in order to make a better provision and give better facilities for housing to those who intend to build houses. For instance, one of the suggestions was that the plots of lands should be properly developed and made available to the people either by the Government or the Corporation or the Municipalities and that the regulations with regard to the buildings should be modified so that it would be easier for those who have small funds to build one or two or three room tenements and make provision for them. It was then stated that a sort of a high level Committee was established and that Committee would go into the whole question and produce some report or some policy statement. I have been watching the papers during the last year but I have not come across any statement of Government or any report of this high level Committee. Probably it may have made some report but it is necessary to take the people into confidence in such matters and such information should be made available to them as early as possible.

[Dr. G. S. Khair]

Then I come to the question of the use of regional languages in the administration of Government. Government had assured us that they would set about the task and do something about it. I know that Government has proceeded to make a sort of glossary with regard to the budgetary and financial words and the Government publications and reports are translated into different languages of the State. But there are two things. Making Government publications available in the different languages is a different thing and introducing the regional languages in the administration is a different thing. What we want is that Government should lay down a plan for the introduction of the regional languages in the administration as such during the course of the next few years so that the educational institutions, universities and other bodies which are connected with the development of languages and teaching of languages may be able to formulate their plans with regard to the teaching of the various languages in accordance with the policy of Government. What is happening in the State and in the country is that we are placing the cart before the horse. As a matter of fact, in the first instance Government has to lay down its policy with regard to the introduction of various languages in the administration and the institutions should follow that policy. But we have been doing the other way. Without elevating the status of the regional languages, Government tried to abolish English and that is why a sort of inconvenience is caused to the institutions and the people. I wish that Government should clarify the position with regard to these three very important points.

Then, there are two or three other points to which I would like to make a reference. I shall first refer to the state of unemployment in the city of Sholapur which has been going on practically for the last whole year. Of course, very recently Government has taken some steps to run the Mill. But the people have gone through a period of severe hardship for a very long time. Hundreds of people remained unemployed and suffered hardship. Now it is necessary that, just as in times of scarcity and famine, Government should have some machinery or has some machinery in order to meet the situation immediately, similarly in a country where industrial development is taking place, the closing of mills and people becoming unemployed will be an expected phenomenon and, therefore, Government should have some kind of permanent machinery in order to meet that emergency of unemployment. I have gone to Sholapur twice or thrice during the last year and I have seen myself the atmosphere of unemployment that is there and how dangerous it is not only for those who are unemployed but even for the other people. There are small thefts; the life of the people is not safe and the whole atmosphere is vitiated. It is from this point of view that some lesson should be taken from the Sholapur tragedy of unemployment and Government should have some machinery to be set in motion whenever such a thing happens at any other place. Speaking on unemployment in the State as a whole, on many occasions it has been brought to the notice of Government the position of the middle class people and, therefore, I would not now refer to that question and take the time of the House.

[Dr. G. S. Khair]

With regard to the language problem, much has been spoken about Government policy. With regard to English, last time there was a full-dress debate. The Hon. the Minister for Education, when he first spoke on this subject, said that he would wait for the decision of the Secondary Education Board. But when the Board came with a solution of the problem, then Government depended upon the decision of the Primary Education Board and they set one Board against the other. Now Government is saying that one Board has decided this way and the other Board has decided the other way. But if Government was serious, they should have called both the Boards and reconciled the points of both the Boards and come to a definite conclusion. I think that, in this matter, Government itself is vacillating and uncertain. Government is also saying that it wants to wait till the decisions of the Parliamentary Committee of the Central Government are out. But instead of waiting for guidance from them, Government should itself be firm and follow some policy of its own. I would say that sentiments with regard to this problem have become very strong in Maharashtra and, therefore, Government should give serious consideration to this subject.

Then, Sir, I have many times spoken about the situation with regard to crime in this State. Going over the newspapers we find that there is a feeling among the people that the incidence of crime is growing. Letters are appearing in the newspapers about the increase in crimes. People try to bring to the notice of Government the spurt of crime and one has a feeling that nothing is done in order to take advantage of this information given by the public. For example, in the newspapers it is stated that there is black market in cinema tickets. It may be very mild type of crime. These complaints appear in the newspapers again and again, but we find that nothing is done about them. This is one instance to show how the people try to co-operate with Government, but Government and the police do not try to take advantage of this co-operation.

Sir, this menace of crime is growing more and more serious and it is seeping down to the children. I would like to bring to the attention of Government the whole atmosphere of children. The children cannot escape this atmosphere. This atmosphere is due to cinemas and cheap literature. It is telling not only on the psychology of the adults but it is also telling on the mind of the children and I am ashamed to disclose here that in schools we find delinquency among school children and this criminal tendency on the part of the children also is a part of the general atmosphere in society and it is necessary that Government should pay some attention to this problem. Government will come forward and say "What are you Headmasters and teachers doing?" Here, I may say that we Headmasters and teachers are doing all our best. After all the children are in schools for 5 or 6 hours and they are outside the schools for a long time. We alone cannot effect this criminal tendency among school children ourselves. I would, therefore, like to bring pointedly to the attention of Government that this delinquency and criminal tendency is growing more and more among school children also, and if nothing is done, we will find that the incidents, which occur in Chicago and other big cities where the incidence of crime is very great, will be repeated here.

[Dr. G. S. Khair]

Then, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the House one flaw in the administration, and that is with regard to the publication of reports. In 1952, when I first spoke on the Budget, I pointed out that the reports of Government administration were rather late in publication. After that for about two or three years all the reports were very rapidly published; but during the last two or three years I find that there is again a sort of lethargy in bringing the reports up to date. I have got a list of the various reports of the administration of Government and I find that a majority of the reports are about four or five years in arrears. There is only one report which is up to date and that is the report of the Industries Department. It is for the year 1954-55. All the other reports are either up to 1954 or 1953 and more than half of the reports are up to 1951 or 1952, or even behind that. The Public Health Director's report is for the year 1949 and thereafter no report is published. The report of the Public Health Department is for the year 1952-53, and so on. When legislators want to speak on different problems, it is necessary that, for their information, they should have at their hand these reports and Government should issue a directive that no report should be in arrears for more than one year. It is necessary that the Legislative Houses should have these reports at hand when they want to speak on the Budget or on the Governor's Address or on the general policies of administration with regard to the various departments of Government.

Lastly, I wish to speak on the various inconveniences that are caused to the people owing to the unwieldy and bulky size of the bi-lingual State of Bombay. We have combined two States into one. The seats of Government are far flung and far remote from the districts and people find that their contact with Government has vanished. No doubt Government is creating some machinery like the Commissioners for various regions. I think we are thereby merely creating more bureaucrats. It is from this point of view that Government should closely watch the conveniences of the people. The bi-lingual State of Bombay is not going to be very convenient to the people. From all these points of view, therefore, the unilingual Samyukta Maharashtra and Maha Gujarat is the best form of Government from the point of view of convenience of the people. After all Government is for the people, and if the people are to benefit from that, then the size of the State is a very important thing in administration and it is from this point of view that I want to bring this point to the notice of Government.

Thank you.

श्री. के. आर. पाटील (विदर्भ-लोकल अॅथॉरिटीज) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज, माननीय गव्हर्नरसाहेबांचे भाषण ऐकण्याची संधि मला मिळाली नाही, परंतु त्यांच्या भाषणाची प्रत माझ्या हातांत आल्यानंतर मी ते सुस्वातीपासून अखेरपर्यंत संपूर्णपणे आणि शांतपणे वाचल्यानंतर मला असे वाटू लागले की, आपल्या राज्यातील समाजाचे वास्तव ज्ञान मलाच कमी आहे की काय? ह्या भाषणांत माननीय राज्यपालांनी रेखाटलेले चित्र आणि नेहमी समाजाच्या सहवासांत असल्यामुळे एकंदर समाजाच्या भावना लक्षांत घेता मला पुराणांतील घटोत्कचाच्या मायावी बाजाराची आठवण झाली. पुराणांत अशी एक कथा आहे की, घटोत्कचाने एक मायावी बाजार निर्माण

4-00 p.m.

[श्री. के. आर. पाटील]

कल्ल समुद्राच्या ठिकाणीं पर्वत, पर्वताच्या ठिकाणीं समुद्र, सागसाच्या जागीं जनावरें आणि जनावरांच्या जागीं माणसें अशी एक सृष्टि निर्माण केली होती. ह्या कथेप्रमाणेंच माननीय राज्यपालांच्या भाषणांत द्विभाषिक राज्याचें जें एक मायावी चित्र रेखाटण्याचा प्रयत्न केला आहे तो पाहिल्यानंतर खरोखरी मार्गेच कांहीं चुकत आहे कीं काय असा मला भास होऊ लागला. ह्या द्विभाषिक राज्यांत सर्वत्र अमन चमन आहे, राज्यांतील निरनिराळ्या विभागांमध्ये युनिटी प्रस्थापित करण्याच्या कामीं हें सरकार यशस्वी झालेलें आहे, आमचें हें द्विभाषिक सर्व भारतांतील राज्यांमध्ये सुंदर आहे हें ह्या राज्याच्या प्रगतीचेच द्योतक आहे असें जें रसभरीत वर्णन माननीय राज्यापालांच्या भाषणांत केलेलें आहे तें कदाचित् त्यांना घटोत्कचाचा साक्षात्कार झाल्यामुळें केले असेल, पण आम्हांला तरी निदान तसा साक्षात्कार झालेला नाही. आम्हांला ह्या द्विभाषिक राज्याचा जो कांहीं अनुभव येत आहे तो ह्या चित्राच्या अगदीं विरुद्ध असाच येत आहे.

माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज आज ह्या राज्यामध्ये जिंकडे पाहवें तिकडे सांशक्तता निर्माण झालेली दिसून येते. आपला देश शेतीप्रधान असल्यामुळे शेती हा आपल्या समराजाचा मुख्य आधार आहे व त्या दृष्टीने शेतकऱ्याच्या मुलांना शिक्षण मिळणे ही अत्यंत महत्वाची बाब आहे. सरकारला जर लोकशाहीच्या तत्वावर आणि बहुमताने राज्य करावयाचे असेल आणि समाजवादी समाज रचना निर्माण करावयाची असेल तर शेतकऱ्याच्या मुलांना शिक्षण मिळाले पाहिजे. या दृष्टीने आमच्या पूर्वीच्या मध्यप्रदेश सरकारकडून काही ओमिशन्स आणि कमिशनन्स झाली असतील, पण एक गोष्ट मला येथे प्रामुख्याने नमूद करावीशी वाटते की, त्या सरकारने प्राथमिक व दुय्यम शिक्षणाच्या बाबतीत काही नमूद करण्याजोग्यासवलती दिल्या होत्या. ज्या सरकारी अथवा बिनसरकारी नोकऱ्याला १ ते १०० पर्यंत पगार मिळ्याला मिळत असेल त्याच्या मुलांना मॅट्रिकपर्यंत मोफत शिक्षण मिळत असे. ज्या सरकारी अथवा बिनसरकारी नोकऱ्याला १०१ ते २०० रुपयांपर्यंत महिना पगार मिळत असेल त्याच्या मुलांमुलींना अर्धी फ्रीशिप मिळत असे. भूमिहीन मजुरांच्या मुलांमुलींना मॅट्रिक पर्यंत फ्रीशिप मिळत असे. ज्या शेतकऱ्याच्या माजकीची जमीन २० एकर किंवा त्यापेक्षा कमी असेल त्याच्या मुलांमुलींना मॅट्रिक पर्यंत फ्रीशिप मिळत असे. त्याचप्रमाणे १४ वर्षांच्या आत जो मुलगा अथवा मुलगी विद्यार्थी असेल त्याला अथवा तिला फ्रीशिप मिळत असे. याशिवाय, मागासलेल्या वर्गातील मुलांना ह्या राज्यांत जशा काही सवलती आहेत तशाच त्या राज्यांतही होत्या. तेव्हा अशा प्रकारच्या शैक्षणिक सवलती पूर्वीच्या मध्यप्रदेश राज्यांत मिळत होत्या, हें मला ह्या प्रसंगी प्रामुख्याने नमूद करावेसे वाटते.

अपक्ष महाराज, मागच्या असेंब्लीच्या वेळीं मला बोलण्याची संधी मिळाली होती तेव्हां मी असें म्हटलें होतें कीं, हीं जीं शैक्षणिक कन्सेल्स आमच्या पूर्वीच्या राज्यांत होती तीं ह्या राज्यांतहि चालू राहिलीं पाहिजेत. मराठवाड्यांत, गुजरातमध्ये व त्याच-प्रमाणें महाराष्ट्रामध्येहि ह्या शैक्षणिक सवलती लागू करण्यांत आल्या पाहिजेत असें मी त्यावेळीं म्हटलें होतें. पेश्याच्या अभावीं सरकारला जर ही गोष्ट शक्य नसेल तर आमच्या भागामध्ये मूलांमुळीना ज्या शैक्षणिक सवलती आहेत त्या तरी निदान कोणत्याहि कारणास्तव सरकारने काढून घेऊं नयेत अशी ह्या सरकारला माझी नम्र विनंति आहे. आमच्या विभागांतील ठिकठिकाणच्या लोकांनीं सभा घेऊन ह्या बाबतींत एक ठरावहि पास केलेला आहे. त्याचप्रमाणें विदर्भ प्रांतिक काँग्रेस कमिटीनेहि एक ठराव पास करून आमच्या भागांत ह्या ज्या सवलती आहेत त्या काढून घेण्यांत येऊं नये, अशी सरकारला विनंति केले आहे. तेव्हां मला असें सांगावयाचें आहे कीं, आमच्या विभागांतील पाऊण कोटी विदर्भीय जनतेला ही एक मोठीच भीति वाटत आहे. लोकांच्या इच्छेविरुद्ध लोकांवर लादलेलें हें द्विभाषिक सरकार असल्यामुळे आधीच जनतेच्या मनांत असंतोषाची ज्वाला उठलेली आहे, आणि त्यांत जर आमच्या भागांतील लोकांच्या मूलांना मिळत असलेल्या

[श्री. के. आर. पाटील]

[श्री. क. आर. पाटेल]
शैक्षणिक सबलती काढून घेण्यांत आल्या तर ह्या असंतोषामध्ये अधिकच भर पडेल अशी मला भीति वाटते. विदर्भातील पाऊण कोटी जनतेच्या जिवाह्याच्या ह्या प्रश्नाचा माननीय राज्यपालांच्या भाषणांत कोठेंहि उल्लेख करण्यांत आलेला नाही. तेव्हां ह्या बाबतींत मी सरकारला एवढीच विनंति करूं इच्छितों कीं, जर पंशाच्या अभावीं ह्या सबलतीचा फायदा इतर भागांना देणें ह्या सरकारला शक्य नसलें तर निदान आमच्या भागांत तरी ह्या सबलती काढून घेण्यांत येऊं नयेत.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, शिक्षणाच्या ह्या सबलतीचा प्रश्न सोडला तरी इतर बाबतींत विचार करतां एकंदर विदर्भीय जनतेची स्थिति आगीतून निघून फुफाट्यांत पडल्यासारखी झालेली आहे. पूर्वीच्या मध्यप्रदेश सरकारकडून सविहसंसमर्थ काय किंवा डेव्हलपमेंटच्या बाबतींत काय, आमच्या विभागावर परोपरीचें अन्याय झालेला आहे. आपण सर्व भारतीय एक आहेत हे तत्त्व वारंवार आमच्या मनावर ठसविण्याचा प्रयत्न कौन्सेचे पुढारी आणि सरकारमधील मोठमोठ्या पदाधिकाऱ्यांकडून करण्यांत येतो, परंतु हिंदी मराठी, गुजराती सरकारी यांच्या हितसंबंधांत फरक करण्याची सरकारची दानत जोपर्यंत वाढत नाही तोपर्यंत मराठी यांच्या हितसंबंधांत फरक करण्याची सरकारची दानत जोपर्यंत वाढत नाही तोपर्यंत भाषावार प्रांत रचना करणें हा एकच मार्ग शिल्लक राहातो. जगातील मानव तेवढा भाषावार प्रांत रचना करणें हा एकच मार्ग शिल्लक राहातो. जगातील मानव तेवढा भाषावार प्रांत रचना करणें हा एकच मार्ग शिल्लक राहातो. जगातील मानव तेवढा भाषावार प्रांत रचना करणें हा एकच मार्ग शिल्लक राहातो.

हल्ली त्या ठिकाणी अनईव्हन डेव्हलपमेंट चालू आहे. हिंदुस्थानातील इतर विभागांकडे पाहिले तर आपल्याला असे दिसून येते की, ठिकाणिकांनी मोठमोठ्याच्या इरिगेशन स्कीम्स चालू आहेत. पंजाबमध्ये भाकरा-नानगल स्कीम हातीं वेण्यांत आलेली असून लोकरच ती पुरी होईल व तेथील जमिनींत एकरी ४ खंडी लॉय स्टेपल कॉटन उत्पन्न हाऊं शकेल, परंतु विदर्भामध्ये नॅचरल रेसचा अभाव असल्यामुळे व अशी कोणतीच इरिगेशन स्कीम नसल्यामुळे त्या भागांत मात्र एकरी ४ मण शार्ट स्टेपल कॉटन होईल. यामुळे पंजाब भरभराटीस येईल आणि वऱ्हाडमधली पाऊण कोटी जनता मात्र बरबाद होईल. तेव्हां ह्या संकटापासून वऱ्हाडमधील जनतेला बाचवावयाचे असेल तर माझी सरकारला एवढीच विनंति आहे की, यापुढे तरी सरकारने वऱ्हाडमध्ये इरिगेशनच्या स्कीम्स शक्य तीं लोकर हातीं घ्याव्यात. आमच्या भागामध्ये नद्या नाहीत असे नाही, सतपुडा पर्वत आहे, हातीं घ्याव्यात. आमच्या भागामध्ये नद्या नाहीत असे नाही, सतपुडा पर्वत आहे, हातीं घ्याव्यात. आमच्या भागामध्ये नद्या नाहीत असे नाही, सतपुडा पर्वत आहे, हातीं घ्याव्यात. आमच्या भागामध्ये नद्या नाहीत असे नाही, सतपुडा पर्वत आहे, हातीं घ्याव्यात.

[श्री. के. आर. पाटील]

भागामध्ये सरकारने इरिगेशन स्कीम्स हाती घेतल्या पाहिजेत. पूर्वीच्या सरकारच्या राज्यांत आमची जी परिस्थिती झाली तशीच परिस्थिती जर ह्या राज्यांत येऊनहि झाली तर मग ह्या द्विभाषिकाचा आम्हांला फायदा काय? नुसते अडोच कोटी इरिगेशनसाठी बाजूला काढून आमच्या भागांतोळ लोकांचे समाधान होणार नाही. अशी ही परिस्थिती असतांना आमचे हें द्विभाषिक चांगलें चाललें आहे असे म्हणण्यांत काय अर्थ आहे?

अध्यक्ष महाराज, माझ्या वयाला ४८ वर्षे झाली आहेत पण इतक्या वर्षांत इरिगेशन ही काय चीज आहे हें मला माहीत नाही. तेव्हां जर आमच्या भागामध्ये इरिगेशन केलें नाहीं आणि अशीच अनईव्हन डेव्हलपमेंट होत राहिली तर त्याचे भयंकर दुष्परिणाम होतील. आमचा भाग निम्नलेव्हल आणि बँकवर्ड आहे ही गोष्ट लक्षांत घेऊन जितकें इरिगेशन करता येतील तितकें आणि तेंहि शक्य तितक्या लोकर करण्याचा सरकारने प्रयत्न केला पाहिजे अशी माझी मागणी आहे.

यानंतर, अध्यक्ष महाराज, मी अन्नधान्याच्या प्रश्नाकडे वळतो. आपल्या राज्यांत अन्नधान्याच्या प्रश्नाने इतकें गंभीर स्वरूप धारण केलेलें असतांना माननीय राज्यपालांच्या भाषणांत ह्या प्रश्नासंबंधी उल्लेख केला जाऊ नये, ही खरोखरच दुःखाची गोष्ट आहे. सरकारने अन्नधान्योत्पादनांत वाढ करण्याकरिता इरिगेशनवर जास्त भर दिलेला आहे व त्यासाठी एक स्वतंत्र खातें उघडण्याचें ठरविलें आहे असे आम्हांला सांगण्यांत आलें आहे. पण अध्यक्ष महाराज, असे सांगण्याची सरकारची आजकाल फॅशनच होऊन बसली आहे. बरे हें केल्यामुळे राज्यांतील सर्व विभागांना फायदा होणार आहे असे म्हटलें तर तसेहि होत नाही. सरकारने ज्या कांहीं योजना आखल्या आहेत त्यांचा आमच्या वऱ्हाडला कोणताहि उपयोग नाही. अमेरिकेंतून अन्नधान्य विकत घेण्यासाठी पैसा फुकट जाऊ नये असे वाटत असेल आणि आमचा देश स्वतःच्या पायावर उभा करावयाचा असेल तर सरकारने आपल्या धोरणांत जो लॅक्यूना आहे तो शोधून काढून त्याप्रमाणे योजनांत बदल केला पाहिजे, ज्या ठिकाणी इरिगेशन फॅसिलिटीज नसतील तेथे त्या देण्याची व्यवस्था केली पाहिजे. जोंपर्यंत ह्या प्रश्नाकडे पाहण्याचा सरकारचा दृष्टिकोन सुधारत नाही तोंपर्यंत सरकारने शेतकऱ्यांना पाणी पुरविलें, सुधारलेलें बीबियाणें दिलें आणि तगाई दिली तरी हा प्रश्न सुटणार नाही. शेतकरी जे धान्य पिकवितो त्या धान्याला योग्य भाव मिळेल अशी जोंपर्यंत शेतकऱ्याला शाश्वत सरकारकडून मिळत नाही तोंपर्यंत शेतकरी आपल्याला सेल्फसफीशियंट होऊ देणार नाही. आज सर्वत्र महागाई वाढली आहे तिची झळ शेतकऱ्यालाहि लागते, म्हणून शेतकऱ्यांची प्रवृत्ति जास्तीत जास्त पैशाची पिके काढण्याकडे असते.

अलीकडे आपल्याला असे दिसून येतें की ८० टक्के जमिनींत शेंगदाणा, कापूस यांसारखी पैशाची पिके आणि २० टक्के जमिनींत धान्य पेरले जातें. शेतकऱ्यांची ही प्रवृत्ती अन्नधान्योत्पादनांत वाढ करण्याच्या दृष्टीने घातक असली तरी याला आपण शेतकऱ्याला सव्सेवी जबाबदार धरूं शकत नाही. शेतकऱ्याला त्याच्या मालाच्या किमतीच्या बाबतींत जोंपर्यंत निश्चित मिळत नाही तोंपर्यंत तो पैशाचीच पिके काढणार. मागे सरकारने शेतकऱ्याकडून पोत्याला १० रुपये प्रमाणे धान्य खरेदी केलें व तें व्यापाऱ्यांना पोत्याला १५ रुपयेप्रमाणे विकलें. याचा परिणाम असा झाला की, ज्या धान्याच्या पोत्याचे शेतकऱ्याला १० रुपये मिळाले होते तेच धान्य त्याला पोत्याला ४० रुपये भाव देऊन व्यापाऱ्याकडून घेण्याची पाळी आली. हा सरकारच्या सोशॅलिस्टिक पॅटर्न ऑफ सोसायटीचाच एक नमुना आहे. धान्य पिकवावयाचें शेतकऱ्याने आणि फायद्याचा मल्ला खावयाचा सटोडियांनी आणि व्यापाऱ्यांनी, हीच सरकारची सोशॅलिस्टिक पॅटर्न ऑफ सोसायटीची

[श्री. के. आर. पाटील]

कल्पना आहे काय? तुमच्या धान्याचा भाव ३५ रुपयांच्या खाली गेला तर सरकार तुमचे धान्य विकत घेऊन गोडाउन्समध्ये ठेवील असे आश्वासन धान्याची पेरणी होण्यापूर्वी जोंपर्यंत सरकार देत नाही तोंपर्यंत अधिक धान्य पिकविण्याकडे शेतकऱ्यांची प्रवृत्ति होणार नाही. ज्याप्रमाणे इतर लोकांना ईकॉनॉमी आणि संसार आहे त्याप्रमाणे शेतकऱ्यालाहि संसार आहे आणि त्याच्या व्यवसायालाहि कांहीं ईकॉनॉमी आहे ही गोष्ट ध्यानांत ठेऊन सरकारने धोरण आखलें पाहिजे. पण ही गोष्ट सरकारने लक्षांत न घेतल्या कारणाने आज धान्याचा भाव ८ ते ९ रुपये बंगाली मण असा आहे. अशा परिस्थितीत आपला देश धान्याच्या बाबतींत सेल्फ सफीशियंट होईल अशी मला आशा दिसत नाही. व्यापारी बंदा करतांना त्यांत जेवढे भांडवल त्याने घातलें असेल त्यावर अमूक इतकें व्याज सुटलें पाहिजे ह्या हिशोबाने आपल्या मालाच्या किमती ठरवितात, मग त्या किमती गिऱ्हाइकाला जास्त पडतात की काय याचा ते विचार करीत नाहीत. पण शेतकऱ्याची परिस्थिती तशी नाही. त्याला कोणाला लुबाडावयाचें नाही. त्याच्या शेती व्यवसायाच्या आणि संसाराच्या आवश्यक तेवढ्या गरजा भागाव्यात एवढीच त्याची अपेक्षा आहे. त्याची ही किमान अपेक्षा पुरी करण्याच्या दृष्टीने जोंपर्यंत सरकारची पावले पडत नाहीत तोंपर्यंत अन्नधान्याचा प्रश्न सुटणें शक्य नाही. इरिगेशनसाठी सरकार स्वतंत्र खातें काढणार आहे असे सांगून हा प्रश्न सुटणार नाही. धान्याचे भाव कोण ठरवितें, मध्यवर्ति सरकार ठरवितें की राज्य सरकार ठरवितें, हें मला माहीत नाही. पण कांहीं झालें तरी धान्याचे भाव शेतकऱ्याच्या ईकॉनॉमीच्या दृष्टीने खाली जाणार नाहीत यासाठी सरकारने दक्षता बाळगली पाहिजे, अशी सरकारला माझी नम्र विनंति आहे.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, अन्नधान्याच्या प्रश्नांतूनच जन्माला आलेला व ह्या प्रश्नाशी अत्यंत निगडित असलेला दुसरा एक प्रश्न महत्त्वाचा असून तोहि सोडविण्याचा प्रयत्न सरकारने शक्य तितक्या लोकर केला पाहिजे. धान्य पिकविण्याच्या बाबतींत आज आपल्याला शेतकऱ्याची जी उदासीनता दिसून येते तिला सध्या चाल असलेली अँबसेटी लँडलॉर्डझम पुष्कळ अशी जबाबदार आहे. आज हजारांनी आणि लाखांनी भूमिहीन शेतमजूर असतांना शहरांत राहून आपल्या नांवावर जमीन ठेवणारे किती तरी जमीनदार आहेत. ह्या जमीनदारांची जमीन कसणाऱ्या कुळांना जमिनींत इंटरेस्ट निर्माण करण्याच्या दृष्टीनेहि अँबसेटी लँडलॉर्डझम नाहीशी करण्यासाठी व इतर सुधारणा करण्यासाठी सरकारने सुधारलेले लँडरिफॉर्मस करून ते अमलांत आणले पाहिजेत. कसेल त्याच्या मालकीची जमीन शक्य तितक्या लोकर करण्याचा सरकारने प्रयत्न केला पाहिजे. एक पंचवार्षिक योजना होऊन गेली व दुसऱ्या पंचवार्षिक योजनेची दीड दोन वर्षे होऊन गेली तरी लँड रिफॉर्मसच्या दृष्टीने सरकारची पावले पडावीत तशी पडलेली दिसत नाहीत. गोहत्तीला काँग्रेसने ठराव करून जमीन धारणेच्या बाबतींत सीलिंग लावण्याचें आणि लँडरिफॉर्मस करण्याचें धोरण जाहीर केलें आहे. ह्या जाहीर केलेल्या धोरणाचा मराठवाड्यावर काय परिणाम झाला आहे? आजपर्यंत जमिनीचे जे लहान लहान तुकडे होत होते ते थांबविण्यासाठी ह्या सरकारने पूर्वीच्या कायद्यांत दुरुस्ती केली त्याबद्दल मी सरकारला धन्यवाद देतो. पण एकंदरीत आमच्या भागांत जमिनीच्या बाबतींत अनाकी आहे या गोष्टीचा विचार करून जेणे करून शेतीच्या व्यवसायांत सुधारणा होईल व आपला सर्व देश अन्नधान्याच्या बाबतींत सेल्फसफीशियंट होईल असे धोरण सरकारने आखावे असे मला सुचवावयाचें आहे.

धान्याच्या भावांच्या बाबतींत आपल्या राज्यांत घटोल्काच्या राज्याप्रमाणे पायाच्या वरच्या भागांत १०५ डिग्री ताप आणि पायाखाली नॉर्मल उष्णता अशी परिस्थिती आहे. शहरांत जास्त भाव चढलेले आहेत, पण त्या वाढलेल्या भावांचा फायदा शेतकऱ्याला मिळत

[श्री. के. आर. पाटील]

करून करण्यात जाणार असेल तर सरकारने पाहिजे तर प्रयत्न करावा, आणि त्यांत सरकारला यश आले तर या पृथगेतकावर तो एक वक्तृकार झाला आहे या दृष्टीने जग त्याकडे पाहील.

जेवटी, अध्यक्ष महाराज, मला एवढेच सांगायचे आहे की, कोणतेही राष्ट्र, कोणतीही व्यक्ति किंवा समाज असो त्याला प्रगति करावयाची असेल तर आपण केलेल्या किंवा आपल्या हातून घडलेल्या गोष्टींचे आत्मनिरीक्षण करून कांहीं चुक झाली असेल तर ती दुरुस्त करण्याचा प्रयत्न केला पाहिजे. पण, याच्या उलट, आपल्याला असे दिसते की, खुद्द सरकारच आपल्या हातून झालेल्या चुका सुधारण्याऐवजी त्या लपविण्याचा प्रयत्न करीत असते. मराठीत एक अशी म्हण आहे की, झोंपलेल्या माणसाला जागे करता येते, पण ज्याने झोंपेचे सांग घेतले आहे त्याला जागे कसे करावयाचे? तेव्हा ह्या राज्यातील वस्तुस्थिति सर्व जगाला आणि जनतेला माहीत असतांना मुंबई द्विभाषिक फार चांगल्या रीतीने चालले आहे, राज्यकारभारातील कार्यक्षमता वाढली आहे असे सांगण्यांत अर्थ नाही. खुद्द सरकारने आपली कॅरेक्टर आदर्शभूत अशी ठेवली पाहिजे. असे न करता उगाचच आमच्या राज्यामध्ये सर्वत्र आबादीआबाद आहे, अँडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव्ह एफिशियन्सी वाढली आहे असा आभास निर्माण करून जनतेमध्ये निर्माण झालेल्या असंतोषाच्या विस्तारावर सरकार झोकण घालण्याचा प्रयत्न करीत आहे, पण मी सरकारला सांगू इच्छितो की, हा त्यांचा प्रयत्न फोल आहे. अशा फोल प्रयत्नांने असंतोष कमी होण्याऐवजी जास्त भडका उडाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. तेव्हा मी ज्या दोन चार विधायक सुचना केल्या आहेत तिकडे सरकारचे लक्ष वेधून नम्र विनंति करतो की, आमच्या भागामधील शैक्षणिक सवलती व इरिगेशन ह्या गोष्टीत सरकारने अधिक लक्ष घालावे व आम्ही द्विभाषिकांत आल्यामुळे आगीतून निघून फुफाट्यांत पडलीं असे म्हणण्याची पाळी आमच्यावर आणू नये.

श्रीमती सुभगाबाई एस्. काशीकर : अध्यक्ष महाराज, मला एक नम्र सूचना करावयाची आहे की, सन्माननीय सभासदांनी बोलत असतांना ह्या सभागृहांत स्त्री सभासद बसलेल्या असतात ही गोष्ट लक्षांत ठेवावी.

श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड (महाराष्ट्र नॉर्थ—लोकल अँथॉरिटीज) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, माननीय राज्यपालांचे भाषण मी संपूर्ण वाचले व त्या भाषणासंबंधी आभार-प्रदर्शनाचा ठराव ज्यांनी आणला व त्या निमित्ताने जी भाषणे झाली तींही मी शांतपणे ऐकून घेतली. आपल्या भाषणामध्ये त्यांनी राज्यपालांच्या निवेदनांतील मुद्दे सांगितले, परंतु मुंबई राज्याच्या विकासासंबंधी ज्या योजना कागदावर आहेत व त्यांच्या बाबतीत विरोधीपक्षाने जे मूलभूत धोरण घेतले आहे त्याचा उल्लेख करण्यांत आलेला नाही. मला एक गोष्ट सांगायची वाटते ती अशी की, राज्यपालांनी आपल्या भाषणामध्ये धोरणाची जी सूत्रे सांगितली आहेत ती अतिशय असमाधानकारक असल्याने त्या धोरणाच्या मूळ भूमिकेलाच माझा विरोध आहे व ह्या दृष्टीने कांहीं महत्त्वाचे विचार मी सभागृहा-पुढे मांडण्याचा प्रयत्न करणार आहे.

मुंबई राज्यामध्ये एकीकरणाचा प्रश्न निर्माण झाल्यामुळे तो सोडविण्याच्या महान जबाब-दारीतून सरकारला पाऊल टाकावे लागत आहे असा राज्यपालांच्या भाषणामध्ये एक प्रमुख सूर दिसून येतो. विशाल द्विभाषिक अशी ज्याला संज्ञा आहे असे हे मुंबई राज्य जन्माला आले त्यावेळी सरकार पक्षाने असा दावा केला की, ह्या विशाल द्विभाषिक राज्यामध्ये जनतेचे भले होणार असून एक भाषिक राज्याचे जे फायदे आहेत ते सर्व फायदे जनतेला मिळावयाचे आहेत. मला असे विचारावयाचे आहे की, अशा रीतीने जनता ह्या दोन

[श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड]

फायद्यांची जर मालक होणार आहे तर मग राज्यपालांच्या भाषणामध्ये ह्या गोष्टीची दखल कां घेण्यांत आली नाही? एकीकरणाचा प्रश्न चर्चिला जात असतांना विशाल द्विभाषिक राज्याचा फायदा व एकभाषिक राज्याचाहि फायदा होऊन लोकांचे भलेच भले कसे झाले ह्या गोष्टीचे नामदार राज्यपालांनी आपल्या भाषणामध्ये स्पष्टतेने व सापेक्ष रीतीने विवरण केलेले नाही. माझे स्पष्ट म्हणणे आहे की, विशाल द्विभाषिक राज्याविषयी गुजरात व महाराष्ट्र विभागांतील लोकांच्या समाशानासाठी ज्या भूमिकेचे राज्यकर्त्या लोकांकडून स्पष्टीकरण करण्यांत आले त्या भूमिकेचे राज्यपालांना संपूर्ण विस्मरण झाले असावे. इतकेच नाही तर नामदार राज्यपालांनी आपल्या निवेदनांत ज्या गोष्टी सांगितल्या आहेत त्या इतक्या मोघम स्वह्याच्या, वस्तुस्थितीला सोडून व चुकीच्या माहितीवर आधारलेल्या आहेत की १५-२० मिनिटांमध्ये मोघम भाषण करण्यापलीकडे त्यांचा परामर्श घेणे दुरापास्त आहे.

गेल्या एक वर्षांत ह्या राज्यांत जे कांहीं घडून आले त्याचा आढावा घेत असतांना व मुंबई राज्य प्रगतिपथावर कसे आहे हे सांगत असतांना ह्या राज्यामध्ये प्रत्यक्ष जी राजकीय घटना घडते, तिचा महाराष्ट्र, गुजरात व मुंबई राज्यांतील सर्व भागावर जो परिणाम घडतो त्याची नामदार राज्यपालांच्या भाषणामध्ये दखल घेण्यांत आलेली नाही. लोकशाहीच्या निवडणुकांचा संकेत काय आहे हा सभागृहाने लक्षांत घ्यावा. ज्या कायदे-मंडळांत कायदे केले जातात ते कायदे करणाऱ्या सभासदांच्या पोटनिवडणुका होऊन जो निर्णय लागतो तो निर्णय लक्षांत घेऊन सरकारचा राज्यकारभार जनतेला पसंत आहे की नाही ह्याचे मूल्यमापन केले जाते. असे मूल्यमापन करणे हा लोकशाहीचा प्रमुख संकेत आहे. आभारप्रदर्शनाचा ठराव मांडतांना ज्या सन्माननीय सदस्यांनी पुनर्रचनेसारख्या महत्त्वाच्या प्रश्नाची दखल घेऊन सरकारने त्या दिशेने महान कार्य कसे चालविले आहे ह्या गोष्टीवर भर दिला व ठरावास पाठिंबा देणारी भाषणे केली त्यांना मला असे विचारावयाचे आहे की ज्या तीन पोटनिवडणुका झाल्या त्या निवडणुकांच्या निकालाची दखल कां घेण्यांत आली नाही? वस्तुतः मुंबई शहरामध्ये विधानसभेसाठी ज्या दोन पोटनिवडणुका झाल्या व जालन्यामध्ये लोकसभेसाठी जी तिसरी निवडणूक झाली ह्या सर्व पोटनिवडणुकांमध्ये जनतेने कोणाच्या वाजूने कौल दिला? ह्यासंबंधी नामदार राज्यपालांच्या भाषणांत उल्लेख व्हावयास पाहिजे होता. असा उल्लेख करण्यांत आला नाही इतकेच नाही तर पाठिंबा देणाऱ्या सदस्यांनाहि ह्या निवडणुकांच्या निकालावर विधान-परिषदेसमोर बोलावेसे वाटत नाही. ह्या बाबतीत जो दृष्टिकोन धारण करण्यांत आलेला आहे तो कोणत्या राजकीय लोकशाहीचा दृष्टिकोन आहे हे मला कळत नाही. नुकत्याच झालेल्या पोटनिवडणुकांना अनुसरून सरकारने मूलभूत दृष्टिकोनांतून उत्तर द्यावयास पाहिजे होते. सरकारपक्षाचे सदस्य ह्या बाबतीत उत्तर का देत नाहीत व नामदार राज्यपालांच्या भाषणांतहि उल्लेख का नसावा ह्या गोष्टींचा मी ज्यावेळी विचार करतो त्यावेळी मला असे वाटू लागते की, ही गोष्ट जाणूनबुजून डावलण्यांत आली आहे. राज्यसरकारने नामदार राज्यपालांचे भाषण तयार करावयाचे, ते राज्यपालांनी वाचून दाखवावयाचे, ते वाचून दाखविल्यानंतर राज्यपालांनी निघून जावयाचे, नंतर त्यांच्या भाषणावर आभारप्रदर्शनाचा ठराव आणावयाचा व त्याला विरोधादाखल भाषणे झाली तरी तो पद्धतशीर रीतीने पास करून घ्यावयाचा, अशी आज पद्धतच पडून गेली आहे. विशाल द्विभाषिक मुंबई राज्याचे ह्या पद्धतीने कल्याण होणार नाही.

ह्या राज्याचे खरोखरीच कल्याण व्हावे असे सरकारला वाटत असेल तर गेल्या एक वर्षामध्ये तीन पोटनिवडणुकांमुळे जो राजकीय प्रश्न उभा राहिला व जनतेने जो कौल दिला त्याची दखल घेण्यांत येऊन सरकार पक्षाने त्या बाबतीत निवेदन करावयास हवे. मला सभागृहाला असे सांगायचे आहे की, ह्या ज्या पोट निवडणुका झाल्या त्या संयुक्त

[श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड]

कोणत्या प्रकारचा व किती माल निर्माण करील याची खात्री नसतांना ही महागडी मशीनरी वेण्यांचे कारण नाही, तेव्हा सदरहू प्रकरणांत सरकारने मध्यस्ती करावी अशी सरकारला विनंती करण्यांत आली. सरकारने या प्रकरणांत मध्यस्ती काय केली म्हणाल तर त्याच कंपनीचे परंतु ७ लाख रुपये कमी किंमत करून मशीन खरेदी करण्याचा सल्ला दिला आणि तशाच प्रकारची मशीन्स ४-५ साखर कारखान्यांना घेण्यास भाग पाडले.

ही मशीनरी विकत घेतल्यानंतर आजची परिस्थिति काय आहे ? कांही कोटी रुपये गुंतविलेल्या या ४-५ साखर कारखान्यांतून मिळून केवळ प्रत्येकी ५०० टनच ऊंस कश होऊ शकतो—गाळला जाऊ शकतो—आणि गाळलेला रस शुद्ध करण्याची यंत्रे विघडलेली आहेत. याचा परिणाम असा झालेला आहे की ज्या मशीन्समधून हजारों टन ऊंस कश व्हावयास पाहिजे त्या मशीन्समधून केवळ प्रत्येक कारखान्यांत ५०० टन ऊंस कश होतो आणि ५०० पोती साखर तयार होऊ शकते. याशिवाय जळणासाठी जो उसाचा चोथा लागतो तो यांतून निघू शकत नाही. त्यामुळे लांकूड आणि तेल या करिता निराळा खर्च वाढल्यामुळे उत्पादन खर्च वाढलेला आहे. याचा परिणाम असा झालेला आहे दर रोज १० ते १५ हजार रुपयांचा तोटा येत आहे.

एका बाजूला जुने, स्थिरावलेले व प्रचंड सम्पत्ति असलेले, व्यापाराची माहिती असणारे, सर्व तऱ्हेची साधन सामुग्री जवळ असणारे खाजगी साखर कारखानदार आणि दुसऱ्या बाजूला येणाऱ्या तोट्यामुळे हवालदील झालेले सहकारी साखर कारखान्याचे शेअर्स होल्डर शेतकरी ! डिव्हिडंड तर जाऊ द्या, परंतु गुंतविलेला पैसा सुरक्षित कसा राहील याची काळजी या गरीब शेतकरी शेअर होल्डर्सना पडलेली आहे. या परिस्थितीची सरकारने कांहीं दखल घेतलेली आहे काय, असा माझा सरकारला प्रश्न आहे. याचे उत्तर शोधले तर ते “ नाही ” असेच आढळून येईल. आम्ही १५ सहकारी साखर कारखाने काढण्यास व परदेशांतून यंत्र सामुग्री आणण्यास परवानगी दिली. त्यांतील ९ कारखान्यांनी उत्पादनास सुरुवात केली असे असूनहि जर ते सहकारी कारखाने तोट्यांत चालत असतील तर सहकारी तत्वावर साखर कारखाने चालविण्याची ताकदच शेतकऱ्यांत नाही असे म्हणून सरकार मोकळे होण्याचा प्रयत्न करणार आहे आणि खाजगी उद्योगधंद्यांना मदत देण्यास सुरुवात करणार आहे असे म्हणण्यांत मी कांहीं चूक करीत आहे असे मला वाटत नाही. सरकारी धोरणाची दिशा अशीच कायम राहिली तर या विशाल द्विभाषिकांत सर्व साधारण जनतेचा फायदा होण्याऐवजी सर्व पैशाचा ओघ भांडवलदार वर्गाकडे वळेल आणि हे विशाल द्विभाषिक अयशस्वी झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही.

ह्यानंतर दुसरी एक गोष्ट ग्रामपंचायतींची. पुढील कांही वर्षांत प्रत्येक खेड्यांकरिता ग्रामपंचायत स्थापन करण्याचे सरकारने ठरविलेले आहे. दैनिक कारभारांत लोकांना जास्तीत जास्त प्रतिनिधित्व देण्याच्या दृष्टीने आणि कारभाराचे लोकशाहीकरण किंवा सत्तेचे विकेंद्रीकरण करण्याच्या दृष्टिकोनांतून या ग्रामपंचायतीच्या स्थापनेच्या प्रश्नाकडे सरकार पहात असते तर सरकारच्या त्या धोरणाला आम्ही निश्चितपणे पाठिंबा दिला असता. परंतु खऱ्या अर्थाने कोठेहि लोकशाहीकरण करण्याचा प्रयत्न सरकारकडून होत नाही ही वस्तुस्थिति आहे. ग्रामपंचायतीची स्थापना केली म्हणजे लोकशाहीकरणाच्या कारभाराचा पायंडा पाडला असे होत नाही. ग्रामपंचायतीची स्थापना म्हणजे लोकशाही राज्यकारभाराची स्थापना असे समीकरण मानावयास मी तयार नाही. एका बाजूने ग्रामपंचायती स्थापन करावयाच्या आणि दुसऱ्या बाजूने त्या ग्रामपंचायतीवर सरकारी नोकरींना नेऊन बसवावयाचे आणि सगळे अधिकार त्यांच्याकडे सुपुर्ण करावयाचे. म्युनिसिपालिटी किंवा ग्रामपंचायती यामध्ये लोकप्रतिनिधी बसू शकतात, परंतु सर्व अधिकार मात्र कलेक्टर किंवा डिव्हिजनल ऑफिसर यांच्याकडे सोंपविण्यांत आलेले आहेत. अमूक ठराव स्थानिक स्वराज्य

[श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड],

संस्थांना करता येत नाहीत असे म्हणून स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्थांनी मंजूर केलेल्या ठरावांचा कलेक्टर किंवा डिव्हिजन ऑफिसरकडून निकाल लावला जातो. ह्याचा परिणाम असा झालेला आहे की स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्थांतील लोकप्रतिनिधी आपणांस योग्य वाटेल असा ठराव करू शकत नाही. लोकसभेने घेतलेला द्विभाषिकाचा निर्णय चुकीचा असू शकतो ही गोष्ट एकदां मान्य करण्यांत आल्यानंतर नाशिक येथील लोकल बोर्डाने केलेला संयुक्त महाराष्ट्राचा ठराव त्या लोकल बोर्डाला करता येणार नाही असा निर्णय नाशिक येथील डिव्हिजनल ऑफिसर कसा काय देऊ शकतो, हे मी समजू शकत नाही. नगरपालिका किंवा इतर स्थानिक स्वराज्यसंस्था जे कांही ठराव करते ते करण्याचा अधिकार त्यांना नाही असे म्हणण्याचा वास्तविक पाहता, सरकारी अधिकाऱ्यांना मुळीच अधिकार नाही. स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्थांना लोकशाहीचे स्वरूप द्यावयाचे असेल तर त्यांच्याकडे संपूर्ण अधिकार सोंपवावयास पाहिजेत. लोकप्रतिनिधीपेक्षा सरकारी अधिकाऱ्यांना जास्त अधिकार असावेत ही गोष्ट खरोखरीच आश्चर्याची आहे. त्यांना कांही मर्यादित अधिकार द्यावयास पाहिजेत ही गोष्ट मी समजू शकतो, परंतु लोकप्रतिनिधींनी केलेले ठराव उडवून लावण्याचे सामर्थ्य त्यांच्याकडे सुपुर्ण करणे ही गोष्ट लोकशाही राज्यकारभाराच्या चौकटीत बसू शकत नाही, असा स्पष्ट इशारा मला या ठिकाणी द्यावासा वाटतो.

सरकारी अधिकाऱ्यांकडे पुष्कळसे अधिकार सुपुर्ण करण्याचे काय दुष्परिणाम होतात याचे एक उदाहरण म्हणून मनमाड नगरपालिकेचे उदाहरण मी सभागृहापुढे मांडतो. तेथील नगरपालिकेने रिव्हॉईज्ड ऑक्ट्राय कर बसविण्यासंबंधीचा एक ठराव पास केला. त्यामुळे दर वर्षी ७५ हजार रुपयांचा कर नगरपालिकेला मिळाला असता. परंतु नियमांतील कांही तांत्रिक दोषामुळे हायकोर्टाने नगरपालिकेने अशा तऱ्हेचा कर बसविण्याचे कृत्य बेकायदेशीर ठरविले. महाड नगरपालिकेने रिव्हॉईज्ड ऑक्ट्रायरुल्स तयार करून आपले वार्षिक उत्पन्न वाढविलेले असल्यामुळे आपणहि त्या नगरपालिकेचे नियम अंदाष्ट करावेत असे मनमाड नगरपालिकेने ठरविले. कारण त्या नगरपालिकेचे नियम जसेच्या तसे अंदाष्ट केले तर ऑक्ट्राय कर वसूल करण्याच्याबाबतीत मनमाड नगरपालिकेला कोणत्याहि प्रकारची कायदेशीर अडचण निर्माण होणार नाही अशी अपेक्षा होती. महाड नगरपालिकेचे नियम मनमाड नगरपालिकेने स्वीकारून एक वर्ष झाले, परंतु त्यास अद्याप मंजुरी मिळालेली नाही. एक वर्ष झाले तरी डी. ओ. ने अद्याप मंजुरी दिलेली नाही. या संबंधांत मी मंत्री महाशयांना भेटलों, इतर लोकांनाहि भेटलों, तेव्हा मला असे कळले की सदरहू प्रकरण कलेक्टरांकडे आहे. कलेक्टरांकडे गेलो तर तेथे असे कळले की सदरहू प्रकरण डी. ओ. कडे आहे. डी. ओ. कडे गेल्यानंतर असे कळले की कलेक्टरच्या ऑफिसमधील एका क्लार्ककडे हे प्रकरण पडलेले आहे. आतां एक वर्षानंतर डी. ओ. कडून विचारणा झालेली आहे की महाड नगरपालिकेचे जे नियम आपण स्वीकारलेले आहेत ते नियम तुमच्याजवळ असल्यास आम्हांला पाठवा. कदाचित् त्या नियमांत कांही चूक असेल, परंतु ती चूक दुरुस्त करण्याचे किंवा सदरहू नियम तपासण्याचे काम ज्यावेळी ते नियम त्यांच्याकडे पाठविले होते त्यावेळी करणे ही त्यांची जबाबदारी नव्हती काय ? असो. एक वर्षानंतर ते नियम शोधून काढून डी. ओ. कडे पाठविल्यानंतर एक वर्षाचा काळ लोटला असून तरी त्या नियमांस मंजुरी मिळालेली आहे काय ? नाही. मंजुरीसारख्या एका बारीकशा गोष्टीत बिलंब लावण्यांत आलेला असल्यामुळे मनमाड नगरपालिकेचे ७५ हजार रुपयांचे उत्पन्न बुडत आहे. मनमाड नगरपालिकेचे जे उत्पन्न बुडत आहे त्याची जबाबदारी सरकारवर नाही काय ? मनमाड नगरपालिकेचे जे उत्पन्न बुडत आहे त्याची जबाबदारी सरकारवर नाही काय ? पण सरकार कांही ऐकून घ्यावयास तयार नाही. सरकारचा कारभार यापुढे असाच चालणार असेल तर ह्या अशा प्रकारच्या लोकशाहीकरणाला आणि लोकांच्या हातांत सत्ता देण्याला कांहीच अर्थ नाही. अशा परिस्थितीत हे तथ्यांकुषित लोकशाहीकरण कितपत यशस्वी होईल याबद्दल माझ्या मनांत शंका आहे. लोकशाहीकरणाच्या गोष्टी ज्यावेळी सरकार, सांगते त्यावेळी सरकारी अधिकाऱ्यांना असलेले अधिकार कमी करण्याची प्रवृत्ति

[શ્રી. એમ. વી. ગાયકવાડ]

સરકારને વાઢીસ લાવલી પાહિજે. કાયદાચ્યા એકા કલમાને લોકપ્રતિનિધીના અધિકાર દાવયાચે વ એકા કલમાને તે કાઢૂન ઘેઝૂન સરકારી અધિકાર્યાના દાવયાચે યાચાચ અર્થ “લોકશાહી” અસા સરકાર કરણાર અસેલ તર સરકારચી લોકશાહી મ્હજે થોતાંડ આહે. અસે મ્હજેણ્યાશિવાય મલા ગત્યંતર નાहीं. હા એક મૂલમૂત સ્વરૂપાચા પ્રશ્ન અસલ્યામુલે ત્યાચા સરકારને નીટ વિચાર કરાવયાસ પાહિજે. સરકારચ્યા સધ્યાંચ્યા ધોરણામુલે મુંબઈ રાજ્યાંતીલ ગરીબ જનતા દિવસે દિવસ જાસ્ત જાસ્ત ગરીબ હોત ચાલલેલી આહે, યાપલોકહે કાંहीं નાहीं.

યાનંતર મી નિવડણુકાંચ્યા કૌલાકડે સમાગૃહાચે લક્ષ આર્કષિત કરું ઇચ્છિતોં. રાજ્ય-પાલ મહોદયાંચ્યા ભાષણાવર માંડણ્યાંત આલેલ્યા આભારપ્રદર્શક ઠરાવાલા પાઠિંબા દેણારે જે કોણી લોકશાહીચે સંકેત પાઠણારે સન્માનનીય સદસ્ય અસતીલ ત્યાંનીં નુકત્યાચ જાલેલ્યા નિવડણુકીંચા કૌલ ધ્યાન્યાંત ઘેઝૂન યા વિભાગાંતીલ મરાઠી વ ગુજરાતી જનતેચા એકમાધિક રાજ્યાલાચ પાઠિંબા આહે હી વસ્તુસ્થિતિ નિમિડપણે સમાગૃહાપુરે માંડાવી. તસેંચ સરકારલા દેલીલ માફી અશી વિનંતિ આહે કીં, યા પ્રવનાબાબત સરકારચી કાય ભૂમિકા આહે હેં દેલીલ સ્પષ્ટ કરાવેં. ગુજરાતી આણિ મરાઠી જનતેચ્યા આશાકાંશા કાય આહેત ત્યા નીટ સમજાવૂન ધ્યાવ્યાત. યા દ્વિભાષિકાંત જનતેચી આર્થિક, સામાજિક આણિ સાંસ્કૃતિક પ્રગતિ હોજ શકત નાहीं હી ગોષ્ટ સ્પષ્ટ જાલેલી આહે.

આતાં મી લાંચલુચપતીચ્યા મુદ્યાકડે વઢતો. રાજ્ય સરકારને લાંચલુચપત પ્રતિબંધક મોહીમ ઉષ્ઠલ્યાબદ્દલ રાજ્યપાલ મહોદયાંનીં રાજ્યસરકારલા ધન્યવાદ દિલેલે આહેત પરંતુ લાંચલુચપતીસ આઠા ધાલણ્યાચી ભાવના અધિકારી વગતિ નિર્માણ જાલેલી આહે કાય હા જરા પ્રશ્ન આહે. લાંચ ધણ્યાચી પદ્ધત આજ બદલલેલી આપલ્યાલા દસૂન યેતે. પૂર્વી અધિકારી સરઠ સરઠ નોટાંચા સ્વીકાર કરીત અસત, પણ આતાં ત્યાંના સમજૂન આલેલેં આહે કીં આપણ સરઠ સરઠ નોટાંચા સ્વીકાર કરીત અસત, પણ આતાં ત્યાંના સમજૂન આલેલેં પકડતેં. મ્હજનચ સરકારી અધિકારી આતાં ડાયરેક્ટ નોટા ન ઘેતાં કોણાચ્યા તરી એજંટાચ્યા મધ્યસ્તીનેં, નોટાંચા સ્વીકાર કરીત અસત. યાચા અર્થ અસા કીં લાંચલુચપત ચાલુચ આહે. ફક્ત લાંચ ધણ્યાચી પદ્ધત બદલલેલી આહે. હી ગોષ્ટ આપણ લક્ષાંત ઘેતલી પાહિજે. છોટધા કચેરીપાસૂન અગદીં સેક્રેટરીપર્યંત કોઠેંહિ જા, વશિલ્યાશિવાય કોણત્યાહી સામાન્ય માણસાલા આપલેં કામ કરૂન ઘેતાં યેત નાहीं. લાંચલુચપત દિલ્યાશિવાય આપલેં અસતો. માફી સન્માનનીય મંત્ર્યાંના અશી વિનંતિ આહે કીં ત્યાંનીં આપલી જાદીચીં જરૂં લાંચલુચપતીલા તોંડ દાવેં લાગતેં યાચી સ્વતઃચ્યા ડોઢ્યાંનીં શહાનિશા કરૂન ધ્યાવી. લાંચલુચપતીચા આધુનિક પ્રકાર લક્ષાંત ઘેતાં રાજ્યપાલ મહોદયાંનીં આપલ્યા ભાષણાંત લાંચલુચપત પ્રતિબંધક મોહિમેબદ્દલ જે ધન્યોદ્ગાર કાઢલેલે આહેત તે કિતી નિરર્થક આહેત યાચી સાક્ષ ત્યાંના પટેલ.

આર્થિક, સામાજિક આણિ સાંસ્કૃતિક દૃષ્ટ્યા કોણતાચ મૂલગામી બદલ યા રાજ્યાંતીલ જનતેંત પડલેલા નાहीं અસે મી સ્પષ્ટપણે સાંગુ ઇચ્છિતોં આણિ રાજ્ય સરકાર યા બાબતીંત અયશસ્વી જાલેલે આહે. જ્યા દિશેને સરકાર પાવલેં ટાકીત આહે તી સરકારચી દિશા ચુકલેલી આહે આણિ મ્હજૂનચ રાજ્યપાલ મહોદયાંનીં કેલેલ્યા ભાષણાબદ્દલ માંડણ્યાંત આલેલ્યા આભારપ્રદર્શક ઠરાવાસ મી પાઠિંબા દેજ શકત નાहीं. એવેં બોલૂન મી આપલેં ભાષણ સંપવિતો.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ (વિધાનસભા તરફથી ચૂંટાયેલ): માનનીય અધ્યક્ષ મહાશય, નામદાર ગવર્નરશ્રીનું પ્રવચન જે અમારી સામે રજૂ થયું છે એના ઉપર મેં કેટલાક સુધારાઓ રજૂ કર્યા છે. નામદાર ગવર્નરશ્રીનું આખું પ્રવચન વાંચ્યા પછી એમ જણાય આવે છે કે સરકારે ગત વર્ષની અંદર જે કાંઈ કાર્યો કર્યા છે એના ઉપરથી જ માત્ર સફળતાનું એક ચિત્ર આંકવામાં આવ્યું છે. પરંતુ આજે આ રાજ્યની પ્રજાના જે મુળભૂત સવાલો છે અને જે સવાલો ઉકેલી નથી શકાયા તેને લગતું ચિત્ર આ પ્રવચનમાં બહુ ઓછું જોવા મળે છે. આ રાજ્યમાં એકભાષી રાજ્ય માટે જે આંદોલન થયું અને ગઈ સામાન્ય ચૂંટણીઓ થઈ એમાં લોકોએ જે બાજુ પોતાના મત આપ્યા અને લોકોની પોતાના રાજ્યમાં પોતાની સ્થિતિ અને ભાષાનો વિકાસ કરવાની જે મહત્વકાંક્ષા અને ઈચ્છા હતી તે આમાં કોઈ ટેકાણું વ્યક્ત થઈ નથી. અને સામાન્ય ચૂંટણીઓ બાદ જે પેટા ચૂંટણીઓ થઈ તેમાં પણ લોકોએ જે બાજુ મત આપ્યા તેનો પણ કોઈ જગ્યાએ આ પ્રવચનમાં ઉલ્લેખ કરવામાં આવ્યો નથી. આ બતાવે છે કે ગવર્નર સાહેબ આ વાતને આગળ લાવવા માગતા નથી. સાચી વાત એમ છે કે આ એકભાષી રાજ્યને માટેનું જે આંદોલન ચાલી રહ્યું છે એ આંદોલન પાછળ માત્ર આ રાજ્યને એકભાષી બનાવવાની ઉમેદ છે એટલું જ નહિ પણ આ રાજ્યને લોકશાહી તંત્ર બનાવવાની પણ ઉમેદ છે. આજે સરકારે જે યોજનાઓ કરી છે એનો લાભ પ્રજાને આપવામાં સરકાર અસફળ નીવડી છે. સરકારે જે કાર્યો હાથ ધર્યાં છે, જે પ્રોગ્રામ્સ અમલમાં મુક્યા છે એનાથી આજે એવી સ્થિતિ પેદા થઈ છે કે જે લોકો પૈસાદાર હતા તે વધુ પૈસાદાર બન્યા છે અને જે લોકો ગરીબ હતા. તે વધુ ગરીબ બન્યા છે. એટલે આજે આપણે જોઈએ છીએ કે જે ગરીબ છે એ વધુ ગરીબ બનતા જાય છે. પ્રજામાં બેકારીનું પ્રમાણ વધતું જાય છે. ખેડૂતોની જમીન પણ આજે એના હાથમાંથી ચાલી જાય છે. લોકોની મુશ્કેલીઓ આજે વધી પડી છે. લોકોના જે આ તમામ પ્રશ્નો છે એમાંથી આ વિશાળ આંદોલન સર્જાયું છે. એની નોંધ આ પ્રવચનમાં આજે દેખાતી નથી. વાત એમ છે કે પ્રવચનમાં આ આખું રાજ્ય સફળ બને છે અને એને એકત્રિત કરવામાં ક્યા ક્યા માર્ગો લેવામાં આવ્યા છે તે જણાવવામાં આવ્યું હોવા છતાં પણ મુખ્ય જે કેટલાક સવાલો છે તે અંગે કોઈ ઉલ્લેખ કરવામાં આવ્યો નથી. જેમકે આજે અનાજનો પ્રશ્ન છે. લાંચરૂશવતની બદીનો પ્રશ્ન છે. ઉપરાંતમાં આજે જે ખેડૂતો જમીન ખેડે છે એને પણ આજે એની જમીન ઉપરથી હાકાવી નાખવામાં આવ્યા છે. તે ઉપરાંત મુંબઈ શહેર અને બીજા મુખ્ય શહેરોની અંદર લોકોને રહેવા માટે મકાનો મળતા નથી. જીવન જરૂરિયાતની ચીજ વસ્તુઓના ભાવો વધ્યા છે. એટલે જે આ મહત્વના પ્રશ્નો છે એના અંગે કાંઈ કહેવામાં આવ્યું નથી. આજે અનાજના જે ભાવો વધ્યા છે, તે બાબતમાં એક પણ શબ્દ પ્રવચનમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યો નથી. આ અંગે માત્ર એટલું જ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે કેટલાક જિલ્લાઓમાં સંતોષકારક વરસાદ નથી થયો અને એ અંગે ઉભી થતી પરિસ્થિતિને પહોંચી વળવાને માટે સરકારે પગલાં લીધાં છે. આ અંગે કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે:—

“લોકોને વ્યાજબી ભાવે અનાજ મળી શકે એવા આશયથી રાજ્યભરમાં વ્યાજબી ભાવની અનાજની દુકાનોની યોજનાનો અમલ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે.”

આ ઉપરાંત લોકોને પીવાનું પાણી મળી શકે અને રાહત કાર્યો મળી શકે એ માટે પણ પ્રવચનમાં ઉલ્લેખ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે.

મુંબઈ જેવા શહેરની અંદર જે લોકો હોટેલમાં ખાતા હોય છે તેમને અઠવાડિયામાં બે દિવસ માટે ચોખા મળતા નથી એ જાતની સ્થિતિ એક બાજુ હોવા છતાં એમ પણ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે ગયા વર્ષે ખેતીના ઉત્પાદનમાં સારો એવો વધારો નોંધાયો છે. જે ઉત્પાદનમાં સારો એવો વધારો નોંધાયો હોય તો આટલી બધી અનાજની અછત આપણા પ્રાન્તમાં કેમ જણાય છે? અને તો શા માટે અનાજના ભાવો પહેલાંના કરતાં દોઢ ગણા વધ્યા છે તેને માટેનું કોઈ કારણ પ્રવચનમાં જણાવવામાં આવ્યું નથી. આજે હકીકત તો એ છે કે લોકોને પૂરતા પ્રમાણમાં ખોરાક મળતો નથી અને જે મળે છે તેની ક્યા પણધૂણી નીચી ગઈ છે. આજે લોકોને ચોખા પૂરતા પ્રમાણમાં મળતા નથી. કેટલાક દિવસો તો એવા પણધૂણી નીચી ગઈ છે. આજે લોકોને સુધી લાઈનોમાં ઉભા રહી એક શેર જટલા ચોખા મેળવવા માટે પ્રયત્નો કરવા હતા કે લોકોને ક્વાકો સુધી લાઈનોમાં ઉભા રહી એક શેર જટલા ચોખા મેળવવા માટે પ્રયત્નો કરવા પડતા હતા. આજે પરિસ્થિતિ એવી દેખાય છે કે જેમાં આપણે એટલા બધા નિરાધાર થઈ ગયા છીએ કે,

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

એક વર્ષ સારો વરસાદ ન પડે તો સારાંયે રાજ્યમાં કફોડી સ્થિતિ પેદા થઈ જાય. વાત એમ છે કે જે સરકારના પ્રયત્નો છતાં વરસાદ ઉપર જ આધાર રાખવાનો હોય, જે આટલા વર્ષો પછી પણ સારોય દેશ અને રાજ્ય વરસાદ પડશે કે નહિ તેના ઉપર આધારીત હોય તો એ એમ બતાવે છે કે આ પ્રશ્નને પહોંચી વળવા માટે સરકારે કોઈ યોગ્ય પ્રયત્ન કર્યા નથી અને જેટલી ઝડપથી ચાલવું જોઈએ તે ઝડપથી તે ચાલતી નથી. મૂળ પ્રશ્ન શું છે અને શાને કારણે આટલી બધી તંગી દેખાય છે? મને તો એમ લાગે છે કે જે અસંતોષનું કારણ છે તેને દબાવવા માટે સરકાર પ્રયત્ન કરી રહી છે. વારંવાર એમ કહેવામાં આવે છે કે અનાજનું વધુ ઉત્પાદન કરવું જોઈએ, પરંતુ સરકાર અ લક્ષમાં લેતી નથી કે આજે કઈ જાતના સામાજિક સંબંધો છે? અને વધુ ઉત્પાદન કરવામાં ખેડૂતો શા માટે રસ લેતા નથી? ડેવલપમેન્ટ એક્ટીવીટીઝનો જે લાભ છે તે લાભ માત્ર ઉપરના લોકોને જ મળે છે અને જે સામાન્ય લોકો છે, જે ખેડૂતો છે, ત્યાં જે લોકો નીચલા થરના છે તેને આ એક્ટીવીટીઝનો લાભ મળતો નથી. અને તેને માત્ર સેક્રીટરીઝ કરવાનું કહેવામાં આવે છે. એમ પણ જોવામાં આવે છે કે જે લોકો જમીન વગરના છે અને જે ઉત્પાદન વધુ કરી શકે તેમ છે તેવા લોકોને જમીન મળી નથી. એટલું જ નહિ પરંતુ આજે મુંબઈ રાજ્યમાં લગભગ ૫૦ થી ૫૪ ટકા જમીન ખેડૂતોના હાથમાંથી જે છીનવાઈ ગઈ છે તેને અટકાવવા માટે સરકાર કાયદાથી કે કોઈ બીજી રીતે પ્રબંધ કરી શકી નથી. સરકાર જે લીમીટેશન કરેલાં છે તેમાં પણ જમીન માલિકો જમીન મોટા પ્રમાણમાં પોતાના હાથમાં રાખી શકે છે. લગભગ ૫૦ એકર જેટલી જમીન જમીન-માલિકોના હાથમાં રહી શકતી હોવાથી આ જમીનમાલિક જમીનનાં વિભાગ કરીને પોતાના કુટુંબ માટે જુદા જુદા નામે સાચવી રાખે છે. અને ખેડૂતો એ જમીન ખરીદી શકતા નથી, જેથી કરીને પરિણામ એ આવે છે કે જે જમીન ખેડૂતના સાચા ખેડૂતો છે તેના હાથમાં જમીન રહેતી નથી. પરંતુ જે એક નવા ક્લાસનું સર્જન થઈ રહ્યું છે તેવા પૈસાવાળા કિસાનોના હાથમાં આવી જમીન ચાલી જાય છે. દેશમાં આજે જે અનાજની તંગી દેખાય છે તેનું કારણ પૈસાવાળા કિસાનોનું ખેડાણ જમીન ઉપરનું હોલ્ડીંગ છે.

તે ઉપરાંત સરકારે અનાજનો સંગ્રહ રાખવા માટે જે વ્યવસ્થા કરવી જોઈતી હતી તે વ્યવસ્થા કરી નથી અને પૈસાવાળાના હાથમાં આજે અનાજનું હોલ્ડીંગ ચાલુ રહ્યું છે. અને તેના તરફથી એક પ્રકારની આર્ટીફિશિયલ તંગી ઉભી કરવામાં આવે છે. સરકારનો તેની ઉપર આજે એવો કોઈ અંકુશ નથી કે જેથી કરીને આજે બજારમાં ભાવો આસ્માને ન જાય. આપણે જાણીએ છીએ કે જ્યારે ખેતરોમાંથી અનાજ બજારમાં આવે છે ત્યારે તેના ભાવ તદ્દન નીચા હોય છે અને પછી પાછળથી કૃત્રિમ તંગી ઉભી કરીને ભાવો એકદમ વધારી દેવામાં આવે છે. આ બાબતનો ઉલ્લેખ બજારવંતરાય મહેતા અને અશોક મહેતાની કમિટીએ પોતાના રિપોર્ટમાં કર્યો છે. આજે શહેરના વેપારીઓના હાથમાં અનાજના વેપારનો જે કાબૂ છે તે કાબૂ સરકારે પોતાનાં હાથમાં રાખવો જોઈતો હતો. પરંતુ સરકારે એવી કોઈ વ્યવસ્થા કરી નથી અને તેને કારણે આજે બજારો ઉંચા દેખાય છે.

બીજું આપણે જે ડેવલપમેન્ટ પ્લાન સફળ કરવો હોય તો જેમ આજે ખેડૂતોને ખેતરમાં પાણી મળે એ માટેના પ્રયત્નોની સાથોસાથ આપણે એ પણ જોવું જોઈશે કે ખેડૂતો પાસે જમીન છે કે નહિ? ખેડૂતોને પાણી મળે તે પહેલાં તેને જમીન આપવાનું વધારે જરૂરી છે. મને લાગે છે કે આજે એવી કોઈ તજવીજ કરવામાં આવતી નથી અને તેથી આપણો બીજો ડેવલપમેન્ટ પ્લાન પણ સફળ થાય તેવું દેખાતું નથી. ખેડૂતોની પાસે પૂરતી જમીન હોય તો તે ઉત્પાદન માટે પ્રોત્સાહિત થાય પરંતુ આજે જે જમીન તેના હાથમાં છે તે જમીન પણ તેના હાથમાંથી ચાલી જાય છે અને તેને કારણે તેનામાં જે ઉત્પાદન પેદા થવો જોઈએ તે ઉત્પાદન પેદા થઈ શકતો નથી. આજે આપણે રેઈન ઉપરના ગેમ્બલ ઉપર આધાર રાખીએ છીએ અને તેથી આવી પરિસ્થિતિ ઉભી થાય છે. આજે જે ખેડૂતો સાચેના સંબંધો નહિ સુધારવામાં આવે અને ખેડૂતોને પૂરતા પ્રમાણમાં જમીન નહિ આપવામાં આવે તો મને લાગતું નથી કે વધારે અનાજ ઉગાડવાનો જે પ્રશ્ન આપણી સમક્ષ છે તેને આપણે સારી રીતે હલ કરી શકીએ.

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

બેકારીની સંખ્યાનો આંકડો આજે ઔદ્યોગિક શહેરોમાં વધતો જાય છે. માનનીય લેબર મિનિસ્ટરે પણ જણાવ્યું છે કે મુંબઈમાં ૧૯૮ હજાર જેટલા મજૂરો બેકાર બન્યા છે. મારી પહેલાં જે માનનીય સભ્ય બોલી ગયા તેમણે પણ જુદા જુદા વિભાગોમાં મિલોની જે પાળી બંધ થઈ છે તેની નોંધ આ સભાગૃહ સમક્ષ મૂકી છે તેના ઉપરથી આપણને ખ્યાલ આવી શકે તેમ છે કે આજે રાજ્યમાં બેકારી કેટલી હદે પહોંચી છે. એક બાજુથી એમ કહેવામાં આવે છે કે આજે પ્રોડક્શન વધી ગયું છે અને બીજી બાજુ જે લોકોને કાપડની જરૂર છે તેને કાપડ મળતું નથી. ત્યારે પ્રોડક્શન વધી ગયું છે તેવી વાત કઈ રીતે કહેવામાં આવે છે તે મને સમજાતું નથી. સાચો સવાલ તો એ છે કે આજે કાપડના જે ભાવો ઉંચા જઈ રહ્યા છે તેને કારણે લોકો તે ખરીદી શકતા નથી. આજે મોટા ભાગની મીલોની અંદર રેશન-લાઈઝેશન થયું છે અને એને પરિણામે જે ઠેકાણે બે માણસો કામ કરતા હતા ત્યાં એક માણસથી કામ લેવામાં આવે છે. આ ઉપરાંત ફેક્ટરીઓમાં પણ રીટ્રેન્યમેન્ટ ચાલી રહ્યું છે. અને બીજી તરફથી એમ જોવામાં આવે છે કે કાપડ અને બીજી જે વસ્તુઓ છે, ઈન્ડસ્ટ્રીઅલ ગુડ્ઝ છે, એના ભાવો ઉંચા છે; અને તે ભાવો સરકાર આર્ટીફિશીઅલી ટકાવી રાખવા માટે પ્રયત્ન કરે છે. આજે જે જે યોજનાઓ ચાલી રહી છે, તે યોજનાઓ દ્વારા ઉત્પાદન થયેલ માલમાંથી મોટો ભાગ સરકાર ખરીદે છે. જે સરકાર ઉત્પાદન થતો માલ પોતે ન ખરીદે તો એક એવી પ્રત્યક્ષ પરિસ્થિતિ ઉભી થાય કે જ્યાં પરિણામે આખી માર્કેટમાં કાર્ઈસીસ ઉભી થતી માલુમ પડે. આજે એમ સ્પષ્ટ દેખાય છે કે ખાનગી ઉદ્યોગો—ટેક્સટાઈલ મીલો—આજે પોતાની શક્તિ કરતાં પણ ઓછો માલ ઉત્પાદન કરે છે અને એમ કરીને એક જાતની માલની શોર્ટેજ ઉભી કરે છે અને ભાવો ઉંચા કરે છે. અત્યારે એ ભાવો ઉપર સરકારનો કોઈ પણ જાતનો કન્ટ્રોલ નથી. આજે જેઈએ તો કોટન અને અત્યારે એ ભાવો ઉપર સરકારનો કોઈ પણ જાતનો કન્ટ્રોલ નથી. આજે જેઈએ તો કોટન અને બીજી ધંધાઓમાં ૩૦૦ થી ૩૫૦ ટકા જેટલા ભાવો વધી ગયા છે. એ બાબતમાં સરકારનો કોઈ જાતનો કન્ટ્રોલ નથી. એટલે એક બાજુથી ભાવો વધતા જાય છે; અને બીજી બાજુથી બેકારોની સંખ્યામાં વધારો થતો જાય છે, રીટ્રેન્યમેન્ટ આવે છે; અને પરિણામે ગરીબ માણસો વધુ ગરીબ બનતા જાય છે, જ્યારે જે ઉદ્યોગપતિઓ છે, તેના પ્રોફીટસ ત્રણ-ત્રણ, સાડાત્રણ ગણા વધતા જાય છે. આ જાતની સ્થિતિ આપણે ત્યાં આજે જોવા મળે છે. એટલે આજે મુખ્યત્વે કરીને બે પ્રશ્નો છે, એ પ્રશ્નોનો ઉકેલ માત્ર એ રીતે થઈ શકે એમ છે કે પ્રોફીટસ ઉપર સરકારનો કન્ટ્રોલ હોવો જોઈએ. કાચો માલ, ઉત્પાદન અને વેચાણ ઉપર પણ કાબૂ હોવો જોઈએ. બીજું, ખેડૂતોનું જે અનાજ બજારની અંદર આવે તેનો ભાવ બંધી આપવો જોઈએ. સરકારી જે દુકાનો ચાલે છે, એ સિવાય જે સ્ટોક વેપારીઓ પાસે પડ્યો છે, તે અનાજનો સ્ટોક સરકારે પોતાના કબજામાં લેવો જોઈએ. એની સાથે સાથે આજે જે જે ડેવલપમેન્ટ સ્કીમ્સ થાય છે, એનો પૂરેપૂરો લાભ ખેડૂતોને મળવો જોઈએ. પાણીની સિયાઈનો ખેડૂતો પૂરેપૂરો લાભ મેળવી શકે એ રીતની વિના મુલ્યે વ્યવસ્થા કરી આપવી જોઈએ. તે ઉપરાંત ખેડૂતોને વિના વ્યાજ કરજ મળે તે માટે પણ વ્યવસ્થા કરી આપવી જોઈએ. એ સિવાય, આજે ખેડૂતોને જમીન ઉપરથી હઠાવી મૂકવામાં આવે છે, તેને માટે ત્વરાથી પગલાં લઈને ખેડૂતોને જમીન ઉપરથી હઠાવી મૂકવામાં ન આવે, તેને માટે તાત્કાલિક બંદોબસ્ત કરવો જોઈએ. એ ઉપરાંત બીજા ઘણાં પ્રશ્નો છે, અને એના ઉપર ઘણાં સૂચનો થઈ શકે તેમ છે. જે માલ ઉત્પાદન થાય, એ માલ લોકોને ઠીક ભાવે મળી રહે તે સરકારે જોવું જોઈએ. આજે કાપડનો સ્ટોક વધારે પડતો છે, તેમ કહેવામાં આવે છે. તો તે સ્ટોકમાંથી લોકોને ઠીક ભાવે કાપડ મળી રહે, તે માટે સરકારે યોગ્ય ભાવે ખરીદ કરી વિતરણ કરવું જોઈએ. આમ કરવામાં આવશે, તો મને લાગે છે કે કાંઈક અંશે આ પ્રશ્નનું સમાધાન થઈ શકશે. એ ઉપરાંત મકાનોનો સવાલ છે. મુંબઈની અંદર કહેવામાં આવે છે કે આજે લગભગ ૬ લાખ માણસો કુટપાથ ઉપર સુવે છે. એમને માટે ઘરોની કોઈપણ જાતની વ્યવસ્થા નથી. મકાનો બાંધવામાં આવે છે, પરંતુ પૂરતા પ્રમાણમાં મકાનો બાંધવામાં આવતાં નથી, તેથી એ પ્રશ્ન જોઈએ તે રીતે હલ થઈ શકતો નથી. આ અંગે સરકારની હાઉસીંગની જે સ્કીમ છે, તે બાબતમાં પબ્લિક એકાઉન્ટસ કમિટીના રિપોર્ટની અંદર જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે લાંચરૂશવતના અને બીજા ઘણા બખાડ ચાલતા હોય છે. સરકાર સાચોસાચ જે હાઉસીંગના પ્રશ્નમાં સફળ થવા માગતી હોય, તો પૂરતા પ્રમાણમાં મકાનો બાંધવાં જોઈએ; અને એના પ્લાન્સ લોકોની જરૂરિયાતને અનુલક્ષીને બનવાં જોઈએ.

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

તે ઉપરાંત લાંચરૂશવત બાબતમાં હું જે એમેન્ડમેન્ટ લાવ્યો છું, તે બાબતમાં મારું સંજ્ઞન એ છે કે લાંચરૂશવત અંગેની જે કમિટી છે, એમાં બિનસરકારી પ્રતિનિધિઓને સ્થાન હોવું જોઈએ. માત્ર ખાતાવાર અધિકારીઓની બનેલી કમિટી લાંચરૂશવતની તપાસ કરશે, તો એનો કોઈ અર્થ નહિ રહે. બહારના પ્રતિનિધિઓ, બીજા બિનસરકારી પ્રતિનિધિઓ પણ એ કમિટીમાં હોવા જોઈએ; અને તો જ લાંચરૂશવતની તપાસ કરવાની બાબતમાં સફળતાથી કામ થઈ શકશે અને લાંચ બેનારા જે લોકો છે, તેમને સહેલાઈથી પકડી શકશે. વસ્તુસ્થિતિ એ છે કે આજે લાંચરૂશવતની બદી નાબૂદ કરવાની બાબતમાં ઘણા વખતથી પગલાં ભરવામાં આવ્યાં છે એમ કહેવામાં આવે છે પણ તેનું કંઈ અસરકારક પરિણામ હજી સુધી આવી શક્યું નથી. એટલે આ બાબતમાં જે અસરકારક પરિણામ લાવવું હોય, અને લાંચરૂશવતનો સડો દૂર કરવો હોય, તો આવી કમિટીઓમાં પબ્લિકનાં માનુસો, ખાસ કરીને જે વિધાનસભા અને વિધાન પરિષદના મેમ્બરો છે, એ લોકોને આ કમિટીમાં નિયુક્ત કરવા જોઈએ. આ રીતે જે પબ્લિકના માનુસોને, પ્રજાના ચૂંટાયેલા પ્રતિનિધિઓને આ કમિટીમાં લેવામાં આવશે, તો જ લાંચરૂશવતના કિસ્સાઓ પકડવામાં સફળતા મળી શકશે, તેમ મારું માનવું છે. લાંચરૂશવત અંગે ગયા વખતે માનનીય ફાઈનાન્સ મિનિસ્ટર સાહેબે કહ્યું હતું કે પાંચ ટકા લાંચરૂશવત રહી જાય એ સ્વાભાવિક છે. મને લાગે છે કે પાંચ ટકા લાંચરૂશવત રહી જાય એને સ્વાભાવિક ગણવામાં આવે, તો તેથી કરીને જ તેમને વધુ પ્રોત્સાહન મળવું હોય છે.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, so far as the personal reference that has been made to me, I might say that I have not made such a statement.

[Recess from 5-20 to 5-35 p.m.]

શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા (સૌરાષ્ટ્ર—લોકલ ઓથોરીટીઝ) : માનનીય સભાપતિજી, નામદાર રાજ્યપાલશ્રીનું પ્રવચન જોતાં, એ પ્રવચનમાંથી બે વાત ફક્ત થાય છે. એક વાત એ ફક્ત થાય છે કે સરકારે ગત વર્ષની અંદર કરેલ મહત્વના કાર્યોનો ઉલ્લેખ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે અને બીજી વાત આવતા શરૂ થતા બજેટ વર્ષની અંદર સરકાર મહત્વના જે કાંઈ કાર્યો કરવાની છે એને અંગે નામદાર રાજ્યપાલશ્રીએ ઉલ્લેખ કર્યો છે. આખું પ્રવચન જોતાં એમ લાગે છે કે નવા શરૂ થતા બજેટ વર્ષની અંદર સરકાર એવા કોઈ મહત્વના કાર્યો કરવાની નથી, કોઈ નવું એવું પગલું ભરવાની નથી. તેનું કારણ એ છે કે રાજ્યની પ્રજાના જે મૂળભૂત સવાલો છે એ સવાલો હલ કરવા માટે આ સરકાર સફળ થઈ નથી. આ માટે જે કાંઈ કરવાનું બાકી છે અને જે થઈ ગયેલું કાર્ય છે એમાં લોકોના દિલની મહત્વની જે વાત છે તે છૂપાવી રહી ગઈ છે. મેં જે એમેન્ડમેન્ટો મુવ કર્યા છે એમાં સૌથી જે પહેલું એમેન્ડમેન્ટ છે તે અંગેની વાત કરું. આજે લોકોના દિલની અંદર જે કોઈ સળગતા સવાલ હોય તો તે સવાલ ભાષાકીય રાજ્ય રચનાનો સવાલ છે. સ્ટેટસ રીઓર્ગેનીઝેશનને કારણે ગુજરાતની પ્રજાને અન્યાય થયો છે. દ્વિભાષી રાજ્યની જે રચના થઈ છે તે રચના લોકોને મંજૂર નથી. લોકોએ આ દ્વિભાષી સામે ધીમે ધીમે પોતાનું વિરોધી વલણ બતાવવા માંડ્યું છે. પેટા-ચૂંટણીઓની અંદર પણ પ્રજાએ ચુકાદો આપ્યો છે. છતાં સરકારની એવી કઈ નીતિ છે કે જેને કારણે આ દ્વિભાષી રાજ્યને કાયમ રાખવામાં આવે છે. એક તરફથી કહેવામાં આવે છે કે આપણો દેશ એ લોકશાહી દેશ છે અને લોકો માટે કામ કરે છે અને બીજી તરફથી લોકો જે ચુકાદો આપે છે એ ચુકાદાને આ સરકાર માન્ય કરતી નથી. શા માટે માન્ય કરતી નથી? એ શું બતાવે છે? આજે કયા ઈન્ટરેસ્ટો આ દ્વિભાષી રાજ્યને ચલાવવા માટે કામ કરી રહ્યા છે? સૌરાષ્ટ્રની વાત કરું. સૌરાષ્ટ્રને માટે આ દ્વિભાષી રાજ્યની રચનાને કારણે વધારે મુશ્કેલી પેદા થઈ છે. અમારા વિકાસની તમામ યોજનાઓ, અમારા રસ્તાના તમામ કામો આજે અટકી પડ્યા છે. એટલું જ નહિ પરંતુ પ્રજાના જે મૂળભૂત સવાલો છે, જેની ઉપર આખા દેશની તાકાતનો અને શક્તિનો આધાર છે એવા આરોગ્યના સવાલો તરફ પણ આ સરકારે દુર્લક્ષ સેવ્યું છે. સુધરાઈના વોટર વર્કસ અને ડ્રીનેજના પ્રશ્નો આ સરકારે હલ કર્યા નથી. હલ કર્યા નથી, એટલું જ નહિ પણ સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સરકારે એ વખતે દરેક સુધરાઈને કહેલું કે તમે તમારા શહેરને માટે વોટર વર્કસ અને ડ્રીનેજની યોજના કરો. દરેક મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને આને અંગેનો સરખુલર મોકલાવેલ. તમે

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

યોજના કરો, અમે આને માટે પૈસા આપશું. સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સરકારે આને માટેની યોજના મંજૂર કરી. પણ આ પછી દ્વિભાષી રાજ્યની રચના થવાને કારણે આજે આ યોજના પડી ભાંગી છે. હું એમ કહું કે લોકોના આરોગ્યનો જે આ મૂળભૂત સવાલ છે—પાણી અને ડ્રીનેજનો—તે આ સરકાર ઉકેલી શકી નથી. આ મૂળભૂત સવાલ અંગે આ દ્વિભાષી સરકારે કંઈ લક્ષ આપ્યું નથી. એટલું જ નહિ આ દ્વિભાષી રાજ્ય થયા પછી સૌરાષ્ટ્રની જનતાની મુશ્કેલીઓ વધી છે. નુમારશાહી વધી છે. એનો એક નાનો દાખલો આપું. રાષ્ટ્રપતિ જ્યારે સૌરાષ્ટ્રની મુલાકાતે આવ્યા ત્યારે સરકારે ભાવનગર મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીને એક રોડ બનાવવા માટે કહ્યું. મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીએ એ રોડ બનાવ્યો અને એ રોડને માટેના ખર્ચનું બિલ સરકારને મોકલ્યું. એ બિલ મંજૂર થવા માટે ડીવીઝનલ ઓફિસર પાસે છેલ્લા ચાર મહિનાથી એમને એમ પડ્યું છે. શા માટે? ફક્ત સહી થવા માટે એ બિલ ગયેલું છે. ભાવનગરથી રાજકોટ સહી કરાવવા માટે ગયેલા બિલને માત્ર ચાર મહિના લાગ્યા. આપ વિચાર કરો. બીજી તરફથી આજે કોઈ બાબતનો નિર્ણય લેવાનો હોય તો અધિકારીઓ નિર્ણય લેતા નથી. આજે વિકેન્દ્રીકરણના નામે કેટલું કેન્દ્રીકરણ થઈ રહ્યું છે! આ ઉપરાંત કમિશનરો પણ નીમવામાં આવી રહ્યા છે. એક બાજુ ડીવીઝનલ ઓફિસર છે તો પણ કમિશનર નીમવામાં આવે છે. હું નથી સમજી શકતો કે આપણે કયે માર્ગે ચાલીએ છીએ? મને લાગે છે કે આપણે લોકશાહીની અને સમાજવાદી સમાજ રચનાની વાતો તો કરીએ છીએ પણ નામદાર રાજ્યપાલશ્રીનું પ્રવચન એમ દેખાડે છે કે આપણે સમાજવાદી સમાજ રચનાના ધ્યેયથી પીછેહઠ કરીએ છીએ. કારણ દેશમાં—આ રાજ્યમાં—વ્યાપેલી બેકારીના પ્રશ્નનો કોઈ ઉકેલ દેખાતો નથી. રાજ્યમાં જે મોંઘવારી છે તેનો કોઈ ઉકેલ નથી. જનતાને વસવાટ માટે મકાનોની જે જરૂરિયાત છે તે અંગે એક સામાન્ય રેફરન્સ આપ્યા સિવાય—થોડાક મકાનો કરવાની યોજના સિવાય—બીજે કંઈ વિશેષ ઉલ્લેખ નથી.

અમલદારોમાં એફીસીયન્સી વધી છે એમ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે. હું નથી સમજી શકતો કે એફીસીયન્સી કઈ રીતે વધી છે. એક બાજુ લોકોમાં નુમારશાહી માટેનું બુમારણ છે અને બાજુએ મૂકીને નામદાર ગવર્નરશ્રી કહે છે કે અમલદારોમાં એફીસીયન્સી વધી છે. તો કઈ જાતની એફીસીયન્સી અમલદારોમાં વધી છે?

પ્રવચનના ચોથા પાના ઉપર સર્વિસીઝ માટે અને રાજ્ય પુનર્ઘટનને કારણે જે જુદા જુદા કાયદાઓનું એકીકરણ કરવાનું છે એ માટે કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે. હું એમ કહું કે ખાસ કરીને સૌરાષ્ટ્રના નોકરિયાતો જે આ મુંબઈ રાજ્યની અંદર ભળ્યા છે એના પ્રશ્નો હજી આપણે પૂરા પતાવ્યા નથી. એમના પગારના ધોરણ અંગેનો પ્રશ્ન અને એમના સેટ આપના પ્રશ્ન માટે આપણે શું કર્યું? નવા નવા કાયદાઓ કરવામાં આવે છે. માનનીય શ્રી સાહે સાહેબે કહ્યું કે જેમ વધારે કાયદા એમ વધારે લાંચરૂશવતની તક. આ વાત કદાચ સાચી છે કે કેમ તે અંગે હું કંઈ ન કહી શકું. પણ આજે એક વાત સાચી છે અને રાજ્યપાલશ્રીના પ્રવચનમાં પણ આને માટેનો ઉલ્લેખ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે. સૌથી પહેલાં લાંચરૂશવત દૂર કરવા માટે પોલીસ ખાતું હતું. પોલીસ ખાતાથી લાંચરૂશવતની બદી ન અટકી શકી એટલે એન્ટી-કરપ્શન ખાતું શરૂ કરવામાં આવ્યું. એન્ટી-કરપ્શન ખાતાથી કંઈ ન થઈ શક્યું એટલે હવે એન્ટી-કરપ્શન બ્યુરો ખોલવામાં આવી રહ્યું છે. આ એન્ટી-કરપ્શન બ્યુરો જે સફળ નહિ થાય તો એના પછી શું નીમવામાં આવશે તે હું કહી શકતો નથી. એક વાત સાચી છે અને મને દુઃખ પણ છે કે આજે આપણા દેશની અંદર લાંચરૂશવતની બદી છે. હમણાં જ માનનીય શ્રી ભટ્ટ સાહેબે માનનીય નાણા મંત્રીશ્રીનો ઉલ્લેખ કરેલો ત્યારે માનનીય નાણા મંત્રીશ્રીએ ચોખવટ કરી કે મને યાદ નથી. કદાચ બચાવમાં એમ પણ કહેવાય કે આજે આખા દેશની અંદર બધે લાંચરૂશવત ચાલે છે. આપણા દેશમાં લાંચરૂશવત ચાલતી હોય એ શું સારી વાત છે? આપણા સૌને માટે એ શરમની વાત હોવી જોઈએ. મને દુઃખ છે. લાંચરૂશવત શા માટે દૂર નથી થતી. કહેવામાં આવે છે કે લોકો સહકાર આપે તો લાંચરૂશવતની બદી દૂર કરવામાં સફળતા મળે. આને માટેનાં ઘણા દાખલા હું આપી શકું તેમ છું. લાંચરૂશવત દૂર કરવા માટે જે લોકો સહકાર આપવા માટે આગળ આવ્યાં છે એને હરાનપરેશાન કરવામાં આવ્યા છે. અમલદારો તરફથી એમને હરાનપરેશાન કરવામાં આવ્યા છે. પણ એના દાખલા

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ ખી. મહેતા]

અત્યારે હું આપવા માગતો નથી. હું અત્યારે સરકારની જે મૂળભૂત નીતિ છે તે ચર્ચાવા માગું છું. સરકારની નીતિને કારણે આજે બેકારી અને ગરીબી વધી રહી છે. સરકારે આજે જે નીતિ અપનાવી છે એને કારણે આજે કોઈ નવી રોજગારીની તક મળે એવું કંઈ દેખાતું નથી. સરકાર પોતે પણ પોતાની નીતિમાં સ્પષ્ટ લોપ એમ વાગતું નથી. કારણ કે એક બાબત મીલોની અંદર રેશનાવાઈઝેશન ચાલે છે અને બીજી તરફથી લાજસાળોની અંદર વાણિજ્યને સબસીડી આપે છે. એક તરફથી માણસોને બેકાર બનાવીએ છીએ અને બીજી તરફથી એને નભાવવા માટે લોન અને સબસીડી આપીએ છીએ. આ કઈ જતની પોલીસી છે? આપણે વિચાર કરવો જોઈએ. આપણે માનવું જોઈએ કે આપણી યોજનાઓમાં મૂળભૂત પામી છે. પહેલી પંચવર્ષીય યોજના પૂરી કરી અને બીજી પંચવર્ષીય યોજના પણ શરૂ કરી છે. છતાં આજે લોકોમાં કોઈ જતનો ઉત્સાહ દેખાતો નથી. લોકોમાં ઉમંગ ક્યાંથી હોય? લોકોમાં જે થોડો ઘણો ઉત્સાહ અને શ્રદ્ધા હતી તે પણ આ પ્રવચન ઉપરથી દૂર થઈ જવાની છે. અને લોકોમાં વિશ્વાસ રહેલો નહિ.

હમણાં જ નાની બચત અંગેનું આપણે પખવાડિયું ઉજવ્યું. નાની બચત યોજનામાં આપણાથી શક્ય તેટલો સહકાર આપીએ અને લોકો પણ તેમાં સહકાર આપે તેમ આપણે ઈચ્છીએ. પૂરતું પોલીસ ખાતાના વડા શ્રી ડી. એસ. પી. સાહેબ આવીને ઉભા રહે અને જ્યમ પોલીસ-વાળાને એટ્રેન્શન કરીને સલામ આપવી જોઈએ અને કાંઈપણ આનાકાની કર્યા સિવાય પોલીસવાળાએ સાહેબ કહે તે પ્રમાણે કરવું જોઈએ, એવી રીતે પોલીસવાળાના પગારમાંથી નાની બચત યોજનાના નામે તેને કાંઈપણ પૂછ્યા સિવાય પૈસા કાપી લેવામાં આવે, અને જ્યારે તે પોલીસ પૂછવા જાય કે મારા પગારમાંથી શું બાબતના પૈસા કાપવામાં આવ્યા છે, ત્યારે તેને કહેવામાં આવે કે હમણાં સરકારે નાની બચત યોજના શરૂ કરી છે તેમાં પૈસા ભરવા માટે તમારા પૈસા કાપી લેવામાં આવ્યા છે. જે લોકો પાસે કાંઈક ભયત રહેતી હોય અને જેની પાસે પૈસા હોય તેવા લોકો પાસેથી નાની કે મોટી બચતમાં પૈસા લેવામાં આવે તે બરાબર છે. પરંતુ જે લોકોને આજે સરકાર પૂરતો પગાર પણ આપતી નથી અને જેને પોતાના પગારમાંથી પૂરું કરવાનું હોય છે, અને તે પગાર પણ કેટલો મહિને માત્ર ૩૦ કે ૪૦ રૂપિયા. આવા નાના પગારદાર પાસેથી આપણે નાની બચત યોજનામાં બે રૂપિયા ઉપરાથીએ છીએ તે કોઈ રીતે યોગ્ય નથી. આજે સરકાર જે રીતે કામ કરી રહી છે તેમાં દેશની અંદર જે આજે ગરીબી પ્રવર્તે છે તે દૂર થઈ શકે તેવું કોઈપણ કામ થયું નથી. આજે વાતો તો ઘણી કરવામાં આવે છે, પહેલાં કો-ઓપરેટીવ કોમનવેલ્થની વાત કરવામાં આવી હતી અને તે પછી વેલફેર સ્ટેટની વાત કરવામાં આવી અને હવે સમાજવાદી સમાજ રચનાની વાત કરવામાં આવે છે અને હવે પછી વળી શું કહેવામાં આવશે તે અત્યારે હું કહી શકતો નથી. આજે આપણા દેશની અંદર જે બેકારી પ્રવર્તે છે, તેને દૂર કરવામાં સરકાર નિષ્ફળ ગઈ છે તેની મને પણ શરમ છે. કારણ કે મારા દિલમાં પણ દેશની અંદર પ્રવર્તતી બેકારી માટે અત્યંત ચિતા છે. આપણા દેશમાં ભલે પંચાયતોને સત્તા આપવામાં આવે, લોકલ બોર્ડોને સત્તા આપવામાં આવે કે મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને સત્તા આપવામાં આવે, પરંતુ હકીકતમાં તો જ્યારે જ્યારે પંચાયતોમાં કે લોકલ બોર્ડોમાં માણસો નીમવાની તક મળે છે, ત્યારે ત્યારે સત્તા પરની કોંગ્રેસી પક્ષ તેની અંદર પોતાના માણસોની નિમણૂક કરે છે અને પરિણામે આ દેશની અંદરથી રાષ્ટ્રીય ભાવનાને દેશવટો આપવામાં આવે છે. સોસાઈટી અંદર જ્યારે એ વખતની સરકારે પોતાના માણસો ઘુસાડવાની દૃષ્ટિથી જીલ્લા બોર્ડોની અંદર જ્યાં ઈલેક્શન કરવું જોઈએ ત્યાં આ હકીકતને એક બાજુ પર રાખીને ઈલેક્શનને બદલે નોમીનેશન કરવામાં આણું હતું. હવે આજે વળી એક નવી વાત કરવામાં આવી કે ડિસ્ટ્રિક્ટ બોર્ડો રચવામાં આવ્યા છે. એટલે હવે તેમાં પણ પોતાના માણસો નીમવામાં આવશે; આ રીતે સરકાર પોતાની પાર્ટીને માટે કામ કરે છે તે હકીકત દેખાઈ આવે છે. એક તરફથી એવી વાતો કરવામાં આવે છે કે દેશની સમસ્ત પ્રજાના સર્વાંગી વિકાસ માટે આ બધા કામો થાય છે અને બીજી તરફથી હકીકતમાં જોઈએ તો પોતાની પાર્ટી માટે સરકાર કામ કરી રહી છે. ઓફિસરોના કેમ્પો પણ હમેશાં જુદે જુદે દેકાણે પડ્યા હોય છે. સોસાઈટીના નાના એવા ચોકીદારોનો એક દાખલો આપું. મેં એક ચોકીદારને પૂછ્યું કે તમારી પાસેથી કેટલા ક્વાક્ની નોકરી લેવામાં આવે છે ત્યારે એણે કહ્યું કે અમારી પાસેથી ચોવીસ ચોવીસ ક્વાક્ની નોકરી લેવામાં

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આવે છે. અને અમારે ગામે ક્વેક્ટર, મામલતદાર કે ફોજદાર કે ગમે તે અધિકારી આવે ત્યારે અમારે તેમની હાજરીમાં રહેવું પડે છે. તે ઉપરાંત તે લોકો કહે છે કે કોઈ ને કોઈ અમલદાર અમારે ત્યાં હોય જ, અને અમારે તે લોકોની હાજરીમાં રહેવું પડે છે. કારણ કે આજે એટલાં બધાં ખાતાં વધ્યાં છે કે અમલદારોનો રાફો ફટથો છે. આ બધી વાત તે પોતાની ભાષામાં કહેતો હતો. ખાતાં વધ્યાં છે કે અમલદારોનો રાફો ફટથો છે. આ બધી વાત તે પોતાની ભાષામાં કહેતો હતો. આ જાતની નોકરી કે જ્યાં એક માણસ ચોવીસ ક્વાકા કામ કરે છે તેવા નોકરોને ટેમ્પરરી રાખવામાં આવ્યાં છે. એટલું જ જાણે બસ ન હોય તેમ તે લોકોની ફેરબદલી પણ કરવામાં આવે છે. માનનીય મુખ્ય મંત્રીશ્રીએ ખાત્રી આપી હતી કે આવા લોકોની ફેરબદલી નહિ કરવામાં આવે, છતાં આજે આવા ટૂંકા પગારના લોકોની ફેરબદલીઓ પણ કરવામાં આવે છે, તે હકિકત છે. છતાં આ દેશની અંદર આવા ૩૦ થી ૪૦ રૂપિયાના પગારદાર લોકોને કામચી કરવા માટે પણ કોઈ વિચારનું નથી. બીજું, આજે જી તુમારશાહી ચાલુ રહી હોય તો તે અધિકારીઓને કારણે જ ચાલુ રહેવા પામી છે, કારણ કે અધિકારીઓ પોતાને અપાયેલ સત્તાનો ઉપયોગ કરતા નથી. પોતાની સત્તાની વાત હોય, છતાં પણ પોતે જવાબદારી લેવા માગતા ન હોય, તે માટે “જોગ થવા માટે” એમ કરીને તુમાર આગળ મોકલી આપે છે, અને છેવટે હરનુંફરનું તે મિનિસ્ટર પાસે આવે છે, ત્યારે ત્યાંથી તેની નીચે લખાઈને આવે કે “આ તમારા ખાતાનું કામ છે.” એટલે આ રીતે કોઈ અમલદાર જવાબદારી લેવા તૈયાર નહિ હોવાથી તુમારશાહી વિકસવા પામી છે. આજે આ જાતની જ પરિસ્થિતિ છે તેને દૂર કરવી જોઈએ.

[illegible]

અનાજનો પ્રશ્ન એ આખા દેશનો પ્રશ્ન છે. અને જે રેશનીંગની થયા સ્વર્ગસ્થ શ્રી કીડવાઈ દૂર કરી ગયા છે તેને ફરીથી પાછી આ દેશમાં સરકાર લાવી લઈ લોય તેમ લાગે છે. ચોખાને કારણે રેશનીંગની દુકાનો પાસે લોકોની ભીડ વધી છે. જે કે મુંબઈમાં હું રહેતો નથી એટલે એની મુશ્કેલીનો મને ખ્યાલ નથી પરંતુ લોકોને જોખા મેળવવામાં શું શું મુશ્કેલી પડતી હશે તે હું સમજી શકું છું. આ વસ્તુ મંત્રીશ્રીઓને નહિ સમજાય, કારણ કે તેઓને આવી ભીડમાં ઉભા રહેવાનું હોતું નથી. આજે હજારો એકર જમીન આખૂણ દેશમાં બિન-ખેડવાણ પડેલી છે. આજે દશ વરસથી આપણે વહીવટ ચલાવીએ છીએ, છતાં એ પડતર જમીનનો ઉપયોગ થઈ શકે તે માટે આપણે કંઈ કરી શક્યા નથી. ચલાવીએ છીએ, છતાં એ પડતર જમીનનો ઉપયોગ થઈ શકે તે માટે આપણે કંઈ કરી શક્યા નથી. બીજી વરફથી પરદેશથી અનાજ મંગાવવા પાછળ, ફોરેસ્ટ ખાતા પાછળ અને ઔદ્યોગિક ખાતા પાછળ આપણે પ્રજાના લાખો રૂપિયાનો ધુમાડો કરીએ છીએ, પરંતુ જ્યાંસુધી આવી પડતર જમીનનો ઉપયોગ નહિ કરવામાં આવે ત્યાંસુધી આપણે અનાજની બાબતમાં દેશને સ્વાવલંબી કરી શકવાના નથી. અનાજની બાબતમાં જ આપણે દેશને સ્વાવલંબી બનાવવો હોય અને તે અંગે સરકાર કંઈ કન્સ્ટ્રક્ટીવ

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ચનો માગતી હોય, અને તે સૂચનો પ્રમાણે અમલ કરવા માગતી હોય તો માફ એ સૂચન છે કે જમીનદારી બૂદ કરીને જ્યાંસુધી આપણે ઈકોનોમીક હોર્ડીંગ નક્કી કરવાની વ્યવસ્થા નહિ કરીએ ત્યાંસુધી યનો આ અનાજનો સવાલ હવે થવાનો નથી. સરકારે સીર્વીંગ નક્કી કર્યા, અને ૧૯૪૮માં ગણતંત્રધારો ખેલ કર્યા, પણ એનું શું પરિણામ આવ્યું? હું જ્યારે ગુજરાતમાં ગયો હતો ત્યારે મને મળવા મળ્યું કે ખેડૂતો આ ગણતંત્રધારના પ્રતાપે હતા ન હતા થઈ ગયા છે અને જમીન ઉપરથી મેડુતોની હકાલપટ્ટી કરવામાં આવી છે.

ગોખલે ઈન્સ્ટીટ્યુટનો રિપોર્ટ જણાવે છે કે :—

“ વ્યાજબી ભાગ અને ગણોત આપવાની જોગવાઈનો અમલ થયો જ નથી અને જમીન માલિકો છૂટથી અડધો ભાગ લે છે. મોંબદલો અને રાજબુશીથી કબજો છોડવાઈનો જોગવાઈને ગણોતિયાઓને કબજો છોડાવ્યા છે, ગણોતિયો જમીન ખરીદીને જમીનનો ધીરે ધીરે માલિક બને તે કલમ તો માત્રપોથીમાં જ રહી છે....આંકડાઓ બતાવે છે કે ૧૦,૬૭૧ ગણોતિયાઓની હકાલપટ્ટી કરાઈ છે. અને ૨૬,૪૪૭ ગણોતિયાઓએ ૧,૭૩,૫૩૮ એકર જમીન રાજબુશીથી છોડી દીધી છે.”

આ તો વર્ષ પહેલાંના સરકારી ચોપડે લખાયેલા આંકડા છે. વાસ્તવમાં તો આના કરતાં પણ વધુ જમીન ગણોતિયાઓને છોડવી પડી છે. હું કહેવા એ માગું છું કે જે ગણોતિયાઓએ રાજબુશીથી જમીન સોંપી છે, એવું કહેવામાં આવે છે, એ ગણોતિયાઓને પૂછો કે તમને શું શોખ થયો હતો કે તમે રાજબુશીથી જમીન સોંપી દીધી? પણ વાસ્તવમાં જુદી પરિસ્થિતિ છે. એને માટે ઈન્કચાયરી નીમવી જોઈએ, સ્વતંત્ર તપાસપંચ નીમવું જોઈએ. કારણ કે નાનો એવો ગરીબ બિચારો ગણોતિયો હોય, એની સ્થિતિ દેવાદાર હોય, એને જમીનમાલિક દબાવે, ધમકાવે, ખાનગીમાં છોકરાછોકરીનાં લગ્ન માટે પાંચ-પચીસ રૂપિયાની લાલચ આપે, અને જમીન છોડવાની સહી કરાવી લે. સહી કરતાં ન આવડતું હોય, તો અંગુઠાની છાપ મરાવી લે. એને બિચારાને ખબર પણ ન હોય કે શેમાં અંગુઠાની છાપ મારી છે. અને પછી વર્ષ દિવસ પછી કાયદાની ભાષામાં નોટિસ આપે કે તમે રાજબુશીથી જમીન છોડી દેવાની સહી કરી આપી છે, માટે જમીન છોડી ચાલ્યા જવ. આ જાતની પરિસ્થિતિ છે, એટલે સરકારને મારી વિનંતી છે કે જે આપણે ખરેખર ગણોતિયાને જમીન આપવા માગતા હોઈએ, ખરેખર જમીનદારી નાબૂદ કરવા માગતા હોઈએ, તો આ જમીન છોડવાના કિસ્સાઓ છે, એને માટેની તપાસ કરવા એક સ્વતંત્ર તપાસપંચ નીમવું જોઈએ. અને છેલ્લે, હું આ ગુહને એક વિનંતિ કરું છું કે મેં આ જે એમેન્ડમેન્ટ મુવ કર્યા છે, એનો આશય એ છે કે હું પણ આ દેશમાંથી ગરીબી અને બેકારી દૂર કરવાના પ્રયત્નમાં સરકારને સંપૂર્ણ રીતે સાથ આપવા માગું છું. પણ સાથોસાથ આજ અમલદારો જે લાંચરૂશવત લઈ રહ્યા છે, એને માટે કાયદાની અંદર જે લુપહોલ્સ રહી ગયાં છે, તેને સુધારવાં જોઈએ. આજે જોઈએ તો જે કોઈપણ કેઈસ કરવામાં આવે છે, એમાં મોટા ભાગના કેસો નાના નાના નોકરિયાતો—પાંચ-પચીસ કે સો-બસો રૂપિયાના પગારદાર નોકરિયાતો—ઉપર કરવામાં આવે છે; અને મોટા અમલદારો પકડાતા નથી. મોટા અમલદારો હોય, કે જે લોકો પાસે સાધન સંપત્તિ હોય, એ લોકો કાયદાનાં લુપહોલ્સને કારણે વર્ષો સુધી કોર્ટમાં લડે છે અને છૂટી જાય છે. એટલે ખરેખર જે લાંચરૂશવતની બદી નાબૂદ કરવી હોય, તો હું સરકારને એક સંજ્ઞન કરવા માગું છું કે આને માટે જિલ્લાવાર, ડિસ્ટ્રિક્ટવાર કોર્ટ નીમવી જોઈએ અને જે કોઈપણ કેઈસ આવે, એનો પાંચ-પચીસ કે મહિના દિવસમાં નિર્ણય થઈ જાય એવી વ્યવસ્થા કરવી જોઈએ. પરિણામે લોકોને પણ લાગશે કે જે આપણે લાંચરૂશવતના કિસ્સા રજૂ કરશું, તો એનો નિર્ણય મહિના માસમાં આવી જશે. આજ તો જે લોકો લાંચરૂશવત લેનારા છે, એમને એમ થાય છે કે જે કાંઈ થશે તે કાયદેસર થશે, અને કોર્ટકોર્ટમાં અને સુપ્રિમ કોર્ટમાં જવાશે, અને એમાં આખી જીંદગી વહી જશે, તો પણ કેઈસનો નિર્ણય નહિ આવે, અને આપણું કાંઈ નહિ થાય. એટલે એમ સમજીને એ અમલદારો લાખો રૂપિયાની લાંચ લેતા હોય છે. એટલે હું તે સરકારને નમ્ર સૂચના એ કરવા માગું છું કે ખરેખર જે આપણે કરખન દૂર કરવા માગતા હોઈએ, તો એને માટે આ રીતની વ્યવસ્થા કરવી જોઈએ અને કાયદાની અંદર જે લુપહોલ્સ રહી ગયાં હોય, એને સરખાં કરવાં જોઈએ. અને તો જ આ લાંચરૂશવતની જે બદી છે, તે નાબૂદ થઈ શકશે.

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

છેલ્લે, મેં જે આ બધાં એમેન્ડમેન્ટ મુવ કર્યાં છે, એ પછી હું આશા રાખું છું કે મહાદ્વિભાષી રાજ્યની રચનાથી સોરાષ્ટ્રની જનતાને જે અન્યાય થયો છે, એ દૂર કરવા માટે સોરાષ્ટ્રની જનતાની જે માગણી છે, મહાગુજરાતની રચના કરવાની, એને સમજવામાં આ હાઉસ બરોબર વિચારણા કરશે, એવી આશા રાખી બેસી જવાની રજા લઉં છું.

શ્રી. એસ્. એમ્. થોરાત (મુંબઈ લેજિસ્લેટિવ્હ અસેમ્બલીને નિવડલેલે) : અધ્યક્ષ મેહારાજ, હ્યા સમાગૃહાપુરું નામદાર રાજ્યપાલાંચ્યા ભાષણાવર જી ચર્ચા ચાલૂ आहे ती चालू असतांना माझ्या आधीं निरनिराळ्या सन्माननीय सभासदांनीं आपापलीं मते मांडलेलीं आहेत, व मलाहि ह्या भाषणांत ज्या चांगल्या गोष्टी आहेत त्यांसंबंधीं माझे विचार मांडावयाचे आहेत. कोणत्याहि प्रश्नाचा विचार करीत असतांना प्रत्येक प्रश्नाला दोन बाजू असतात व कोणताहि मनुष्य एकाद्या प्रश्नाकडे ज्या दृष्टिकोनांतून पाहता तो त्यावर त्याचीं मते अवलंबून असतात. तेव्हां आतांपर्यंत निरनिराळ्या सन्माननीय सभासदांनीं ज्या गोष्टींचा उल्लेख केलेला आहे त्यांचा पुनरुच्चार न करतां मी माझे विचार मांडण्याचा प्रयत्न करणार आहे.

सरकारनें आजपर्यंत शेतीसुधारणेच्या ज्या कांहीं गोष्टी केल्या आहेत त्या आपल्याला मान्य केल्या पाहिजेत. मुंबई राज्यांतील ८० टक्के लोक शेती व्यवसायावर अवलंबून असल्यामुळे पहिल्या पंचवार्षिक योजनेमध्ये शेतीच्या विकासाला प्राधान्य देण्यांत आले होते व शेती सुधारणा खडचापाड्यांत दूरवर पोहोचविण्याचा सरकारनें शिकस्तीनें प्रयत्न केला आहे, ही गोष्ट कोणालाहि कबूल करावी लागेल. मीसुद्धा खेड्यांत जीवन जगणारा एक शेतकरी आहे, व माझे वाडवडीलहि शतीच करीत असत. गेलीं दीडशें वर्षे आपल्या देशावर इंग्रजांचें राज्य असल्यामुळे त्यांनीं शेतीसाठीं आधुनिक ज्ञान व साधनें उपलब्ध करून न दिल्यामुळे आधुनिक पद्धतीनें शेती करण्याची किमया आमच्या वाडवडिलांना माहीत नव्हती. ते पूर्वापार चालत आलेल्या पद्धतिनुसार शेती करीत असत. पूर्वी कूड ऑइलची एंजिन्स या देशांत येत असत, पण त्यांचा उपयोग पिठाच्या गिरण्या चालविण्यासाठीं करण्यांत येत असे. पण आपल्याला स्वराज्य मिळाल्यापासून सरकारनें शेतीसुधारणेकडे लक्ष देण्यास सुरुवात केली व तेव्हापासून विहिरी, नद्या, पाटबंधारे यांवर हीं एंजिनें बसवून पाणी मिळण्याची सोय सरकारनें उपलब्ध करून दिली व अशा रीतीनें आधुनिक पद्धतीनें शेतीचा विकास होऊं लागला.

आजपर्यंत शेती करण्याचें आधुनिक ज्ञान उपलब्ध नसल्यामुळे हिंदुस्थानांतील शेतकरी केवळ दैववादी बनला होता. निसर्गानें द्यावें तसें आम्हीं घ्यावें ह्या पद्धतीनें शेतकरी शेती करीत होता. पिकावर कीड पडली तर त्यावर कोणताच इलाज नसल्यामुळे तो असहाय्य होऊन बसत असे. पण स्वराज्य आल्यानंतर सरकारनें खेडचापाड्यांत शेती-संबंधीचें ज्ञान उपलब्ध करून देण्यासाठीं शेतकी अधिकारी नेमले व हे अधिकारी खेड्या-पाड्यांत, जिल्ह्यांच्या ठिकाणीं जाऊन आधुनिक शेती साधनांचा प्रचार करूं लागले. पिकांच्या व जनावरांच्या रोगांच्या बाबतींत आमचा शेतकरी दैववादी बनला होता. त्यांचा देव असेल तेथें जावें, त्या देवाला कौल लाऊन मार्गदर्शन घ्यावें, अशी परिस्थिति होती; परंतु हळू हळू सरकारनें आधुनिक ज्ञानाचा व साधनांचा प्रचार सुरू केल्यापासून शेतकऱ्यांच्या शेती करण्याच्या पद्धतींत बरीच सुधारणा झालेली आपल्याला दिसून येते. पिकावर रोग पडला किंवा जनावरांना रोग लागला तर तो नाहीसा करण्याचीं साधनें आतां शेतकऱ्यांना उपलब्ध झालेली आहेत. पूर्वीच्या मानानें आज आपल्याला शेतीमध्ये जी सुधारणा झालेली दिसते याला सुधारणा म्हणावयाचें नसेल तर नाइलाज आहे. निदान माझी तरी अशी खात्री झालेली आहे कीं, दिवसेंदिवस शेतकरी सुधारणेच्या आणि प्रगतीच्या, मार्गावर आहे आणि आपल्या समाजाचें हें लोकशाहीरूपी बाळ दिवसेंदिवस बाढत आहे.

(The Deputy Chairman in the Chair).

[श्री. एम्. एम्. थोरात]

सरकार आपल्या परीने प्रयत्न करीत असूनहि लोकांच्या मागण्या आणि अपेक्षां जास्त आहेत व त्या मानाने सरकारचे प्रयत्न अपुरे पडत आहेत ही गोष्ट खरी असली तरी आजपर्यंत सरकारने जे प्रयत्न केले आहेत ते यशस्वी झाले नाहीत व प्रगति झालीच नाही असे म्हणणे योग्य होणार नाही. आज शेतकरी खतांचा उपयोग करीत आहे, पिकांच्या रोगांवर गॅमॅक्सीन पावडर वापरीत आहे, व सरकारने उपलब्ध करून दिलेल्या निरनिराळ्या मार्गांच्या साहाय्याने पाणी वापरून शेतीचे उत्पादन वाढवीत आहे. आज आपल्याला खेड्यांत निरनिराळ्या खतांची व त्यांच्या उपयोगासंबंधीची चर्चा चाललेली दिसून येते. याचा परिणाम असा झाला आहे की, आज शेतकऱ्याची पुष्कळ प्रमाणांत सुधारणा झालेली असून ज्या खेड्यांत शंभर वर्षांपूर्वी एका बैल घाणीचे तेल पुरेसे होत होते त्याच खेड्यांत आता यंत्राने चालविलेल्या शेकडों तेल घाण्यांनी काढलेले तेल अपुरे पडत आहे. याचे कारण एकच आहे आणि ते हे की, लोकांच्या राहणीचे मान वाढले आहे. याच पद्धतीने सुधारणा होत राहिली तर आपल्या राज्यातील शेतीची सुधारणा झाल्यावाचून राहणार नाही, अशी मला खात्री वाटते.

आज शेतकऱ्याला शहरांतील लोकांप्रमाणे उच्च शिक्षण नसले तरी त्याला जगांतील घडामोडी समजू लागल्या आहेत. आपले हित कशांत आहे हे त्याला समजू लागले आहे. पूर्वी व्यापारी शेतकऱ्याकडून आपण घेतलेल्या मापाने धान्य घेत असे व ते धान्य विकतांना लहान मापाने विकत असे. आता शेतकरी पूर्वी प्रमाणे फसत नाही. शेतकऱ्याने उत्पादन केलेल्या मालाच्या विक्रीसाठी सरकारने गुदामे काढली आहेत व मार्केट कमिट्या स्थापन केल्या आहेत. तरीहि त्यांचा शेतकऱ्याला जसा फायदा व्हावयास पाहिजे तसा होत नाही. तेव्हा या बाबतीत बोलतांना मी थोडासा टीकाकार ठरण्याचा संभव आहे. शेतकऱ्याच्या मालाला आज योग्य भाव मिळत नाही अशी ओरड सगळीकडे आहे. याला पुष्कळ अंशी कारण सरकारचे आयात निर्यातीत धोरण आहे असे मला वाटते. परदेशी चलनवाढ करण्यासाठी निर्यात परमिट्स दिली पाहिजेत हे मला कबूल आहे, पण या बाबतीत सरकारचे धोरण काय आहे हे मध्यवर्ति सरकारने जर अधी जाहीर केले तर आपला माल केव्हा विकवयाचा हे शेतकरी ठरवू शकेल. शेंगदाणा परदेशांत निर्यात केला जातो, चहा निर्यात केला जातो हे आता सर्वांना माहीत आहे, व त्यामुळे ह्या वस्तूना बाजार पेठेत चांगला भाव येण्याचा संभव असतो. पण शेतकऱ्याला ह्या भावाचा फायदा मिळत नाही. शेतकऱ्याला नेहमीच पैशाची गरज असल्यामुळे शेतांत शेंगदाणा तयार झाल्याबरोबर त्याला येईल त्या भावाने व्यापाऱ्याला विकून टाकतो. व्यापारी तो माल आपल्या गुदामांमध्ये योग्य वेळ येईपर्यंत साठवून ठेवतो व त्यामुळे त्याला चांगला भाव मिळू शकतो. यामुळे असे होते की, जेथे पिकते तेथे भाव मिळण्याऐवजी व्यापाऱ्याला चांगला भाव मिळतो. पण ह्या मालाच्या आयात निर्यातीच्या धोरणाची सरकारने जर स्थूलमानाने अगोदर कल्पना दिली तर त्या दृष्टीने व्यापारी मालाचा उठाव करतील आणि शेतकऱ्यालाहि मालाबद्दल चांगला भाव मिळू शकेल. मालाला चांगला भाव मिळत नसेल तर पडत्या भावाने माल विकण्याची पाळी शेतकऱ्यावर येऊ नये म्हणून गुदामे बांधून देण्याची व्यवस्था सरकार काही अशी करीत आहे व त्यावर अधिकाधिक खर्च करीत आहे.

तेव्हा, अध्यक्ष महाराज, ह्या सगळ्या गोष्टी विचारांत घेऊन सरकारने ज्या ज्या चांगल्या गोष्टी केलेल्या आहेत त्यांचा उल्लेख सन्माननीय सभासदांनी आपल्या भाषणांत करावयास हवा होता. सध्या आपल्या समाजाची असलेली परिस्थिति व सरकारची आर्थिक परिस्थिति लक्षांत घेता सरकारने लोकांकरिता जे केले आहे ते कमी आहे असे वाटले तरी त्याला सर्वस्वी सरकारला जबाबदार धरणे योग्य होणार नाही. ह्या सरकारच्या ऐवजी ह्याच परिस्थितीत दुसरे कोणतेहि सरकार असते तरी त्याच्या हातून यापेक्षा जास्त होऊ शकले

[श्री. एम्. एम्. थोरात]

नसते. शेती सुधारणेसाठी सरकारने ठिकठिकाणी ताली बांधण्याचे काम हाती घेतले आहे. शेतीच्या बाबतीत इंग्रजांच्या काळांत बरीच हयगय झाल्यामुळे शेतजमिनीचे बरेच लहान लहान तुकडे पडले होते व त्यामुळे शेती किफायतशीर होत नसे. ही गोष्ट लक्षांत घेऊन सरकारने तुकडेजोड व तुकडेबंदी कायदा केलेला आहे. असे असतांना पुष्कळशा सन्माननीय सभासदांनी सरकारवर निष्कारण टीका केली आहे. आपल्या राज्यांत जी कमतरता आहे किंवा दोष आहेत त्यांना ७२ रोगांचे मूळ द्विभाषिकच कारण आहे असे येथे सांगण्यांत आले. पण हे म्हणणे बरोबर नाही. मला या बाबतीत फार बोलावयाचे नाही. कारण ह्या देशामध्ये जी इतर एकभाषिक राज्ये आहेत त्या राज्यांच्या राज्यपालांनी केलेल्या भाषणावर विरोधी पक्षांतल्या लोकांनी टीका केलेलीच असणार. तेव्हा द्विभाषिक हे ह्या राज्यांतील ७२ रोगांचे मूळ आहे हे म्हणण्यांत कांही अर्थ नाही. द्विभाषिकाशिवाय इतर अनेक गोष्टी याला कारणीभूत आहेत, त्या त्यांनी सभागृहासमोर मांडल्या असल्या तर ते योग्य झाले असते. शिवाय, अनेक वेळा असे बोलून दाखविण्यांत येते की, एकभाषिक राज्याचे फायदे जर द्विभाषिकांतहि मिळत असतील तर द्विभाषिकाला विरोध करण्याचे कारण नाही. द्विभाषिकांत एकभाषिक राज्याचे फायदे मिळत नाहीत असे ज्यांना वाटत असेल त्यांनी तसे सिद्ध करून निश्चितपणे सभागृहापुढे मांडण्यास कांही हरकत नाही. पण ७२ रोगांचे मूळ द्विभाषिकच आहे अशा समजूतीने ह्या सरकारकडे किंवा ह्या राज्यांतील सर्व प्रश्नांकडे पाहू नये. ज्या उणीवा असतील त्यांकडे सरकारचे लक्ष वेधणे हे केव्हाहि योग्यच आहे, पण त्याचबरोबर ज्या चांगल्या गोष्टी सरकारने केलेल्या असतील त्यांचाहि उल्लेख करण्यांत आला पाहिजे. यामध्ये अँटीकॉरप्शनसारख्या गोष्टींचा उल्लेख नाही याचा अर्थ त्याबाबतीत सरकारचे गेल्या ५ वर्षांत जे धोरण राहिले आहे ते सरकारने बदलले आहे असा नव्हे. कॉरप्शन बंद करण्याबाबत सरकारचे प्रयत्न पूर्वीप्रमाणेच चालू आहेत. सरकारने अनेक सुधारणा करण्याचा प्रयत्न केला आहे. ज्या सुधारणा करणे जहरीचे आहे त्या गरजेप्रमाणे सरकार करणारच आहे. तेव्हा या भाषणाकडे आपण दृष्टीने न पाहतां मोकळ्या मनाने पाहू अशी विनंती करून मी आपली रजा घेतो.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Some of the hon. Members have requested me that they would like to go and see the exhibition at Worli. There fore, I hope that hon. Members will have no objection if we rise now and meet again tomorrow at 2 -00 p.m. (After a pause). I take it that hon. Members have no objection to rise now.

The House will now rise and will re-assemble tomorrow at 2-00 p.m.

[The House was adjourned at 6-15 p.m. till 2-00 p.m. on Thursday, the 20th February, 1958.]

Thursday, the 20th February 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m. on Thursday, the 20th February, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE—Shri C. N. Bhadlavalala and Shri H. V. Kotecha.

The CHAIRMAN: I have received two letters, one from the hon. Member Shri C. N. Bhadlavalala and the other from the hon. Member Shri H. V. Kotecha for leave of absence. I hope the House has no objection to granting them leave. Has anybody any objection to the leave being granted to them? *(After a pause)* The leave is granted.

DISCUSSION ON GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS—*Resumed.*

Motion again proposed:

"We, the Members of the Bombay Legislative Council assembled in this session, offer our sincere thanks to the Governor for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver."

श्री गुलाम हैबर बलीमुहम्मद (बम्बई विधान सभा द्वारा निर्वाचित): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे मित्र माननीय सदस्य पागे साहब ने जो प्रस्ताव रखा है, गवर्नर साहब के शुक्रिया का, उसकी ताईद करने के लिए मैं खड़ा हुआ हूँ। उन्होंने विस्तृत तौर पर बतलाया कि गवर्नर साहब के ऐड्रेस में उन तमाम चीजों का जिक्र किया गया है जो एक वेलफेयर स्टेट को बनाने के लिए जरूरी हैं। इसलिए मैं उनमें जाना नहीं चाहता। लेकिन मुस्लिमों में यह है कि गवर्नर साहब को धन्यवाद हम इसलिए नहीं देते हैं कि उन्होंने कोई प्राइड किया बल्कि जो प्रश्न सारी प्रजा के थे उसको कैसे हल किया उसका जिक्र किया है। तथा बम्बई का जो विस्तृत और विशाल राज्य हुआ है उससे जो प्रश्न पैदा हुए उनकी हल करने के लिए जितनी ताकद से और जितनी जागृति के साथ और प्रजा के प्रश्नों को जिस खूबी के साथ हल करने के लिए सरकार ने कदम उठाए हैं उनका जिक्र किया है। लेकिन कुछ माननीय सभ्योंने, खासकर के जो विरोधी पक्ष के हैं और जिन्होंने शुक्रिया के प्रस्ताव पर अमंडमेंट्स पेश कीए हैं और भाषण भी दिए हैं, उन्होंने ऐसा ऐंटीथीसिस प्रस्तुत किया है कि जिसे अंग्रेजी में कहते हैं: I see nothing, I hear nothing and I refuse to learn anything. यानी न मैं कुछ देखना चाहता हूँ, न सुनना चाहता हूँ और न कुछ समझना चाहता हूँ। मुझे यह वर्णन इसलिए करना पड़ा क्योंकि कुछ सदस्यों ने कुछ इसी प्रकार की बातें कही।

माननीय सदस्य श्री के. आर. पाटिल साहब ने एक राष्ट्र के बारे में उपदेश पर गुस्सा किया। हम जब कहते हैं कि राष्ट्र के हित के लिए विदमं, महाराष्ट्र, मराठवाडा और महाराष्ट्र को बात न करो तो उन्हें गुस्सा आता है। ऐसा तो नहीं होना चाहिए।

[श्री गुलाम हैदर वलीमुहम्मद]

यह ठीक है कि उनकी भावना का जहां तक सम्बन्ध है वह एक हिस्से की प्रबल भावना है जिससे इन्कार नहीं किया जा सकता। कुछ लोग यह चाहते हैं कि एक-भाषी प्रान्त बनाए जाएं। लेकिन इस एक-भाषी प्रान्त के आन्दोलन में जी चीजे हुईं उन तमाम चीजों को और उनसे पैदा होने वाली परिस्थिति को ख्याल में रखकर लोकशाही की दृष्टि से जो सर्वोच्च शक्तिशाली संस्था है या सावरेन पावर है, इंडियन पार्लमेंट की, उसके सदस्यों ने यह तय किया कि राष्ट्र के हित में यही ठीक होगा कि बम्बई का द्विभाषी राज्य बनाया जाए। उन्होंने यह भी सोचा था कि नया राज्य बन जाने के बाद कम से कम महाराष्ट्र, तथा गुजरात से कुछ ऐसे लोग अवश्य निकलेंगे जो कहेंगे कि हम हिम्मत करते हैं और बार्मिंगवेल बम्बई राज्य को आगे ले जाने के लिए तैयार हैं। वे यह कह सकते हैं कि यह जो झुलझाई चीजों का प्रदर्शन हुआ है उसको देखते हुए आगे के लिए हम विदर्भ, मराठवाड़ा, सौराष्ट्र वगैरा के लोग जो मराठी बोलनेवाली या गुजराती बोलने वाली प्रजा है वे राष्ट्र के हित के लिए बिगर बार्मिंगवेल स्टेट में रहना चाहते हैं और बम्बई शहर जो कि कास्मापोलिटन शहर है उसे सब लोगों का शहर बनाए रखना चाहते हैं। मेरा ख्याल है कि इसी भावना को लेकर विदर्भ, मराठवाड़ा, सौराष्ट्र और काठियावाड़ वगैरा की जनता ने ऐसे लोगों को चुनकर बड़ी तादाद में भेजा जो बार्मिंगवेल राज्य चाहते थे और महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात के भी हिस्से से ऐसे लोग काफी तादाद में चुनकर आए।

हम जब इस मसले पर विचार करते हैं तब हमारे विरोधी पक्ष के मित्रों का रवैया कुछ ऐसा रहता है कि जैसा कि एक उर्दू के शायर ने कहा है

“हम ठीक भी कहते हैं तो हो जाते हैं बदनाम

वह गाली भी देते हैं तो चर्चा नहीं होती॥”

हम उनको कोई उपदेश नहीं देते। हम उनसे सिर्फ विन्ती करते हैं और कहते हैं कि हम आपकी भावना का मजाक नहीं करते हम उसकी इज्जत करते हैं लेकिन हमारी जो भावना है और ३५ करोड़ हिन्दुस्तानियों के प्रतिनिधियों की जो भावना है और जिसे इंडियन पार्लियामेंट ने अपने फैसले के तौर पर जाहिर किया है उसका भी ख्याल हमारे विरोधी पक्ष के भाइयों को करना चाहिए। अगर आपकी भावना को उसके फैसले ने पूरा नहीं किया या जो आपकी कल्पना है वह पूरी नहीं हुई और अगर उसका कुछ जवाब देना है तो सीधी सदी बात है कि आप उनको कन्विस कीजिए। सिर्फ “पाहिजे, पाहिजे” करने से तो यह प्रश्न हल नहीं होता और न उसकी विकटता कम होती है। इस प्रश्न को हल करने में जो फंडामेंटल डिफिकल्टीज आती हैं उसका जवाब न देकर और उसका बिना समाधान किए जो फैसला इंडियन पार्लमेंट ने दिया है उसको बंटेम करना यह मुझ को मालूम नहीं कि लोकशाही का कौनसा तरीका है। लोकशाही का यह तरीका हरगिज नहीं है।

आपने देखा ही है कि लोकशाही के आधार पर चुनाव हो गए और चुनाव में हर एक को अपने विचार प्रकट करने का मौका मिला। लोकशाही द्वारा जो विचार स्वातंत्र्य हमें मिला उसमें सच्चे आदमियों ने अपनी सच्चाई सामने रखी और विकृत विचार के आदमियों ने अपनी विकृत भावनाओं का प्रदर्शन किया। इस चुनाव से यह जाहिर कर दिया कि लोकमत इस पक्ष में है कि बम्बई का द्विभाषी राज्य बना रहे और पार्लमेंट का जो फैसला है वह राष्ट्र हित की दृष्टि से ठीक है। इतने विचारों के राज्य में अगर कोई इलेक्शन ऐसे हुए जिनमें संयुक्त महाराष्ट्र वालों की जीत हो गई या नागपाड़ा और मजगांव में उनकी जीत हो गई तो उसका यह मतलब नहीं है कि यह जो बार्मिंगवेल का स्टेट-अप

[श्री गुलाम हैदर वलीमुहम्मद]

है उसके खिलाफ सारे लोग हैं या जो संयुक्त महाराष्ट्र और महागुजरात चाहते हैं उनकी बात को सब मानते हैं। मैं पूछता हूँ कि जब आप दो चार बायइलेक्शन के बारे में इतना शोर करते हैं तब यह जो सारे राज्य ने और सारे मुल्क ने काँग्रेस को मेजरटी में चुनकर भेजा है उनकी तरफ क्यों नहीं देखते। क्या उनको चुनने वाले प्रजाजन नहीं थे और क्या वह इंदरेव के यहां से आए हुए आदमी थे और आपके चुनने वाले ही प्रजाजन हैं।

THE CHAIRMAN : I would request the hon. Member not to go in to the details of this question.

श्री गुलाम हैदर वलीमुहम्मद : मैं यह कहता था कि हमको लोकशाही का पाठ वह लोग सिखाना चाहते हैं जिनको इसका हक नहीं है। चूंकि आपका फैसला है कि मैं डीटेल में न जाऊँ इसलिए मैं तफसील में नहीं जाता। लेकिन बाइ-इलेक्शन में जो संयुक्त महाराष्ट्र समिति की जीत हुई उससे यह नतीजा निकलता है कि अपने राज्य का कुछ हिस्सा ऐसा है जो सही बात को समझने के लिए तैयार नहीं है। नया दरवाजा जो लोकशाही ने खोला है उसको वे मानने को तैयार नहीं हैं। यह कहने का हमें हक है।

गवर्नर साहब ने अपने एंज्रेस में यही कहा कि जो स्टेट का री-ऑर्गनाइजेशन हुआ उससे जो सवाल पैदा हो गए हैं उनको हल करना है। दूसरे राज्यों से जो नौकर आए हैं उनका क्या होगा, विदर्भ, सौराष्ट्र और मराठवाड़ा से जो सरकारी नौकर आए हैं उनका क्या होगा? क्योंकि बम्बई राज्य की परिस्थिति अलग है और विदर्भ, मराठवाड़ा और सौराष्ट्र की परिस्थिति अलग है उनको अच्छी तरह से इन्टीग्रेट करना है और उससे पैदा होने वाले जो प्रश्न हैं उनका समाधान सरकार कर रही है। अलग अलग रीजन्समें जो अलग अलग लॉज हैं उनका युनिफिकेशन किया गया है और जो रह गए हैं उनका किया जा रहा है।

भाषा के आधार पर रीजनवाइज इंटरैस्ट को प्रोटेक्ट करने के लिए रीजनल कौंसिल बना दी गई है। हर इलाके को डेवलप करने के लिए डेवलपमेंट कौंसिल बनाई गई है लेकिन उनके लिए कहा जाता है कि यह सरकार की टुल्स हैं या सरकार की आलाए कार हैं। मैं उनको बताना चाहता हूँ कि उन कमेटियों में विरोधी पक्ष के आदमियों को भी जगह दी गई है। लेकिन वह लोग वाकआउट कर देते हैं, जैसा कि उन्होंने अहमदाबाद में किया, तो उसके लिए हम क्या कर सकते हैं। माननीय सदस्य भाई छवीलदास बाद में किया, तो उसके लिए हम क्या कर सकते हैं। माननीय सदस्य भाई छवीलदास ने कहा कि वह सहकार देने के लिए तैयार हैं चाहे सरकार यकीन करे या न करे, तो उसके लिए मैं कहूंगा कि अगर आप ऐसा समझते हैं तो डेवलपमेंट कौंसिल में आप लोक रहकर आपके रीजंस की जो खास खास डिफिकल्टीज हैं उनको दूर कर सकते हैं और इस तरह सहकार दे सकते हैं।

यहां पर यह भी कहा गया कि इन कौंसिलों में ऑफिसर्स को लिया गया है जो जनता की आवाज सरकार तक पहुंचने नहीं देते। और मिसाल यह दी गई कि नासिक म्युनिसिपैलिटी में ‘संयुक्त महाराष्ट्र विथ बॉम्बे’ का प्रस्ताव पास किया जो कलेक्टरने रद्द किया। अगर यह बात ठीक है तो उसके लिए दूसरी तरह से कहा जा सकता है। लेकिन लोकशाही में दोनो ही जनता के नुमाइन्दे होते हैं। पॉलिसी प्रजा के नियुक्त किए हुए प्रतिनिधि बनाते हैं और उसको चलाने का काम सरकारी नौकरों के हाथ में होता है। उसके आफिसर्स को वाच डाग ऑफ पब्लिक इंटरैस्ट बनकर अपना काम करना पड़ता है। अगर किसी ने अपना काम ठीक से नहीं किया तो उससे पूछा जा सकता है कि उसने ऐसा क्यों किया।

[श्री गुलाम हैदर वलीमुहम्मद]

जहाँ तक रीजनल भाषाओं की उन्नति का और उनमें कारोबार करने का सम्बन्ध है उस हद तक हम भी चाहते हैं कि रीजनल लैंग्विज की तरक्की हो गुजराती, मराठी और हिन्दी की तरक्की हो। गुजरात में गुजराती भाषा और महाराष्ट्र में मराठी भाषा की तरक्की हो सकती है। इसी लिए सरकार ने गुजरात यूनिवर्सिटी और महाराष्ट्र यूनिवर्सिटी बनवाई। अब मराठवाड़ा में भी यूनिवर्सिटी बनाई जानेवाली है। और खुशी की बात है कि उसमें उर्दू और अरबी को भी जगह दी गई है।

दूसरी चीज विकेन्द्रीकरण के बारे में कही गई। उसके लिए ही डेवलपमेंट कौन्सिलें बनाई गई हैं और रीजनल कौन्सिलें हैं जिनमें वहाँ के लोकल और रीजनल सवाल हल हो सकेंगे। नागपुर के आदमियों को बम्बई तक न आना पड़ेगा और बम्बई में आकर यहाँ सचिवालय में परेशान नहीं होना होगा बल्कि वे अपने सवाल वहीं हल कर सकते हो सकेंगे। नागपुर के आदमियों को बम्बई तक न आना पड़ेगा और बम्बई में आकर यह है। यह जो डेवलपमेंट कौन्सिलें बनी हैं उनकी जो छोटी छोटी सब कमेटी बनती है उसमें विरोधी पक्ष के आदमी लिए जा सकते हैं। उनकी तरफ से जो सहकार की बात कही जाती है उसके लिए मैं कहता हूँ कि जब उनसे सहकार मांगा जाता है तब वह ठीक से नहीं मिलता है।

भाई छब्रीलदास ने कह दिया कि लोगों में उत्साह नहीं रहा। मैं कहता हूँ कि उनको ही उत्साह नहीं दिखता। लोग कितने उत्साह से काम कर रहे हैं। यह वे देख सकते हैं। लोक कम्युनिटी प्रोजेक्ट्स में काम करते हैं और बहुत से लोग जो काम हुआ है उसे देखने के लिए जाते हैं। स्कूल के बच्चे भी देखने के लिए जाते हैं कि कैसा काम हो रहा है। स्काउट बच्चे रैलियों में जाते हैं, स्कूल के मकानों को बनाने में मदद करते हैं। मैन्युअल लेबर में वह लोग मदद करते हैं, तो यह सब उत्साह नहीं तो क्या है। उत्साह तो मौजूद है लेकिन जिनके मन में निराशा भरी हुई है उनको उत्साह दिखता नहीं है। अगर वे निराशा की जिम्मेदारी काँग्रेस के दरवाजे पर रखना चाहते हैं तो वह रख सकते हैं लेकिन काँग्रेस को तो आगे बढ़ना है और उसने आगे बढ़ने का सिद्धान्त बनाया है तो वह तो आगे बढ़ेगी ही।

यहाँ पर यह भी कहा गया कि गवर्नर साहब ने फूड को इतना अधिक महत्व दिया है कि उसके लिए ५ पन्ने रखे हैं। यह इसलिए किया गया है ताकि विस्तृत तौर पर बताया दिया जाए कि इसके लिए सरकार ने क्या क्या काम किया है और क्या क्या फैसिलिटीज फूड प्रॉडक्शन के लिए मिल सकती हैं। देहातियों को मालूम होना चाहिए कि क्या क्या सहाय्यते हैं जिनका उन्होंने अबतक फायदा नहीं उठाया। एक भाई ने कहा कि फूड प्राइस स्टेबिलाइज नहीं हैं जिसे किया जाना चाहिए। स्टेट ऑफ बॉम्बे इसे नहीं कर सकती। यह एक बड़ी पॉलिसी का छोटा हिस्सा है। अगर किसान को प्राइस ज्यादा मिले तो एक बड़ा प्रश्न पैदा हो जाता है कि चीजों का भाव बढ़ जाता है और महंगाई ज्यादा होने से फिर मजदूर यूनियन्स चिल्लाने लगती हैं कि मजदूरों को पगार ज्यादा मिले या महंगाई भत्ता बढ़ाया जाए और अगर किसान को दाम कम मिले तो वह बेचारे परेशान हो जाते हैं। और किसान के परेशान होने से ऐसा मालूम होता है कि अब आसमान टूट पड़ेगा। तो एक ऐसी पोजीशन पैदा हो जाती अनाज के दामों को स्टेबिलाइज करने में कि जिसका हल करना बड़ा मुश्किल है और सिर्फ बम्बई राज्य उसे अगर करना चाहे तो नहीं कर सकती उसके लिए तो ऑल इंडिया पॉलिसी ही तय की जानी चाहिए। मैं यह कह रहा था कि ऐसा काम करना चाहिए जिससे लोकशाही को प्रोत्साहन मिले। यह समान कार्रवाई उन्होंने की है। मेरा तो ऐसा ही कहना है कि जहाँ तक हो, जो कोई भी जिस किसी पक्ष का हो उन

[श्री गुलाम हैदर वली मुहम्मद]

सब का यह फर्ज होना चाहिए कि अब आंखी कितनी भी खिलाफ आए हम सब मिलकर उसका कसकर सामना करें और ऐसा ही कार्य करें जिससे यह जो आज हमने बाईलिग्वल स्टेट बनाया है उसमें किसी भी घस्स को ऐसा न लगे कि उसपर किसी प्रकार का ना इन्साफ हो रहा है। अभी विद्वर्भ की बात ही लीजिए। उसको अठ्ठाई कोठ रुपये मिले है तो उसमें सबको खुशी होनी चाहिए क्योंकि अब कोई भी बिभाग जुदा जुदा नहीं रह गया है। विद्वर्भ भी हमारा ही एक अंग है। इस ख्याल से ही हमको सब प्रश्न की तरफ देखना चाहिए। आखिर में मैं यही कहना चाहता हूँ कि—

Honour and Shame from no condition lies,
Act well thy path and there thy duty and honour lies.

अल्ला ईश्वर सब तरे नाम और

सब लोगों को सब्बुद दे भगवान।

Shri M. V. DONDE (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the discussion on the Governor's Address is an annual feature. It is an opportunity for the public and also the representatives of the public to express their views on the different activities of Government and also to scrutinise them with a view to bringing home to Government the various deficiencies or otherwise in the discharge of their functions. Sir, this time we find that the Address has touched upon a number of questions and many of them are of a controversial nature. I will not take the time of the House by referring to the different problems, even though they are equally important. I will concentrate my attention particularly on three problems to which a reference has been made by the Governor in his speech.

First of all, I will refer to the reference made as regards education on page 16. There it has been stated—

“Government is pursuing the policy of vigorous expansion in all sectors of education.”

My contention is that Government has not been pursuing a policy of vigorous expansion. Now, what is my test? My test is the provision made in the Constitution of India. I am going to test whether the present policy of Government is vigorous or not by referring to the provisions in the Constitution of India. We have been told—and the Constitution of India is quite emphatic—that during the next 10 years from the commencement of the Constitution, there shall be free and compulsory education for all children up to the age of fourteen; that means, by 1960, in the whole country and also in our State the public did expect that there will be free and compulsory education up to the age of fourteen. Now, how far have we progressed in that respect? We have been told by Government spokesmen that, at the most, by 1960 we may be able to bring in a fairly large number of pupils to primary schools up to the age of eleven and the objective of the Constitution that free and compulsory education should be up to the age of fourteen by 1960 is postponed to the third and the fourth Five-Year Plan. My question is, is it a vigorous policy that we have been pursuing? We may not have done anything in the Five-Year Plan appreciably. In the second Five-Year Plan we are just taking steps no doubt, but I am not prepared to call that “a vigorous expansion.”

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We have also been told that the progress so far as basic schools are concerned is not satisfactory. In the matter of secondary education we find that although the principle of multi-purpose schools has been adopted, very few multi-purpose schools are started in the whole of the State. Of course, there are reasons and the main reason is lack of finance. Secondary education is almost entirely in the hands of private institutions and they are not getting sufficient aid from Government to run the multi-purpose schools. Therefore, the basic education scheme and the multi-purpose education scheme have simply remained on paper and I cannot say that there is any vigorous expansion in the matter of secondary education.

In the matter of University education, Government may say that there is progress. So far as the number of Universities that are established is concerned it may be said that that is the progress, but we have not been able to pay adequate attention even to University education, particularly with reference to the condition of teachers in the Universities. Therefore, I make a complaint that Government is not justified in saying that it has adopted a vigorous policy of expansion in all sectors of education.

Sir, it has been stated as follows at page 17 of the Governor's Address :-

"As a result of the Reorganisation of the State, the question of the integration of salaries of primary teachers in the combined areas is being actively considered on the lines recommended by the Government of India."

What does this mean? If Government is actively considering this question, how long this consideration will go on? Now, Sir, this is a critical time when a decision, one way or the other, has to be taken. We have at present different grades of salaries in different regions. Therefore, Sir, I am not prepared to say that Government has acquitted itself quite fairly in this respect.

Then, I come to the National Cadet Corps movement. This is one of the instances which shows the halting attitude of Government in the matter of education. When the step for abolishing the Junior Division of the National Cadet Corps was taken by Government, a number of educationists protested and said that it was a very fine activity and that it ought not to be discontinued. I know, for certain, that it was not discontinued on the ground of financial difficulties. There was a feeling in this House and also in the minds of individuals that it is a military organization and that they do not want to encourage any kind of military activities among our school children, because that might lead to violence. This was the point that was discussed in the press in those days and though the chance of this historic Junior Division of the National Cadet Corps being discontinued is still there, I would request Government to take it seriously and not think of discontinuing it at any further stage on any ground.

Another point that I want to touch is the problem of corruption. Sir, it has been suggested that Government has been seriously thinking of eradicating the evil of corruption. Not only Government but every citizen is thinking that it is

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absolutely necessary to have a pure and chaste administration, if at all public welfare has to be achieved. The method suggested is the formation of Departmental Committees. Sir, I have very little faith in Departmental Committees. It is stated on page 5 of the Governor's Address as follows :-

"I would, however, add that no anti-corruption measure can be quite effective without full co-operation from the public."

What is the scheme for getting co-operation from the public? What is the proposal before Government? Simply by appointing Departmental Committees it will not restore that kind of confidence which is necessary. These Departmental Committees many times do the work of white-washing what has been done. They do not necessarily give, I must say, satisfaction to the public or help in restoring the confidence which the public have lost. There is always an attempt by the Departmental Committees to white-wash the thing, because Government many times takes a stand on the false idea of prestige. Therefore, if anything is revealed or disclosed, there is an attempt to white-wash the whole thing and unless Government takes the public into full confidence, it will not be successful in stamping out corruption from the Administration. This attempt on the part of Government to eradicate the evil of corruption, I think, will be a cry in the wilderness. Sir, various suggestions have been made by various Committees. I am particularly referring to the report of the Gorwala Committee. He has suggested a number of ways in which corruption from the Administration can be removed. I do not know what weight Government is giving to the recommendations of the Gorwala Committee and what action is being taken on those recommendations.

Then, coming to prohibition. With regard to this I may say one thing, that I am not against prohibition; but prohibition has proved to be a breeding ground for corruption. You may say so or you may not say so, but that is the practical experience of every one. So, unless we throw away the false ideas about prestige and unless we are prepared to understand the things in their true perspective, corruption will continue. Let us, therefore, not be carried away by simply saying that there is a Departmental Committee and that that Departmental Committee will move in the direction of eradicating the evil of corruption from the Administration. I, therefore, suggest that, if at all Government wants the public to believe that it is serious about eradicating the evil of corruption from the Administration, it should come forward with some kind of legislation under which drastic steps should be taken even in smaller offences so that it may serve as an example to others. Let there be a legislation under which very severe penalties may be imposed on persons indulging in corruption, particularly on those who are there in the Administration of Government. It is no use having one man Committee or two men Committee and it is no use saying afterwards that all the facts have not come to light and the inquiry has been incomplete, this, that and the other. Sir, personally I think that the maximum confidence of the public will not be obtained by merely appointing Departmental Committees and by asking the public to give full co-operation to eradicate the evil of corruption. The attitude of Government from the top to bottom, from the highest officer to the lowest officer, is not

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quite clear so far as the attempt to remove this evil of corruption is concerned.

Then, Sir, I will lastly refer to a point, which, according to me, is an important one. I would refer to paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Governor's Address. I have been trying to understand why particularly this time Government wanted the Governor to say that we have got a broadbased democracy in local bodies. So far no such reference was made in the Governor's Address. Why particularly this time Government feels that it is necessary to go to the public and say "We are having democracy; we are democratizing local bodies; we are democratizing Village Panchayats"? Why particularly this year such a reference has been made? Sir, I tried my best, with all the liberal construction that I am capable of putting to understand what is the working of the mind of Government in this behalf. Not only that, but a very top priority is given to this idea, practically first. I would like to examine that position. It has been stated that steps have also been taken to democratise the institutions of local self-Government. First of all, I am not sure whether we are democratising or whether we are bureaucratising the institutions. What are we doing? I say

2-30 p.m. that we are bureaucratising; otherwise, how can we explain the appointment of the Divisional Commissioners? Have they not been vested with absolute powers to overrule the doings of some of the local bodies? My hon. Friend just now pointed out a number of such instances. We know what happened recently to a resolution of the Poona Municipal Corporation. A Municipal Corporation is practically the highest form, according to the present constitution, of local self-Government. Now, what has happened in the case of a resolution of the Poona Municipal Corporation? It passed a resolution, and Government vetoed that resolution. I want to know if the resolution is against law. If it is so, then by all means, Government, in public interest, can correct the mistake. But I just want to know whether due consideration was given to what the Corporation felt when it passed that resolution. Was any attempt made to induce the Corporation to reconsider the matter? Was any such proposal made to the Corporation? Sir, there were very serious charges against an officer, a very important officer. An inquiry was to be gone into. An attempt was made to persuade that officer to go on leave, because his presence there would not bring to light a number of things and that would mean an obstruction in the course of justice. When it was found that it would be impossible to have an impartial inquiry, the Corporation took that step. I am prepared to concede this much. Even that may be wrong. I am prepared to accept that. But I just want to know whether the Corporation was taken into confidence or not. Then I know of some such instance of another Corporation. The Commissioner of that Corporation refused to put before the Corporation the establishment schedule and the salary charges of the whole staff in the administration. The wording of the relevant provision is, "the Commissioner may.....", and therefore, he interpreted "may" to mean that he could do in the matter according to his sweet will. If we are going to treat Municipal Corporations in this manner, and if the Commissioner, who is a public servant, who is a bureaucrat as well, is allowed to overrule the doings of the Corporation, should we say that we are democratising our local bodies?

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In this connection, I may also refer to an unfortunate incident in the Bombay Municipal Corporation. I am not going into details thereof. Government can argue about it from any point of view, but I would say only this much, that as far back as the year 1924, when the late Mr. Nariman was there in the then Legislative Council, he brought forward a Bill by which he wanted that the appointment of the Municipal Commissioner should rest with the Municipal Corporation. The matter was referred to a Select Committee. In the Select Committee, a compromise was arrived at and that compromise was to the effect that Government may continue to appoint the Commissioner, but Government cannot remove him without the consent and the approval of the Corporation. Sir, I am requesting Government to refer to the proceedings of the Legislative Council of those times. It is explicitly stated there. And, that was acted upon. After that, there were two occasions when Government wanted the Corporation to give unconditional approval to the proposal. Once they gave conditional approval that after retirement or after leave period, one commissioner was allowed to be relieved. But Government said that unconditional approval could not be given to the proposal. That happened sometime ago. But I wanted to know what made Government this time entirely to ignore the Municipal Corporation. Government has been taking shelter behind the fact that somebody may have spoken on the telephone and he was informed from the other end. The Mayor cannot privately at a dinner or at a launch party speak to a Government officer and say 'Yes' to a proposal. It was absolutely necessary, for those who took shelter under that information, to verify whether the Mayor said that. They should have ascertained what the reply at the other end of the telephone was. My point is, it should not have rested merely on some oral information, but there should have been a letter or something in writing to the Corporation and the Corporation should have given an unconditional approval. If such things are allowed in the case of the Bombay Municipal Corporation, I do not know what must have been the condition of our local boards, district and borough municipalities and village panchayats. All these bodies have elected members, but if a Collector takes it into his head, he can revise or revoke the decisions of these bodies. Surely, this is not democratising. Therefore, I am prepared to substantiate my charge that attempts are being made to bureaucratisise the present local bodies. I am always very anxious to see that village panchayats function very properly and effectively, because I do consider that they form the basis of our democracy.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member has already taken more than 30 minutes.

Shri M. V. DONDE : I will try to conclude within a few minutes. Whenever you think fit, you may ask me to resume my seat.

As regards our village panchayats, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that recently a very important book has been published by the Local Self Government Institute. My hon. Friend Shri Barfiwala is not here. It is an excellent book. In the book it has been complained that the policy of Government in the case of village panchayats is not perfect. First of all, the finances at the disposal of the panchayats are very scanty. Not only that, but they have been saddled with the additional responsibility

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of looking after roads and various community schemes and all that. There is nothing wrong in it. But their financial condition has not been improved. This is the first complaint. The second complaint, and a very serious one, is that under the present Act it is quite easy to supersede and suppress village panchayats. Various cases can be quoted, and it is quite easy. A Collector or some other officer may take it into his head to say that such and such village panchayats are not doing well, or are overdoing certain things and, therefore, they should be superseded. This idea of supersession and suppression of local bodies knocks at the very root of democracy. Our village panchayats or local bodies are the third line of administration, and, therefore Government has to think twice before any drastic step is taken against them. What have we done about democracy in recent years? Very recently, so far as democracy in this State is concerned, there was the blackest chapter in the history of democracy. We know from the information given by Government that during the last year we found that as many as 93 village panchayats were superseded. Not only that but 35 municipalities were also suppressed; even the corporation were not allowed to function. Now, what is the procedure that the State Government adopted in this connection? It was quite an unusual procedure. Government came with the proposal that there shall not be elections for such and such a period, and by the force of majority in this house and in the lower House, that Bill was passed into a law. Have we ever heard in any democracy, in any country, that for a particular period there shall not be any elections? Was there a state of emergency declared here? A state of emergency can be declared, suppressing the rule of the representatives of the people by promulgating an Ordinance by the President in abnormal conditions or in the most critical times such as the country being in danger of being invaded by any foreign power. But to say that there shall not be elections for 8 months or 10 months to the Corporations, municipalities or the village panchayats merely because Government does not want them to be held is unheard of in the history of democracy of any country. That has shaken, Sir, the faith of the people in the democratic method of this Government. They feel that the ruling power may exercise its influence, use its majority and take away any right of the people. I therefore, say that the period in which these institutions were not allowed to function by law, because Government chose to do so, was the blackest chapter in the history of democracy of this State. Therefore, it is no use simply saying that serious steps are being taken to democratise the Local Self-Government units. It is rather an unfortunate thing that even our Constitution has not given that much attention to this aspect though it has accepted the principle that much attention to the growth of the local bodies should be paid. Before the Act of 1935, there were different sources of revenue that were allocated to the local bodies. So far as the States are concerned, they get some share from the centre and some are the State resources. But so far as the local bodies are concerned, they are at present kept at the mercy of the State Government. If a State is on the point of bankruptcy and wants to grab every pie of the revenue for its own use, how can the local bodies expect any financial assistance from such a State Government? Really speaking constitutional protection ought to have been to such local bodies. If that is done, then only we can

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say that, according to the Constitution, we are very serious in developing the local bodies. Now public opinion is quite express on this point that Government has not been democratising these institutions. Government has been making the people believe that the elections are left to the whim of Government. Then again, what is the use of holding such elections if the results of such elections are not to be understood? I entirely agree with my hon. Friend Shri Gulam Haidar Walimahamed that there are eyes that do not see, there are ears which refuse to hear and the brains, if at all they are there, that refuse to understand. This description applies quite appropriately to Government. Government is not prepared to understand the results of these municipal elections. I think that this is a very serious matter. It is true that this statement has come out of the mouth of the Governor. But nevertheless it is a responsible statement and it ought to have been true to facts. He has laid stress on the principles of democracy. But my friends, both inside this House and outside the House, the members of the Samiti and the Janata Parishad and myself are also asking for the reorganisation of the State only on the principle of democracy. The people should have a right to understand the activities of Government, and therefore, even in this House, whatever Government has to say, it should say it in the language of the people. That was perfectly the democratic line adopted by the Constitution and by the Indian National Congress of those days. I am not referring to the present time. Now the same principle has to be given a concrete shape and that is why we are urging that even this should be a unilingual State so that the entire administration may be carried on in the language of the people. But that is not being done. That is why I say that simply an attempt is being made by Government to make the people believe that democracy is flourishing which is not a fact. Thus the whole of the Governor's Address is something by way of giving advice to the people and making them believe that something is being done which actually is not being done. I am, therefore, thoroughly dissatisfied with the statements made in the Governor's Address.

Shri BABUBHAI M. CHINAI (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to make a few observations on the Governor's Address. Sir, the Governor in his Address has focussed the attention on the activities of the State in consonance with the programme of the Second Five-Year Plan and I would say that this State should feel very proud that the State has very earnestly implemented the programme as laid down in the Second Five-Year Plan so that the legitimate aspirations of the people can be fulfilled as per Plan. Sir, we know that, after the reorganisation of the States, the State of Bombay has come out as the largest State so far as area is concerned and it is the second largest so far as population is concerned and I am sure that, with the increase in area and the increase in population, the responsibilities which have fallen on the shoulders of the State would be fulfilled without any hesitation and without any mental reservation. Of course, there are always some people who are not prepared to see eye to eye and they shut their eyes to what this State has done for the fulfilment of the targets of the Second Five-Year Plan and for the fulfilment of the aspirations of the people of the State. But we must take into account that the people at large feel proud about these activities of Government. In this connection, there is one thing

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which we have to bear in mind and that is regarding giving help or co-operation to the Government in whatever it is doing for the betterment of the people of the State. Irrespective of what we feel about the activities of Government, whether it is going slowly or fast or is taking proper steps in the matter of decentralisation or not, it is our burden duty to give our co-operation to Government. We should take the problem as a whole and see whether the aspirations of the people as a whole are being fulfilled or not. At least I have no doubt in my mind about this question. I do feel that this Government is fulfilling the aspirations of the people. As this is a very big State, several other problems also arise, e.g. we require that our administrative machinery should be reorganised and we also want that the services of the people who have come in our State should be integrated. I am very glad that Government has taken very urgent steps to see that the problem is solved as early as possible. Sir, my hon. Friend Shri Donde talked about decentralisation and he said that the steps taken by Government have brought in bureaucracy and not democracy, that the decisions taken are against the interest of the people, that they are not taken after consulting proper authorities who are there at the head of the institutions but they are taken just to see that power is given to a civil servant. I am really sorry that my hon. Friend Shri Donde should have summarised the action of Government in the matter of decentralisation in this fashion. It has been a cry from the people from all the regions of the State that, after reorganisation, this State has become so big that it is absolutely necessary that quick decisions are taken by the State Government and implemented as early as possible, that the difficulties of the people are solved quickly, and in order to achieve all this, there should be decentralisation. It was a cry not from one region but from all the regions of the State and Government has very rightly taken such a decision. It has appointed Divisional Commissioners so that decisions may be taken after consulting the people concerned on the spot in the particular division or region and also those decisions may be implemented with the powers which have been given to these officers. It is all very well to criticise that, if a particular officer is given power, he might sit tight over it or he might give a decision according to his own whims. If you want democracy to function, if you want that there should be a quick decision, if you want decentralisation, then, I think, you will have to bear that and also bear the burden that it might entail. I personally feel that the appointment of Divisional Commissioners and decentralisation of administration are steps in the right direction and they will help in solving the day to day difficulties of the people.

It was pointed out by my hon. Friend Shri Donde that it was a glaring example of autocracy that the State Government should have passed orders and also passed a Bill in the Lower House as also in this House by which elections were not to be held for a certain number of months. My hon. Friend seems to have forgotten at the moment the past history, as to when such orders were passed and what were the circumstances under which the relevant Bill came before us. If he will refresh his memory for a while, he will have to agree that those were the days when passions were roused to a pitch, when no proper elections could have taken place because of the battles that were going on in the streets of Bombay, and that was the reason why elections were not held at that time.

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He also seems to have forgotten that, as soon as the situation returned to normalcy, when Government thought that elections could be held without any difficulty, Government did not wait any longer and the elections were held. That was the spirit in which that Bill was passed. That is the spirit in which this Government has been working, and if that is not democracy, may I know from him as to what democracy is?

Shri M. V. DONDE : It is democracy in cold storage!

Shri BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : My hon. Friend has always been thinking of cold storage. He forgets that there are freezing points also in life and he must face these things whenever they come before him. It is no use saying that democracy is in cold storage. The type of democracy which we are advocating is being advocated not only by this State but by the whole country also, whichever party may be in power. I may mention that even the foreigners who have come to this country have nothing but a word of appreciation for the way in which democracy is functioning in this country, and, therefore, I feel a little humiliated to hear that democracy in this State is in cold storage. There can be no greater falsehood than this. I would humbly request my hon. Friend to have an open mind in this matter, and even though he may be a Member of the Opposition, to realise how democracy is functioning here and in the country as such.

Coming to the problem of corruption, my hon. Friend Shri Donde said—“Well, you have got three or four officers and then Committees at regional and divisional level; there will be no end to this and corruption will not go.” My hon. Friend conveniently forgot to mention about the assurance contained in the Governor's Address as regards the appointment of an independent Anti-Corruption Bureau. If such an anti-Corruption Bureau is not going to help in putting down corruption, may I know from my hon. Friend as to what is going to help? If proper co-operation is not forthcoming from the people to put down those who are indulging in corruption, then how anybody on earth would be able to get rid of corruption?

Shri M. V. DONDE : Chagla Commission!

Shri BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : My hon. Friend Shri Donde had something in his mind when he spoke about the Chagla Commission which had absolutely no relevance so far as this Address was concerned. I did not interrupt him because this seems to be a passing phase with him every time he speaks. I was speaking about the Anti-Corruption Bureau. Now that an Anti-Corruption Bureau has been set up, I would appeal from the platform of this House to everybody here, both officers and the general public, that, for the sake of purer administration in this State, they should help Government in doing away with this evil which has been prevalent. I welcome the appointment of an independent Anti-Corruption Bureau.

Coming to the food problem, I must say that Government has taken steps to see that whatever food that is at our disposal is distributed through Fair Price Shops. We are also given to understand that family ration cards have been

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distributed. So far as I am concerned, I would like to have a clear picture of our food policy or the food position. We do not know what is the exact quantity of food that we have at our disposal. We do not know how it is going to be distributed. At present we are only told that sufficient food will be given to us and that family ration cards will be maintained. I have every faith in the machinery of Government, but if a clear picture is given to this House about the food situation, we shall be very grateful.

Then, so far as the food situation is concerned, we will have to depend more and more upon irrigation works than upon nature. As is well known, the monsoon has not been regular and helpful to us. Therefore, we must take the maximum advantage of the irrigation projects and see that water from the canals is given to the farmers in order that more food may be produced and in time to come we may be self-sufficient in food and may not have to depend on the import of foodgrains from outside this country or the other States.

I have another important point to bring before the House, and that is in connection with housing. I am glad that Government has taken up this question seriously, but somehow or other we have to solve this problem once for all. Housing is one of the necessities of the common man and it stands third in the list; the first is food, second is housing and the third is clothing. Now, out of these, so far as food is concerned, we have been trying to meet that requirement; so far as clothing is concerned, we have been able to meet that requirement, but so far as housing is concerned, I am sorry to say that that problem is still hanging fire. It is absolutely necessary that this problem is tackled in a vigorous way. I have been saying on the floor of this House that this problem should be treated as a national emergency and I repeat that the problem of housing should be treated as a national emergency. So far as the City of Bombay is concerned, it is now so thickly populated that it is very difficult for anybody to get a house nowadays. I would humbly submit in this connection that the reclamation scheme which has been hanging for a long time should be carried out without any further delay. If that scheme is carried out, we will get 13 lakhs of square yards of land, and if that land is sold, I am sure we will get nothing less than Rs. 300 per square yard which will amount to nearly Rs. 40 crores. I would say, most humbly, that after 3.00 p.m. taking into consideration the expenses to the tune of, say, about Rs. 50 per square yard, Government will not only benefit monetarily, but it will be able to house on those 13 lakhs of square yards of land nothing less than 5 lakhs of people. Therefore, my humble suggestion to Government is that, so far as the reclamation scheme for the City of Bombay is concerned, it should be given the top-most priority and it should be tackled along with the second Five Year Plan. If the said scheme is implemented, we will get about 13 lakhs of square yards of land which would save this City of Bombay which is growing as a slum area in certain parts of the City. I would, therefore, most humbly request the Hon. the Finance Minister to consider my suggestion. I know that the implementation of the scheme has its financial implications. But if the scheme is implemented, it is very likely that Government will get crores of rupees, and, at the same time, it will help to house about 5 lakhs of people in that area. Once again, I would most humbly request the

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Hon. Finance Minister to look into this problem and expedite the scheme so that some relief in the matter of housing may be given to the citizens of Bombay City.

With these observations, I highly recommend for acceptance the Motion of Thanks to the Governor which has been moved in this House.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL (Maharashtra South Local-Authorities): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to offer a few observations on His Excellency's Address which was delivered the other day. Wherever Government has done good work I will offer my praise, but wherever Government has failed to do any good work, I offer my criticism.

Sir, on the first page of the Address His Excellency the Governor has mentioned :—

"Not only has the working of our democratic Government been thereby made more broad based, but the administrative machinery is also becoming a better and more efficient instrument in the service of the people. I should like to refer briefly to the principal measures taken to achieve these ends."

Sir, about this I would like to say this: Some time back Government organised a trip of the legislators to the various parts of the State and it was my lot to go in Gujarat area. When we met the local leaders they complained that the present State of Bombay is a very big and unmanageable State and it has lost its homogenous nature. They further stated that it has become very troublesome for them. They stated that formerly they used to approach Government authorities immediately and get their grievances redressed. In the present Bombay State, they stated, it takes months together for them to come here and get their grievances redressed at the hands of Government. That shows how big and unmanageable the present State of Bombay has become and, therefore, the statement which the Governor has made in his Address is not correct.

Then, about the local bodies. There is a reference in the Address that Government is going to give grants to municipalities and District Local Boards to meet 50 per cent. of the expenditure on account of dearness allowance of their staff throughout the new State. Sir, about this I would like to say that we have got seven Cantonments in our State and the residents of the Cantonments are being taxed by the State Government in all possible ways. They pay sales-tax, urban immovable property tax, entertainment tax and also tax on electricity. But whenever the question of giving grants to Cantonment arises, we are told that Government is not in a position to sanction grants. We do not know how to solve this problem. It is the duty of Government to look after the Cantonments. I am connected with the Cantonment Board of Poona and, therefore, I am making this representation to Government to solve the problem. Whenever we make a representation we are told that we should make proper representation to the Central Government. I request Government to see that our grievances are looked into and whatever deficit in the income of the Cantonment Boards is there, it should be paid by way of grants to the Cantonments, at par with other local bodies.

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Then, on page 4 of his Address the Governor has referred to the steps taken by Government to eradicate the evil of corruption from the administration. About this remarks have been offered by hon. Members on both sides of the House. Of course, everybody would like to see that corruption is eradicated. This Government has been advertising all the time and saying that it has taken steps to stamp out corruption, but, then, here is a report of the Public Accounts Committee on the accounts for the year 1954-55, which we have discussed only about a month back. I would like to refer to page 7 of that report. It states :—

“The nature and the number of such irregularities pointed out in the Audit Report this time are practically the same as in the previous years. Irregularities such as non-observance of rules regarding recording of measurements and regarding maintenance of muster rolls and irregular payments of bills and defective maintenance of materials on site, including that of cement bags are very serious.

Sir, this shows what amount of corruption there is in the field of Government affairs.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA. We were discussing the report of 1954-55.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL. May be. The other day the Hon. Minister, at the end of the discussion on the report of the Public Accounts Committee, stated that Government has stopped increments of two officers. That is all. Crores of rupees have been mishandled by the officers of Government and we find that increments of only two officers are stopped. Beyond that Government has done nothing. If Government were to send this report to the Anti-Corruption Department, it will be found that a good number of officers would be found to be involved in this affair.

Sir, my hon. Friends Shri Donde and Shri Gaikwad and also others referred to the Poona Corporation. I would not like to repeat the observations made by those hon. Members, but I would like to read out the official resolution passed by the Poona Municipal Corporation about an inquiry into the working of the Poona Municipal Transport. What the impression of the Poona Corporation is can be gauged by reading this resolution. The resolution reads :

“The resolution passed by the Samiti Party and released to the Press here last night characterised the action of the State Government as ‘unfair and undemocratic’ aimed at ‘upholding the irresponsible functioning of higher officials and therefore deserves condemnation.’

The resolution states that the Samyukta Maharashtra Samiti, since its assumption of power in the Corporation, has been striving in various ways to reform the administration and ‘wipe out nepotism and mismanagement’ in the various departments of the Corporation.

It was with this end in view, the resolution said, that the Corporation decided to institute an inquiry into the administration of the Poona Municipal Transport. But the State Government ‘unilaterally’ declared the resolution of the Corporation illegal on the recommendation of the Municipal Commissioner without giving any opportunity to the Corporation to state its views, it was stated.”

Sir, what I would like to say is that the Corporation has done nothing illegal in passing the resolution about the inquiry into the working of the Poona Municipal Transport. When Government is out to eradicate corruption, this resolution should have been taken into consideration and some action taken on it.

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So many pages have been devoted in the Address to the problems of food and housing, and for whatever Government has done in this direction. I must shower compliments on it. I know that many irrigation schemes have been quite successfully executed by Government and they are functioning nicely. But as regards the Kakrapar scheme, I should like to repeat what I said on the floor of the House on a previous occasion. I am told that a representation has been made to the Chief Minister in the matter. The other day, when I had gone to the site of the scheme along with brother legislators, some people from the roundabout area represented to us that they were not getting water for irrigation purposes as expected. The scheme was expected to irrigate about 5,12,000 acres of land, but actually only 20,000 acres of land are getting water from the scheme. The amount recovered from this area is not enough to meet the establishment charges and other expenses incidental to the working of the scheme. Government should pay attention to this matter, and remedy it.

As regards our food problem, we must tackle it from the other end. That is taking into consideration the growth in population. I come from Poona Cantonment, an area where the population is 60,000. I find from the municipal birth registers that, on an average, the monthly births are 100 to 130, whereas the average monthly deaths are 30. Thus, there is a monthly increase of about 100 persons in the population of our area.

The CHAIRMAN : Could you not manage to see that it is the other way round ?

Shri D. B. AGARWAL : We find from the census figures that the increase in our population is at the rate of 20 per cent. after every ten years. One of the effective ways of tackling the food problem is to make the family planning scheme a success. (Interruption) It is not properly put into practice.

As regards slum clearance schemes, I agree that Government is paying attention to this problem. But their specifications are such that they are beyond the means of many a municipality. If they are suitably revised, many municipalities will be able to execute the schemes.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member has already taken his allotted time.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL : Then, Sir, a reference has been made to primary education in the Address. In this connection, I would like to bring to the notice of Government that in 1955 this House passed a resolution that compulsory primary education should be extended to cantonment areas also. But so far it has not been done.

Lastly, I would refer to the problem of eradication of untouchability. In this connection, I would like to point out that recently some Harijans got themselves converted to Buddhism. Such a conversion should not lead to deprival of the concessions that were extended to them by Government before conversion. I would urge on Government to continue to extend to them all the facilities that are given to members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

Shri P. B. PATWARI (Gujarat North—Local Authorities): Sir, I rise to support the Motion so ably moved by my hon. Friend Shri Page. As we can see, the Address is a concise picture of the past progress made by our State and it also indicates, in brief, our Government's future policy and programme. If one examines the Address from a detached view, then I think there is absolutely no reason for regret. Unfortunately, I find in every amendment the word regret. It seems to me that most of my hon. Friends who have moved the amendments have tried to see the picture from the back, and not from the front side. When a picture has to be seen, we have to see it from the front side and not from the back. I would, therefore, request my hon. Friends to analyse the Address dispassionately, and if it is done so, there would be no room for the 'regrets' in the amendments.

It will have been noticed that the Address nowhere mentions that everything in our State is all right, and that there is nothing to worry for us. Obviously that is not the burden of the song of the Address, as the Governor has very clearly pointed out that we have been struggling to achieve progress. He has also emphasised the struggle ahead of us and that we have to sincerely endeavour to our best to achieve the progress. He has indicated that Government, with the co-operation of the public, is determined to march ahead. If we take into consideration the circumstances at present prevailing in the country, our limited financial resources and comparative conditions, I am sure there is not much to regret for the hon. Members opposite.

Sir, I will just sum up the important points that have been raised in the Address. There has not been any substantial complaint against the food policy of our State. Our Government is in no way responsible for the small trouble that we have in the matter of food. I think that Bombay State has done adequate work from the point of view of production side and the distribution side. Excepting the city of Bombay, the position is quite satisfactory so far as the rest of the State is concerned. We did come across some difficulties, but I think that for that no blame can be saddled on the State Government. I think that, if the State Government would be successful in persuading the Central Government to see that the stocks of rice which are surplus in some of the other States are allowed to be brought here, then all these difficulties would vanish.

So far as the questions of housing and clothing are concerned, the hon. Member Shri Chinai has already referred to them and so I will not take the time of the House in referring to them again.

Then I come to the condition of the peasants in this State. I would like to know from the hon. Members who have criticised Government in this respect as to "what do they think of the general conditions of the peasants as a class." If we compare the condition of the peasants 20 years back or even 10 years back and their condition today, we find a definite change for the better. Most of the debts of the peasantry have been wiped off and now a visibly considerable land has come into the hands of the actual cultivators. That is a fact which nobody can challenge. It is said that the landlords are taking away some of their lands. But after all everybody is not perfectly law abiding and there are human frailties also, but if we look to the picture as a whole, we find that the land reforms

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have definitely benefited the peasants class. I think that there can be no two opinions on this point viz., the peasants have been raised financially, economically, socially and from various other points of view to a high level.

Then, I come to the general conditions of the labour class. In this connection also, if we take into consideration the comparative conditions of labour that is prevailing today elsewhere and especially the wage structure, one can say with confidence that it is higher here than in any other State. In regard to wages, dearness allowance, gratuity, housing facilities, conditions of labour, etc., I think that Bombay State has achieved very good progress. Government is also trying its level best to see that unemployment amongst labour is reduced. It has undertaken the task of running the Sholapur Mills simply for the purpose of providing employment to a large number of labourers. Is there any single instance in any part of this country where the State Government has taken in hand such a big undertaking only for the purposes of providing employment to the people? So, what I was submitting was that this Government has never lagged behind in availing of any opportunity for providing employment.

Then I come to the question of education. It is a misfortune that my hon. Friend Shri Donde has always a different type of spectacle to see when he comes before this House. If we compare the present position of primary, secondary and higher education with that prevailing some years back, do we not find that the State has made considerable progress? In fact the number of schools has gone up to a large extent. Even in the villages which are in the farthest corners of the State, where for years together people did not know as to what education was, schools are springing up in good number. We find that the number of school buildings has also gone up. Universities have also been established in various areas of the State and they are functioning quite satisfactorily. Now education is available very easily, cheaply and quickly to all those who want to take advantage of it. Of course, if one wants to find fault, he can do so everywhere and anywhere. None claims perfection. But we have to see the general picture as a whole, and if that is done, I think there is little room for lamenting.

Then, Sir, the hon. Member Shri Donde also referred to the absence of democratic principles in the matter of administration of the municipalities and local bodies and he also said that in spite of the resolutions by various municipalities against the bilingual State, Government is not respecting those decisions. But he forgets that it is not the function or business of the municipal bodies to give their verdict in the matter of States Reorganisation. If that was the principle to be adopted, then I think that Bombay State will have to be divided into numerous parts. Again, the Municipalities, also disclose different positions. Recently there was the election to the Ahmedabad District Local Board where 98 per cent. people voted for the Congress. Similarly, in the Kaira District, for the District Local Board elections 90 per cent. of the people gave a verdict in favour of the Congress. So, will my hon. Friend admit that as the Gujarati people have given a verdict in favour of the Congress or in favour of the bilingual State, therefore there should be the bilingual State! As a matter of fact, it is the function of the Parliament to decide the question of the formation of the

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State. The people have sent their representatives there and they have already taken the decision. The Parliament has not handed over this function to the municipal bodies. The functions of the municipalities are municipal i.e., providing lights, education, sanitation and health, etc. Therefore, it would not be a sound argument to say that the Municipal elections have given a verdict on the question of the reorganisation of the States, as the election is for municipal work. I think that this point needs no further comment.

Then, Sir, the hon. Member Shri Dondre referred to the question of democratisation of the municipal bodies. In this connection, I would like to point out that even though the municipal bodies are in a way autonomous bodies, still in financial matters Government has to extend its aid substantially to them. Government has also to see that its monies are not frittered away. Again, the practice of nominations is abolished. We find that Government is giving wide powers to the municipalities, village panchayats, etc., and it is also trying its level best to improve the financial position of the local bodies. Therefore, what is wrong in saying that a process of democratisation is going on for the local bodies? Merely because there is some trouble to my hon. Friend in his Corporation, one cannot say that there is bureaucratism and that democracy is not at all progressing. It would not be proper to come out with such stereotyped phrases and catch words on every occasion.

Then, Sir, my hon. Friends referred to corruption.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member may be brief.

3-30 p.m.

Shri P. B. PATWARI : I will finish my remarks, Sir, in five minutes.

So far as corruption is concerned, it is not the case of Government that there is no corruption. Corruption is a corroding evil. We see from the Governor's Address that Government is trying its level best and wants to leave no stone unturned to see that corruption is done away with and we, therefore, see that a change in the governmental measures is being adopted from time to time to gain the desired result. Now, I want to know from my hon. Friend from Saurashtra, who spoke at length about corruption and said that there has been corruption in so many cases to his knowledge, as to whether he co-operated with Government in booking the offenders in those cases! It was his function, as a public servant, to take up these cases with the Anti-Corruption Branch of Government. He is a man who knows well how to approach the authorities concerned in such matters. It is no use of his merely complaining about corruption and saying that this machinery of Government is useless. By merely stating here that corruption cases are there he is not rendering any useful service, unless he co-operates with Government and the public to fully utilise the agency which Government has created for this purpose. You may criticise only when the Department does not help you.

A reference was made by my hon. Friend from the other side about the socialistic pattern and he said that it is not being implemented by Government. As I said before, if one does not read the Address carefully or if one does not look at the picture from the front side, then only one would say that

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there is no socialistic patterns of society. We find clearly that efforts of Government are directed towards this end, as one can see from the various measures adopted by Government in the implementation of the Second Five-Year Plan. None of my hon. Friends could point out specific instances where Government has faltered or gone off the mark. Nothing of that sort has been pointed out except only vague allegations and amendments.

Lastly, Sir, I would submit that only in moments of passion or in a spell of excitement some people forget to see reason, but in normal times they realise and appreciate as to who is really working for their good and who is merely shedding crocodile tears. All these amendments of regrets are merely a show of sympathy and they are not real; I would say that they are merely crocodile tears and not real regrets.

Prof. D. S. SODHI (Nominated) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks, not in a perfunctory fashion but because I sincerely believe that this Address from the Governor represents, in a serious fashion, the efforts and the urges of a genuinely democratic Government trying to stand by and vindicate its pledges made before we became independent and also the pledges given to the voters since we became independent. Whether we take up the question of the farmer's position in the country or the worker's position in the factory or take up the case of education or the case of improvement in matters of administration and also in the field of integration which became a serious problem after the reorganisation of this State, I believe that this Government has acquitted itself fairly well, if not in achieving its goal entirely, at least in the matter of making earnest efforts that the goal may be within our reach at the earliest possible moment. One or two questions, however, need some sort of elucidation at the hands of some of us legislators and also public men, and one such elucidation is on the question of the bilingual nature of the State. I think a fairly good section of the community in this great State feels that this bilingual State, or which we might call this peculiar sort of political wedlock we have got into, has not been preceded by, what you might call, a period of courtship or a period of romance before we became baptised to this political wedlock. They feel that this is the result of an imposition or perhaps parental affection and overconcern not caring very much for the feelings of the young couple which wanted to be married. As an old man, and some of us had experience in this matter, I may be permitted to say that sometimes parental affection and imposition growing out of the concern for the young couple lead to much more blissfulness and happiness and prosperity. I personally feel that we ought to try this experiment. Democracy leaves us quite free to carry on our crusade, if necessary, or carry on with the education of the masses on the subject. I give all honesty and integrity to the points of view of those who may differ from our point of view but I believe that Bombay is too great and too gifted a State as not to be able to try this experiment. I hope this House will agree with me that there are two States in which this experiment is being tried in a serious fashion—one is this great Bombay State and the other is the State of my birth,—I hope you all know that Bombay is the State of my adoption—the Punjab. I feel that the people in Bombay have not quite forgotten that Bombay has been

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a leader in the country in many fields of life. I am talking of old history. In the field of politics and statesmanship, in the field of commerce and industry and in the field of education it has been very much a pioneer and it is perhaps very natural that this great experiment of bilingualism should be tried here in this State. I do not think it is altogether a new sort of experiment. We have been living very happily and comfortably, and, I think, very harmoniously indeed. Sometimes certain waves of thought came into our mind and we felt pulsated. I have never been able to understand, intelligent as we are, how we have begun to feel that certain sections of the people cannot live with the other sections of the people. I have never been able to understand the nature of the difficulty which has led the leaders of one section to believe that somehow or the other certain sections of the people cannot live together. I can understand certain difficulties that a section of a community may be labouring under. I can understand the resentment of a section against the overdoings of another. For example, some hon. Members made a reference to the students in a particular territory in the Mysore State, namely, Belgaum, not having been given the facilities to appear for the examination held by S. S. C. Board in Bombay, or at least not in time, and feeling that those people speaking a particular language who have been shored on to the Mysore State should be brought back to this State. I can understand that a certain amount of negligence, dullness, lack of initiative and apathy may not persuade democratic bodies to move a little more expeditiously about certain matters. But I am not able to accept the thesis that because a certain section of the people has been tacked on to another State, their position has become absolutely deplorable. We have got to trust other people, neighbours, and associates. If we were to accept the kind of argument that has been advanced here sometime back in defence of getting more and more people of a particular group or a locality or a linguistic association on one side or the other, then I think we sometimes forget that there are people belonging to minorities, small groups of people scattered all over the State and in different States who have to live at the mercy of the other people not speaking their language and sometimes not sharing their faith. If they were to press that argument, then the faith of many people in the honesty and integrity of Government and also their faith in democracy is likely to be undermined. I would, therefore, request hon. Members, and particularly the distinguished people on the Opposition side, to allow this experiment, to allow this thing to work in an atmosphere of goodwill and understanding and not under a feeling of suspicion and doubt—we have had too much of it already and we have suffered a great deal because of it. I would, therefore, suggest with all the earnestness at my disposal that this is a thing worthwhile endeavouring for.

The second point that I want to speak on is the peculiar conception entertained by some hon. Members of what is known as democracy. Practically every politician or statesman in our country swears by it and I think we have made considerable advance since our independence towards this question of democracy. Literally millions of people have been given the right of vote without any discrimination as to caste, creed and social status. They have been given the opportunity to rise to the highest positions in the country. They are sharing in the work of administration. Young men have been allowed to

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hold certain positions which were absolutely not within their reach before Independence. Even then it is said that democracy is not really being pursued sincerely or genuinely in this State. I am afraid some of the most eminent people on the Opposition side forget that, in order to have democracy and in order to encourage the march of democracy, it is very incumbent upon us to see that democracy does not fail. That is the challenge before the Indians at this time, according to me. The question is not that we are not democratic. We have got a large number of testimonials given to us by foreigners and we are sufficiently enlightened and intelligent enough to see that we are genuine and sincere about our democratic form of Government both at the Centre and in the States and also in smaller regions. But what is much more important is that this infant democracy that we have taken over should not die a premature death at the hands of those who may be paying lip sympathy to democracy but may, in fact, be ignorant of its real content, because democracy has its own restraints to observe. It is not desirable that there should be no restraints. To illustrate my point, I may mention that certain rights and certain powers are given to certain officials of the municipalities in certain regions. That is not indicative of the fact that Government wants to withdraw by one hand what it gave by another hand. That is not so. You cannot blow hot and cold at the same time. No Government can function like that. If certain rights and powers are given to certain officials, they are given with a view that, in case of need or emergency, democracy may not fall, may not collapse. We have had instances of many democratic institutions, such as, municipalities here and there, trying to abuse their powers, sometimes negligently and sometimes carelessly, and giving rise to problems which were rather difficult to handle later on. Therefore, it is necessary that democracy in the earlier stages must be brought up and helped. We are not for the moment talking to foreigners. We are trying to recognize difficulties in working out certain institutions democratically. Some of the hon. Members of the House must be well aware that, about 12 years ago, the British people were trying to make out a case that we are not fit to run the democratic institutions. Most of those people have changed their opinion during the last 10 years. We are now one of the greatest democracies in the Asiatic countries, not merely a workable democracy but one working quite successfully. This Government and also the Government at the Centre have accepted the democratic institutions, and since we are trying to work these democratic institutions, we should see that they function normally and successfully and that certain restraints at certain stages should be provided for, so that the world may not laugh at us and say that we have not made a good job of democracy.

Then, Sir, I come to corruption. We have had a good deal said about it both here and outside—in the trains, in buses, etc. We hear people saying that this Minister or that Secretary of Government doing this, that or the other. It is unfortunate that such loose talk should be there. It is not that we are an extraordinarily honest people. We have our limitations and weaknesses. Even so, I think there is a great deal of urge on the part of this administration as also in the Centre to remove these evils from our public life. We have, for example, a very recent example of a Minister at the Centre, who has to resign not because he was guilty of any corruption but merely because of

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a suspicion that he connived at some deal in the share market and a Minister, or any public servant for that matter, like Caesar's wife, must be above suspicion. That is the most recent indication of our desire to live in a democratic way and to lead a parliamentary way of life. Now corruption is related to what is called character. It is not a question of making a law for or against corruption. We were under slavery for 150 years and we developed some habits and approaches to life and resorted to some methods or techniques to get things done quickly. Some of these questionable things have crept into our character. It is the business of Government to remove them. Therefore, the question of corruption must be looked at, and judged, from the point of view of the effort that is being made to remove it. Nobody claims that we have become perfect and that we are absolutely free from all possible taints. That is not the claim. The only point to be noted is that at every stage, whether at the municipal stage or at the State level or at the Central level, our public men are genuinely serious that this ailment associated with our public life should be cured. It is, as I said, due to a number of reasons, and Government is earnest, sincere and solicitous that public co-operation should be available to it for the purpose of eliminating this evil. As we know, corruption is a thing which works with the co-operation of the corruptor and the corrupted. There is the temptation to resort to corruption to get certain things, and it requires a great deal of moral courage to resist the temptation. Therefore, the public is more under obligation to see that there are no efforts to corrupt others. They must co-operate with Government to remove this evil. That something is being done to remove the evil is an indication of the earnestness of Government to eradicate the evil. Its success will finally depend upon the degree of co-operation that the public extends to Government.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member's allotted time is nearly over.

Prof. D. S. SODHI: Another point to which I would like to refer in brief is about the need to educate our people to utilise to the full the irrigational facilities in our State. I understand that Government has been trying to educate and persuade people in the countryside to make all possible use of the irrigational facilities available, but still I feel that a certain section of the people is not doing it. They require some education and a little persuasion. I would, therefore, like to draw the attention of Government to this point, namely, whether for the purpose of such education and persuasion, the student community cannot be made use of during the summer vacation, etc. They can also spread the message of Government, particularly regarding the Five-Year Plans, etc. I have made this submission because there are a large number of people who would like to do something along the lines I have indicated just now. Possibly they only require some urge and initiative. The talent is there. If some sort of machinery is found out to use this talent, it would be all to the good. I remember that one hon. Member made a reference to the Japanese method of paddy cultivation and he seemed to suggest that the word 'Japanese' repelled our country folk. We are concerned with the method of cultivation, and not the country where it is used. The point is whether the method is really good or bad. We are not concerned with the

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place or the country where the method originated. For the success of democracy for the success of our Five Year Plans, co-operation of the public is essential. If the necessary co-operation and confidence of the public is there, then whatever lacunae, weaknesses or shortcomings are there would be overcome.

Thank you, Sir. I have done.

Dr. D. D. KARVE (Maharashtra-Graduates): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to speak on a couple of points only. In the first instance, I wish to present some aspects of the argument which we have just now heard in support of the bilingual State. It is said that this is not the forum where we should discuss the matter of the bilingual State, that the Parliament has taken a decision in that respect and that we should obey it. But when it is the Parliament which has taken the decision of forming this State as a bilingual State, is this Government seriously administering it as a bilingual State and are we getting all the advantages which the subjects of a unilingual State get? If Government were really very serious about it, then it should administer this State, really speaking, as a bilingual State i.e. the administration of the Marathi speaking part of the State should be carried on in Marathi and that of the Gujarati speaking area should be carried on in Gujarati and at the Secretariat or the Ministerial level both the languages should be used. We want that the administration of the district offices should be carried on in regional languages. Just because we have two languages in the State, are we to forego all the advantages which people in a unilingual State would get? I, therefore, submit that serious efforts should be made by Government to administer the State as a bilingual State—a State with two languages—and both the languages should be respected and the subjects should get the full advantage which they would have got in a unilingual State. But what do we find here? For the first time in my life, I came to this Hon. House only three days back and I did not come across even a single signboard either in Marathi or in Gujarati. We are working here at the State level. I know that there are some signboards in English and in Hindi. But I urge that they should also be in Marathi and Gujarati. Just as we get all the papers in our regional languages, similarly all the administration should be carried on in these two languages. If that is done, then some of the annoyance or the vexatious feelings which we entertain would be avoided.

Coming to the question of corruption, I do not think that Government have gone to the length of even minimising corruption. I think that we would not be able to solve this question merely by appointing anti-corruption squads and special sections. Sir, corruption is of two kinds and I make a distinction between them. There may be a person who wants to get some special advantage, not allowed to him in the normal working of the rules and procedure and then he resorts to corruption. That is one kind of corruption. But inefficiency of Government leading to delay in administration may cause harassment to certain persons, and in order to avoid that harassment they resort to corruption. This is the other kind of corruption and I think that it can be easily avoided by stepping up the efficiency of administration.

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I think that this second type of bribery which is given for getting things done quickly should be eliminated as early as possible. In the normal course every case should be disposed of as quickly as possible. I do not think that the creation of the Anti-Corruption Bureau would help us much in this connection. Instead of that we should try to find out as to why there is delay in such matters. We should see as to why a decision is not taken at the proper stage and take severe action against those who are responsible for the delay. We should take severe action against those who keep files on their tables and do not move them until some other lubricant is there. If this is done, it will eliminate corruption to a large extent. Sometimes certain proposals are put up for the consideration of Government but Government takes an abnormally long time to take a decision. The reply, which should normally be expected within a few days, actually takes a number of days. I think that such types of delays which also lead to corruption can be easily avoided. In the Governor's Address there are some statements about the increase in efficiency, but the experience of the man in the street and that of the people who have to deal with Government Departments is that efficiency has not gone up, but, on the contrary, it has definitely gone down. If the average time taken by Government to send a reply is taken, I am afraid that it will show a sorry state of affairs. I have had several occasions to deal with a number of Government Departments, and it is my personal experience that they take an inordinately long time to reply even to an ordinary letter.

Then, Sir, there is some promise about delegation of powers and decentralisation. I wonder whether there would at all be this promised delegation of powers. If there is a delegation of powers, well and good; but generally power is not easily given up. My experience is that, if I go to the Head of the Department and place a certain matter before him, generally he says that the matter would be referred to Government. I only hope that this promised delegation of powers actually takes place.

Then I come to education with which I am more intimately connected. In this connection, His Excellency the Governor has stated as follows:

"The educational programme in this State has always kept the development of primary education in the forefront."

I appreciate the work done in this field. But from primary education we go to secondary education and from secondary education we go to higher education. So, along with the increase in expenditure on primary education, there should be adequate and proportionate increase in the expenditure on secondary and higher education also. But that has not been done and that is why the standard at the secondary and the university level has gone down. Most of the secondary schools and colleges are in the hands of private institutions, and in the absence of adequate financial help, their standard is continuously going down. There is the continued increase on of the pupils leaving primary schools and without a proportionate expansion in expenditure on secondary and higher education, things will be topsyturvy.

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Then, Sir, I wish to refer to one more subject, and that is housing. In the Governor's Address it has been mentioned that a number of new tenements are being built, and in the same Address there is also a mention that a large number of new industries are being sanctioned by the Government of India. I would like to know whether the State Government has put the point of view before the Central Government or not that these industries must be properly dispersed. They must not be allowed to be established in or near large cities. We would not be able to solve the housing problem merely by increasing the number of tenements in the large cities, if again from the other side new industries are going to be established there. The proper dispersal of these industries ought to be insisted upon. Then only the housing problem can be properly tackled. In the big cities there are already some slum areas. We are not going to solve the problem merely by the construction of 10,000 or 12,000 houses in these bigger cities.

Just now an hon. Member suggested that an additional population of 10,00,000 could be housed in tenements built on the land re-claimed from the sea in Bombay City. I think Sir, it is wrong to plan for a further increase in the size of large cities.

These were the points that I wished to draw the attention of the House to and I hope that Government will give serious thought to the solution of these problems.

डॉ. बी. सी. लासू (नाॅमिनेटॅड) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, नामदार राज्यपालांनीं जें भाषण केलें आहे त्यावर माझे विचार मांडण्यासाठीं मी उभा आहे. नामदार राज्यपालांचें भाषण, त्याबद्दल त्यांचे आभार मानणारा ठराव आणि त्यावर अनेक सन्माननीय सभासदांनी दिलेल्या उपसूचना काळजीपूर्वक वाचल्यानंतर मी ह्या निष्कर्षाला आलों कीं, ह्या ठरावावर ज्या अनेक उपसूचना आलेल्या आहेत त्या देण्याची तितकीशी आवश्यकता नव्हती. आपण ह्या सर्व उपसूचनांकडे पाहिलें तर असें दिसून येतें कीं, एका उपसूचनेंत धान्याच्या किमती वाढल्या आहेत त्या कमी करण्याची व्यवस्था केली पाहिजे असें म्हटलें आहे, तर दुसऱ्या उपसूचनेंत मुकादमाचें पगार वाढविले नाहीत अशी तक्रार केली आहे, तर तिसऱ्या उपसूचनेंत अवेळीं पाऊस पडल्यामुळे पिकें आलीं नाहीत म्हणून शेतकऱ्यांच्या मालाचें भाव वाढऊन दिले पाहिजेत असें म्हटलें आहे. त्याचप्रमाणें धान्याचे एकंदर भाव वाढऊन दिले पाहिजेत असेंहि एका उपसूचनेंत म्हटलें आहे. अशा रीतीनें अशा कित्येक उपसूचना आहेत कीं, ज्या एकमेकींना मारक आहेत. अशा रीतीनें बारीकसारीक विषयावर ज्या उपसूचना दिलेल्या आहेत त्या सर्वांचा विचार केला आणि आपल्या ह्या राज्याचें क्षेत्र आणि लोकसंख्या त्याचप्रमाणें सरकारचें एकंदर बजेट यांचा विचार केला तर नामदार राज्यापालांच्या भाषणांत म्हटल्याप्रमाणें पुढच्या वर्षांत ह्या सरकारचें ज्या ज्या गोष्टी करण्याचें योजले आहे व हें राज्य जास्तीत जास्त कल्याणकारी बनविण्यासाठीं जें कांहीं करतां येणें शक्य असेल तें करण्याचें ठरविलें आहे तें जास्तीत जास्त आहे असेंच कोणीहि निःपक्षपाती बुद्धीनें ह्या भाषणाकडे पाहिल त्याला कबूल करावें लागेल असें मला वाटतें. ह्या सरकारच्या जागीं दुसरें कोणतेंहि सरकार असतें तरी त्याला ह्यापेक्षां कांहीं जास्त करतां येणें शक्य झालें नसतें. ह्या दृष्टीनें पाहतां नामदार राज्यपालांनीं सरकारच्या पुढच्या वर्षाच्या एकंदर कार्यक्रमाची कल्पना 'देणारें भाषण केल्याबद्दल त्यांना धन्यवाद द्यावेत असें मला वाटतें आणि निःपक्षपाती बुद्धीनें आणि खोलवर विचार करणाऱ्या कोणालाहि असेंच वाटेल अशी मला खात्री आहे.

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लोकशाहीने लोण आपल्याला खेड्यापाड्यापर्यंत नेऊन पोहोचवावयाचें आहे. ह्या दृष्टीने प्रत्येक खेड्यामध्ये ग्रामपंचायती स्थापन झाल्या पाहिजेत व त्यांना जास्तीत जास्त अधिकार दिले पाहिजेत हें तत्त्व मान्य करून त्याप्रमाणें कार्यक्रम हातीं घेण्यांत येईल ही गोष्ट पहिल्या प्रयत्नच नामदार राज्यपालांनी जाहीर केली आहे. त्यानंतर ह्या राज्याचा विस्तार फार मोठा असल्यामुळे राज्यकारभारामध्ये विकेंद्रीकरण आणल्याशिवाय पुष्कळशा गोष्टी होणें अशक्य आहे ही गोष्ट लक्षांत घेऊन राज्यकारभारांत जास्तीत जास्त विकेंद्रीकरण करण्याची आणि खालच्या अधिकाऱ्यांना अधिक अधिकार देण्याचीहि योजना ह्या भाषणा-
मध्ये आहे.

आपल्या राज्यामध्ये लांचलुचपत फार बोकाळली आहे असें पुष्कळ लोक म्हणतात. ही लांचलुचपत शक्य तितक्या लोकर नाहीशी केली पाहिजे, हें सर्वांना कबूल आहे. सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. कर्वे यांनी लांचलुचपतीचे दोन प्रकार सांगितले. सरकारच्या निरनिराळ्या खात्यांत काहीं कामांना जास्त वेळ लागतो व दिरंगाई केली जाते हाहि लांचलुचपतीचाच एक प्रकार आहे असें ते म्हणाले. हा जो प्रकार आहे तो कामाचा ताबडतोब उरक पाडून नष्ट होण्यासारखा आहे. पण लांचलुचपतीचा दुसरा जो भाग आहे तो नष्ट करण्याला नामदार राज्यपालांनी आपल्या भाषणांत जो उपाय सुचविला आहे त्याखेरीज अन्य उपाय करणें शक्य नाही. स्वतंत्र अँटी करप्शन ब्यूरो काढून पोलीस खात्यापासून अगदी वेगळी आणि स्वतंत्र अशी व्यवस्था सुचविण्यांत आली आहे त्यामुळें लांचलुचपतीच्या प्रकारांना पुष्कळ अंशी आळा घालतां येईल असें मला वाटतें.

ह्या शिवाय आणखी कित्येक गोष्टींचा उल्लेख ह्या भाषणांत करण्यांत आलेला आहे. आपल्या राज्यांत नेहमीं अन्नधान्याचा तुटवडा पडतो तो भरून काढण्यासाठीं अन्नधान्याचें उत्पादन वाढविलें पाहिजे याबद्दल कोणाचेंच दुमत नाही. त्यासाठीं पाटबंधाऱ्यांच्या पुष्कळ योजना आंखून पाण्याची व्यवस्था केल्याशिवाय अन्नधान्याचें उत्पादन वाढणार नाही. मोठ्या बंधाऱ्यांची व लहान लहान पाण्याच्या योजना करण्याचें सरकारनें योजलें आहे आणि त्यासाठीं भायनर इरिगेशन ह्या सदराखाली ५,५०० नवीन विहिरी खोदून एक लक्षांच्यावर एकर जमिनीला पाणी पुरविण्याची व्यवस्था करण्याचें सरकारनें ठरविलें आहे. ह्याशिवाय दुधाची व्यवस्था करण्यासाठीं रीजनल ऑफिसर्स नेमून सर्वत्र जास्त दूध पुरविण्याचा सरकारचा विचार आहे.

त्यानंतर आपल्या राज्यांत जी खनिजसंपत्ति उपलब्ध होण्यासारखी आहे तिचा जास्तीत जास्त उपयोग करून घेण्यासाठी डायरेक्टोरेट ऑफ मार्यानिंग हे स्वतंत्र खाते स्थापन करण्याचा सरकारने ठरविले आहे. ह्या सर्व गोष्टी पाहिल्या तर दुसरी पंचवार्षिक योजना यशस्वी करण्यासाठी आणि एकंदरीत ह्या राज्यांत सुख आणि समाधान निर्माण करण्यासाठी आपल्या तिजोरीकडे पाहून जेवढे कांहीं करता येण्यासारखे आहे तेवढे करण्याचे सरकारने योजिलेले आहे, असे मला वाटते. तेव्हा ह्या ज्या अनेक उपसूचना मांडण्यांत आल्या आहेत त्या विषये विचार न करता आणि आपल्या सरकारची आणि एकंदर राज्यातील परिस्थितीचा विचार न करता कशा मांडण्यांत आल्या आहेत हे दाखविण्यासाठीच मी हे सांगितले. अशा रीतीने प्रत्येक उपसूचना घेऊन तिचे विश्लेषण करता येईल. पण तसे केल्याचे सभागृहाचा विनाकारण वेळ जाईल, म्हणून मी एकाच महत्वाच्या विषयाबाबत बोलणार आहे.

माझे सन्माननीय मित्र डॉ. साठे यांनी मेडिकल कॉलेजमध्ये प्रवेश मिळवणाऱ्या बाबतीत अपुरी व्यवस्था आहे ह्या गोष्टीचा नामदार राज्यपालांच्या भाषणांत उल्लेख करण्यांत आलेला नाही म्हणून उपयुक्तता दिलेली आहे. ह्या प्रश्नाचा आपण यांतपणे विचार करू लागलों तर वस्तुस्थिती समजून येईल. संबंध हिंदुस्थानांत एकंदर ४२ मेडिकल कॉलेजेस आहेत, आणि सर्व मेडिकल कॉलेजमध्ये एकूण ३,५०० विद्यार्थ्यांना प्रवेश मिळतो.

[डॉ. बी. सी. लागू]

(डा. बा. सा. लागू)

ह्या देशामध्ये सवाीत मोठे राज्य जे यू. पी. तेथे ३ मेडिकल कॉलेजेस आहेत तर मुंबई राज्यामध्ये ९ कॉलेजेस आहेत. तेव्हा याच्यापेक्षा जास्त जेंडमिशनची काय सोय करावयाची हे मला समजत नाही. याशिवाय, गेल्या वर्षी औरंगाबादला एक मेडिकल कॉलेज काढण्याचे सरकारने ठरविले आणि त्यावर कोट्यावधि रुपये खर्च करण्याचेहि ठरविले आहे. विद्यार्थ्यांच्या दृष्टीने पाहिले तर मुंबई राज्यातील ९ कॉलेजेसमध्ये एकंदर हिंदुस्थानातील ३,५०० विद्यार्थ्यांपैकी ७६० विद्यार्थ्यांना प्रवेश मिळतो, म्हणजे एक पंचमांश-पेक्षा जास्त इतकी मेडिकल कॉलेजेस मुंबई राज्यात आहेत, व त्याच प्रमाणात विद्यार्थ्यांना ह्या कॉलेजांत प्रवेश मिळत असतो. ह्याला इनजेंडिव्हेंट म्हणावयाचे असेल तर मला कांही म्हणावयाचे नाही. मेडिकल कॉलेजेसच्या बाबतीत इतर राज्यांत अशी परिस्थिति आहे की, यू. पी. मध्ये ३, बंगाल व आंध्रमध्ये ४ इतकीच कॉलेजेस आहेत, याच्यापेक्षा जास्त नाहीत. या दृष्टीने मुंबई राज्याला मोठे स्थान आहे असेच म्हणावे लागेल. मीहि याच मताचा आहे की, मेडिकल कॉलेजेसमध्ये जितक्या जास्त विद्यार्थ्यांना प्रवेश मिळेल त्याच मताचा पाहिजे, पण ही गोष्ट आजच्या परिस्थितीत कशी होणार? सध्या तितका मिळाला पाहिजे, पण ही गोष्ट आजच्या परिस्थितीत कशी होणार? सध्या ज्या ठिकाणी मेडिकल कॉलेजेस आहेत त्याखेरीज सोलापूर, मिरज, सुरत अशा अनेक ठिकाणी कॉलेजेस निर्माण शक्य आहे, पण सध्याच्या परिस्थितीत सरकारला ती काढणे शक्य नाही. खासगी प्रयत्नांनी जर कोणाला काढावयाची असतील तर त्यांनी तसा प्रयत्न करावा. लोकांनी जर असा प्रयत्न केला तर सरकार इतर कॉलेजेसप्रमाणे ह्या कॉलेजेस-नाहि जरूर ती मदत करण्यास पुढे येईल, पण याचा सगळा भार सरकारवर टाकणे योग्य होणार नाही. मुंबई राज्याने ह्या बाबतीत पुरेसे काम केलेले आहे. इतर राज्यांशी तुलना करून पाहिली तर त्यांच्यापेक्षा तिप्पट काम ह्या राज्याने केलेले आहे हे मी वर दाखविलेल्या आंकड्यावरून दिशून येते. तेव्हा उपसूचना देण्यापूर्वी सन्माननीय सभासदांनी शक्याशक्यतेचा विचार केला असता, आतापर्यंत किती काम झालेले आहे आणि जास्त किती होण्याची शक्यता आहे याचा विचार केला असता, तर माझ्या समजूती-प्रमाणे ह्या ३८ उपसूचनांपैकी एकहि उपसूचना देण्याची जरूरी भासली नसती.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, आतां वेळ झालेला आहे तेव्हां इतर बाबतींत न बोलतां नामदार राज्यपालांनीं जे भाषण केलें त्याबद्दल त्यांचे पुन्हां एकदां आभार मानून आणि हा जो ठराव सभागृहापुढें मांडण्यांत आला आहे त्याला पाठिंबा देऊन मी रजा घेतां.

श्री. एच. बी. भिडे (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंब्लीने निवडलेले) : माननीय सभापति, माननीय राज्यपालांच्या भाषणासंबंधी जो ठराव सभागृहापुढे आलेला आहे त्याला विरोध करण्यासाठी मी उभा आहे. ह्या भाषणामध्ये अनेक गोष्टींचा उल्लेख करण्यात आलेला नाही. आज ह्या राज्यामध्ये जे चाललेले आहे व त्यासंबंधाने सरकारने जे काही करावयाचे ठरविलेले आहे त्याचा उल्लेख ह्या भाषणात यावयास पाहिजे होता.

हैं भाषण काळजीपूर्वक वाचल्यानंतर त्यांत पोलीस खात्याचा कोठूच उल्लेख आलेला नाही, हैं पाहून मला आश्चर्य वाटलें. वास्तविक पोलीस खातें हें मुख्य मंत्र्यांच्या हाताखालीं असलें खारें आहे आणि त्या खात्याचा उल्लेख येथें केलेला नाही म्हणजे मुख्य मंत्र्यांचा उल्लेख नाही असें म्हणण्यासारखें आहे. मुंबई राज्यांत पोलीस खातें मोठें आहे आणि गुन्हेगारीचे प्रमाण वाढत आहे, तेव्हां गुन्ह्यांच्या आंकड्यासंबंधी नामदार गव्हर्नर साहेबांच्या भाषणांत काहीं तरी खुलासा करणे आवश्यक होते. अनेक ठिकाणीं बडगाऱ्यां गुन्ह्यांची सरासरी पाहिली तर कित्येक जिल्ह्यामध्ये लांचलुपचत, दारबडे, मारामान्या इतकेच नव्हे तर खुनांचे प्रमाण वाढत आहे असें दिसून येते. सरासरीनें पाहिलें वर इतकेच नव्हे तर खुनांचे प्रमाण वाढत आहे असें दिसून येते. सरासरीनें पाहिलें वर इतकेच नव्हे तर खुनांचे प्रमाण वाढत आहे असें दिसून येते. सरासरीनें पाहिलें वर इतकेच नव्हे तर खुनांचे प्रमाण वाढत आहे असें दिसून येते. सरासरीनें पाहिलें वर इतकेच नव्हे तर खुनांचे प्रमाण वाढत आहे असें दिसून येते.

[श्री. एच. बी. भिडे]

ह्या गुन्ह्यांच्या बाबतीत दुसरी एक गोष्ट अशी दिसून येते की, या राज्यामध्ये जे निरनिराळे गुन्हे घडले आहेत त्यातील निम्म्यांहून जास्त गुन्हे दारूच्या बाबतीत घडलेले आहेत. सरकारने दारूबंदी करावी ही गोष्ट इष्ट आहे, परंतु सर्वसाधारण समाजाचा, दुर्दैवाने ह्या गोष्टीला असावा तसा पाठिंबा नाही, असा अर्थ ह्या गुन्ह्यांच्या प्रमाणावरून होतो. आपण मुंबईच्या उपनगरांतून मुंबईस येऊ लागलो म्हणजे आपल्याला असे दिसून येते की, माहिमच्या जवळ रस्त्यावर, डब्यांचे कोंडाळे करून येणारी प्रत्येक मोटार पोलिसांकडून तपासली जाते. पाह्यावर असलेल्या पोलिसाला मोटारीमध्ये काय दिसते हे कळत नाही. त्याच्या जवळ दारू शोधण्याचे काही यंत्र असते की काय हे माहीत नाही पण प्रत्येक मोटार त्या ठिकाणी अडवली जाते व पोलीस मोटारीमध्ये डोकाऊन पाहतात व तिला जाण्यास परवानगी देतो. तेव्हा माहिमच्या पलीकडे दारूबंदी नाही आणि अलीकडे आहे काय, असा संशय निर्माण होतो. एका ठिकाणी पोलीस ठेऊन दारूबंदी यशस्वी होईल हे म्हणजे बरोबर नाही. खेड्यापाड्यांत तर या बाबतीत अगदी वेगळा अनुभव येतो. तेथे पूर्वी पुरुष मंडळी दारू पीत होती पण आता स्त्रिया व मुले देखील दारू पितात असे दृश्य दिसते आणि पोलिसांचे या गोष्टीकडे असावे तितके लक्ष नसते. या बाबतीत या भाषणात काहीही उल्लेख नाही असे मला सुचवावयाचे आहे.

दुसरी गोष्ट अशी की, सुशिक्षित लोकांमध्ये जी बेकारी आहे तिचा विशेषत्वाने या भाषणात उल्लेख करावयास पाहिजे होता पण तो केलेला दिसत नाही. आज एकाद्या ठिकाणी ५ जागा भरावयाच्या असल्या तर त्यासाठी ५ हजार अर्ज येतात असा सर्वसाधारण अनुभव आहे. यावरून सुशिक्षित लोकांत किती प्रमाणात बेकारी आहे याचे दिग्दर्शन होतं. सुशिक्षित लोकांची बेकारी हटविण्याकडे सरकारचे लक्ष नाही हा ह्या भाषणात उणीव असलेला भाग आहे असे मला सुचवावयाचे आहे.

आपल्या येथे जे द्विभाषिक राज्य आहे त्याचे कौतुक सरकारी बाजूचे लोक करतात आणि हे द्विभाषिक लोकर नाहीसे झाले पाहिजे असे विरोधी बाजूचे लोक म्हणतात. सरकार लोकशाहीचा संकेत पाळणार आहे तेव्हा एक गोष्ट मला सन्माननीय सभागृहाच्या निदर्शनास आणावयाची आहे. मध्याशी एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी सांगितले की, गुजरातमध्ये लोकल बोर्डाच्या निवडणुकीमध्ये काँग्रेसचा सेंट पसेंट विजय झाला आहे पण त्याच बरोबर महाराष्ट्रांत सेंट पसेंट पराजय झाला ही गोष्ट लक्षांत घेण्यासारखी आहे. महाराष्ट्रातील सर्वसाधारण जनतेचा विचार केला तर महाराष्ट्रातील जनता महान द्विभाषिकाला अनुकूल नाही असे दिसून येईल.

डॉ. जीवराज एन्. मेहता : विदर्भ महाराष्ट्रांत नाही काय ?

श्री. एच. बी. भिडे : विदर्भ आणि महाराष्ट्र असा भेद आम्ही करीत नाही पण तुम्ही सोयीसाठी तो करता. वऱ्हाड मधील निवडणुकीत लोकांनी द्विभाषिकावरील अविश्वास व्यक्त केला आहे. तसेच जालनामध्ये जी नुकतीच निवडणूक झाली ती सरकारने लक्षांत घ्यावी आणि यावरून वारं कोणत्या दिशेने वाहात आहेत याचा विचार करावा. मला सरकारला जे सांगावयाचे आहे ते निवडणुकीच्या दृष्टीने सांगावयाचे नाही तर ते या दृष्टीने सांगावयाचे आहे की, मध्याशी एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी म्हटल्याप्रमाणे आम्ही दोघे सदृच्छने एके ठिकाणी राहाणारे लोक आहोत, पण सरकार जर हे द्विभाषिक ठेवा-
वयाचा प्रयत्न करील तर आमच्यामध्ये विनाकारण विटुष्ट येईल. महा-
राष्ट्रामध्ये पूर्वीपासून गुजराती आणि मराठी लोक सख्या भावाप्रमाणे राहात आहेत तेव्हा त्याचा विचार करून एक भाषिक राज्य करावे अशी लोकांची मागणी आहे. या बाबतीत असे सांगण्यात येईल की, लोकसभेने केलेला हा कायदा आहे व तो

[श्री. एच. बी. भिडे]

आपण पाळला पाहिजे. घटनेतील कलम पार्लमेंट दोन दिवसांत बदलू शकते, मग हा कायदा बदलण्यास काय हरकत आहे ? पार्लमेंटने केलेल्या गोष्टी यावरचंद्र दिवाकरो तशाच राहाव्यात असे म्हणजे बरोबर होणार नाही. पार्लमेंटने केलेली एकादी गोष्ट बरोबर नसेल आणि ती चुकीची ठरली असेल तर ती बदलण्याचा अधिकार पार्लमेंटला आहे. तेव्हा महाद्विभाषिक नको असे जे लोकांचे म्हणणे आहे याची नोंद राज्यपालांनी घ्यावयास पाहिजे होती पण त्यांनी ती घेतलेली नाही. ह्या भाषणामध्ये महाद्विभाषिक चांगल्या प्रकारे चालवावे असे सांगण्याचा प्रयत्न केला आहे व जी गोष्ट सांगावयास पाहिजे होती ती राहून गेली आहे. नुकत्याच ज्या निवडणुका झाल्या त्या लक्षांत घेतल्या तर जवळ जवळ २६४ लाख वस्तीची एरिया महाद्विभाषिक नको आणि १३४ लाख वस्तीची एरिया महाद्विभाषिक राहावे असे म्हणणारी आहे असे दिसून येते. महाद्विभाषिक राहावे असे म्हणणारा अल्पमताचा भाग आहे त्यामुळे ही परिस्थिति फार काळ टिकणार नाही आणि जो प्रेमभाव व बंधुभाव आहे तोही राहाणार नाही. तेव्हा लोकरांत लोकर एक भाषिक राज्य सरकारने निर्माण करावे. सरकारने जर ही गोष्ट केली नाही तर लोक आपल्या मागाने ती करतील आणि त्याचे पुण्य सरकारला मिळणार नाही म्हणून हे पुण्य सरकारने घ्यावे असे मला म्हणावयाचे आहे.

दुसरी जी गोष्ट मला सांगावयाची आहे ती अशी की, विरोधी पक्षाचे लोक जेव्हा सरकारच्या विरुद्ध बोलतात तेव्हा त्यांच्या मनांत सरकारबद्दल अप्रीति आहे म्हणून ते बोलत नाहीत. लोकशाहीचा असा संकेत आहे की, सरकारकडून चांगल्या गोष्टी व्हाव्यात या दृष्टीने सरकारच्या चुका त्या पक्षाचे लोक सांगू शकत नाहीत म्हणून विरोधी पक्षाला ही भूमिका घ्यावी लागते व ती महत्वाची असते. आताच एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी शिक्षणाच्या बाबतीत सरकारने इतके इतके केले असे सांगितले आणि महाद्विभाषिकांत लोकशिक्षणाचा चांगला प्रसार होत आहे हे मोठे भाग्याचे लक्षण आहे असे म्हटले. एकंदर लोकसंख्येच्या प्रमाणाशी आमचे राज्य लोकसंख्येच्या तुलनेत दुसऱ्या क्रमांकाचे आहे आणि आमचा जो प्रयत्न चाललेला आहे तो सुसंगत आहे असे भासविण्याचा जो प्रयत्न आहे तो बरोबर नाही. सरकारची जी अडचण आहे ती सरकार पाहाते आणि त्याची दखल घेणे हे महत्वाचे काम आहे, पण त्याचबरोबर ज्या कांही सुधारणा होणे आवश्यक आहेत असे विरोधी पक्षाला वाटते त्यासंबंधी आम्ही येथे सांगतो.

या महाद्विभाषिकांतील उदाहरण म्हणून मला एक गोष्ट अशी सांगावयाची आहे की, वऱ्हाड हा महाराष्ट्रातील भाग आहे, परंतु त्या ठिकाणी सब इन्स्पेक्टरच्या रँक पासून वरचे लोक आरोपी मराठीमध्ये सांगत असला तरी त्याचे म्हणणे हिंदीमध्ये लिहून घेतात. वऱ्हाड हा महाराष्ट्राचा भाग आहे, तेव्हा त्या भागातील लोकांनी ज्या भाषेत सांगितले असेल त्या भाषेत अधिकाऱ्यांनी लिहून घेतले पाहिजे. वऱ्हाडमधील अधिकारी हिंदीमध्ये लोकांचे म्हणणे लिहून घेतात याबद्दल तेथे नाराजी आहे याची सरकारने नोंद घ्यावी.

यानंतर मला इतर गोष्टी बरोबर सरकारच्या निदर्शनास लाविलेपतीसंबंधी कांही गोष्टी आणावयाच्या आहेत.

The CHAIRMAN : How much more time the Hon. Member will require ?

Shri H. B. BHIDE : Another 15 minutes, Sir.

The CHAIRMAN : The House will now rise and re-assemble at 4-55 p.m.

(Recess from 4-35 to 4-55 p.m.).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The CHAIRMAN : I would like to place before the House the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee. They are :—

"(1) The Bills which may be passed by the Legislative Assembly before 25th February 1958 may be taken up in the Council on 25th and 26th February 1958.

(2) The Supplementary Appropriation Bill which may be passed by the Legislative Assembly on 4th March 1958 may be taken up in the Council either on the 4th or the 5th March 1958.

(3) The discussion on the Report of the Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for the year 1955 which was to take place on 18th February 1958 may be shown on 27th March 1958 provided that date is convenient to the Minister concerned. The Legislative Council will accordingly meet on 27th and 28th March after the meeting is adjourned on 5th March 1958.

(4) The House should sit on the 20th February 1958 (that is, today) for half an hour more to finish the business before the House viz. Discussion on Governor's Address.

Shri CHANDRAKANT C. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move the following Motion, under Rule 130-D of the Bombay Legislative Council Rules, namely :—

"That this House agrees to the allocation of time proposed by the Business Advisory Committee with regard to Government Bills and other business as shown in its report."

Motion put, and agreed to.

DISCUSSION ON GOVERNORS ADDRESS (resumed)

श्री. एच. बी. मिडे : मघाशी मी करप्शनबद्दल बोलत होतो. करप्शन नष्ट झाले पाहिजे, लांचलुचपत चालू नये, असेच सर्वांचे मत असल्यामुळे करप्शन नष्ट करणे सोपे आहे. करप्शन हा दुर्गुण नाही असे सर्वसाधारण माणसांचे मत असते तर ते नाहीसे करणे कठीण गेले असते, पण तशी वस्तुस्थिति नाही. उदाहरणार्थ, दारू पिणे वाईट आहे असे सर्व लोक मानतात आणि त्याप्रमाणे ते दारू पीत नाहीत. पण दारू पिणे चांगले आहे असे ज्यांचे मत आहे ते लोक त्यांच्या मताप्रमाणे दारू पितात आणि सरकारने कितीही हाती सत्ता आहे अशा सरकारी अधिकाऱ्यांकडूनच करप्शन केले जाते, पण खुद्द सरकार व सरकारी अधिकारी लांचलुचपत करणे वाईट आहे असे म्हणत आहेत तोपर्यंत करप्शन नष्ट होऊ शकेल अशी आशा वाळगायला बरीचशी जागा आहे. एकादा मनुष्य करप्शन आहे तो लांच घेतो असे लोकांना कळले म्हणजे समाजात साहजिकच त्याची किंमत कमी होते. जर एखादा मनुष्य लांचलुचपत करतो असे सरकारला कळले तर सरकारने ताबडतोब त्याची चौकशी करावी. खात्याने चौकशी केल्यानंतर तो मनुष्य कोर्टात गेला आणि कोर्टात परिणाम झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. सरकारने आता करप्शन बंद करण्यासाठी जो ब्यूरो स्थापन करण्याचे ठरविले आहे त्यावर सरकारी प्रतिनिधि न राहता लोकप्रतिनिधि आणि असेंब्लीचे आणि कौन्सिलचे सभासद त्या ब्यूरोवर असावेत. असे केले म्हणजे अनेक लोकांना कोणते सरकारी अधिकारी लांच लुचपत करतात हे कळेल आणि समाजात त्याची किंमत कमी होईल व अशा लोकांची नावे समाजात ब्लॅक लिस्टवर येतील.

करप्शनच्या केसेस कशा होतात याचा अनुभव आपण लक्षात घेतला तर असेच दिसून येते की, ज्या सरकारी अधिकाऱ्यांच्या किंवा सर्वसाधारण कारकुनांच्या हातांत एकादं काम करण्याची अथवा न करण्याची सत्ता असते अशा लोकांकडूनच करप्शन केले जाते. माझे काम लौकर न्हावे म्हणून मी कोर्टात गेलो आणि मला एकाद्या कागदपत्राची नक्कल दोन

[श्री. एच. बी. मिडे]

दिवस अगोदर काढून दे असे तेथील कारकुनाला सांगितले तर मी साहजिकच पांच दहा रुपयांची नोट त्या कारकुनाच्या हातांत सरकावतो आणि तो कारकून माझे काम इतरांचे काम बाजूला सारून आधी करून देतो. त्याचे कारण हेच की, सरकारी माणसाच्या हातांत सत्ता आहे, आणि त्याने एकादं काम आधी का केले हे त्याला बाहेरचा कोणीहि मनुष्य विचारू शकत नाही. सरकारी यंत्रणेमधला तलाठी हा जो एक रेव्हिन्यू अधिकारी असतो त्याच्या हातांत बेसुमार सत्ता असल्यामुळे त्याला करप्शन करण्याला बराच वाव असतो व त्याप्रमाणे कित्येक गोष्टी आपल्याला माहीतहि असतील. सातवाराच्या उताऱ्यांत अमक जमीन अमूक कुठाला दिली अशी नोंद एकादा तलाठ्याने केली म्हणजे जमीनदाराने कोर्टात जाऊन किंवा अन्य उपायांनी तो नोंद पाहिजे तर सुधारून घ्यावी, परंतु ही सत्ता तलाठ्याला असल्यामुळे कोर्टाशिवाय त्याला विचारणारा कोणी नाही. कित्येक तलाठी असे आहेत की, त्यांना जास्तीत जास्त मासिक वेतन महागाई भरण्यासह ८०-९० रुपये मिळत असतांना ते गावांतील बड्या लोकांपेक्षांहि रुबावाने मिरवीत असतात. यांतच कांहीं तरी पाणी मुरत आहे. हे पाणी मुरण्याच्या मार्गे तलाठ्याला असलेली बेसुमार सत्ता हेच कारण आहे. इतकी बेसुमार सत्ता तलाठ्याला देण्याची आवश्यकता आहे किंवा काय, हा एक प्रश्न आहेच; पण तशी सत्ता देण्याची आवश्यकता असलीच तर ती सत्ता तो बरोबर वापरीत आहे की नाही, यावर सरकारची देखरेख असली पाहिजे. पण ती नसल्यामुळे ह्या करप्शनच्या केसेस होतात, हे उघड आहे. तेव्हा हे करप्शन नष्ट होणे हे आपल्या राज्याच्याच नव्हे तर संवंध राष्ट्राच्या हिताचे आहे. पूर्वी इंग्रजांच्या राज्यांतहि करप्शन होत होतं. पण एकाद्या माणसाने लांच घेतली आहे असे सरकारच्या नजरेस

५-०० p.m

आल्याबरोबर तो कितीहि मोठा अधिकारी असला तरी त्याच्याविषय अॅक्शन घेतली जात असे, त्यामुळे इतर सरकारी अधिकाऱ्यांवर साहजिकच जरब बसत असे. नुकतीच सेन्ट्रल गव्हर्नमंन्टली जी एक केस झाली तिची सरकारने ताबडतोब चौकशी करून गुन्हेगाराला जनतेपुढे आणल्यामुळे आता साहजिकच इतरांवर बांगला परिणाम झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. आता ह्यापुढे प्रत्येक सरकारी अधिकाऱ्याला अशी भीति वाटत राहील की, जर आपण आपल्या कामांत योग्य ती काळजी घेतली नाही तर आपल्याला कोर्टापुढे उभे राहून जाव लागेल. तेव्हा आपल्याला जर करप्शन नष्ट करावयाचे असेल तर अशा प्रकारची भीति निर्माण केली पाहिजे, असे मला या बाबतीत प्रामुख्याने सांगायचे आहे.

यानंतर इरिगेशन खात्यासंबंधाने सरकारने पुष्कळ गोष्टी करण्याचे ठरविले आहे. या बाबतीत मी कांहीं उपाय सरकारला सुचवू इच्छितो. सरकार ५,५०० विहिरी बांधणार आहे किंवा बांधल्या आहेत असा एक उल्लेख या भाषणात आहे, पण या विहिरी बांधल्या म्हणजे काम झाले असे सरकारने समजता कामा नये. अशी कित्येक उदाहरणे आहेत की, सरकारने विहिरी बांधून दिल्या आणि मग त्या विहिरींना पाणीच लागले नाही. आमच्या रत्नागिरी जिल्ह्यांत संगमेश्वरला सरकारने ६,५०० रुपये खर्च करून एक विहीर बांधली. ह्या विहिरीला पावसाचे सांचलेले पाणी असते तेवढेच पाणी असते, आणि उन्हाळ्यात जेव्हा पाण्याची खरीखुरी टंचाई असते तेव्हा ती विहीर कोरडी असते. अशा विहिरींचा लोकांना पाणी मिळण्यासाठी उपयोग होण्याऐवजी जीव देण्यासाठीच उपयोग असतो, यापेक्षा जास्त उपयोग नाही. विहीर म्हटली की, तिला बारा महिने पाणी लागले पाहिजे, नाही तर नुसता खड्डा खणला म्हणजे विहीर झाली असे होतं कामा नये.

तेव्हा पाणीपुरवठ्याचा हा जो प्रश्न आपल्याला सतत भेडसावित आहे तो सोडविण्याच्या दृष्टीने माझ्या कल्पनेप्रमाणे मी कांहीं सूचना करणार आहे. सरकारला त्या पटल्या तर सरकारने त्याचा जबर विचार करावा. महाराष्ट्रामध्ये भरपूर पाऊस पडतो. त्याचप्रमाणे सध्याही पूर्वे आणि पश्चिम बाजूला नद्या वाहात असतात. पाऊस पडण्याची

[श्री. जे. बी. भिडे]

महाराष्ट्रातील सीमा जवळ जवळ ठरलेली आहे. सर्वसाधारणपणे ऑक्टोबरपर्यंत पाऊस पडतो आणि नोव्हेंबरच्या अखेरीस किंवा डिसेंबरच्या सुरुवातीला पाऊस संपतो. तेव्हा ज्या लहान लहान नद्या आहेत त्यांना कामचलाऊ मातीची धरणे बांधली तर मेल दोन मेल लांबीपर्यंत ते पाणी तून राहात. रत्नागिरीला संगमेश्वराला शेकडो वर्षांपासून असाच एक बांध किंवा धरण आमच्या गांवाजवळ बांधले जातं आणि त्याचा परिणाम असा होतो की, दोन मेल पर्यंत ते पाणी तून राहात. त्या पाण्याचा गुरांना पाणी पिण्यासाठी वापरता उपयोग होतो किंवा आजूबाजूच्या जमिनीत भाजीपाला लावण्यासाठी उपयोग होतो, आणि त्यानंतर ते पाणी पर्वतश्रमच्या प्रिन्सिपलप्रमाणे जमिनीत शिरून आस-पासच्या विहिरींना जास्त दिवस पाणी राहू शकतं. यदांच कांहीं कारणांने हा बांध घातला न गेल्यामुळे आजच आमच्या गांवातील विहिरीचे पाणी खाली गेलं आहे. तेव्हा अशा रीतीने लहान नद्यांना किंवा पाणी वाहत्या ओढ्यांना मातीचे बांध घालण्याची सरकारने व्यवस्था केली तर पाण्याचा हा प्रश्न मुठप्यास बऱ्याच अंशी मदत होईल अशी माझी कल्पना आहे. यासाठी सरकारला फारसा खर्च न येता लोकांची पाण्याची सोय होऊ शकेल.

यानंतर दुसरी एक सूचना आहे. डोंगर माथ्यावर सपाट जागा असते. अशा जागी जर तळी बांधली तर त्याचा पुष्कळ उपयोग होण्याची शक्यता आहे. रत्नागिरी जिल्ह्यात उन्हाळ्यात लोकांना तीन चार मंठावरून पिण्याचे पाणी आणावे लागतं. डोंगर माथ्यावर लहान लहान तळी खोदली तर त्या तळ्यांत पाणी सांचून राहील. हे सांचलेले पाणी गुरांना पिण्यासाठी उपयोगी पडेल, व याशिवाय हे पाणी फिल्डेशनच्या तत्वावर जमिनीत शिरून खालच्या भागांत ज्या विहिरी असतात त्यांना जास्त दिवस पाणी पुरेल. अर्थात, मी सूचना करण्याचे काम केले आहे, त्या सूचना अंमलात कशा आणावयाच्या याचा विचार सरकारने आणि सरकारच्या इंजिनीअर लोकांनी करावयाचा आहे. सध्या पाण्याचा प्रश्न अनेक लोकांना त्रासदायक होऊन बसलेला आहे. माणसांची गोष्ट बाजूला ठेवली तरी गुरांना पिण्यास पाणी मिळाले नाही म्हणजे काय परिस्थिती होते याची सर्वांना कल्पना आहे. कित्येक वेळां गुरांना दोन दोन दिवस पिण्याला पाणी मिळत नाही व दोन दिवसांनी त्यांना दूर कोठे तरी पाणी असेल तेथे न्यावयाचे व उंट ज्याप्रमाणे तीन चार दिवसांचे एकदम पाणी पिऊन घेतो त्याप्रमाणे त्या गुरांनी दोन दिवसांची तहान भागवावयाची अशी परिस्थिती होते. तेव्हा पाण्याच्या प्रश्नाचे हे गांभीर्य लक्षांत घेऊन हा प्रश्न सोडविण्याचा प्रयत्न सरकारने करावा अशी मी विनंति करतो.

यानंतर इरिगेशनच्या बाबतीत सरकारने जी योजना केली आहे ती माझ्या कल्पनेप्रमाणे फार चांगली आहे, आणि त्याबद्दल मी सरकारचे अभिनंदन करतो. आपल्याला असे सांगण्यात येतं की, सरकारने ज्या ठिकाणी कालवे किंवा तलाव बांधले आहेत त्या तलावांचे पाणी शेतकरी घेण्यास पुढे येत नाहीत. पण नुसते असे म्हणून भागणार नाही. मुख्य-वातीला शेतकऱ्यांना पाण्याचा उपयोग कसा करून घ्यावयाचा व त्याचे महत्त्व काय आहे हे माहीत नसल्यामुळे हे पाणी वापरण्याच्या बाबतीत सरकारने लोकांना इंडपूस केले पाहिजे व त्यासाठी एक दोन वर्षे त्यांना सरकारने पाणी फुकट पुरविले पाहिजे. एकदा त्यांना ह्या योजनेचे महत्त्व पटले म्हणजे पुढे ते आपोआप पाणी खुशीने घेण्यासाठी पुढे येऊ लागतील. या बाबतीत चहाचे उदाहरण देता येईल. चहा पहिल्याने हिंदुस्थानात रुजत संपजून लागली तेव्हा चहाचा खप व प्रसार झपाट्याने होऊ लागला. त्याचप्रमाणे इरिगेशन योजनेचीहि गोष्ट आहे.

यानंतर गेल्या ८-१५ दिवसांमध्ये जनतेवर व विशेषतः शेतकऱ्यांवर नवीनच संकट कोसळले आहे त्याचा उल्लेख नामदार राज्यपालांच्या भाषणात कोठेहि आलेला नाही. धान्याचे भाव पडत चालले आहेत तेव्हा ते वाढवून देण्याची कांही तरी योजना

[श्री. जे. बी. भिडे]

सरकारने करावी असे एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी सुचविले. मनुष्य आजारी पडणार नाही याबद्दल आधी खबरदारी घेतली पाहिजे, व याउपर जर तो आजारी पडलाच तर त्याला ताबडतोब औषध किंवा इंजेक्शन दिले पाहिजे, त्याचा आजार बरा झाल्यानंतर औषध देणे चुकीचे आहे. हीच गोष्ट शेतकऱ्यांच्या मालाच्या किमतीच्या बाबतीत होत आहे. आपणां सर्वांना माहीत आहे की, शेतकऱ्याला उदरनिर्वाहाचे दुसरे कोणतेच साधन नसल्यामुळे त्याच्या शेतांत जो माल उत्पन्न होतो तो विकून त्याला आपल्या कुटुंबाची वषभर गुजराण करावयाची असते. त्याने आपला माल कमी किमतीत विकल्यानंतर जर मालाच्या किमती वाढल्या तर त्याचा त्याला कांही उपयोग होत नाही. ज्यावेळी शेतकरी माल विकतो त्यावेळी त्याला योग्य भाव मिळाला पाहिजे. तेव्हा ह्या प्रश्नाच्या बाबतीत खोलवर जाऊन लोकांच्या मागणीचा सरकारने विचार करावा अशी मला विनंति करावयाची आहे. धान्याचा सुकाळ असतो त्यावेळी धान्याचे दर उतरतात, गुळाचा हंगाम आला म्हणजे गुळाच्या किमती तीन चार महिने उतरतात आणि बाजारात माल घेण्याचे कमी झाले की किमती भरमसाठ वाढतात. राठेबाजी करून जे लोक अशा तऱ्हेने धान्य विकतात त्याबद्दल तक्रार असून लोकांची सरकार जवळ अशी मागणी आहे की, त्यांनी शेतकऱ्यांना कर्ज देणाऱ्या कॉर्पोरेशन स्थापन करून त्यांना त्यांच्या मालाच्या तारणावर बिन व्याजाने किंवा कमीत कमी व्याजाने रकमा घाव्यात म्हणजे सुगीच्या वेळी ते धान्य विकान्याचा प्रयत्न करणार नाहीत. बाजारात जास्त धान्य आले म्हणजे व्यापारी लोक ते स्वस्त दरात खरेदी करून ठेवतात आणि नंतर ते धान्य जास्त दराने विकतात, हे जे व्हिडुस सर्कल आहे ते टाळावयाचे असेल तर शेतकऱ्यांना लागणारे पैसे त्यांना दिले पाहिजेत. परंतु या कामी सरकारची योजना कुचकामी आहे.

तसेच एकाद्या मार्गसाला तगाई पाहिजे असेल तर तालुक्याच्या ठिकाणी तीन हेलपाटे घालावे लागतात व त्यासाठी त्याला १० ते २० रुपये खर्च येतो आणि त्याचे तीन चार दिवस मोडतात. इतके करून त्याला ५० ते ७५ रुपये तगाई मिळते म्हणजे पठाणाच्या व्याजापेक्षा सरकारी तगाई मिळविण्यासाठी त्याला जास्त खर्च करावा लागतो. तेव्हा मला असे सांगावयाचे आहे की, सरकारने तगाई देण्यासाठी ज्या ज्या गोष्टी पूर्ण कराव्या लागतात व ७-१२ चे उतारे वगैरे जे कागदपत्र लागतात त्याची माहिती लोकांना दिली पाहिजे व एका खेतात त्याचे काम होईल असे केले पाहिजे. तसेच या बाबतीत थोडीफार लांचलुचपतहि होत असल्याचे दिसून येते. एकाद्या शेतकऱ्याला ७५ रुपये तगाई हवी असेल तर त्याला ८० रुपये माग असे सांगितले जाते व त्यातील ५ रुपये बक्षिशी म्हणून घेतली जाते. अशा प्रकारच्या लांचलुचपतीला आळा बसला पाहिजे. तसेच सरकारने धान्याच्या बाबतीत विशेष लक्ष पुरवावे आणि विहिरीच्या बाबतीत मी मधाशी सांगितल्याप्रमाणे लोकांची अडचण लक्षांत घेऊन योग्य ती दक्षता घ्यावी. विहिरीसाठी ५ हजार रुपये खर्च करावयाचे तर तिला कायमचे पाणी असावयास पाहिजे, नाही तर पावसाळ्यात भरपूर पाणी आणि उन्हाळ्यात डोळ्यांत पाण्याचे धंभ आले तरी विहिरीला पाणी मिळावयाचे नाही, अशी परिस्थिती असता कामा नये. म्हणून ह्या दृष्टीने विहिरी खोदण्याच्या कामाकडे सरकारने विशेष लक्ष द्यावे असे मला म्हणावयाचे आहे.

दुसरी गोष्ट अशी की, विदर्भ, मराठवाडा, सौराष्ट्र ह्या तीन प्रदेशांत आणि प्रामुख्याने रत्नागिरी व खानदेश ह्या भागांमध्ये रस्ते नादुरुस्त व कुचकामी आहेत. येथे बऱ्याच ठिकाणी रस्ते नाहीत आणि ज्या ठिकाणी रस्ते आहेत आहेत तेथे एस. टी. च्या दोन मोटारी एकमेकाला क्राँस करतील असे रुंद रस्ते नसल्यामुळे पुष्कळ ठिकाणी एस. टी. च्या मोटारी एक फलीगावर उभ्या करून व जवळपास रुंद जागा कोठे आहे हे पाहून मोटारी क्राँस कराव्या लागतात. कित्येक वेळां मोटारी मागे घेऊन व त्या एकमेकाला धांसून क्राँस कराव्या लागतात, इतके हे रस्ते अरुंद आहेत व कांही भागांत तर रस्तेहि नाहीत,

[श्री. अ.च. बी. भिडे]

तेव्हा मला असे सांगायचे आहे की, जो मागासलेला भाग आहे त्याकडे सरकारने विशेष लक्ष द्यावे. रस्ते बांधण्यासाठी लोकल बोर्ड आणि ग्रामपंचायती यांना जे पैसे देण्याचे ठरविले आहे त्याची समान वाटणी करावी असे म्हटले आहे, परंतु माझी अशी सूचना आहे की, मागासलेल्या भागाला जास्त रक्कम द्यावी, कारण पुढारलेल्या भागाला कमी रक्कम दिली तर चालेल पुढारलेला भाग या ना त्या मार्गाने आपली सुधारणा करू शकतो. तेव्हा ह्या भागाला थोड्याफार प्रमाणात कमी रक्कम मिळाली तरी चालेल पण मागासलेल्या भागाला जास्त रक्कम दिली पाहिजे. नामदार राज्यपालांच्या भाषणात या गोष्टी नसल्यामुळे दुर्दैवाने मी या भाषणाबद्दल त्यांचे अभिनंदन करू शकत नाही.

श्री. एस. एल. बेनाडीकर (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंब्लीचे निवडलेले) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज, सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. पागे यांनी जो आभार प्रदर्शनाचा ठराव मांडला आहे त्याला पाठिंबा देण्यासाठी मी उभा आहे. - मला प्रथमतः असे सांगायचे आहे की, जाति-भेद हा जसा समाजाच्या एक्याला विघातक आहे त्याप्रमाणे प्रांतीय भेद आणि भाषा-भेद हे देखील राष्ट्राच्या एक्याला विघातक आहेत. मुंबई राज्य हे पुढारलेले राज्य आहे तेव्हा दोन प्रांतातील दोन निरनिराळ्या भाषा असलेले लोक एकत्र यावेत आणि भारतातील मुंबई राज्य हे एक आदर्श राज्य करावे असा स्तुत्य हेतु लक्षात घेऊन हे द्विभाषिक राज्य पार्लमेंटने केले आहे. ह्या द्विभाषिक राज्याला कांही लोकांचा विरोध असतांनाहि त्यामुळे विचलित न होता किंवा त्या विरोधाला न जुमानता मुंबई राज्य पुढे यावे यासाठी सरकारने हे पाऊल टाकले आहे त्याबद्दल सरकारचे मी अभिनंदन करतो.

द्विभाषिक राज्यामध्ये निरनिराळे लोक एकत्र येत असल्यामुळे एकमेकांच्या गुणांचा एकमेकांस फायदा होतो. हा फायदा कसा होतो याचे एक उदाहरण मी सन्माननीय सभागृहास सांगू इच्छितो. आमच्या कोल्हापूर जिल्ह्यामध्ये शेतकरी सहकारी संघ आहे व त्या संघाचा मी अध्यक्ष आहे. गेल्या साली या संघाकडून ८-९ कोटींची उलाढाल झाली. सल्फेट, कूड ऑईल, पेंड वगैरे शेतकऱ्यांना लागणाऱ्या ज्या नेहमीच्या वस्तू आहेत त्या शक्य तितका कमी फायदा घेऊन त्यांना देण्याची व्यवस्था ह्या संघाकडून झाली असून त्यामुळे शेतकी सुधारण्यास शेतकऱ्यांना उत्तेजन मिळाले आहे. आपल्याला माहीत असल की सल्फेट, कूड ऑईल व पेंड या वस्तू दुप्पट फायदा घेऊन व्यापारी लोक शेतकऱ्यांना विकित होते, पण आम्ही रुपयाला एक पैसा फायदा घेऊन या जिनसा शेतकऱ्यांना देतो. यामुळे त्या ठिकाणी व्यापाऱ्यांचा कसल्याहि प्रकारे शिरकाव होऊ शकत नाही. आमचा हा सगळा व्यवहार कशाच्या जोरावर चालतो तर तेथे जी स्टेट बँकची शाखा आहे आणि सरकार आम्हांला ज्या सवलती देते त्यावर चालतो. तुम्ही पैसे येथे जी स्टेट बँकची शाखा आहे तिला आम्ही गोडाऊनमध्ये ठेवलेला माल लिहून देतो व त्यावर आम्हाला ही बँक पैसे देते आणि त्यावर सर्व उलाढाली चालतात. हे पैसे कोठून येतात याचा जर आपण विचार केला तर आपल्याला दिसून येईल की, मुंबईला जी स्टेट बँकची कचेरी आहे त्या ठिकाणी गुजराती लोकांच्या ठेवी आहेत व त्यावर तेथील सर्व व्यवहार चालतो. मध्यंतरी तीन राज्ये निर्माण करावी म्हणून आपल्या असेंब्लीमध्ये आणि कॉन्सिलमध्ये ठराव पास झाला त्यावेळी मी येथील स्टेट बँकेमध्ये गेलो होतो. तेव्हा तेथील अधिकाऱ्यांनी मला विचारले की, विराज्याचा ठराव पास झाला काय? हा ठराव पास झाला असे ज्या वेळी मी त्यांना सांगितले त्या वेळी त्यांनी डोक्याला हात लावला आणि ते म्हणाले की, आता ही बँक नाहीशी होणार आणि आम्हांला यापुढे पुण्याला किंवा नागपूराला जावे लागणार. तेव्हा थोडक्यात सांगायचे म्हणजे ह्या लोकांच्या ज्या ठेवी आहेत त्यांच्यामुळे सर्व लोकांना फायदा होतो.

[श्री. एस. एल. बेनाडीकर]

यानंतर एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी असे सांगितले की, अशीच परिस्थिती वेबली तर भांडणे होतील. मला वाटते, तशी भीति बांधण्याचे कांही कारण नाही. जवळ जवळ १५० वर्षेपर्यंत ह्या राज्यांत आपण मराठी, गुजराती आणि कर्नाटकी लोक राहिलो पण कधीहि भांडणे झाली नाहीत. ह्या राज्यामध्ये प्रांतीय भेद राहू नये म्हणूनच सध्याची व्यवस्था केलेली आहे. ज्यांना संयुक्त महाराष्ट्राची प्रेरणा, कुरावाचे संतील त्यांनी ते खुशाल करावेत, त्याला माझी हरकत नाही. पण त्यासाठी नव्हे बाहेरून चळवळ करून काम भागणार नाही. आपले जे प्रतिनिधि लोकसभेमध्ये आहेत त्यांचे मतपरिवर्तन आपण केले पाहिजे. असे प्रयत्न न करता ह्या कॉन्सिलमध्ये किंवा असेंब्लीमध्ये ठराव आपण किंवा इतर गोष्टी करून हे ध्येय साध्य होऊ शकणार नाही. ह्या विषयावरून मला एका गोष्टीची आठवण झाली. एका खेडेगांवांत एका मालकाचे घोडे मेलें. त्याने तोकराला विचारले तेव्हा त्याने सांगितले की, घोडे विहिरीत पडून मेलें. तेव्हा विहिरीत तपास सुरू झाला, घोडे नेमके कोणत्या विहिरीत पडून मेलें ते नक्की माहीत नसल्यामुळे त्यांनी अंदाजाने एका विहिरीत शोधण्यास सुरुवात केली. लोकांनी विचारले भलत्याच विहिरीत शोध करून काय उपयोग, तेव्हा नोकर म्हणाला, ह्या विहिरीत सगळ्या विहिरीतून झरे आहेत, तेव्हा कदाचित् झऱ्याबरोबर ते घोडे ह्या विहिरीत आले असेल. तेव्हा ह्या गोष्टीप्रमाणे भलत्याच मार्गाने संयुक्त महाराष्ट्र निर्माण होऊ शकणार नाही. त्यासाठी लोकसभेतील आपल्या प्रतिनिधींचे मतपरिवर्तन केले पाहिजे. गुजराती लोकांचेहि हेच म्हणणे आहे की, हे द्विभाषिक त्यांना घातुक आहे, कारण द्विभाषिक झाल्यामुळे महाराष्ट्रीय लोकांची संख्या ६५ टक्के झाली आहे व आमची लोकसंख्या ३५ टक्केच आहे. आपल्या मराठीत भाऊवंदकी या नांवाचे एक नाटक आहे, पण ते ऐतिहासिक नाटक आहे. आपण एकदा एकीने राहावयाचे म्हटले की भांडणे होण्याचा प्रश्नच उद्भवत नाही. तेव्हा हे द्विभाषिक महाराष्ट्राला विघातक नाही असे मला वाटते. याउपर जर द्विभाषिक सोडून संयुक्त महाराष्ट्र निर्माण करावयाचा असेल तर त्यासाठी मतपरिवर्तन केले पाहिजे.

आपल्या ह्या राज्यामध्ये ८० टक्के लोक शेतीच्या घंदावर जगणारे आहेत. त्यांच्या-करिताहि सरकारने योग्य ती काळजी घेतलेली आहे. सत्ता विकेंद्रीकरणाचे धोरण सरकारने पत्करले आहे. पण कांही लोकांकडून असा आक्षेप घेतला जातो की, ज्या स्थानिक स्वराज्य संस्थांतील सभासदांनी राजीनामे दिले होते त्यांच्याबद्दल सरकारने ताबडतोब निवडणुका का घेतल्या नाहीत? याला सरकारने उत्तर दिलेलेच आहे. ताबडतोब निवडणुका घेण्यासारखी परिस्थिती नव्हती म्हणून सरकारने परिस्थिती निवळल्याबरोबर निवडणुका घेण्याचे ठरविले होते व त्याप्रमाणे कित्येक ठिकाणच्या निवडणुका घेण्यांतहि आल्या. असे सांगण्यांत येते की, कोल्हापूर म्युनिसिपालिटी समितीने जिंकली आहे, त्याप्रमाणे इतर पुष्कळ ठिकाणी समितीने स्थानिक स्वराज्यसंस्था जिंकल्या आहेत. पण मी त्यांना असे सांगू इच्छितो की कोल्हापूर म्युनिसिपालिटी जरी समितीने जिंकली असली तरी कोल्हापूर लोकल बोर्ड कॉन्ग्रेसने जिंकले आहे. याचा अर्थ असा आहे की, सर्वसाधारण जनता ही भावना प्रधान असते कांही काल जनता जरी किकर्तव्यमूढ झाली असली तरी आपले खरे हित कशांत आहे हे तिला समजल्याबरोबर अखेरीस कॉन्ग्रेसला विजय मिळाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही असा मला विश्वास आहे.

यानंतर शेतकऱ्यांची परिस्थिती सुधारण्यासाठीहि सरकार प्रयत्न करीत आहे. शेतकऱ्याचा संसार पावसाच्या लहरीवर अवलंबून असतो. चांगला आणि अनुकूल पाऊस पडला तर पीक येणार. आपल्या राज्यांत अशी परिस्थिती आहे की, कोल्हापूरला २५० ते ३०० इंच पाऊस पडतो, तर मिरजसारख्या ठिकाणी १५ इंच पाऊस पडतो. तेव्हा, पावसाच्या लहरीपासून शेतकऱ्याला बांधविण्यासाठी ठिकठिकाणी लहान अथवा मोठी धरणे बांधून

[श्री. एस. एल. वेनाडीकर]

पाण्याची सोय केली पाहिजे. ही गोष्ट लक्षात घेऊन सरकारने कांही धरणे बांधण्याचें काम हातीं घेतलेलें आहे. एकाद्या पेहेलवानाची करामत पाहावयाची असेल तर ती कुस्तीच्या आखाड्यावरच पाहिली पाहिजे. त्याप्रमाणें सरकारची करामत पाहावयाची असेल तर विकास योजनांचीं कामें सरकारने ज्या ठिकाणीं हातीं घेतलीं आहेत तीं पाहिली पाहिजेत. असें ब्रिटीश सरकारने कौन्सिलच्या सभासदांना विकास योजनेचीं कामें प्रत्यक्ष पाहावयास मिळावीत म्हणून त्यांच्यासाठीं सरकारनें टून्ची व्यवस्था केली आहे. ह्या टून्च्या पहिल्या बॅचमध्ये मी गेलों होतो तेव्हां आम्हीं मही धरण पाहिलें. सरकारने हातीं घेतलेले हें धरण फार मोठें आहे. आमच्याप्रमाणें पाळीपाळीनें सर्व सन्माननीय सभासदांना हीं विकास कामें पाहाण्याची संधि मिळणार आहे. कोणतीहि गोष्ट प्रत्यक्ष पाहिल्यानें त्याची कल्पना जास्त चांगली येते. ह्या विकास योजनेप्रमाणेंच शेती सुधारणेसाठीं सरकारनें कांहीं तज्ज्ञ शेतकरी आणले आहेत. त्याचप्रमाणें जपानी शेंती पद्धतीचा प्रसार करण्याचें कामहि सरकारनें सुरू केलें आहे. कोल्हापूरमध्ये ह्या पद्धतीनें शेंती चालू असून पूर्वीपेक्षां दुप्पट पीक येत आहे. तेव्हां शेंती क्षेत्रामध्येहि सरकारनें ज्या योजना हातीं घेतल्या आहेत त्या यशस्वी होत आहेत असें म्हणावयास कांहीं हरकत नाहीं.

यानंतर शिक्षणाचा एक विशेष महत्वाचा विषय नेहमी चर्चिला जातो. आजपर्यंत शेतकरी व बहुजनसमाजाची शिक्षणाची अबाळ अनेक कारणांनी झालेली आहे ही गोष्ट लक्षात घेऊन त्या वर्गातील मुलांना प्राथमिक शिक्षण तरी मिळाले पाहिजे ही गोष्ट खरी आहे. ह्या बाबतीत सरकारला जेवढे शक्य आहे तेवढे करण्याचा सरकार प्रयत्न करीत आहे. आपल्याला स्वातंत्र्य मिळाले असले तरी आपल्यापुढे अनेक मोठ्या कामे उभी आहेत. अन्न धान्याचा प्रश्न आहे, हुंडणावळीचा प्रश्न आहे. असे असूनहि सक्तीच्या प्राथमिक शिक्षणाचे जवळ जवळ गिम्मे काम सरकारने पुरे केले आहे. तेव्हा आज जरी साठव्या ठिकाणी ही व्यवस्था झालेली नसली तरी त्याकडे सरकारचे दुर्लक्ष आहे असे समजण्याचे कारण नाही. आमच्या कोल्हापूर जिल्ह्यात लोकल बोर्डाच्या शाळा आहेत. त्याचप्रमाणे मदतीच्या शिक्षकांच्याहि कांही शाळा चालू आहेत. दुय्यम शिक्षणाचा प्रश्न प्राथमिक शिक्षणाहून थोडासा निराळा आहे. ह्या शाळा बहुतेक खासगी संस्था चालवीत असतात. ह्या संस्थांना सरकारकडून जास्त ग्रांट मिळत नाहीत अशी त्या संस्थांची तक्रार आहे आणि ती थोडीशी खरी आहे. पण या गोष्टीला सर्वस्वी सरकार जबाबदार नाही. या बाबतीत पुष्कळसे आम्हीच दोषी आहोत. ह्या बाबतीत गुजरात युनिव्हर्सिटीचे काम खरोखरी कौतुकास्पद आहे. मला सांगायला अभिमान वाटतो की, पुणे युनिव्हर्सिटी किंवा मुंबई युनिव्हर्सिटीला गुजरात युनिव्हर्सिटीने मागे टाकले आहे. याचे कारण एकच आहे की, ते लोक मदतीसाठी सरकारवर सर्वस्वी अवलंबून राहात नाहीत. लोकांच्या मदतीने गुजरात युनिव्हर्सिटीचे कौतुकास्पद प्रगति केली आहे यांत शंका नाहीत. तेव्हा, दुय्यम शिक्षणाची जी अडचण आहे ती सोडविण्यासाठी सरकारवर अवलंबून राहाण्याची वृत्ति सोडली तर ही अडचण शिल्लक राहणार नाही. खेड्यामध्ये जी विकासाची कामे होतात ती थोडीशी सरकारची मदत, थोडेसे तेथील लोकांचे धमदान यांच्या साहाय्याने केली जातात त्याप्रमाणे प्राथमिक शिक्षण, दुय्यम शिक्षण व युनिव्हर्सिटी शिक्षण यांच्या बाबतीत केले तर अडचण यणार नाही. सांगण्याचा सारांश इतकाच की, सगळी जबाबदारी सरकारवर न टाकत अडचण यणार नाही. लोकांनी आपल्या अंगावर घेतली पाहिजे. यानंतर लांचलुपतीविषयी ब्रिटिश सरकारच्या वेळी आपल्या देशात गुलामगिरी होती त्या वेळची मला एक आठवण आहे. एका संस्थानिकाच्या राज्यात एक कारकून लांच घेत असे म्हणून त्याला राजाकडे नेण्यात आले. संस्थानिकाने विचार केला की, याला आपल्या राजवड्यातच राण्यांच्या महालावर टोल वाजविण्यासाठी ठेवला म्हणजे त्याला लांच घेण्याला संधीच मिळणार नाही. त्याप्रमाणे त्याची नमणूक केली व ८ ते ९ पर्यंत एका राणीकडे व ९ ते १० दुसऱ्या राणीकडे अशी रीतीने वेळ वांटून देऊन टोल वाजविण्यासाठी ठेवण्यात आले. पण तो कारकून मुरलेला लांच खाणारा असल्या

[श्री. एस. एल. बेनाडीकर]

मूळें त्यांतूनहि त्यानें इलाज शोधून काढला. त्यानें एका राणीला सांगितलें कीं तुम्हीं मला पैसे दिलेत तर तुमची वेळ मी वाढवून देईन आणि उशिरां टोल वाजवीत. याप्रमाणें एका राणीकडे त्यानें सधान बांधलें व दुसऱ्या राणीलाहि तसेंच सांगून पैसे मिळविण्याची व्यवस्था केली. तेव्हां थोडक्यांत मला एवढेंच सांगायचाचें आहे कीं, एकदां लांच खाण्याचा स्वभाव होऊन बसला कीं त्या माणसाला तुम्हीं कोठेंहि नेऊन ठेवला तरी तो आपला स्वभाव सोडणार नाही. मी हें अशा साठीं सांगितलें कीं आपल्या राज्यांत करप्शन फार चालतें, त्याला आळा नाहीं. मी हें अशा साठीं सांगितलें कीं आपल्या राज्यांत करप्शन फार चालतें, त्याला आळा घालण्यासाठीं सरकार आपल्या परीने पुष्कळ प्रयत्न करीत आहे आणि आतां अंटी करप्शन ब्यूरो सुरू केला जाणार आहे. यामुळें करप्शनला आळा बसण्यास पुष्कळ मदत होईल अशी मला आशा आहे. तेव्हां सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. पागे यांनीं नामदार राज्यपालांचें आभार-पारा जो ठराव मांडला आहे त्याला पाठिंबा देऊन मी रजा घेतो.

(The Deputy Chairman in the Chair)

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH (Minister for Local Self-Government): Madam Chairman, I will confine myself to certain criticisms levelled against Government for its working in the Local Self-Government Department. Madam, we all know that the Governor has referred to the working of the local bodies in the State in his Address and he has given fairly factual information regarding the working of the local bodies in the State. I would invite the attention of the Hon. Members to three statements mentioned on pages 1 and 2 of the Address in this respect. The first statement is:—

"In order to give more effective representation to the local people in our day-to-day administration, Government has decided to set up Panchayats so as to cover every village during the course of the next few years."

This is a statement which can meet any challenge. The Bombay Government had decided that, in the old Bombay State, each village should be covered by a Panchayat before 1960. But with the advent of new areas in this State, Government has now decided that all the villages in the State should be covered by Panchayats within the next five years. This is a fact which cannot be challenged by anybody.

Madam, we are all aware that in the new State of Bombay we have 54,281 villages and in the old Bombay State we had 29,221 villages and 7,846 Panchayats covering 24,537 villages, and, therefore, Government has decided that, within the next five years, all the villages should be covered by Panchayats.

The second statement on page 2 of the Governor's Address is:

"In all areas of the State, local bodies have been made elective."

"In all areas of the State, local bodies have been made elective. The House is well aware that Government had brought in several amending Bills for new areas from Saurashtra, Kutch, Vidarbha and Marathawada to see that in all these areas the local bodies are elective. At certain places there were nominations. At certain places there were elections. Government, therefore, decided that, in the fitness of things, all the local bodies must be elective and a series of measures were brought before this House to put them on the level of the old Bombay area, that is to say, to see that all local bodies are manned by elected representatives of the people."

• The third statement is:
"The question of strengthening their finances has also received close consideration."

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It is well known that this Government has tried its utmost to help financially various local bodies. Then, in the remaining portion he has stated the various actions taken by Government to help these local bodies. I fail to understand how this factual information can be challenged by anyone. It is well known that all the Village Panchayats are given 30 per cent. of the land revenue in the old Bombay area at present and I make bold to say that this much grant of land revenue has not been paid to the Village Panchayats in any State in our country. Bombay State is leading in the matter of giving grants to Village Panchayats.

Then, Madam, we are giving 50 per cent. of the total expenditure incurred by local bodies over the payment of dearness allowance to their employees. After the merger there was a very great pressure of extending this principle of giving 50 per cent. of dearness allowance grant to the new areas and the Governor was pleased to say that this Government has accepted the principle of giving 50 per cent. of the total expenditure over dearness allowance to the new areas of the State. The Local Boards were given 15 per cent. of the land revenue for those areas where Panchayats were not functioning, and Government has now decided to cover all the villages in the entire State by Village

5-30 p.m. Panchayats. Every year this grant was dwindling down. In the current year the grant to be paid to Local Boards came to nearly Rs. 16 lacs and within 2 or 3 years it is bound to dwindle down to an insignificant figure. Government was anxious to see that these bodies received certain definite continuous grant and, therefore, the Governor has stated in his Address that Government has now decided that Local Boards will be paid annual grants equal to 5 per cent. of the land revenue collected in their respective areas excluding only the municipal areas, and that would mean that this expenditure will be more than double, from Rs. 16 lacs it will go up—I am not sure about the figures—to about Rs. 27 lacs or perhaps more. That means that Government is very anxious to see that these bodies are not financially starving. Even then there is a certain limit. This House passes the Budget every year. This House votes grants for all the activities in the State. This House and the hon. Members of the Opposition should share the credit as well as the blame, if there is not much provision for these local bodies. It is not that Government decides to give certain amounts to these bodies by an administrative fiat. The entire Budget is placed before this House and after it gives its consent, Government has only to implement the policies laid down by it. Therefore, looking to the financial conditions in which we are at present and looking to the progress that we have made under the First Five Year Plan and the Second Five Year Plan and the resources that are required, Government is in no way careless about the financial condition of the local bodies and it is trying its best to see that they are helped to the utmost, of course having due regard to its financial capacity.

I would like to give here certain figures of grants paid to the local bodies in the current year. A provision of Rs. 1,48,91,000 has been made for the Janpad Sabhas. Then there is a provision of Rs. 75,51,000 for the Municipalities and a provision of Rs. 2,54,17,000 for the village panchayats. In addition to this, Government has made a provision for certain specific schemes of the

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local bodies, such as the water supply schemes, to the tune of Rs. 1,39,21,000. Moreover, the big Corporations, like the Bombay Municipal Corporation, also come to Government for help and Government has not denied help to such Corporations. It is common knowledge that Government has advanced a sum of Rs. 2 crores to the Bombay Municipal Corporation by way of loan for the Tansa Vaitarna Water Scheme. It is, therefore, that the statement made in the Governor's Address that the question of strengthening the finances of the local bodies has received close consideration of Government bears ample testimony, looking to the provisions made in the Budget for the current year. I know that these are deliberative bodies. They have to work for the welfare and happiness of the citizens of the State and, therefore, the adjective used in the Address is quite proper. My hon. Friend, Shri Dondo is not here as usual. He always casts aspersions on and levels criticisms against the Government but he never cares to remain present here to hear what the other side has to say in the matter. In the immediate future also there would be a second occasion, viz. discussion on the Budget and I am sure that even at that time he will level some criticism but will not remain present to hear what the other side has to say about the matter raised by him. He said, "Look at this Government! Is it a democratic Government? It has superseded the Corporations; it has superseded so many village panchayats and municipalities. It did not hold any fresh elections and, therefore, this Government does not deserve the name of a democratic body." Sir, we are now aware how and what happened at the time of the linguistic agitation. When the Parliament decided that this bilingual State shall be formed, we know what happened in Bombay and at other places. It is an unhappy chapter which I do not want to re-open. But I only want to say this, that as a result of that agitation, several members of the panchayats, local bodies, municipalities and the Corporations resigned—at some places *en bloc* and at some places in a majority—and they created a deadlock. Some of my hon. Friends from the opposite side might have thought that by creating a deadlock, Government will come to their knees and act according to their wishes and the re-organisation will be changed. We all know that the primary function of these bodies is to supply local services to the people and cater to their health, sanitation, education, etc. They have not to bother about the political controversy of this nature. However, it was open to them to resign even on this issue and they did resort to this method. Government never grudged about what they did. But it was the duty of Government to see that, by their action, a deadlock was not created and the essential services continued to be rendered for the benefit of the people and, therefore, Government had to step in. The hon. Member Shri Dondo waxed eloquence as to why Government did not hold fresh elections. I might tell him that Government knew the temper of the people at that time. Even by holding fresh elections the result would have been the same. So, who would have looked after the health and sanitation of the people? Government had greater responsibility than those who resigned as a result of the linguistic agitation. Government wanted to see that the people did not suffer and, therefore, an ordinance was promulgated and Government thought it fit that these bodies should be superseded and the work of the local services should be continued and, therefore, Government did its duty. Then, after a short time, a Bill was brought before the House and it

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was passed by both the Houses. Under that Act, Government continued the work of the local bodies, and when Government felt that the agitation had died down, Government did hold elections at certain places. Government has also decided that, before March 1958, all local bodies will be in charge of the elected representatives of the people. We are taking daily action to see that elections are held as early as possible but Government has its own responsibilities to the people and to the State and it cannot shirk its responsibilities. It was no pleasure to Government to supersede all these bodies but in duty bound it had to do it. Government will never shirk in its duty.

At this stage, I will give some figures to show how many local bodies had to be superseded. There are in all 365 municipalities in the now Bombay State, and, out of them, only 44 were superseded. Out of the Janpad Sabbar, only one was superseded. There are four Corporations and out of them also only one was superseded. Out of the 17896 village panchayats, only 272 were superseded. Look at the percentage of these local bodies which were superseded. Compared to the total number of local bodies, the number of bodies which were superseded is negligible. One might feel from what the hon. Members opposite say that the entire State had carried on the linguistic agitation. But the figures speak for themselves. Of course, it is true that there was agitation in certain areas and Government had to do its duty much against its will. It was no pleasure to Government.

Then, Sir, a reference was made by the hon. Member Shri Donde to the transfer of the ex-Municipal Commissioner, Shri Nayak, and he passed certain remarks against the action of Government. I do not propose to deal with this matter in a lengthy fashion, but, in short, I shall try to explain the position. Government had received a certain representation from the Mayor and Government replied to it. The Mayor was informed that the Government of Bombay had carefully examined the position, both under the States Reorganisation Act and the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act, and it was advised that it was not necessary for it to obtain the prior approval of the Corporation for placing the services of Shri Nayak at the disposal of the Government of India. The Hon. the Chief Minister and the Chief Secretary had, from time to time, kept the Mayor informed of the developments in the matter in order to ensure that no inconvenience was caused to the Corporation. Then a Press note was issued by Government on the 10th August, 1957, and it was also published in the Times of India, the Indian Express, etc. in which Government had clarified the entire position of Government and the action taken by it. In spite of all this, to raise this issue once again is not fair. Of course, the hon. Member has a right to do it and he has done it. But the position is very clear so far as Government is concerned and it has not, in any way, done anything which is improper.

Then, Sir, a reference was made to some action taken by Government regarding certain resolutions of the Poona Corporation. The Poona Municipal Corporation is at present managed by the Samiti friends, and because of their new victory, they feel that they have a right to do anything they like. But they have to realise that even they are bound down by certain laws and

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they have to act in accordance with the four corners of the laws that govern them. In spite of that, this body passed certain resolutions which were in contravention of the specific provisions of the Corporation Act. They were told by the Municipal Commissioner that the decision taken by them was not in accordance with the law, but they felt that they had a right to do it and, therefore, they passed certain resolutions.

An hon. MEMBER: What are those?

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH: There were certain resolutions passed by the Transport Committee on 12th January 1958 which purported *inter alia* to abolish the three posts, namely, that of Chief Traffic Inspector and two Security Officers. These resolutions were passed illegally without any proposal having been made by the Transport Manager in this regard. Unless the Transport Manager made any proposal in regard to these posts, the Transport Committee was not seized of the matter and had no jurisdiction to take any action. Accordingly, the offending portions of the Transport Committee's resolutions which purported to do away with these three posts were suspended.

Then there is another resolution of the Poona Municipal Corporation, dated 28th January 1958, suspending the Transport Manager straightaway. This resolution had to be suspended in view of the illegalities and impropriety involved therein, namely, the original resolution which had been put up earlier had been allowed to be materially amended, which was not feasible under the law. In the original resolution there was no proposal to suspend the Transport Manager. There was no charge-sheet framed against the Transport Manager and it was an adjourned meeting. At the adjourned meeting the Corporation accepted an amendment to the original resolution whereby it straightaway decided to suspend the Transport Manager. Obviously, the line of action adopted by the Corporation would show how summarily important matters concerning municipal transport were being dealt with. Therefore, this resolution also, so far as it contravened the provision of the law, had to be suspended and Government has taken this action. The Corporation has been informed of it and there is no secret about it.

Then, Madam, an amendment was sought to be brought before the House as to why Government is not giving any grant to the Cantonment Boards. These Cantonment Boards are under the Central Government and the State Government has nothing to do with them. This Government has no right to give any grants to these Boards.

Therefore, Madam, considering what I have stated above, the House will be convinced that the criticism that was levelled was baseless and unfounded.

Madam Chairman, I have nothing more to add.

Shri T. S. THAKORE (Gujarat-Teachers): Madam Chairman, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the Governor's Address. As the time at my disposal is very limited, I shall try to be as brief as possible and make only a few observations.

[Shri T. S. Thakore]

In the first place, I must congratulate Government on its reviving the N. C. C. Scheme. A few years ago, when the N. C. C. Scheme was abolished, many educationists and several headmasters protested against the abolition of this scheme and represented to Government that it would be most unwise to abolish a scheme that was functioning well in the State. It was also represented that, in view of the fact that the Indian Defence Academy was being located in Bombay State, it would be very unwise to abolish the N. C. C. so far as Bombay State was concerned, because no State in India would abolish a good scheme that was functioning in a proper manner. However, Government on financial grounds, took an adverse decision. Being a member of the Board at that time, I know that the amount of work put up by the N. C. C. boys was splendid; their dress was smart. The rifle training given to the boys was also splendid and the performance of the young boys, although their number was small, was really creditable. I know that our young boys respond well psychologically to training which is not actually military but semi-military. So, the scheme was functioning in a manner which was creditable both to Government and to the boys and schools. Unfortunately it was abandoned. It has now been replaced by the A. C. C. Scheme. I may say from experience that the A. C. C. Scheme, in comparison with the N. C. C. Scheme, does not work well at all. The amount of work put in is very poor; not only that, it has also got no psychological appeal to young boys. The parades held are very few. There is no rifle training. The camps that are held are of a very short duration. The expenditure that is incurred, to the tune of nearly Rs. 300 or Rs. 500 per camp of three days or so, is not consistent with the nature of the work put in by the boys. Too much emphasis is laid on shramadan. Young boys and girls of fourteen are unable to put in the work that is expected of them. So, at present, so far as the A. C. C. is concerned, the amount of work put in by the boys is not good and I would say that, instead of multiplying the number of A. C. C. units, it would be better to multiply the number of N. C. C. units. If that is done, I am sure that the amount of work put in by the boys will more than do justice to education itself.

Now, Madam Chairman, when Government has taken this step to revive the N. C. C. Scheme, I would like to make one suggestion that, just as there is the Home Guards Organisation which is manned, controlled and supervised by a separate organisation, I would urge Government that this work should be taken over by an independent department, supervised and manned either by the Police Department or the Military Department. That would create a better atmosphere so far as discipline is concerned. I would also urge that a separate department may be established for the purpose and the whole organisation may be entrusted to that department, so that Government can exercise supervision over it in a better manner in the matter of rifle training, etc. That is the suggestion that I would like to make in the interest of discipline. I may mention here that discipline amongst young boys is deteriorating, and so, if there are about 50 good boys, well disciplined in a school, they will create a better atmosphere. So, in the interest of discipline, it is necessary that this organisation is run in a military manner, with the co-operation of the schools. That is the suggestion which I would like to make.

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Another point that I would like to raise is regarding university education. So far as university education and Arts colleges are concerned, the conditions are really alarming. We have, what we call, a floating population of misfits migrating in large numbers to the university without any purpose; young men and women migrating to the university for no purpose, wasting money for four long years in the college. That is the spectacle we see. Such a spectacle is not at all heartening and it makes us think seriously as to what is the function of university education so far as the Arts' side is concerned. I would, therefore, urge that some sort of restriction must now be placed on the admission of students to the university.

You will remember, Madam, that last time I read a quotation from the report of the Sargent Commission in which it was stated that some sort of screening should be exercised even at the secondary education level. That was the statement made at that time. I would not say that such screening must be applied at the secondary education level. I am of the opinion that screening must be vigorously applied at the university level, so that our young boys and girls who are misfits—and as one educationist said, who are not teachable—do not get admission to the university. I am not for exercising control on the spread of education, but when our finances are limited, university education should be given to the best and to those who are fit for it, and I would, therefore, urge that Government must now come into the picture and exercise some sort of restraint so that misfits do not get entry into the Universities. I would say that this time the problem is going to be more acute. We see that a large number of students are passing the S.S.C. examination every year. This time the number is enormous. We are also revising the methods of admission. In spite of that, a time will come during this year and also in future years when young men will not get admission in the Universities even after passing the S.S.C. examination. The result will be a sort of frustration. Government must exercise some control over the private industries to give employment to young men and make secondary education as complete as possible. It is high time that Government gives some kind of employment to the students who pass the S. S. C. examinations every year in some industrial institutions. I would, therefore, say that, instead of opening more and more morning and evening colleges and double shifts, it is high time that Government exercises its control and employs our young men in some sort of industrial institutions, so that control at the university level is exercised at that stage. So far as the universities are concerned, there is no uniformity. In one university there is a course of 3 years; in another university it is either 4 years or more. We have got different media of instruction. In some States it is English and in some States it is the regional language. Some educationists are now feeling that education should be placed on the concurrent list. I do not know whether that attitude is correct. But I think that we must see that unanimity is obtained at the primary, secondary and university level.

Then, another point which I would like to refer to is about the salaries of primary and secondary teachers. Whenever this problem is raised Government says that the matter is under its active consideration. For the last so many

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years the matter is under the active consideration of Government but nothing has been done. Whether that consideration is active or passive is a matter which should be for our active consideration. I expected that after 10 years there will be a reference to this matter in the Governor's Address. But there is no reference to teachers' salaries in the Governor's Address. If there is no reference in the Governor's Address, we hope that at least in the Budget which is to be presented before this House we will find that the salaries of primary teachers are raised to a decent level. I know that the problem is acute. I also know that this is not a problem which could be solved in a short time. So far as dearness allowance of primary teachers is concerned, Government has taken action; but so far as secondary teachers are concerned, nothing has been done. I would, therefore, urge that if Government cannot arrive at any final decision on the point, it should give some interim relief as it was done in 1948 before Government adopted the Ghatge Parulekar Scheme. I would, therefore, request Government to adopt an interim measure so that the teachers drawing certain salaries can be given interim relief and that can be adjusted afterwards. I expect that there would be some provision in the next Budget by which the salaries of secondary teachers would be raised in a manner that would be suitable after a lapse of 10 years. I know that an Integration Committee has been appointed; but it will take a long time for that Committee to submit its report. I am told that the Committee is to submit its report in May this year. I doubt very much whether it can give its report even in October next. After the submission of the report takes place in October, another Committee will be appointed to go into that report and that Committee will take about a year or so. Thus the whole problem will migrate to 1960. Even by 1960 I doubt very seriously if, by the process that is adopted and the manner in which it is done, the question of salaries of the secondary teachers would be settled even by 1960. (*Warning bell rung.*) I will not take more than two minutes.

Then, there is one more point to which I want to refer. So far as secondary education is concerned, I am happy that we are now evolving a democratic method whereby the Board of Secondary Education will be constituted consisting of representatives of the teachers and the representatives of the Headmasters.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member can refer to these points at the time of the Budget discussion.

Shri T. S. THAKORE: I will finish in a minute. There is a reference that an Integration Committee has been appointed. I expect that, when the proposed Body is constituted, considerations of democracy will be kept in view, and that representatives of the Associations concerned will find a place thereon. 6-00 p. m. I say this, because, unfortunately, in the formation of the Integration Committee, that democratic procedure has not been followed. No representatives of the primary teachers' Association, and no representatives of the Headmasters' Association are appointed on the Committee. I would, therefore, urge that, in future, whenever such Committees are

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appointed, at least representatives of such Associations as the Teachers' and Headmasters' Association should invariably be appointed on those Committees. That is a normal thing. And yet, I do not understand why the representatives of teachers do not come in the formation of these Committees.

These were the suggestions which I wanted to make and I am sure Government would favourably consider these suggestions.

શ્રી. મગનભાઈ પી. દેસાઈ (નોમીનેટ્ડ): અધ્યક્ષ બહેન, નામદાર ગવર્નર સાહેબના પ્રવચન બદલ જે આભાર પ્રસ્તાવ રજૂ થયો છે તે અંગે હું થોડુંક કહેવા માગું છું. આ વખતે ગવર્નર સાહેબનું વ્યાખ્યાન ગયા વખત કરતાં—મને યાદ આવે છે તે ઉપરથી કહું તો—કાંઈક લાંબું છે. અને તે ઉપરથી કેટલાક મિત્રોને એવી છાપ પડી લાગે છે કે આ વ્યાખ્યાન ઘણું વિગતમાં પડી ગયું છે. અને તેથી ૩૮ નંદલાં રીગ્રેટ એમેન્ડમેન્ટ્સ રજૂ થઈ બેઠાં છે. આ વ્યાખ્યાન જોતાં એ સાફ વસ્તુ છે કે ગવર્નર સાહેબના અથવા તો આ સ્ટેટના અધ્યક્ષના વ્યાખ્યાનનું સ્વરૂપ એ છે કે તે પોલીસી સ્ટેટમેન્ટ હોય છે. આ ભાઈઓ તરફથી ખાસ કરીને જે ઓપોઝીશન તરફથી કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે તે ઉપરથી દેખાય છે કે તેમને લાગ્યું છે કે આ પ્રવચન કાંઈક વિગતમાં પડી ગયું છે. મારે એ જણાવવું જોઈએ કે આ કોઈ વિગતનું વ્યાખ્યાન નથી. પ્રવચનના પહેલા બે પેરેગ્રાફમાં રાજ્યે ઠીક ઠીક પ્રગતિ કરી છે એમ સ્પષ્ટ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે. પહેલા પેરેગ્રાફમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે:—

"As a result of the hard and sustained work put in by Honourable Members during the previous Sessions considerable progress has already been made in the immediate tasks arising out of the States Re-organisation."

રાજ્યની જે મુખ્ય નીતિ છે એ બાબતમાં શું કરવામાં આવ્યું છે તે આમાં બતાવવામાં આવ્યું છે. આખું પ્રવચન ૧૮ થી ૧૯ પાનાઓમાં વહેંચાયેલું છે. પણ આખા પ્રવચનનો જે મુખ્ય ઝીક છે તે અંગે પેરેગ્રાફ બેમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે:—

"It is a matter of great satisfaction that in the year which has just closed, it was possible to take a number of important steps to consolidate and re-organise the administration of the new State, by promoting unity among its different parts; securing the integration of the services; laying down uniformity of administrative patterns; and decentralising the process of administration through a larger delegation of powers."

આ વસ્તુઓ અંગેનું આ વ્યાખ્યાન છે. અને તેને માટે જે જે કામો થયા છે એના દાખલા આપ્યા છે. જો આપણે આ દાખલાઓ ઉપર જ ભાર મૂકીને આ વ્યાખ્યાનનો વિચાર કરશું તો મને બીક છે કે કદાચ આપણે ભૂલાવામાં પડી જશું. ગવર્નર સાહેબ કહેવા માગે છે કે બે વર્ષ પહેલાં આ રાજ્યમાં એક ભારે મોટો કફોડો પ્રસંગ ઉભો થયો હતો. આ એડમિનિસ્ટ્રેશન બરાબર ચાલશે કે કેમ તે માટે એક પ્રકારની ભીતી ઉભી થઈ હતી. એટલું જ નહિ પણ આ હાઉસની અંદર અને નીચલા હાઉસની અંદર તેમજ બહાર ચેલેન્જ અને પડકાર ફેંકવામાં આવતા હતા કે આ રાજ્ય નહિ ચાલી શકે. ગવર્નર સાહેબનો આભાર માનવાને કારણે એ છે કે આ રાજ્યનું વહીવટી તંત્ર બરાબર સ્થિર થઈ ગયું છે. આપણે પોતે આપણા પોતાનો આભાર માનવો હોય તો પણ માનવો જોઈએ. કેટલાયે લોકો એવું માનતા હતા કે આ દ્વિભાષી રાજ્ય, આટલો મોટો વહીવટ, આટલું મોટું રાજ્ય જે થયું છે તે ચાલી નહિ શકે અને એનો હારિયો થશે. એવી જાતના વિચારો આ હાઉસ અને બહાર લોકોમાં ફેલાવવામાં આવ્યા હતા. આનંદની વસ્તુ છે કે કોઈ પણ પ્રકારના 'રીગ્રેટ' લેવા જેવી વસ્તુ આ રાજ્યમાં કાંઈ થઈ નથી. અને કાંઈ આવું થશે એમ માનનારા અફળ થયા છે. આ સરકારે આ રાજ્યનો વિકાસ કરવા માટે જે પ્રમાણે યોજના કરી છે એ પ્રમાણે એણે કાર્યો કર્યા છે અને એવાં કામો કરવા હજુ પણ પ્રયત્નો ચાલુ રાખ્યા છે. એટલે ગવર્નર સાહેબે આપણને જે આ વાત કહી છે એ આપણા માટે આનંદની વસ્તુ છે. ઈશ્વરનો આભાર માનીએ કે આ રાજ્યની સામે આવી જાતના પ્રયત્નો હોવા છતાં—આ રાજ્યને દ્વિભાષી કહેા કે ગમે તે કહો—પણ તે આગળ ચાલ્યું છે. તો પછી 'રીગ્રેટ' શેને માટે થાય છે?

[શ્રી. મગનભાઈ પી. દેસાઈ]

જે લોકો આશા રાખતા હતા કે આ રાજ્ય નહિ ચાલે, આ રાજ્ય તૂટી પડશે, એમ જે લોકો માનતા હતા કે લોકોએ 'રીગ્રેટ' લેવા જેવું છે. I sympathise with them. એમને માટે સહાનુભૂતિ રાખવા જેવું છે.

નિવેદનમાં એક વસ્તુ મને યાદ છે કે સ્પષ્ટ કરવાની જરૂર છે અને તે એ છે કે સ્ટેટ્સ રીઓર્ગેનીઝેશનના પ્રશ્ન પછી આ રાજ્યે હવે જે કોઈ પ્રશ્નને ખ્યાલમાં લેવાનો હોય તો એ ભાષા અને શિક્ષણ અંગેનો પ્રશ્ન છે. આ રાજ્યની ચાલુ ભાષાનો ઉપયોગ વ્યવસ્થિત રીતે થાય એ માટે બંધારણે જે અધિકારો આપ્યા છે તેનો વિચાર કરી પગલું ભરવું જોઈએ. હવે આ દેશની અંદર રાજ્યનો વહીવટ કરી ભાષામાં ચાલે, શિક્ષણ કરી ભાષામાં આપાય, એ માટેનું વાતાવરણ સાફ થવા લાગ્યું છે. આ માટેનું બિલ ૩-૪ વર્ષ પહેલાં કોન્સીલ આગળ આવવાનું હતું અને એ બિલ સરક્યુલેટ પણ કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. પણ પછી તે રજૂ કરવામાં આવ્યું ન હતું. હવે આ બાબત ઉપર વિચાર કરવો જોઈએ. ભલે એ જ બિલ ન આવે, કારણ કે એ બિલને આજે ૪-૫ વર્ષ વીતી ગયા છે.

ખાસ કરીને હિન્દુસ્તાનનો ભાષાકીય નક્કો કરી રીતે ગોઠવવો એ ગયા વર્ષે નક્કી થઈ ગયું છે. દરેક રાજ્યને કોન્સ્ટીટ્યુશને અધિકાર આપ્યા છે કે પોતાના પ્રદેશમાં જે જે ભાષા ચાલતી હોય એનો મુક્ત ઉપયોગ રાજ્ય કરી શકે. હાઈ કોર્ટ, લેજિસ્લેચર, શિક્ષણ અને રાજ્યનો વહીવટ આ ચાર એના મુખ્ય મેદાન છે. એ મેદાનોમાં પ્રાદેશિક ભાષા વાપરવાની છૂટ બંધારણે આપી છે, ધારાસભાએ પણ છૂટ આપી છે. ૨-૩ વર્ષ ઉપર આ અંગે જનજનના ઝગઝગ, જનજનના વિચારભેદો, જનજનના મતમતાંતરો, જે ચાખે ચી હતા. હું માનું છું કે હવે દેશમાં આ વસ્તુ સાફ થઈ છે. રાજ્યને પોતાના પ્રદેશમાં વપરાતી ભાષા વાપરવાનો અધિકાર છે. દ્વિભાષી રાજ્યમાં બંને ભાષા વાપરવાનો અધિકાર છે અને એ રૂએ આપણે આગળ ચાલશું.

અધ્યક્ષ બહેન, કેળવણી બાબતમાં થોડુંક કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે. આ પોલીસીનો સવાલ છે. 'રીગ્રેટ એમેન્ડમેન્ટ' માં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે શિક્ષણની પોલીસી બરાબર નક્કી નથી થતી. નક્કી ન થવાનું મૂળ કારણ મારી સમજણ પ્રમાણે હિન્દુસ્તાનનું વાતાવરણ છે, ભાષાના પ્રશ્નની બાબતમાં જે એક ખેંચાખેંચી હતી એ છે. હવે એ વસ્તુ સાફ થઈ ગઈ છે. આ સ્ટેટે રીઓર્ગેનીઝેશન પછી પોતાની સંસ્કરતા રજા કરવી હોય તો આ બાબતમાં કદમ ઉઠાવવું જોઈશે. શિક્ષણની નીતિ બરાબર નક્કી નથી થતી એનું મૂળ કારણ આ છે.

હમણાં જ પ્રાથમિક-માધ્યમિક શિક્ષણની ઈન્સ્ટીટ્યુશન કમિટીનો શ્રી ઠાકોરભાઈએ ઉલ્લેખ કર્યો. શેનું ઈન્સ્ટીટ્યુશન કરવાનું છે? એ તો કેટલાયે વખતથી નક્કી થઈ ગયું છે. અને તે છે સાત ધોરણનું એક યુનિટ. બંધારણ કહે છે કે સાત થી ચૌદ વર્ષ સુધીના બાળકને મફત અને ફરજિયાત કેળવણી આપવાની છે. આ બંધારણ નિયુક્ત યુનિટ છે. આપણા રાજ્યમાં આ બાબતમાં શું દશા છે? પ્રાયમરી એજ્યુકેશન બોર્ડનો હું એક મેમ્બર છું એટલે હું કહું છું. આ બાબતમાં જે વસ્તુ સ્વીકારી છે, જે ભલામણ છે એનો સ્પષ્ટ અમલ રાજ્ય કરતું નથી તેને કારણે ઈન્સ્ટીટ્યુશનના પ્રશ્નો ઉભા થયા કરે છે. આપણા રાજ્યની અંદર અંગ્રેજી ભાષાના સ્થાન વિષે ખેંચાખેંચી થયા કરે છે. કોન્સ્ટીટ્યુશને જે આદેશ કરેલ છે તેને અનુસરીને આ રાજ્યે જે પગલું ઉઠાવ્યું હતું એ પગલામાં મંદતા લાવવા માટે આજે એક જાતનો પ્રયત્ન થઈ રહ્યો છે. આશા રાખું છું કે સરકાર આ પ્રયત્નને પહોંચી વળશે. એટલે બંધારણના આદેશ બરાબર લક્ષમાં રાખીને સાત વર્ષથી ચૌદ વર્ષના બાળકને મફત અને ફરજિયાત શિક્ષણ આપવાનું છે. એમાં અંગ્રેજીને સ્થાન ન હોય. જે એનું સ્થાન ચાલુ રાખશું તો ખાત્રીપૂર્વક કહું છું કે સ્ટેટ્સ રીઓર્ગેનીઝેશનના પ્રશ્ન ઉપર આપણે ત્યાં જેટલી મુશ્કેલીઓ ઉભી થઈ હતી એથી વિશેષ જનજનની મુશ્કેલીઓ ઉભી થયા કરશે. આ જે ૩૮ 'રીગ્રેટ એમેન્ડમેન્ટો' રજૂ થયા છે એનું મૂળ કારણ એ છે કે દ્વિભાષી રાજ્ય સફળ થઈ રહ્યું છે. ગવર્નર સાહેબે જણાવ્યું તેમ રાજ્ય સરકારે નક્કી કરેલી નીતિ પ્રમાણે બરાબર ચાલી રહ્યું છે. એટલે આ 'રીગ્રેટ' આ રાજ્ય સાફ ચાલી રહ્યું છે એના દુ:ખની અંદરથી પેદા થયાં છે.

[શ્રી. મગનભાઈ પી. દેસાઈ]

છેલ્લે, મારે એક વસ્તુ કહેવાની છે તે એ છે કે આ દ્વિભાષી બાબતમાં વારંવાર પ્રશ્ન કરવામાં આવે છે. શું આ કોન્સીલની અંદર કે નીચલા હાઉસની અંદર ભાષાવાર રાજ્યના સિધ્ધાંતનો ઈન્કાર કરવામાં આવ્યો છે? ઓપોઝિશનના ભાઈઓ વારંવાર આ વાતનો ઉલ્લેખ કરે છે. વસ્તુસ્થિતિ એ છે કે એ પ્રકારે રચના કરવા જતાં આપણે એકમત થઈ શકતા નથી. આપણે એકમત નથી થઈ શકતા એટલે દોષનો ટોપલો સામી બાજુ ઉપર ફેંકવા માગીએ છીએ. હું એ કહેવા માગું છું કે પહેલાં આપણે એકમત થઈએ. સમિતિ અને પરિષદના મિત્રો ભેગા થયા કરે છે. એ સિધ્ધ કરી રહ્યા છે કે આ દ્વિભાષી રાજ્ય સિવાય બીજો કોઈ ઉકેલ નથી. સમિતિ અને પરિષદના ભાઈઓ કેટલાયે મહિનાઓ થયા માથાકૂટ કરે છે. એમની એ માથાકૂટ એમને મુબારક. આવી જાતની માથાકૂટ આ પહેલાં નથી થઈ અને અમે મેદાનમાં પહેલાં બહાર પડીને શ્રેય લઈ શકીએ છીએ એવું એ ભાઈઓ માને છે. પરંતુ શ્રેયને બદલે એમને 'રીગ્રેટ' જ મળવાની છે, મળી રહી છે. ૧૯૨૨ થી ૧૯૫૦ સુધી નહિ પણ ૧૯૫૫ સુધીમાં આને માટેના ત્રણ કમિશન આવી ગયા. ધાર કમિશન, એસ. આર. સી. કમિશન અને પાલમિન્ટનું બિલ. આ ત્રણેય તપાસને અંતે એમ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે આ મુંબઈ પ્રાન્તને જમ છે તેમ જ ચાલુ રાખો. અને જે યુનીર્વીગવલ સ્ટેટ્સ કરવા માગતા હશે તો નહિ બની શકે. જે આ રાજ્ય છે એને એ પ્રમાણે જ રાખો. જે યુનીર્વીગવલ સ્ટેટ્સ કરવા માગતા હો તો મુંબઈ શહેર અલગ કરી એના ત્રણ સ્ટેટ્સ કરી શકો છો. એ સિવાય ત્રીજો કોઈ ઉકેલ નથી. "પરિષદ" અને "સમિતિના" મિત્રો આનો ઉકેલ શોધવા માટે માથાકૂટ કરી રહ્યા છે. ભગવાનને પ્રાર્થના કરીએ કે આમાંથી કંઈ રાનું ન નીકળે તો સારું. મિત્રો, આ વસ્તુ મારે એટલા માટે કહેવી પડે છે — મિત્રો મારે ન કહેવું જોઈએ, અધ્યક્ષ બહેન, હું એ કહેવા માગતો હતો કે આ વસ્તુને ખ્યાલમાં રાખ્યા વગર ચાલશે નહીં. ગવર્નર સાહેબે પહેલાં જે વસ્તુ કહી છે By promoting unity among its different parts in the State તે છેલ્લે ધ્યાનમાં લેવાની છે. "રીગ્રેટફુલ રીમાર્ક્સ" ઓપોઝીશન તરફથી કરવામાં આવ્યા છે. ગમે તેટલા રીગ્રેટફુલ રીમાર્ક્સ તેઓ કરે પણ તેમનો હેતુ સર્વો નથી. — તેઓ આજે અક્ષુ થયા છે. આ વસ્તુ ધ્યાનમાં રાખીને આપણે રીગ્રેટ વ્યક્ત કરવાને બદલે આપણા ભાષાના ઝઘડા દૂર કરીએ તો સારું છે. ગવર્નર સાહેબે હર્ષપૂર્વક જે નિવેદન કયું છે, તેમાં ચોક્કસ ઉત્સાહ દેખાય છે. આ રાજ્યની પ્રગતિ ઠીક ઠીક થઈ છે, તે તેમણે સ્પષ્ટ બતાવ્યું છે અને એનો રિપોર્ટ કરતાં તેમને આનંદ થાય છે. એ આનંદ સાથે એમનો આભાર માનવાનો જે પ્રસ્તાવ રજૂ થયો છે એને હું ટેકો આપું છું.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member Shri Page will now speak in reply. I would like the hon. Member to be very brief, as the Hon. Finance Minister has got some appointment and he would like to leave earlier, i.e. 7 p.m. closing time and not sit longer.

Shri V. S. PAGE (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly): Madam Chairman, I am rising here to reply to the debate, as I had the privilege of moving the Motion of Thanks to the Governor for his Address. I am asked to be brief and rightly so. In the beginning also I was very brief. I wanted to give a detailed reply but I am conscious that the time at my disposal is short. Therefore, I will leave out certain questions which have already been replied to and anticipate that certain questions will be replied to by the Hon. Minister, Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta.

The most debated question has been the democratisation of local bodies. It has been fully replied to by the Hon. Minister for Local Self-Government so that I need not enter into again a controversy over that question. But then I have found that the amendments related to the question of grants to local bodies and the whole debate related to democratisation thereof. If hon. Members wanted to criticise and say that

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the attempt of the present Government at democratisation was not sincere, amendments to that effect could have been tabled. But, as I said, there has been no amendment to that effect. So I must say that I found the speeches rather going away from the amendments actually tabled. The amendments were relating to grants to local bodies and there is no dispute that the grants are being increased and equitably distributed.

The second question raised is about more and more facilities being made available for admission of students to the medical colleges. My hon. Friend Dr. Lagu has replied to that question. I may add one thing with reference to this question of admission of students to medical colleges. All statistics, as for instance the number of colleges, etc., have been given by the hon. Member Dr. Lagu which amply prove, leaving no room for anybody to doubt, that our State stands in a better position in this respect than any other. What I would add is that Government is anxious that more and more facilities for admission into medical colleges are provided. I may point out that four districts which formed part of the old Bombay State have now gone over to Mysore State. At Hubli a new medical college has been started and 64 students are admitted from that State into the medical colleges of our State. So, with the Hubli college functioning, 64 seats will be available to the students from our State. I do not know whether this question has been decided or whether it will be a question before the Zonal Council for consideration. But it is our hope that after the starting of the Hubli Medical College, naturally 64 seats will come to us. Another thing I learn is that Government is considering the question of increasing by 20 per cent. the admissible number in each medical college. I do not know what would be the financial implications of this but that would undoubtedly be a better method of giving more and more facilities for admission to students.

One other question I would like to touch is about sugar factories, a ghastly picture about which was drawn before us by one of our friends. Practically I was terrified at it because, in my district, agriculturists and workers have started one sugar factory. The picture that was painted by one of our hon. Friends was so terrifying that I began to think seriously about it. I do not know the details of the factories which he referred; he did not name them, nor did he give the actual figures, but all the same he drew a ghastly picture, as I said. In the beginning or at the start there are certain inconveniences and difficulties. I have visited two sugar factories, one at Phaltan and another at Bardoli. I learnt that the first factory has gone into full productive capacity. At Bardoli also I learnt from the Manager or person working there that the sugar factory is working satisfactorily. I do not know of other factories and I expect that the Hon. Minister to elucidate the point and throw some light on the question.

Another question to which a reply is expected from me is concerning my own district. I do not know how much I can satisfy my hon. Friend Dr. Sathaye as regards the progress of the Koyna scheme. I am not a technician but time and again I have visited the site and seen the work going on there. Up to now I have visited that site 5 or 6 times. My last visit was about two months' back. From what I have seen I may say that there are three parts of the

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Koyna scheme : One is at Pophali, the second at Navja and the third is the dam site at Helwak. The work at Pophali is of four tunnels and that work is finished—the head race tunnel, tail water tunnel, approach tunnel and ventilation tunnel that are all almost complete. I have moved through these tunnels and I felt what a wonderful work has been done. Anybody who visits the work—and there have been foreign visitors—gets the same impression. At the dam site all preliminary preparations are being made. I found some foreign engineers moving about, and, as I said, preparations are being made and we hope that the dam work will begin soon. The work seems to have made quite an appreciable progress but I have not got the relevant figures to give to the House. I hope the Hon. Minister will say something about it.

Another point was as regards N.E. S. and Community Development projects and the progress made in regard to them. I am sorry to say that hon. Members do not know that there is an Evaluation Committee and one of the reports of that Committee was laid on the table of this Hon. House only yesterday. I am referring to the report of the team for the study of community projects and national extension service, Volume III, Part II. Hon. Members can avail themselves of the information given therein. It shows that sample surveys have been carried out as was suggested by some Members now.

There were many other points and I should say that hon. Members were misinformed in some respects. I wanted to clear the position but I have no time. One hon. Member, Shri Bhide, said that Talatis have been given absolute power. In democracy, it is impossible that anybody should have absolute power. How can Talatis have absolute powers? He said that, if he wanted, he could make any entry in the Record of Rights, the Hon. Member is abundantly misinformed. Formerly, the final entries of crop inspection used to be made by Talatis as they were doing that work, even when new persons had entered the lands, but that is not the position since 1952. If the hon. Member does not know this, how many agriculturists would know it? As I said, since 1952 the work of crop inspection and entering the names of persons cultivating land is taken away from the Talatis so far as new entrants are concerned. Now he has to make a report to the Mamlatdar if he wants to make any change in any entry. There is no power in this respect with the Talatis since 1952. If they are using this power, then hon. Members can make a complaint to the Collector at once and the Collectors have been instructed to take stringent measures. I have seen that the Talatis have been dealt with sternly for breaches of these orders. Every new entry has to be made or changed after making a report and getting sanction of the Mamlatdar. The Talatis cannot do it themselves. There is no absolute power with them. But the public has to be informed and they have to be vigilant. Vigilance is the price of democracy. I would not like to say much on this point.

One other point on which I would like to offer certain remarks is the question of linguistic provinces. I did not expect that this question would be raked up here. Within 7 or 8 minutes at my disposal I cannot deal with the remarks made on the subject. I might add that I have dealt with this subject on the floor of this House before and given my views on the question and I stick to them even today. I have not swerved from them. Any one can read them in the previous debates.

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A remark was made that the Indian National Congress had committed itself before the advent of *swaraj* to the principle of linguistic provinces. There cannot be a greater misunderstanding than this. But it is prevalent throughout the public life and I would like to contradict or controvert it on the floor of this House with all the sense of responsibility and with all the emphasis I can bring to bear on it. Before 1947 or before *swaraj* came to us, the Indian National Congress never passed a resolution supporting linguistic provinces. The idea never occurred to the Congress. Can anybody point out any single reference or resolution to that effect? I have gone through all the resolutions. In 1920 there was one resolution passed by the Congress. But that resolution said that that Provincial Congress Committee will have headquarters at certain places. There was no question of formation of linguistic provinces for administrative purposes. I am not stating my own opinion. It may be that my study may be inadequate, but as far as I know there was no resolution of the Congress which specifically accepted the principle of creation of linguistic provinces. It was only in 1948 that this question was raised in the Constituent Assembly, and pursuant to the opinions expressed, a Committee was appointed to go into the question. This was known as Dhar Committee and it was after the publication of this Committee's report that the Congress took up the question in its own hands. The first time that the Indian National Congress accepted the principle was in the year 1948. But before 1948, the Congress had never referred to it even. However, I do not want to go into all these details, but I may say here that the misunderstanding that has been created here that the Congress has accepted the principle of linguistic provinces and has now made a breach of promise regarding that principle is not correct. I contradict that statement of the hon. Member Shri Donde that the Indian National Congress had accepted that principle even before Independence.

Some of the hon. Members here think that this bilingual State is a sort of imposition. It is imposed by the Congress. That was the trend of the speeches I have heard. I want to make it clear on the floor of this House that the Congress had adopted the rule of not imposing anything. They took up the position that they would never decide the issue themselves. Therefore, they adopted the method of appointing a Commission whose report would be placed before the Parliament. When the Commission was appointed, nobody took any objection either to the appointment of the Commission or to its personnel. In fact, the Opposition presented their memoranda to the Commission, and when the result of the Commission on this question was out, they asked the Congress to redecide the position. What did the Congress do? They said, "All right. Here are the recommendations of the Commission and we will pass a Resolution on the recommendations of the Commission." The Congress passed a resolution generally accepting the Commission's recommendations and they further said that, except where some alternate solutions could be arrived at by more general agreement, those recommendations should be adopted. So, the Congress said that they would change the recommendation of the Commission where there was an alternate solution by general agreement. This meant that they did not want to decide anything or impose anything. They wanted simply general agreement on that issue. They took up the

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position of not imposing anything, still it has been stated here that they imposed this bilingual State, which is incorrect. It is the commission's decision to form a bilingual State of Gujarat and Maharashtra. The Indian National Congress persuaded the Vidarbha people to join this. It can be blamed or praised for this contribution to the bilingual recommended by the high-power commission.

A point was made here that we should now study the results of the recent bye-elections and form unilingual States. In Marathi they say, "पोट निवडणुकांनी पोट भरत नाही." But what about the results of the General Elections? The Samyukta Maharashtra Samiti did not get a majority in Bombay city. It did not get a majority in the proposed Samyukta Maharashtra and it did not get a majority in this bilingual State. Therefore in the General Elections the question was settled for at least five years. Therefore, if the hon. Members of the Opposition ask us to study the results of the bye-elections, I would ask them to study the results of the recent bye-elections to the Bombay Legislative Council in which, in the Maharashtra North Local Authorities Constituency, the Congress got 517 votes, while the Samiti secured 329 votes. Similarly, in the Local Authorities in Southern Maharashtra constituency, the Congress secured 530 votes, as against the Samiti getting 386 votes. I will not speak about the elections of the District Local Boards, elections held in Gujarat, Baroda, Banas Kantha and even in some parts of Maharashtra, like the South Satara and Kolhapur Districts where the Congress has secured a majority. So, this shows in which way the wind is blowing. It is true that sometimes it may blow in one direction and sometimes it may blow in another direction. But at least according to the results of the General Elections, for five years this bilingual State has come to stay. It is an experiment not to be viewed from a provincial point of view, but it has got to be viewed from an all-India perspective. Unilingual States have also been established in this country along with this bilingual State and now voices are

6-30 p.m. coming to our ears from certain quarters that people want States absolutely separated from the rest of the country.

So, for about a period of five years we will have gained experience both of the administration of the unilingual States and of this bilingual State. Our bilingual State is an experiment which is being watched by the country as a whole. Of course, I cannot now place before this House my view point in detail about the question of reorganisation of States, but I am requesting the hon. Members of the Opposition not to be impatient due to the results of some bye-elections. They should wait for five years, watch this experiment of the bilingual State dispassionately and then consider the question again properly. In the meantime, there should not be any heat created. They should observe things for five years and then consider whether this bilingual State is better or the unilingual State is better.

With these words, I conclude my remarks.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance): Madam Chairman, the debate on the Motion of Thanks for the Governor's Address has been interesting in some respects because various hon. Members have tried to place before the House various points which had already been made out on a previous occasion.

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But, Madam, I see no reason why such a heat, as was generated today, should have been generated so far as the linguistic matters were concerned. Is not the country one? Is it composed of different sections or units or different countries? We must bear in mind that the country is one. Are we going to think in terms of having separate nations or are we going to recognise ourselves as one nation with one national existence? That is the question which we should ask ourselves. If we go on bickering for having a separate Maharashtra or a separate State of Gujarat, it will not add to the prestige of our country. I think it is high time we realise this very carefully, especially when we have taken up the question of spending an enormous amount on constructive work that our country badly needs. For almost 200 years our country had remained stagnant, and in the course of the last ten years or so, in spite of what the Opposition has said during the course of the debate, the country has advanced a great deal and a lot of constructive work has been done and it would require three or four Five-Year Plans before we can say that we have reached a stage of industrial, economic or agricultural development somewhat akin to what is seen elsewhere in the Western countries. Therefore, should we go on constantly bickering on this particular question?

So far as Government is concerned, it has got a definite policy with regard to the use of languages. Government has said that, so far as primary and secondary stages of education are concerned, the education should be through the mother tongue. What further clarification, therefore, is necessary on this point? So far as university education is concerned—I am sorry the Principal of the Fergusson College is not present here—I would have liked to ask him as to what the Poona University has done in the matter of instruction through regional language. Government had desired the university to move in that matter, but the university has remained silent. They have done very little in the way of encouraging instructions through the Marathi language. Any way, is it that we should never have the national language in this country? Take the question of America, for example. There the population is composed of several nationalities speaking different languages. But one fundamental thing that is accepted there is that every child must learn the English language—the national language of the country—whatever language he might be speaking at home. They say that every child must know the national language apart from the regional language and his mother tongue. Can we not adopt the same basis and go ahead? This is all that I would like to say so far as the language controversy is concerned.

So far as elections are concerned, the elections come and the elections go. It may be that a particular election may go in favour of a particular party and that section may feel quite exalted over it for the time being. But after all we had a number of elections in the course of the last 15 months or so. Now, take the elections held in Maharashtra itself. There the feeling of the people had gone to a very high pitch of tension, and if the contention of the hon. Members opposite had been correct, every possible seat from Maharashtra ought to have been captured by them. But that has not been the case. Even

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now, whether there are university elections or Council elections or local bodies elections, they are not able to capture every possible seat. So far as Gujarat is concerned, for some time in certain areas of Gujarat, the Janata Parishad carried the day, but what is the position today? So we must realise that we have to try to make up our differences and go on with the construction works.

Now, coming to the various questions that have been raised by some of the hon. Friends, the hon. Member Shri Ogale made a reference to the Zonal Council. He was good enough to ask me only one single question, *viz.*, “Would I repeat the assurance that I gave on the last occasion?” and I repeat that assurance as forcibly as I did it on the previous occasion. It is not right to go into the controversial matter so far as the attitude of this Government is concerned but I might tell the hon. Member that the second meeting of the Zonal Council is coming and we will fight for our case to the best of our ability. We are depending upon what the Chairman of the Zonal Council had mentioned during the sitting of the Council at Bangalore. The case of the areas which we want to be incorporated in our State is quite clear. Whatever may be the nature of language expressed in the newspaper reports, we will not follow in their trend but we shall pursue the point. The only thing is that we must be patient.

Then hon. Member Dr. Khair made a reference to the industrial policy, and particularly to the Master Plan. He seems to think that the Master Plan can be framed and carried out in a day or two or a month or two. We know that, for the city of Bombay, there is a Master Plan which is going on for the last 10 to 15 years and still it is in an undecided state. I do not mean to say that we should take invariably a long time. But for the Master Plan for industries, we have appointed geologists to survey the position of mineral oil in Cambay, in Kaira District, iron and manganese in Chanda District, etc. Similarly we wanted to know whether bauxite would be available from some areas. These things will take a long time. In addition, there are other incidental questions, such as whether electric energy would be available or not, how we shall get it there, whether road transport or rail transport would be available there or not, etc. I must make it clear that such a Master Plan cannot be evolved in a year or two but we are making efforts in that direction. I think this should convince the hon. Member that we are taking proper steps for the preparation of the Master Plan.

Then the hon. Member Dr. Sathaye said that we should have more medical colleges, and particularly we should have at least one college at Sholapur and one at Surat. But in the medical colleges which we have, we cannot find sufficient number of teachers. In the first instance, for starting such a college and the associated teaching hospital, crores of rupees are required. Apart from the lack of funds, we have not got a sufficient number of teaching staff. In spite of that we are having two medical colleges, one at Aurangabad and the other at Jamnagar, in the second Five-Year Plan, but we have found it very difficult to have staff for these institutions.

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Then, Madam, the hon. Member said that a number of points were not referred to in the Governor's Address. He said, for example, that the Governor has made no reference to the progress of prohibition, progress of the Koyna project, water supply scheme, unemployment, etc., etc. If, Madam, the Governor is to make a reference to every point, then his speech may be of fifty or hundred pages and the hon. Members themselves may be tired of reading it or, perhaps, even listening to it. After all, the Governor's speech is meant to give a broad outline to the people as to what was the progress of administration in the previous year, what difficulties Government had to contend with, and so on. That point was made very clear by my hon. Friend Shri Maganbhai Desai, as to what is the purpose of the Governor's speech. The hon. Members of this House, and through them the public, get a general idea about the administration as also the difficulties which Government had to pass through. In spite of the fact that the administration was at its breaking point, people who came from the different areas were given all facilities to get themselves acquainted with the new administrative machinery. After all people find it difficult to get used to a different kind of administration and it takes time to do so. We say in Gujarati—"પણ અંકે ડાઘા ની વહે." Sometimes officers who are forty or fifty years of age find it difficult to fall in line with a new procedure. All the same, an effort is being made to see that a uniform pattern is evolved in the State. The position of all those people who had come over from the different parts or units is being equalised as best as possible. All that has to be done along with the general administration and it is not an easy matter, and to have progress in this direction needs a great effort. I should say that it might take three or four years before everything is put in order.

With a view to seeing that the administration of the new State is carried on in an effective manner, Government is of the view that there should be more and more decentralisation and that idea is gradually being put into action. It might take three or four or six months more before this is actually put into good working order, and to be actually successful it might take another three or four months. With this end in view, Government is trying to give more and more powers to the Divisional Officers, so that every question need not be referred to us in Bombay every time. To that extent decentralisation is being done and correspondence at the district and divisional level would no doubt be in the regional language to the greatest extent possible.

So far as central administration is concerned, we should try and evolve the national language. I have got a feeling that with some people the national language is an anathema and that it should not be touched even with a pair of tongs. I do hope that the people in this State will learn the national language side by side with the regional language. Take, for example, technical education. Should we not be able to import teachers from the other States? Should we not like our students to attend educational institutions in the other States? If that is so, we should try and evolve, so far as higher education is concerned, the national language as best as possible. That does not, of course, mean that the regional language should be discouraged, but the main study should be in the national language. Take, for example, text books

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English text books are read over a large part of the country. If text books in law and medicine, are to be in the regional language, what would be the position? In the medical and scientific field, for example, the progress is so rapid that in five or six years' time a text book has to be changed materially. Shall we, with our instructions in the regional languages, be able to advance in scientific knowledge? Not at all. If, in the whole country, education is imparted through the national language, education would be better and cheaper. The worst culprits in this direction, I should say, are the Professors themselves. There is a tendency on their part to stick to English. Whenever there are discussions, say, in the University Board, they have them in English and they want to maintain English as the medium of instruction. Why is it so? That is because they are lazy people. They do not want to make an effort at speaking either in Hindi or in Marathi. That is my general complaint against the professorial staff in the different parts of the State. If the Poona University had really meant that Marathi should advance in the last 10 years, they should have done a lot of work in seeing that the medium of instruction was Marathi. But they want English to be continued, and, at the same time, they want to speak on big platforms and raise a cry of unilingual States.

As regards the Koyna Scheme, I may inform this House that a considerable advance has taken place. The hon. Member Shri Page has made a reference to it. We had recently two visits of two important officials in the United States, one in connection with the International Monetary Fund and the other from the World Bank. Their representatives had gone to see the work of Koyna Project. As a matter of fact they had written a letter to me stating therein the progress the Koyna Scheme had made. The work is progressing. This scheme is going on very well just as every other scheme. It is no use making a reference to the scheme every year in the Governor's Address. As a matter of fact, an opportunity was given to the hon. Members to tour through the different parts of the State so that they could see for themselves the progress made.

A point was raised by the hon. Member Shri Ogale regarding the fair price shops. I may say that that thing he referred to happened only in Poona District. It may be that the circular did not reach there in time or had miscarried and, therefore, some difficulty arose; otherwise, in other areas that difficulty had not arisen. We know definitely that so far as the foodgrains are concerned, the position at the present moment is satisfactory to an appreciable extent. Three months' ago we all feared that there may be scarcity of foodgrains to a considerable extent in the State because, though the rains were so plenty and the crops were good in the earlier part of the monsoon, it was not so in the latter part. Although it was feared to be a very bad year, the crop was 8 to 10 annas in most of the places. At present there is scarcity in North Gujarat and Ahmedabad, but that is in very limited areas as also in certain parts of Ahmedabad and Nasik District. The distress felt is not so great.

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A reference was made to labour people and a question was asked whether we could give them assistance either in kind or in cash. Doles are given to them; but we find that in the majority of cases people are not prepared to come forward to work. As a matter of fact, there is a shortage of workers in the factories.

Then a reference was made about the privileges that the Vidarbha agriculturists are getting by way of educational concessions and freeships. None of those concessions have been withdrawn. It made it clear on the floor of this House and the other House the last time when the Budget was discussed. We found that every State had granted certain concessions to certain people. When some parts of the other States were included in this State, we had to consider whether the concessions which those people enjoyed should be continued for those people only or whether they should be extended to the whole of the State. For the present we have decided to continue those concessions to those people only and then, in course of time, they will have to be withdrawn or extended to other areas as well. The sum total of the advantage that the different communities will get will be considerably more than the concessions or facilities that they were enjoying before the integration. On that point I can make a definite statement that every part of the State will be benefited by the arrangements that we are making, and if the concessions which are at present to certain persons are to be continued, then they would be made available to the whole of the State. But nothing can be done on the spur of the moment.

Then, a reference was made to the question of raising the prices of agricultural products. As a matter of fact, a complaint is made that the prices are high and people do not get foodgrains at cheap prices. That seems to be a very illogical state of affairs. We generally like that the prices should be fairly low—good enough for the agriculturists and not high enough for the people to suffer. And that is what Government aims at and that is actually happening at the present moment.

Then a reference was made by the hon. Member Shri Gaikwad about sugar factories, to which also the hon. Member Shri Page has replied, that there are certain sugar factories which are getting on extremely well. In the case of one or two factories there are shortages so far as crushing capacity was concerned, and so they are not functioning satisfactorily. But the contractors have undertaken to see that a certain capacity is maintained and that no extra fuel is required and that the extraction of sucrose is about 96 per cent. These are the conditions of the contract and there are penalties prescribed if these conditions are not satisfied. It is said that certain defects in the machinery have been noticed. But these machines were purchased after careful examination in consultation with the experts from the Sugar Technological Department. If, in spite of this, some defects are found, they will be attended to as soon as the crushing season is over. To rectify these defects during the season would be tantamount to closing those mills and that would mean greater loss. So I hope we will be able to have these defects removed as early as possible.

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I need not say anything about corruption. We were considering whether we should keep a paragraph about it in the Governor's speech. But we thought if there is any reference to it, it is bound to give a handle for people to talk about it. It is the policy of Government to let the House know as to what steps it is taking and probably the House knows that action is being taken against quite a large number of officers as well as other employees found indulging in corrupt practices. Sir, it is not that Government wants to conceal these things. Government wants to make things clear and that is why we decided that the various reports about action taken regarding corruption should be circulated to all the important political parties in the State, so that they might know what Government is doing in the matter, but without the co-operation of people, nothing is possible. If people are not prepared to co-operate, corruption is bound to continue, but this does not mean that there is corruption everywhere and to say that corruption is rampant in the whole State is a figment of imagination. Such people see only the black side or dark things everywhere and they do not want to see any good anywhere or in anybody.

Then, Sir, a reference was made about irrigation in Vidarbha and some of the hon. Members went on to say that Government was niggardly so far as irrigation in Vidarbha was concerned. As a matter of fact in the old Madhya Pradesh State, for irrigation, a provision of only Rs. 2.70 crores was made. But we have tried to negotiate with the Planning Commission and we got a further sum of Rs. 2.50 crores for irrigation in Vidarbha, but there is no appreciation or acknowledgement from the hon. Members on that score. Besides that, there are minor irrigation schemes and a scheme for sinking wells and they share between them a sum of about Rs. 60 lakhs or so. This would go to show that irrigation is intended to be taken up on large-scale in the Vidarbha area. Government is doing everything to the extent it is possible. One may ask why Government does not build big dams and reservoirs in Sahyadri range where rainfall is from 100" to 200", or dams on rivers like the Tapti, Narmada and Saraswati and so on, and so forth. Besides money, all these schemes would take a very long time. How many years Bhakra-Nangar Scheme has taken? How many years Hirakud Scheme has taken, even before they could develop to any appreciable extent? So, Madam Chairman, so far as the irrigation part in the Vidarbha region is concerned, it is not side-tracked or neglected.

Then a reference was made to crime in the Rajkot Division. It is true that some more murders have taken place for some reason or the other. As a matter of fact, ever since the communal riots in the country, there has unfortunately been a greater toll of loss of life by knifing people and in various other ways. And, unfortunately, murders are committed more easily than otherwise. But so far as the other categories of crime are concerned, categories 1 to 5, the number of crimes committed is less than before. It need not, therefore, be thought that the crime is increasing.

A reference was also made to industrial disputes, if I mistake not. I find from the information before me that, from January 1957 to November 1957, the new cases of disputes were 1,293 and the cases disposed of during the same

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period were 1,286. It would thus be seen that there are no particular arrears. In January 1957 there were 432 cases pending of the previous year. But at the end of the year their number is much less. So it may be said that industrial disputes are disposed of as quickly as possible.

So far as correspondence with Government Departments is concerned, quite a lot of criticism was heard about delays. Madam, if it is a private individual or firm it is possible to say that such and such a thing can be done or cannot be done, but in Government one has to consider all repercussions of a thing to be suggested and for that consultations have to be done. It is not such an easy matter. But one thing must be considered and it is whether the State is progressing or not. If there was lethargy and inaction, one would not see the progress which the State has done. Now we are spending Rs. 45 crores on capital expenditure where only a crore of rupees were spent 15 or 20 years ago and this makes the progress evident. It is quite true that, when I find that 5 or 10 miles of road in my area is not done, I feel that the progress is slow and slack. That may be right. But if we take the sum total of activities of the State we should certainly find that the State is progressing merrily ahead. During the course of their speeches and through some of the amendments tabled it was sought to be pointed out by hon. Members that they have not got enough information about the progress in various directions. As a matter of fact, all that information will be available in the "Outline of Activities" during the year, a booklet which will be submitted to the House at the time of the Budget discussion. Hon. Members will have then sufficient information available to them, and during the course of the budget discussion which will last for several days, they can also elicit much more information to find out the extent of progress the State has made. All that is not possible on the occasion of the Governor's Address and discussion thereon which lasts for one or two days only.

Madam Chairman, my Hon. Colleague and other speakers have answered various other points raised by the hon. Members of the Opposition. There is, however, one point which I should like to touch, though the Hon. Minister for Local Self-Government did make a reference to it. It is about the charge against this Government so far as Local Self-Government is concerned. The hon. Member Shri Donde and some others also levelled a charge of haughtiness or hauteur against Government for treating the Poona Corporation's resolution in a cavalier fashion. But now the Hon. Minister for Local Self-Government

has told us exactly where the fault lies. If the Municipal Corporation of Poona or its Committee wants to act in an irregular fashion or wants to act out of spite, for the sake of argument, it would not be tolerated by any Government. If that Corporation wants to do illegal things or extra-legal things, for the sake of argument, for certain purposes which the Municipal Councillors may have in mind and if Government do not permit them to carry out their wishes, then they pass resolutions. Is it democratisation? Because they were prevented to do certain things, they decided to pass resolutions and decided to criticise Government. Is that air? This is the only point that I want to make out in this respect.

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

Then, Madam, a reference was made about education and about primary schools. I find that we have as many as 48,721 primary schools in the State. The Hon. Minister for Local Self-Government has told us that we have got 54,281 villages in this enlarged State. So, if there are 48,721 primary schools, it really means that we have made progress in this direction. I am prepared to admit that in some small villages there may not be primary schools. But, in general, the progress made in the number of schools which I have given is certainly remarkable.

Now, if we take the number of scholars in our Research Departments and Universities, where they were 2,20,732 in 1949-50 there were, within a period of less than ten years, 5,20,431 in 1957-58. Similarly, the number of University Departments and research institutions which was about 8,030 before is now about 19,387. This gives us an idea of the tremendous progress that we have been making in this field.

These were the only points that I wanted to make out. I hope I have been able to reply to the various points and arguments that have been raised here during the course of the debate and that the House will accept the Motion of Thanks that has been moved by my hon. Friend Shri Page unanimously.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have got 38 amendments to this Motion. I will first put the hon. Member Dr. Sathaye's amendment. He is not present in the House.

Amendment No. 32 of Dr. Sathaye put, and negatived.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then there is another amendment standing in the name of the hon. Member Shri Ogale.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ: I am satisfied with the emphatic assurance given by the Hon. Minister and, therefore, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

Amendment No. 34 of Shri Ogale, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment No. 28 of Dr. G. S. Khair put, and negatived.

Amendments Nos. 17, 18, 20, 4, 6 and 31 of Shri K. R. Patil put, and negatived.

Amendments Nos. 10, 11 and 3 of Shri M. B. Gaikwad put, and negatived.

Amendments Nos. 15, 22, 25 and 9 of Shri Rasiklal S. Bhatt put, and negatived.

Amendments Nos. 35, 21, 36, 24, 7, 37, 8, 23, 6 and 14 of Shri C. P. Mehta put, and negatived.

Motion put, and agreed to.

(The House was adjourned at 7-10 p.m. till 2-00 p.m. on Friday, the 21st February, 1958).

Friday, the 21st February, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m. on Friday, the 21st February, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(For Questions—See Part I).

ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS OF ELECTIONS TO PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND ESTIMATES COMMITTEES.

The CHAIRMAN: The next item on the order of business for the day is the election of members on the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee. According to the programme for elections to the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee, announced on 17th February, 1958, only 6 nominations for election of 6 members of this House on the Public Accounts Committee and 6 nominations for election of 6 members of this House on the Estimates Committee were received till 5.00 p.m. on 19th February, 1958. The nominations were scrutinised on 20th February, 1958. They were found to be in order. There is no withdrawal by any of the candidates. The elections are uncontested. I, therefore, declare the following 6 members who have been nominated as elected to the Public Accounts Committee :—

1. Shri D. B. Agarwal.
2. Shri Devji Rattansey.
3. Dr. B. C. Lagu.
4. Shri C. C. Mehta.
5. Shri C. M. Patel,
6. Shri K. R. Patil.

I also declare the following six members who have been nominated as elected to the Estimates Committee :—

1. Shri A. R. Bhat.
2. Shri L. K. Maniar.
3. Shri V. S. Page.
4. Shri P. B. Patwari.
5. Dr. V. D. Sathaye.
6. Kumari Jethi Sipahimalani.

DISCUSSION ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

NON-OFFICIAL RESOLUTIONS.

GRANT OF OLD-AGE PENSION.

The CHAIRMAN : The first resolution stands in the name of hon. Member Shri H. B. Bhide. He may move it.

Shri H. B. BHIDE (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly): Sir, I beg to move—

“ज्यांना सरकारी निवृत्तिवेतन मिळत नाही अथवा भविष्यनिधि इत्यादिसारख्या कोणत्याही निधीपासून काहीच फायदा होत नाही आणि ज्यांना उदरनिर्वाहाची अन्य कोणतीही साधने नाहीत अशा ७० वर्षे वयाच्या इसमांना वृद्धापकाळ निवृत्तिवेतन म्हणून दरमहा २५ रु. मंजूर करण्यांत यावे अशी ह्या विधानपरिषदेची सरकारला शिफारस आहे.”

Resolution proposed.

The CHAIRMAN : There is an amendment to this Resolution. It stands in the name of the hon. Member Shri Gaikwad. Two days' clear notice is necessary for the hon. Member to table his amendment. In this case the Resolution has been handed over to the hon. Members on 17th February, 1958, and they knew that the Resolution was to be taken up for consideration on 21st February, 1958. So, if the hon. Member had a mind to give an amendment, he should have done it in time. But still I do not insist on that in this case as he is a new Member. I allow the hon. Member Shri Gaikwad to move his amendment. But I must make it clear that this cannot be treated as a precedent. In this connection, I must bring to the notice of the hon. Members the difficulties of the office. The office has to examine the amendments. If the amendments are in order, the office has to take out copies and then circulate them among the Members. I hope hon. Members will remember this in future.

The hon. Member Shri Gaikwad may move the Amendment.

Shri M. B. GAIKWAD (Maharashtra North-Local Authorities): Sir, I beg to move—

“In lines 2 and 3 of the Resolution for the figures and word ‘70 years’ substitute the figures and word ‘60 years’.”

Amendment proposed.

Shri P. B. PATWARI (Gujarat North—Local Authorities): Sir, before my hon. Friend discusses the Resolution, I would like to raise a point of order. If we look to the Resolution as it is, the aim of it is very clear and that is to provide old-age pension to persons of 70 years, or 60 years as proposed by the amendment. What I would like to know from my hon. Friend is whether, under the Constitution, old-age pension forms a State subject; it is a subject of the Union Government. I would, therefore, like to have an explanation from my hon. Friend before the House proceeds to discuss this Resolution.

Shri H. B. BHIDE : In my opinion, the answer to the point of order is to be given by the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN : The Resolution is in order. Relief of the disabled is a State subject and the State Government has power to give such a pension. I know that even the U. P. Government has adopted a scheme to give such relief.

श्री. एच्. बी. भिडे : माननीय सभापति, मी जो प्रस्ताव मांडला आहे त्याला तशीच कारणे आहेत. आपल्या जुन्या संस्कृतीप्रमाणे संयुक्त कुटुंब पद्धति चालू होती. त्या पद्धतीप्रमाणे घरामध्ये वार्धक्यामुळे कोणत्याही प्रकारचे शारीरिक काम करण्याची ताकद राहिली नाही अशी जी कोणी माणसे असत त्यांना पोसण्याची जबाबदारी अशा वृद्ध माणसांचे मुलगे किंवा त्यांची इतर नातेवाईक मंडळी घेत असत. पण दिवसे दिवस आपली ही जुनी संस्कृती आणि परंपरा नाहीशी होत चालली आहे आणि त्यांच्या जागी आता ज्या नव्या नव्या गोष्टी येत आहेत त्यांत वृद्ध वाडवडिलांना पोसण्याची ताकद किंवा सामर्थ्य नवीन लोकांमध्ये राहिलेले दिसून येत नाही. त्याचप्रमाणे सरकारने जे निरनिराळे कायदे केले आहेत त्यांमुळे विशेषतः लहान गांवांमध्ये आणि खेड्यांमध्ये राहणाऱ्या अनेक लोकांना आपल्या जीवनाचे भवितव्य काय आहे हे कळनासे झाले आहे. खेड्यांमध्ये मी अशी अनेक वृद्ध माणसे पाहिली आहेत की, ज्यांना वार्धक्यामुळे कोणत्याही प्रकारचे शारीरिक काम करता येत नाही. केवळ मरण येत नाही म्हणून ती जगत आहेत असे चित्र आपल्याला खेडेगांवांत अनेक ठिकाणी पाहावयास मिळते. अशांना दुपारी एक वेळ खायला मिळाले तर संध्याकाळी खायला मिळेल अशी शाश्वति नसते.

मी सुचविलेल्या योजनेचा फायदा वाटेल त्याला मिळू नये म्हणून ज्यांना सरकारी पेन्शन मिळत असेल किंवा ज्यांना प्रॉविडंट फंड मिळत असेल अशा वृद्ध माणसांना मी माझ्या प्रस्तावातून वगळलेले आहे. शिवाय, मुंबईसारख्या शहरांत किंवा खेडे गांवांत ज्यांना शेतजमिनीपासून उत्पन्न मिळत असेल अशा वृद्ध माणसांनाही मी वगळले आहे. केवळ ज्यांच्या पोषणाची काहीच तरतूद नसेल त्यांच्यासाठी काही तरी योजना असावी आणि ही योजना करण्याचे काम सरकारचेच असल्यामुळे मी हा प्रस्ताव मांडलेला आहे. आपल्या म्हातारपणी आपल्या पोषणाची काही तरी सोय पाहिजे म्हणून काही लोकांनी शेतजमिनी विकत घेऊन ठेवल्या होत्या, परंतु सरकारने जो कूळ कायदा केला त्यामुळे ह्या लोकांनी स्वतःच्या निर्वाहाची जी व्यवस्था दूरदुष्टीने करून ठेवली होती ती उद्ध्वस्त झाली आहे. तेव्हा अशा लोकांवर ही जी वृद्धावस्थेची आपत्ति आलेली आहे त्यांच्या पोषणाची जबाबदारी आता सरकारवर येऊन पडली आहे असे मी समजतो. पूर्वी घर बसल्या थोडीफार सावकारी करता येत असे, सावकारी फार मोठ्या प्रमाणावर नव्हती, पोट्यापुरती होती, पण तीही कूळ कायद्याप्रमाणे सावकारी नियंत्रण कायदा सरकारने केल्यामुळे करता येत नाहीशी झाली आहे. अशा रीतीने पूर्वीची सगळी सामाजिक घडी आता बिघडलेली असल्यामुळेच ज्याचे वय ७० वर्षांच्या पलीकडे गेले आहे अशा वृद्ध माणसांना ह्या योजनेचा फायदा मिळावा असे मी म्हटले आहे. विधायक दृष्टीने विचार केला तर असे दिसून येईल की, सरकारी नोकरीसुद्धा ६० किंवा ५५ वर्षांनंतर सरकारी नोकर निवृत्त होतो. याच्यामागेसुद्धा माझ्या प्रस्तावांमागे असलेलीच कल्पना आहे. वयाच्या ५५ किंवा ६० व्या वर्षापर्यंत कोणताही मनुष्य आपल्याजीवनासाठी बौद्धिक किंवा शारीरिक काम करू शकतो. एकाद्याची शरीर प्रकृति चांगली असेल तर तो ७० व्या वर्षापर्यंतही काम करू शकतो, पण सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. भाधवराव गायकवाड यांनी माझ्या प्रस्तावाला एक दुस्ती आणून ही वयाची अट ७० वरून ६० वर आणायची असे सुचविले आहे, व मला त्याची ही दुस्ती मान्य आहे. उत्तर प्रदेशांत अशा प्रकारची व्यवस्था सरकारमार्फत करण्यांत आली आहे, आणि गेल्या २६ जानेवारीपासून तेथे यासंबंधीच्या बिलाची अंमलबजावणी सुरू झाली आहे. वर्तमान-पत्रांत जी बातमी वाचावयास मिळाली त्यावरून असे दिसते की, २६ जानेवारीपासून उत्तर प्रदेशांत दोन हजार वृद्ध माणसांना ह्या योजनेचा फायदा मिळू लागला आहे.

[श्री. एच्. बी. भिड]

त्या सरकारनेंहि जे लँड रिफॉर्मस् केले असतील त्यामुळेजिं वृद्ध माणसें उघडधावर पडलीं असतील त्यांची जबाबदारी स्वतःवर घेऊन ज्याप्रमाणे त्यांना पेन्शन देण्यासाठी दुसरा कायदा केला त्याप्रमाणे मुंबई सरकारनेंहि ही जबाबदारी सरकारची आहे असे समजून मी आणलेला ठराव स्वीकारून त्याची अंमलबजावणी करण्याची व्यवस्था करावी अशी माझी विनंति आहे. कांहीं वेळां आपणांला अशा बातम्या अंकावयाला मिळतात कीं, कोल्हापूरला एक बाई उपासमारीनें मेली. ती बाई खरोखरी उपासमारीनें मेली असली तरी त्याबद्दल सरकारकडून शंका व्यक्त केली जाते आणि इतर कोणत्या तरी कारणांनें ती बाई मेली असें सरकारतर्फे जाहीर केले जाते. त्या बाईला जेवायला घालायला तिचे कोणी नातेवाईक नसले तरी त्या गांवांतील लोकांनी तिला उपाशी कशी मरू दिली असे वाटण्याचा संभव आहे, पण पुष्कळ वेळां असे होतें कीं, नेहमींच दुसऱ्याच्या दारी जाऊन भीक मागून जगण्यापेक्षां उपाशीं मेलेलें बरें असें स्वाभिमानी माणसाला वाटतें. शिवाय, आज परिस्थिति अन्नधान्याच्या टंचाईची असल्यामुळे शेजारच्या माणसाजवळ जर दुसऱ्याला खायला घालण्याइतकें अन्न असलें तर तो देणार. आज खेड्यापाड्यांत दुपारची वेळ भागली तर संध्याकाळची वेळ कशी भागेल याची पंचाईत असते. यामुळे दुसऱ्याला खायला घालण्याची जबाबदारी पत्करण्याइतकें सामर्थ्य खेड्यापाड्यांतील लोकांमध्ये आज राहिलेले नाही. खेड्यापाड्यांतली ही हलाखीची परिस्थिति पाहिल्यावर कोणत्याहि सहृदय माणसाचें अंतःकरण कळवळल्याशिवाय रहाणार नाही. शहरांची गोष्ट खेड्यांपेक्षां थोडीशी वेगळी आहे. शहरांत माणसांना कांहीं ना कांहीं काम मिळतें, व ज्यांच्याजवळ आहे ते लोक आपल्या घरांतील वृद्ध माणसांना खायला घालतात. खेड्यापाड्यांत शारीरिक काम केल्याशिवाय दुसरा तरुणोपाय नसतो, आणि हें शारीरिक श्रम ७० वर्षांच्या वृद्ध माणसांना करणें अशक्य असल्यामुळे अशाच माणसांना पेन्शन द्यावें असें मी सुचविलें आहे. सगळ्या प्रगतिपर देशांत ओल्डेज पेन्शन दिले जातें. आपलें मुंबई राज्यहि संबंध हिंदुस्थानांत प्रगतिपर राज्य आहे असें नेहमीं म्हटलें जातें, परंतु ह्या बाबतींत मात्र उत्तरप्रदेश राज्यानें पहिला नंबर पटकावला आहे. आतां जरी मुंबई सरकारनें ही योजना अमलांत आणली तरी ह्या राज्याचा नंबर दुसराच लागणार. पण अजिबात न करण्यापेक्षां उशिरां केलेली कोणतीहि गोष्ट चांगली असते ह्या न्यायानें सरकारनें मी सुचविलेल्या ह्या योजनेचा अवश्य विचार करावा. आतां द्विभाषिक मुंबई राज्याचें बजेट ६५ कोटीचें झाले आहे, तेव्हां यापैकी कांहीं लाख रुपये अशा उपयुक्त योजनेवर खर्च करण्याचें ठरविलें तर त्यामुळे आपल्या खजिन्यावर फारसा ताण पडेल असें नाही.

ज्या वृद्ध गृहस्थांच्या पोषणाची व्यवस्था करणारी त्यांचीं स्वतःचीं मुलें किंवा नातेवाईक नाहीत अशांचे आपणच मूलगे आहोंत असें समजून त्यांच्या पोषणाची जबाबदारी सरकारनें आपल्यावर घेतली पाहिजे. सरकारजवळ पैसा नाही ही सबब या बाबतींत सरकारनें सांगू नये. सरकारला मनापासून ही गोष्ट करावयाची असेल तर सरकार जरूर करू शकेल, आणि करावयाची नसेल तर पैशाच्या सबबीवर टाळू शकेल. ह्या सभागृहामध्ये आपण जे सभासद बसलों आहोंत त्यांना सर्वांना ६०-७० वर्षेपर्यंत जगावयाचें आहे. ज्यांना जगावयाचें नसेल ते कादाचित ह्या योजनेला विरोध करतील. परंतु ज्यांना जगावयाचें असेल त्यांनीं यापुढें आपलीं मुलें आपल्याला विचारणार नाहीं ही गोष्ट लक्षांत ठेवून निदान स्वार्थाच्या दृष्टीनें तरी सर्व सन्माननीय सभासदांनीं माझ्या ह्या प्रस्तावाला पाठिंबा द्यावा आणि सरकारनें हा प्रस्ताव स्वीकारावा अशी विनंति करून मी राजा घेतों.

श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड (महाराष्ट्र नार्थ-लोकल अँथॉरिटीज) : सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. भिडे यांनीं हा महत्वाचा ठराव सभागृहापुढें विचारासाठीं मांडलेला आहे व मी त्यांत थोडीशी दुरुस्ती सुचविली आहे. मी जी दुरुस्ती सुचविली आहे तिचें कारण अगदीं ताबें आहे. ७० वर्षांपेवजीं ६० वर्षांची अट घालावी हें सुचविण्याचें कारण असें आहे

[श्री एम्. बी. गायकवाड]

कीं, ६० वें वर्षानंतर सर्व साधारण पुढे असो किंवा स्त्री असो, त्यांच्या अंगीं कष्ट करण्याची ताकद राहिलेली नसते. या वयांत कामधंदा करण्याची ताकद नाही व उदरनिर्वाहाचें दुसरें कोणतेंहि साधन उपलब्ध नाही अशा वृद्ध माणसांच्या पोषणाची जबाबदारी सरकारनें स्वीकारली तर त्यांना निदान दोन वेळ जेवण मिळून जगतां येईल ह्या दृष्टीनें हा प्रस्ताव मांडण्यांत आलेला आहे.

सर्वांना माहित आहे कीं, ५५ वर्षेपर्यंत सरकारी नोकरीनें सरकारची नोकरी केल्यानंतर त्याला निवृत्तिवेतन देण्यांत येतें. कांहीं खात्यांत ६० वर्षानंतर हें निवृत्तिवेतन देण्यांत येतें. याच्यामागे हीच कल्पना असते कीं, ५५ ते ६० वर्षेपर्यंत सर्वसाधारणपणें माणसाच्या अंगांत काम करण्याची ताकद असते, परंतु ती वयोमर्यादा उलटल्यानंतर त्याला विश्रांतीची आवश्यकता असते. सरकारी नोकरांच्या बाबतींत हें तत्त्व सरकारनेंहि मान्य केलेलें असल्यामुळे तत्वाच्या दृष्टीनें या बाबतींत मतभेद असण्याचें कारण नाही. यावर कांहीं लोक असा एक आक्षेप घेऊं शकतील कीं, आज आपल्या देशापुढें अनेक मोठमोठे प्रश्न असतांना आणखी ही एक आर्थिक जबाबदारी आपल्या अंगावर घेणें सरकारला शक्य होईल काय ? पण यावर माझेहि उत्तर आहे. आपल्या देशापुढें पुनर्रचनेचा प्रश्न आहे, आर्थिक प्रश्न आहे, राजकीय प्रश्न आहे त्याचप्रमाणें समाजाचे जिवंत राहण्याचें आणि लोकशाहीचेहि कांहीं प्रश्न असून त्यांची जबाबदारी सरकारवर आहे. ज्या लोकांनीं आपल्या आयुष्यभर समाजाची सेवा केली आहे, समाजाच्या प्रगतीला हातभार लावला आहे, त्यांना वृद्धावस्था आल्यामुळे शारीरिक काम करण्याची ताकद शिल्लक राहिली नाही व त्यांचं पोषण करूं शकतील असें त्यांचें कोणी नातेवाईकहि नाहीत अशा अनेक वृद्ध माणसांना खेड्यापाड्यांत आज उपाशी जीवन कंठावें लागत आहे. ही परिस्थिति दूर करण्याची जबाबदारी सरकारचीच आहे. आपण पाहतों कीं समाजामधील ज्या लोकांनीं कष्ट केले पाहिजेत आणि जे कष्ट करावयाला तयार असतात त्यांना नोकऱ्या मिळत नाहीत. त्या लोकांना सरकारनें नोकऱ्या दिल्या पाहिजेत. तसेंच, वय झाल्यामुळे कष्ट करण्याची त्या लोकांना ताकद राहात नाही आणि ज्यांच्याजवळ उदरनिर्वाहाचें कोणतेंहि साधन नाही ज्यांच्या अंगीं ताकद राहात नाही आणि ज्यांच्याजवळ उदरनिर्वाहाचें कोणतेंहि साधन नाही अशांना नीटरीतीनें जगतां यावें म्हणून देखील सरकारनें कांहीतरी व्यवस्था केली पाहिजे. सरकारच्या अनेक कर्तव्यांपैकी हें एक महत्वाचें कर्तव्य आहे. साठ वर्षांचे वय झाल्यानंतर काम करण्याची ताकद अंगांत उरली नाही किंवा काम करण्यास तयार असून देखील काम मिळत नाही, अशा परिस्थितींत एखाद्या निराधार वृद्ध मनुष्याने आपल्या उदरनिर्वाहासाठीं कोणाच्या तोंडाकडे पाहावयाचें ? आज परिस्थिति अशी आहे कीं तो भीक मागावयाला गेला तर भीक देण्याची देखील लोकांची वृत्ति राहिलेली नाही. अशा परिस्थितींत, ज्यांना कोणाचाहि आंघि कसलाहि आधार नाही अशा ६० वर्षांपुढील वृद्ध लोकांनी कसें जगावें हा महत्त्वाचा प्रश्न आहे. अर्थात् यावर कांही लोक असे विचारतील कीं ६० वर्षांच्या वरील लोकांना पेन्शन द्यावयाचें म्हटलें तर इतक्या लोकांना सरकार पेन्शन देऊं शकेल काय ? परंतु याबाबतींत मला असें म्हणावयाचें आहे कीं ६० वर्षांवरील सर्वच लोक परावलंबी असतात किंवा त्यांना सरकारच्या पेन्शनची गरज भासेल असें नाही. असेहि बरेच लोक निघू शकतील की ज्यांना पेन्शन देण्याची गरज पडणार नाही. माझ्या दृष्टीनें पेन्शन देण्याचा प्रश्न समाजातील ६० वर्षांपुढील पांच किंवा दहा टक्के लोकांपुरताच उपस्थित होईल. पेन्शन मिळण्याकरितां कांहीं लोक सरकारकडे लबाडी करून देखील आपली नावे नोंदविण्याची शक्यता आहे. परंतु असे लबाड लोक हुडकून काढण्याकरितां आणि त्यांना पेन्शन योजनेचा फायदा मिळू नये म्हणून आवश्यक ती व्यवस्था करण्याच्या दृष्टीनें सरकारची यंत्रणा आहेच. पेन्शन देतांना चुकीनें अपात्र लोकांना पेन्शन देण्यांत आली तर सरकारी यंत्रणेच्या व्दारे ती चूक दुरुस्त करतां येईल. आणि ज्या लोकांना पेन्शन योजना लागू करणें आवश्यक आणि योग्य असेल त्यांनाच ती लागू व्हावी अशी व्यवस्था करतां येईल. या बाबतींत जो महत्त्वाचा आणि मुख्य प्रश्न आहे तो असा आहे

[श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड]

की मानवी मूल्यांचे जतन करण्याच्या दृष्टीने समाजातील जे वृद्ध आणि निराधार लोक आहेत आणि ज्यांच्या अंगी काम करण्याची ताकद नाही त्यांच्या पोषणाची जबाबदारी अंगावर घेण्यास सरकार तयार आहे किंवा नाही? माझ्या दृष्टीने सरकारने ही जबाबदारी आपल्या अंगावर घेतली पाहिजे. आपण पुष्कळ वेळां असे पाहतो की एखाद्या वृद्ध इसमाचा सांभाळ करण्यासाठी त्याला जर मुलगा नसेल किंवा मुलगा असून तो आपल्या बापाचा सांभाळ करावयास तयार नसेल तर त्या म्हाताऱ्या माणसाची अवस्था मोठी कठिण होते. सर्वांनी या दारुण परिस्थितीकडे पाहून द्यावे आपल्या डोळ्यांतून अश्रू ढाळावेत, परंतु त्याला प्रत्यक्ष मदत मात्र कोणीही करू नये अशी परिस्थिती आज आपणाला बहुधा दिसून येते. तेव्हा अशा लोकांना मदत करण्यासाठी पुढे येणे हे या पुढारलेल्या जगात निदान मानवी मूल्यांचे जतन करण्याच्या दृष्टीने तरी कोणत्याही सुसंस्कृत आणि प्रगत सरकारचे आद्य कर्तव्य आहे. जगात जी गोष्ट होत नाही ती आमचे मुंबई सरकार करून दाखविते असा या सरकारचा लौकिक आहे. नामदार गव्हर्नरसाहेबांच्या भाषणांत देखील अमुक अमुक चांगल्या गोष्टी करून मुंबई सरकारने राज्याची अनेक क्षेत्रांत प्रगति केली आहे अशी या सरकारची स्तुति करण्यांत आली आहे. गव्हर्नरसाहेबांच्या भाषणांत म्हटल्याप्रमाणे सरकारने प्रगति केली असेल किंवा नसेल, परंतु किमान मानवी मूल्यांचे जतन करण्याच्या दृष्टीने ६० वर्षांच्या वरील निराधार लोकांना सरकार पेन्शन देऊ इच्छिते असे जर सरकारने जाहीर केले आणि त्याप्रमाणे प्रत्यक्षांतही गोष्ट केली तर ती एक आदर्श आणि या सरकारला शोभा देणारी अशी गोष्ट ठरेल. किमान मानवी मूल्यांचे जतन करण्याच्या दृष्टीने सरकारने या प्रश्नाकडे पाहिले पाहिजे असे मुख्यतः मला याबाबतीत सरकारला सांगायचे आहे. समाजातील हा एक ज्वलंत असा प्रश्न आहे. इतर सर्व-साधारण प्रश्नांप्रमाणे या प्रश्नाचा सवडीने विचार करू किंवा त्याकरिता बजेटमध्ये खर्चाची तरतूद करता येईल किंवा नाही या दृष्टिकोनांतून सरकारने या प्रश्नाकडे बघून चालणार नाही. संबंध समाजाच्या पोषणाची जबाबदारी सरकारवर आहे ही गोष्ट क्षणभर दृष्टीआड केली तरी किमान मानवी मूल्यांचे जतन करण्याच्या दृष्टीने वृद्धत्वामुळे ज्या माणसाच्या अंगी काम करण्याची शक्ति राहिलेली नाही, ज्याला कोणाचाही आधार नाही आणि जो या देशाचा नागरिक म्हणून जगण्यासाठी धडपड करतो त्याच्याकरिता सरकार काय करण्यास तयार आहे या भूमिकेतून सरकारने या प्रश्नाकडे पाहणे अशी माझी सरकारला याबाबतीत विनंती आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे सरकारबरोबरच जनतेचेही याबाबतीत काही कर्तव्य आहे ही गोष्ट मला मान्य आहे. अर्थात् या बाबतीत सरकारने जर प्रत्यक्ष काही पाऊल टाकले आणि त्याचबरोबर जनतेलाही साहाय्य करण्याबद्दल हांक दिली तर जनता त्याबाबतीत सरकारला मदत करावयाला अवश्य तयार होईल. जेव्हा सरकारला निरनिराळ्या योजना पार पाडण्यासाठी पैसा पाहिजे असतो तेव्हा तो पैसा उभा करण्याकरिता सरकारी निवेदनाच्या किंवा विनंती-पत्रकाच्याव्दारे सरकार जनतेकडून कर्जाची मागणी करते आणि जनता देखील सरकारला पाहिजे तितक्या प्रमाणात कर्ज देते. तब्बतूच याही बाबतीत आर्थिक साहाय्य देण्याबद्दल सरकारने जनतेला जर आवाहन केले तर असे साहाय्य देण्याकरिता जनता अवश्य पुढे येईल. तेव्हा सरकारने ही जबाबदारी आपल्या अंगावर घेतली तर एका बाजूने सरकारचे प्रयत्न आणि दुसऱ्या बाजूने जनतेचे सहकार्य या प्रश्नाला लाभले तर तो सहजासहजी सुटू शकेल. परंतु या बाबतीत मी मघाशी सांगितल्याप्रमाणे जी मुख्य आणि महत्त्वाची गोष्ट आहे ती ही की या प्रश्नामागे मानवी मूल्यांचे जतन करण्याची जी तात्त्विक भूमिका आहे ती सरकारने मान्य केली पाहिजे. ही भूमिका सरकारने मान्य केल्यानंतर त्यामुळे सरकारी तिजोरीवर पडणाऱ्या आर्थिक बोजाने भयभीत होण्याचे कारण सरकारला पडणार नाही. तसे पाहिले तर या योजनेमुळे सरकारच्या तिजोरीवर फार मोठा बोजाही पडणार नाही. तेव्हा मानवी मूल्यांचे जतन करण्याच्या कर्तव्य-बुद्धीने सरकारने या प्रश्नाबाबत पाऊल उचलावे अशी विनंती करून मी आपले भाषण पुरे करतो.

श्री. के. आर. पाटील (विदर्भ स्थानिक संस्था) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज, सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. मिडे यांनी जो ठराव या ठिकाणी मांडला आहे त्याला सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. गायकवाड यांनी सुचविलेल्या दुरुस्तीसह पाठिवा देण्यासाठी मी उभा आहे. मूळ ठरावामध्ये ज्या नागरिकांचे वय ७० वर्षांच्या वर झालेले असेल आणि ज्यांच्याजवळ 2-30 p.m. उपजीविकेचे कोणतेही साधन नाही अशा नागरिकांना दरमहा २५ रु. बोल्ड एज पेन्शन देण्यांत यावे अशी विनंती सरकारला करण्यांत आली आहे. त्याला सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. गायकवाड यांनी ७० ची वयोमर्यादा ६० वर आणवी अशी दुरुस्ती जोडली आहे. वास्तविक शास्त्रशुद्धरीत्या विचार करून निदान कचेऱ्यांतून काम करणाऱ्या लोकांच्या बाबतीत तरी असा निष्कर्ष काढण्यांत आला आहे की माणसामध्ये काम करण्याची ताकद वयाच्या ५५ व्या वर्षापर्यंतच राहू शकते. ५५वे वर्ष उलटून गेल्यानंतर माणसामध्ये काम करण्याची कुवत राहात नाही. या दृष्टीने रिटायरमेंट एज म्हणून ५५वे वर्ष मानण्यांत आले आहे. असे असतांना ७० वर्षांवरील वृद्ध इसमांना पेन्शन देण्यांत यावे असे जे मूळ ठरावात म्हटले आहे ते मनाला बरे वाटत नाही. सरकारच्या दृष्टीने हा प्रॉब्लेम सोपा करण्याकरिता म्हणून ही ७० वर्षांची वयोमर्यादा या ठरावात घालण्यांत आली आहे की काय हे मला सांगता येत नाही. तसे असेल आणि १०० वर्षांच्या वर वय असणाऱ्या म्हाताऱ्यांना पेन्शन देण्यांत यावे अशी या ठरावाला कोणी सन्माननीय सभासदांनी दुरुस्ती सुचविली असती तर, मला वाटते, सरकारने ती ताबडतोब मान्य केली असती. आज उपासमारीमुळे मरणाला कवटाळण्याची पाळी लोकांवर येत असतांना साडेपांच-सहा कोटि लोकसंख्या असलेल्या या विभाषिक राज्यामध्ये शंभराच्या वर वय असलेले दहा लोक तरी सांपडतील किंवा नाही याची मला शंका आहे. तेव्हा या ठिकाणी शंभर वर्षांची आयुर्मर्यादा घालण्यांत आली असती तर कोणतीही सबब न सांगता तेवढा खर्च करण्याची तयारी सरकारने जरूर दाखविली असती असे मला वाटते. आपण ह्या प्रश्नाकडे तात्त्विक दृष्टीने पाहिले पाहिजे. ७० वर्षांपेवजी ६० वर्षांपासून हे पेन्शन देण्यांत यावे अशी एक दुरुस्ती सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. गायकवाड यांनी आणली आहे, पण ही वयोमर्यादा आणखी खाली आणून ५५ वर्षांपासून पेन्शन देण्याबद्दल दुरुस्ती आली असती तर अधिक बरे झाले असते. जरी हा ठराव पास झाला तरी त्याची प्रत्यक्ष अंमलबजावणी करतांना सरकारने ६० ऐवजी ५५ वर्षांपासून पेन्शन दिले तर फार चांगले होईल, पण हा ठराव म्हणजे सरकारला एक डोकेंदुखी होऊन बसेल, पण तसे होण्याचे काही कारण नाही. आपल्या राज्यांत भिकाऱ्यांचा फार मोठा प्रश्न होऊन बसलेला आहे व तो सोडविण्याच्या दृष्टीने सरकारने एक बेंगर्स ॲक्ट पास करून भिकाऱ्यांसाठी बेंगर्स होम्स काढण्याचा प्रोग्राम हाती घेतलेला आहे. तेव्हा हे तत्त्व सरकारने मान्य केलेले आहे असे समजावयास वांही हरकत नाही. भिकाऱ्यांचा जो प्रश्न सरकारने हाती घेतला आहे त्याच्याशी निगडित असाच हा प्रश्न असल्यामुळे तत्त्वतः सरकार हा प्रस्ताव अमान्य करू शकत नाही.

आमची भारतीय संस्कृति अशी आहे की, प्रत्येक शेतकऱ्याचा मुलगा किंवा मुलगी वयाच्या ६ व्या वर्षापासून एकाद्या जमीनदाराची गुरे राखण्यापासून सर्व प्रकारचे कष्ट-करावयास सुरुवात करतात ती वयाच्या ८० वर्षांपर्यंत सतत कष्ट करीत असतात. ऑफीस-मध्ये काम करणाऱ्या सरकारी नोकरांना आठवड्यांत शनिवारची अर्धा दिवस व रविवारची एक दिवस अशी दीड दिवस सुटी दिली जाते. आठवड्यांतील साडेपांच दिवस मॅटल एक्सर्शन झाल्यावर सरकारी नोकरांना विश्रांतीची आवश्यकता असते हे तत्त्व सरकारने मान्य केले आहे, परंतु खेड्यांमध्ये आमच्या शेतकरी जीवनात अशा प्रकारे विश्रांति न घेता वयाच्या ६ व्या वर्षापासून ७० ते ८० वर्षांपर्यंत अगदी म्हातारपण येईपर्यंत माणसे अविरत कष्ट करीत जगत असतात. एकाद्या दिवशी ताप आला किंवा इतर काही आजारा-मुळे काम करणे अशक्य झाले तर तेवढ्या पुरतीच ती माणसे घरी बसतील, पण बरी झाल्याबरोबर ताबडतोब कामाला लागतात. त्यांना डिगिटी ऑफ लेबर वगैरे तत्त्वांचा

[श्री. क. आर्. पाटील]

धडा पोणी देण्याची गरज नाही. तेव्हा अशा रीतीने कष्ट करणारा जो शेतकरी आहे किंवा शेतमजूर आहे, ज्याला कष्ट करीत जगण्यांत एक प्रकारचा स्वाभिमान वाटतो, कष्ट करीत करीत मरण्यांतच ज्याला आपल्या जीवनाची इतिश्री झाली असे वाटते, अशा शेतकऱ्याला किंवा शेतमजूराला वयाची ७० वर्षे किंवा ६० वर्षे झाल्यामुळे शारीरिक कष्ट करण्याची ताकद उरत नाही. अशा परिस्थितीतही कोणाकडे भीक मागणे हा त्याचा देहधर्म नाही. अशा प्रकारची एक प्रकारे उच्च संस्कृति आज खेड्यापाड्यांत आपणांला पाहावयास मिळते. पण जर अशा माणसांना वार्धक्यामुळे शारीरिक काम करण्याची कुवत राहिली नाही व त्यांचे पोषण करणारा त्याचा मुलगा किंवा इतर नातेवाईक मंडळी नसतील तर त्याच्या पोषणाची जबाबदारी आपल्यावर घेणे हे सरकारचे कर्तव्य ठरत नाही काय? सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. गायकवाड यांनी सांगितल्याप्रमाणे आपण घर कितीही भक्कम बांधले तरी त्यांत उंदीर विळें करतात हे चालावयाचेच, उदाहरणार्थ सरकारने रेशनिंगची सिस्टिम सुरू केली तरी गैरफायदा घणारे कांहीं लोक निघालेच. तसेच ह्या योजनेमध्येंही जरी एक दोन टक्के लोक गैरफायदा घेणारे निघाले तरी ही उपयुक्त योजना सरकारने अमान्य करता कामा नये. ह्या स्वतंत्र भारतांत जन्मलेल्या प्रत्येक माणसाने माणूस म्हणून जगावे आणि माणूस म्हणूनच मरावे असे आपले उच्च ध्येय आहे. माणसांची गोष्ट काय, पण मध्य प्रदेशांत गांवशाचा वध होऊं नये, म्हणजे गाई, बैल व म्हशी यांची कत्तल होता कामा नये, त्यांना नैसर्गिक मृत्यु येईपर्यंत जगू द्यावे असा एक कायदा केलेला आहे. आमची सहानुभूति माणसांकड जाऊं नये किंवा जाणार नाही अशी तूटती कल्पनाहि कोणाच्या मनांत येणार नाही. जनावरांनी नैसर्गिक मरण येईपर्यंत जगावे असे वाटते त्याचप्रमाणे माणसे संबंध आयुष्यभर कष्ट करून म्हातारपणी कष्ट करण्याची ताकद राहिली नाही व त्यांचे पोषण करणारी दुसरी कोणी नात्याची माणसे नाहीत म्हणून अशा वृद्ध माणसांना महिन्याला २५ पये वृद्धापकाल वेतन देण्याचे सरकारने ठरविले तर त्यांत कांहीं नवल नाही.

ह्या योजनेचा एक आर्थिक भाग आहे व त्यासाठी सरकार कुरकुर करण्याची शक्यता आहे. पण यासाठी सरकारच्या तिजोरीवर फार मोठा बोजा पडणार नाही. ज्या लोकांना ह्या योजनेप्रमाणे वेतन द्यावे लागेल असे लोक कांहीं फार नाहीत. ह्या लोकांसाठी जो खर्च येईल तो कसा भागवावयाचा हे मी सुचविणार आहे. आज सरकारचा जर कारभार पाहिला तर प्रत्येक खात्यांत पेंशाची उधळपट्टी चाललेली आपल्याला दिसते. ही उधळपट्टी कमी करून बचत केली तर पेंशाची अडचण येणार नाही असा मला विश्वास वाटतो. आपल्या सभागृहाचेच उदाहरण घेऊं या. विद्वांसभक्त झाल्यामुळे असेंबलीचे सभासद वाढले म्हणून सभासदांची बसण्याची पूर्वीची जी व्यवस्था होती ती मोडून खुर्च्या ठेवण्यांत आल्या. पुढे त्या खुर्च्या रद्द करून पुन्हा बाकांची व्यवस्था करण्यांत आली. ह्या बदलाबदलीत सरकारचा किती तरी पैसा फुकट गेला असेल. तेव्हा अशाच प्रकारे प्रत्येक सरकारी खात्यांत जो अनाठायी खर्च होत असेल तो कमी करून हा पैसा ह्या कामी उपयोगांत आणला तर पेंशाची अडचण सांगण्याचे सरकारला कारण उरणार नाही.

मी सुरुवातीला सांगितल्याप्रमाणे सरकारने भिकाऱ्यांचा जो प्रश्न हातीं घेतला आहे तो संपूर्णपणे यशस्वी करावयाचा असेल तर त्या प्रश्नाशी निगडित असलेला हा वृद्धापकाल वेतनाचा प्रश्न सरकारने सोडविण्याच्या मार्गाला लागले पाहिजे. तेव्हा ह्या प्रस्तावांत जरी ६० वर्षांची वयोमर्यादा घातलेली असली तरी प्रस्तावाची प्रत्यक्ष अंमलबजावणी करतांना सरकारने औदार्य दाखवून ५५ वर्षांच्या वृद्धांनाहि ह्या योजनेचा फायदा द्यावा अशी सरकारला नम्र विनंति करून मी रजा घेतो.

Shri M. V. DONDE (Greater Bombay-m-Maharashtra—Teachers) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Resolution that is before the House and I feel quite sure.....

The CHAIRMAN : There is an amendment to the Resolution.

Shri M. V. DONDE : I support the amended Resolution and I feel quite sure that it will be accepted by the House as it is non-controversial.

I rather feel that the provision of Rs. 25 per month is too modest. I do not know on what consideration the Mover of the Resolution has put down the sum of Rs. 25 per month as old-age pension. In these days, we are talking a lot about creating a socialistic society, and I consider the idea underlying this Resolution as a socialistic idea. It is not fantastic at all in any way, as it has been found to be quite practicable by the U.P. Government. Really speaking, Bombay Government, as in many other respects, should have given a lead to all the other State Governments in matters of progressive legislation. Therefore, I never at all believe that Bombay Government would ever think of opposing this Resolution.

Sir, a reference has been made to the age of pension which is considered to be fifty-five at present. I do not think that the age of fifty-five can be considered as a pensionable age in our country. The age of fifty-five had been fixed arbitrarily by the British Government. Of course, the British officers fixed that for their purpose because, after retiring at the age of fifty-five, they naturally thought of going home, to spend 20 or 25 years more in enjoying pension from the Indian Treasury. But, Sir, in our country ordinarily a person can be useful and can work for his subsistence up to the age of sixty. I am glad that, in some of the Departments—particularly I know in the case of the Education Department—a man can get the advantage of pension at the age of fifty-five, but if he is found fit, he can be given an extension upto the age of sixty.

Now, Sir, I would make an appeal to Government, that Government should at least accept the principle or the underlying idea of the Resolution and then it may consider the financial implications of such a proposition. If this Resolution is accepted, the country will know that the Government of Bombay subscribes to this particular principle; the question of payment of Rs. 25 or Rs. 35 per month is more or less a matter of detail. It is not possible for every man to get some kind of livelihood after sixty, particularly in the lower strata of the society. In the case of the higher strata it may be possible. We do not consider any necessity of giving, to that extent, old-age pension to all people. Take the case of the Ministers. They have not got any age limit laid down, and, therefore, they will certainly not be entitled to any kind of social concession as pointed out in the Resolution. But how many can become Ministers? Very few, select few, privileged few. Therefore.....

Shri H. B. BHIDE : Even the Council Members cannot get it.

Shri M. V. DONDE : Any old man who has no means of subsistence is covered by this Resolution. I, therefore, request Government to accept the underlying idea of this Resolution. This is a progressive suggestion and more or less leading to a socialistic pattern of society. I, therefore, wholeheartedly support the Resolution.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એમ. ભટ્ટ (વિધાનસભા તરફથી ચૂંટાયેલ) : માનનીય સભાપતિજી, મને લાગે છે કે આ રેઝોલ્યુશન બાબતમાં કોઈ વિરોધ દેખાતો નથી. રેઝોલ્યુશનમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે ૭૦ વર્ષ અને તે કરતાં વધુ ઉંમરની વ્યક્તિને માસિક પચીસ રૂપિયા પેન્શન આપવું જોઈએ. માનનીય સભ્ય શ્રી ગાયકવાડે એક સુધારો સૂચવ્યો છે કે ૬૦ વર્ષ અને તે કરતાં વધુ ઉંમરની વ્યક્તિને આ પેન્શનનો લાભ આપવો જોઈએ. મને લાગે છે કે આ સુધારો બરાબર છે. પ્રોવીડન્ટ ફંડ જે લોકોને મળે છે તે સિવાયના લોકોને આ રેઝોલ્યુશનનો જે સબસ્ટન્સ છે તે લાગુ કરવો જોઈએ એમ વાત કરવામાં આવી છે. જે કે બહુ ઓછા લોકોને આ પ્રોવીડન્ટ ફંડનો લાભ મળતો હોય છે. પચાસ વર્ષ સુધી ઓછી સંખ્યાના કામદારો કોઈ એક ફેક્ટરીમાં કામ કરતા હોય છે તો એને કોઈ જતનું પ્રોવીડન્ટ ફંડ મળતું નથી. તે ઉપરાંત બીજાં ઘણાં કારણો દર્શાવીને પ્રોવીડન્ટ ફંડ મળતું અટકાવવામાં આવે છે. તે ઉપરાંત આ દેશમાં અને પ્રાંતમાં જે લોકો નોકરી અને મજૂરી કરે છે તે સિવાયના મોટા ભાગના ખેડૂતો છે તેનો આધાર નાની નાની જમીન ઉપર હોય છે. ખાસ કરીને જે ખેતમજૂરો છે એને માટે એવી કોઈ વ્યવસ્થા નથી કે જ્યારે તેમનામાં કામ કરવાની શક્તિ ન હોય, મોટી ઉંમર થઈ ગઈ હોય ત્યારે જીવન જીવવા માટે આવો કોઈ આધાર મેળવી શકે. બીજા દેશોમાં જે લોકો આ રીતે અશક્ત હોય છે, અપંગ હોય છે તેને માટેની જવાબદારી સરકાર પોતાના માથે લે છે. દુનિયાના સમાજવાદી દેશોમાં આ પ્રમાણે વ્યવસ્થા હોય છે. ત્યાં એકેએક ઘરડા માણસને માટે રાજ્ય તરફથી બંદોબસ્ત કરવામાં આવે છે. આપણે પણ સમાજવાદી સમાજ રચના ઉભી કરવાનો દાવો કરીએ છીએ ત્યારે આ રીતે લોકોના જીવનનું રક્ષણ થઈ શકે એવો પ્રબંધ થઈ શકે તો તે યોગ્ય ગણાશે.

બીજી વાત એમ છે કે જે માણસો આજે ફેક્ટરીઓમાં કામ કરે છે એ લોકોનું આયુષ્ય બહુ ઓછું થઈ જાય છે. આ દેશના નાગરિકનું સરેરાશ આયુષ્ય ૩૦ વર્ષ કરતાં વધુ નથી. આપણા દેશના નાગરિકની જીંદગીમર્યાદા આટલી જ ઓંકવામાં આવી છે. એટલે આ રેઝોલ્યુશનમાં જણાવવામાં આવેલી વયમર્યાદાએ પહોંચનારની સંખ્યા બહુ ઓછી હશે. એટલે આ રેઝોલ્યુશનનો સ્વીકાર કરવાથી સરકારને બહુ મોટું ખર્ચ કરવું પડશે એવો કોઈ ભય નથી.

બીજી વસ્તુ એ છે કે આ ફેક્ટરીઓમાં કામ કરનાર લોકો માટે આટલા વર્ષોની સખત મજૂરી પછી એમની પાછલી જીંદગી જીવવા માટે કોઈપણ સાધન ફેક્ટરી તરફથી રાખવામાં આવતું હોતું નથી. સમાજવાદી દેશોમાં ફેક્ટરીઓવાળા ઉપર આ જાતના સાધનો પૂરા પાડવાનું ફરજિયાત હોય છે. વર્ષોની મજૂરી બાદ માણસ પોતાની પાછલી જીંદગીમાં જીવી શકે એ માટે આપણા દેશમાં આવો કોઈ બંદોબસ્ત નથી. આજે જે ૫૩ સ્ટેટ હલકો મળે છે એ જોતાં અને જીવનધોરણ આપણા દેશમાં જે નીચું છે તેથી છેવટની જીંદગીમાં માણસ કોઈપણ જાતનાં આધાર વગરનો બની જાય છે. આ જાતની સ્થિતિ ખેડૂતો, મજૂરો અને મધ્યમ વર્ગના માનવીની ખાસ કરીને બની જાય છે. આપણે એમ પણ જોઈએ છીએ કે પોતાની માલિકીનું કશું સાધન ન હોવાને કારણે ઘણી વખત માણસને બીજા લોકોની મદદ ઉપર આધાર રાખવો પડતો હોય છે. આવી સ્થિતિમાં માણસ લાચાર બની જાય છે. આ રેઝોલ્યુશનનું જે મૂળ તત્વ છે તે એ છે કે આવી કફોડી સ્થિતિમાં જીવનારા તમામને પેન્શન મળવું જોઈએ અને તે રૂપ રૂપિયા હોવું જોઈએ. માનનીય શ્રી દેવિ સાહેબે જણાવ્યું કે રૂપ રૂપિયાની જે મર્યાદા રાખવામાં આવી છે તે આજનું જીવનધોરણ જોતાં કંઈ જ નથી. એક માણસ રૂપ રૂપિયામાં ન જીવી શકે, પોતાનું જીવન ગુજારી શકે નહિ. મને એમ લાગે છે કે આ બાબતમાં આપણને પાછળથી સુધારો કરવો પડશે. એટલે આ કસવને સ્વીકારવામાં આવે એટલું કહી હું બેસી જવાની રજા લઉં છું.

શ્રી. એચ. બી. ખિડે : માનનીય સભાપતિ, જ્યાં અર્થી સરકારપક્ષાચ્ચાં બાજૂને સારકારચ્ચાં વતીને હ્યા પ્રસ્તાવાવર કોણીચ બોલલે નાहीं त्या अर्थी सारकारपक्षाच्या सर्व लोकांची ह्या प्रस्तावाला मान्यता आहे असें मी समजतों. अर्थात, याचा अर्थ ते हा ठराव मताला टाकला जाईल त्या वेळीं ठरावाच्या बाजूनं मते देतील असा नाही, कारण त्यांचे हात बांधलेले आहेत. पण तूत तरी त्यांनीं अबोला धरून ठरावाला मान्यता दर्शविल्याबद्दल मी त्यांचे आभार मानतों.

સરકારચ્ચા વતીને શેવટચ્ચા ઉત્તરાચ્ચા વેળીં કદાચિત પૈશાચ્ચા અઢચળીચેં કારણ સાંગિતલેં જાખ્યાચી શક્યતા आहे, तेव्हां ह्या योजनेसाठीं कोठून पैसा घ्यावयाचा यासंबंधीं कांहीं उपाय सुचविणें हें मी माझें कर्तव्य समजतों. सरकार सध्यां जनतेकडून व्यवसाय कर घेतें. वास्तविक, विशिष्ट प्रकारचा व्यवसाय करणारांकडून कर घेऊन इतर कामासाठीं वापरण्याचा सरकारला नैतिक अधिकार नाही, पण ज्या अर्थी सरकार हा कर वसूल करीत आहे त्या अर्थी त्यापकीं कांहीं हिस्सा निराळ्या क्षेत्रांत व्यवसाय केलेल्या वयोवृद्ध माणसांना पेंशन देण्यासाठीं वापरणें जास्त योग्य होईल. यासाठीं नवीन कर बसविण्याची आवश्यकता नाही, फक्त एका वर्गाकडून घेतलेला व्यवसाय कर दुसऱ्या उपयुक्त कामासाठीं वापरावयाचा आहे. अशी व्यवस्था करण्याला सरकारला अडचण पडू नये अशी माझी कल्पना आहे.

तेव्हां, मी सुचविलेल्या योजनेची आवश्यकता आणि उपयुक्तता लक्षांत घेऊन सरकारने हा प्रस्ताव मान्य करावा अशी विनंति करून व सरकारपक्षाच्या सन्माननीय सभासदांनीं न बोलून ह्या प्रस्तावाला मान्यता दिल्याबद्दल त्यांचे आभार मानून मी રજા घેતો.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I had thought that, on an important Resolution like this, some practical suggestions would be made by those who participated in the discussion on the Resolution. There was little realisation of what would be the likely expenditure if the Resolution were to be implemented. The hon. Member 3-00 p. m. Shri K. R. Patil, calculating the expenditure at the grant of Rs. 300 per person over 60 years of age per annum, gave some figure. I have nothing to say about his calculations. (Interruption).

Sir, the Mover of the Resolution quoted the instance of Uttar Pradesh. If U. P. could do so, why not, he asked, the Bombay State, which is called the leading State of India. I do not know whether longevity in this State is more or less than in the other States of India, but my hon. Friend quoted the figure of over 2,000 as being the number of persons of the age of 70 and over receiving pension in U. P.

Shri H. B. BHIDE : It is from 26th January.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Between January and now a few more persons may have reached the age of 70 or some of those receiving such pension may have died. But, roughly, that is the figure.

Shri H. B. BHIDE : I did not give the exact figure. That might be the figure in the beginning, and it may mount subsequently.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : But, Sir, whatever may be the figure, there are certain restrictions in U. P. to the grant of such pension. The number 2,000 may be more or less correct also. But the pension is granted in U. P. to

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

a person "who is without any source of income, who has no relative of twenty years and over, of the category, such as, son, son's son, son's wife, real brother, married sister, sister's son, father's real brother's son". Persons who have any of these relations are exempted from the benefit of the pension under the U. P. Act.

Shri M. V. DONDE: Does the U. P. Act contemplate that a person is born without any relations.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA: I do not know, but this Government is tried to be persuaded to accept the Resolution because the number of recipients of such a pension in U. P. is small, namely, 2,000. Now, the Resolution before the House does not contemplate any such exceptions. It only suggests that only those in receipt of Government pension, after retirement, may be excluded from the benefit. That is the only exception that the Resolution makes. Evidently, therefore, the hon. Mover of the Resolution had not in his mind the exceptions contained in the U. P. Act.

My hon. Friend opposite, Shri Gaikwad, said that, after all, the number of persons above 60 would not be great because there would be very few persons who would be called decrepit. The population of our State is 4,82,00,000 and I should not be surprised if the number of such persons came to $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. I have before me the Census Report, though I have not got the exact figure of such persons before me. Even taking the figure at $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, then at the rate of Rs. 25 per head per month, that is to say, Rs. 300 per annum, it comes to Rs. 3,75,00,000 a year. If I remember a right, the annual average income of an Indian is given as Rs. 280. Therefore, if the pension as proposed were to be given, it would be more than the average income of an Indian. *(Interruption)*. It is true that we are a leading State, but we must do things on a rational basis.

My hon. Friend opposite said that, if nobody from Government benches spoke on the Resolution, it meant support to the Resolution and he took it for granted that his Resolution would not be opposed. This side would support a proposal if it is made on a rational basis, but not if it is a hare-brained proposal. More cannot be said on a proposal like this without going into further details. But, as I said earlier, if we take the number of persons likely to be eligible for the benefit at $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, the annual expenditure would amount to nearly Rs. 4 crores. Now, what is the total amount of pension that Government is at present spending on its retired servants? I do not know the exact figure, but I think it is Rs. 3,21,99,000. Now, the Resolution proposed to spend Rs. 4 crores annually on another type of pension. Where is the money to come from?

Shri H. B. BHIDE: The amount will be reduced because those who are already getting pension are above the age of 60.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA: It might mean a few thousand rupees less. But there is also the fact that a large number of pensioners have been asking for some enhancement in pension by Rs. 5 per month. But, unhappily, we find ourselves unable to do it because it would involve a large amount of expenditure. Therefore, still less would it be possible to consider a proposal like the one before the House which would mean a huge expenditure. Though ours is considered to be a leading State in the country, Bombay City is much more prosperous than the rest of the State. Therefore, as this Resolution has the blessings of the Mayor of Bombay, I do hope that he would be able to persuade the Corporation to make a beginning in this direction. Then Government would consider what it could do in the matter. But now Government has to oppose the Resolution.

An hon. MEMBER: Will Government accept the Resolution merely as a matter of policy?

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA: As I have already stated, Government cannot accept this Resolution.

The CHAIRMAN: Does the hon. Mover of the Resolution want to withdraw the Resolution, or press it to the vote of the House?

Shri H. B. BHIDE: It may be put to the House.

(After the Resolution was put to the House, but before the result was declared.)

Shri K. R. PATIL: Sir, I claim a division.

The CHAIRMAN: I grant the division. It will be by Members rising in their seats.

(After taking a count).

Ayes: 8,

Noes: 23.

The Resolution is lost.

The CHAIRMAN: The next Resolution stands in the name of the hon. Member Shri T. S. Thakore, but he is not present. Then the last Resolution stands in the name of the hon. Member Shri Sukhadeo Agarwal. But he is also not present here.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA: May I mention, Sir, that so far as the last Resolution is concerned, Government have already acceded to the request made therein?

The CHAIRMAN: As there is no other business before the House, the House now adjourns and will meet at 1 p.m. on Monday, the 24th February, 1958.

[The House was adjourned at 3-15 p.m. till 1-00 p.m. on Monday, the 24th February 1958.]

Monday, the 24th February, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 1-00 p.m. on Monday, the 24th February, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published)

CONDOLATORY REFERENCE TO THE DEATH OF MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD, MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is with a deep sense of sorrow and loss that I rise to refer to the passing away of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. In his death the nation has lost a great elder statesman, a great patriot and a great scholar. During the many stresses and strains of the period before and during the freedom movement when forces pulled in many directions, the Maulana's steadfast loyalty to the cause of Indian unity and independence stood like a beacon light to those who wavered or had lost their way. The Maulana was a nationalist and an Indian in the complete sense of the word.

His statesmanship, his scholarship and the sacrifices he made for the country have secured for the Maulana a permanent place in the history of India and in the hearts of the people. He led the Congress for the longest and the most eventful period not only in the history of the national organisation, but of the country. Ill health and bereavement failed to extinguish the flame of patriotism that ever burnt in his heart and led him to labour strenuously and continuously for long decades in the service of the mother-land. At a time when national awakening had yet to make itself felt and the Muslims of India had not taken any definite stand on the demand for freedom from foreign domination his articles in '*Al Hilal*' stirred the people of this country, irrespective of caste and religion, to launch the freedom struggle.

The Maulana's gracious and majestic personality impressed and inspired all around him. His liberal education, his democratic thinking and the wealth of his cultural background enabled him to tackle problems with a unique grace and made him a living symbol of the secular concept that makes India unique among the nations of the world. In his death, we have lost a good man as well as a great man, a man who lived a life of purpose and achievements. The confidence that he inspired among leaders and people alike was so great that there has seldom been a major decision of the Congress in the last 35 years in the shaping of which he did not take a prominent part. The sure touch of his guiding hand resolved doubts, infused courage in faint hearts, and stirred all to purposeful action.

Now we shall miss that sure touch, that gracious personality, that broad-minded sweep of tolerance in which he embraced great and small. He is taken away from us at a time when we needed his guidance and inspiration

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

in the mighty task of reconstruction that face us. We in Bombay shall miss the Maulana Sahib sorely because he took a keen interest in the welfare and development of the State.

However, none can dispute the will of God. The Maulana has departed from the earthly scene full of glory and leaving unforgettable memory of his rich, noble and unique life. We can prove worthy of these memories only if we make an honest effort to follow the path he trod with such distinction and grace. We mourn the passing of a great and noble son of India, the light of whom appears perhaps but once in several decades.

Sir, I would, therefore, suggest that this House do adjourn without transacting any business for the day to show respect to the memory of the late Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

Shri M. V. DONDE (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra Teachers): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I associate myself with the expressions of sorrow at the sudden demise of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. The whole nation is mourning and the shock has been very terrible. The life of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was the life of dedication. He was a religious man, but his religion was full of piety. He was a great Muslim, no doubt, but greater was he a nationalist and greater than that was he an Indian. He saved the country when it was going to be split up on the rock of the Hindu Muslim tension. It was because of him that the Muslims got the national awakening and in this way things were made very difficult for the Britishers to live in this country without giving freedom. All his life, he has taught us that the future of India lies not in any kind of difference of opinions, be it in religion, be it in social or be it in political field, but in unity. The moment we allow ourselves to be divided on grounds of religion or social injustice or political differences, we will have a very bad future. He was according to me an embodiment of what is great and good in all the religions of the world. He was the most rational and cultured man. We can definitely say that he was a symbol of what we call the Indian culture. At the present time when we want to go ahead with the developmental activities, his presence with use was absolutely necessary. We were all looking up to him to resolve the differences between the different communities and different political parties.

Sir, may I make a little digression and express my personal views that in our demand for unilingual States we were all looking up to a man of sobriety, vision, broad-mindedness and practical political life like Maulana Abul Kalam Aazad to resolve the present differences completely and remove any kind of bitterness that unfortunately is being created in the public life of this country. We were all looking up to him to show us the path of righteousness. In his death India has lost a very great Indian. For generations to come he would be remembered. His last message as we understand is this: 'Beware, beware of communalism of any kind in the same religion or between a religion and religion. That would save India.' I pay most respectfully my homage to the memory of that great Indian, patriot, philosopher and scholar, the late Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

શ્રી. છમીવદસ પી. મહેતા (સૌરાષ્ટ્ર—લોકલ ઓથોરીટીઝ): માનનીય સભાપતિજી, મૌલાના આઝાદના એકાએક ચાલ્યા જવા બદલ માનનીય શ્રી. જીવરાજભાઈએ તથા માનનીય શ્રી. દેવે સાહેબે જે દિલગીરી દર્શાવી છે એમાં હું પણ મારો સાથ પુરાવું છું. મૌલાના સાહેબ માટે જે કંઈ શબ્દો કહીએ તે ઓછા છે. એમની યાદ ભારતના એકેએક નાગરિકને હંમેશાં સજીવ રહ્યા કરવાની. મૌલાના સાહેબ એક રાષ્ટ્રવાદી હતા એટલું જ નહિ પણ તેઓ એક પ્રખર વિદવાન અને બુદ્ધિશાળી વ્યક્તિ હતા. દેશના તમામે તમામ ભાગના લોકો એમના પ્રત્યે આદરભાવથી જોતા હતા અને તેઓશ્રી દરેકને માર્ગદર્શન આપતા હતા. એમના આત્માને ઈશ્વર શાંતિ અર્પે એવી પ્રાર્થના છે.

Shri DAVID FAKIRCHAND SHAW (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra West-Local Authorities): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to associate myself with the sentiments of deep sorrow expressed by the Hon. Finance Minister on the sudden and untimely demise of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the Education Minister of the Government of India. The Maulanasaheb was a greater scholar, a great theologian and a brilliant fighter for the freedom of India. He bridged the gulf between the Muslims and Hindus for the national unity and solidarity of India. He was a staunch nationalist, an ardent Congressman and an illustrious statesman. Death has taken away from us a fine son and the star of India. I most respectfully pay my Christian homage to the Maulanasaheb and offer my most profound Christian sympathy to the relatives of the Maulanasaheb and to Shri Mohamed Taher, who is a member of this House and son-in-law of the Maulanasaheb and also to our beloved Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, who has lost his friend and adviser.

The CHAIRMAN: I associate myself fully with the sentiments and the feeling of sorrow expressed by the Hon. Finance Minister and the Leader of the Opposition and other members of the House on the sad demise of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. The Maulanasaheb's was a unique personality. He was a great scholar, philosopher and statesman. He was a man of vast learning and wide knowledge. His patriotism and his sacrifices in the fight for freedom are all well known. At the time of communal tension when some of our friends gave up nationalism, Maulanasaheb stood firm. Maulanasaheb was a staunch religious man, but at the same time he was completely secular. He was always for Hindu Muslim brotherhood and he always commended a secular State and stood for it during the period when the country was passing through anxious years. In his death a great man has passed away. The loss to India is great and irreparable. May his soul rest in peace.

The motion is that "this House do stand adjourned without transacting any business for the day to show respect to the memory of the late Maulana Abul Kalam Azad."

I request the House to pass the condolence motion by all hon. Members standing for a couple of minutes.

(All hon. Members accordingly stood up for two minutes.)

The CHAIRMAN: The condolence motion is passed. It will be conveyed to the members of the bereaved family.

The House now adjourns and will meet tomorrow at 1-00 p.m. and transact the same business which was fixed for to-day.

[The House was adjourned at 1-15 p.m. till 1-00 p.m. on Tuesday, the 25th February, 1958.]

Tuesday, the 25th February, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 1-00 p.m. on Tuesday, the 25th February, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published.)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The CHAIRMAN: As a mark of respect for Moulana Abul Kalam Azad, the House decided to adjourn on 24th February, 1958, without transacting any business. It, therefore, became necessary to revise the Calendar of Meetings. The Business Advisory Committee of the Bombay Legislative Council, therefore, met at 1-30 p.m. on the 24th of February, 1958, in the Chamber of the Chairman of the Bombay Legislative Council and made the following recommendations :—

1. Presentation of Budget for the year 1958-59 and the Supplementary Demands. On 25th February, 1958, instead of on 24th February 1958.
2. Discussion on the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1955. This may take place on 26th February, 1958, which date is convenient to the Minister concerned; and The Resolution by the Chief Minister under Article 252 (1) of the Constitution will also be taken up on this day.
3. Government Bills. They may be shown on 28th February and 4th March instead of on 25th and 26th February, 1958. Supplementary Appropriation Bill will be taken up as soon as it is passed by the Legislative Assembly, either on 4th March, 1958, or 5th March, 1958.
4. Discussion on Supplementary Demands. This will take place on 3rd March instead of on 28th February, 1958.
5. Discussion of Budget. This will take place on 5th, 7th and 8th March instead of on 3rd, 4th and 5th March, 1958.

On 8th March, 1958, the Council will adjourn and meet again on 28th March, instead of on 27th March, 1958. No other changes are considered necessary in the Calendar of Meetings."

Shri CHANDRAKANT C. MEHTA (Gujarat—Graduates): Mr. Chairman, Sir, under rule 130D of the Bombay Legislative Council Rules, I beg to move that this House agrees with the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee, as follows :—

1. Presentation of Budget for the year 1958-59 and the Supplementary Demands. On 25th February, 1958, instead of on 24th February, 1958.
2. Discussion on the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1955. This may take place on 26th February, 1958, which date is convenient to the Minister concerned; and The Resolution by the Chief Minister under Article 252 (1) of the Constitution will also be taken up on this day.

[Shri Chandrakant C. Mehta]

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4. Discussion on Supplementary Demands. This will take place on 3rd March instead of on 28th February, 1958.
5. Discussion of Budget ... This will take place on 5th, 7th and 8th March instead of on 3rd, 4th and 5th March, 1958.

On 8th March, 1958, the Council will adjourn and meet again on 28th March instead of on 27th March, 1958. No other changes are considered necessary in the Calendar of Meetings."

Motion, put and agreed to.

PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1958-59.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH (Minister for Labour and Law): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to present, on behalf of the Hon. Finance Minister, the Budget Estimates of the State for the year 1958-59. If I may say so, this is the first regular Budget of the New State of Bombay after reorganisation in November 1956 and reflects the policies and programmes of Government after it has had time to settle down, considering the transitional difficulties of integration of all its component units.

2. *Economic Situation.*—The year that has gone by has witnessed several stresses and strains in the economic and monetary situation in the country. We began the financial year 1957-58 at a critical stage in our progress, faced with difficulties of foreign exchange accentuated by the Suez Canal disturbances and internal problems of food supply with consequent rise in prices. Towards the close of the current financial year, however, the economic situation has somewhat eased. Economic Adviser's general index of wholesale price which moved up from 102.6 in 1956 to 107.7 on 19th January 1957 stands at 106.0 on 18th January 1958. What is more comforting is the fact that the index of cereal prices has been held stable at 97 since December 1956, though there have been some variations in between.

3. Industrial relations between labour and capital in our State were peaceful as during the previous year. A notable recent decision of Government is to run the Narsinggirji Mills at Sholapur which has closed down since some months throwing about 4,500 hands out of employment as an Unemployment Relief Scheme.

4. The index of industrial production in the country has continued to record improvement from 130.0 in 1956 to 150.6 for the period January to July 1957 on the average, with 161.5 in July 1957 itself. The consumption of electrical energy in the component areas of the reorganised Bombay State has also increased from 2.3 billion units in 1956 to 2.8 billion units in 1957.

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5. We began the year 1957-58 under tight monetary conditions and in May 1957 the Reserve Bank advised the State Governments generally not to go to the market for their borrowing, but owing to our sound financial position, though our annual target for open market borrowing is Rs. 13 crores, we were able to persuade the Government of India to agree to our floating a loan of Rs. 6 crores and this we did successfully. Within a couple of hours our loan was closed with a 10 per cent. excess. Towards the end of the year conditions of open market borrowing seem to have considerably eased and the Government of India were able to float a second loan of Rs. 30 crores and our Financial Corporation, the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank as well as the Municipal Corporations of Bombay and Ahmedabad were able to tap the money market successfully. It appears that the monetary and economic climate is gradually turning towards more stable conditions.

6. *Second Finance Commission Award.*—For the State Governments, the most important financial event of the current year was the Report of the Second Finance Commission. The claims of the Bombay Government regarding the various terms of reference of the Commission and the general nature of its recommendations are already known. So far as the Bombay State is concerned, the most outstanding single inference that may be drawn from the Report is that the Commission does not seem to have recognized the fact that the reorganisation of the new State as a National solution of a complex political problem has faced us with tremendous transitional financial difficulties arising out of integration which require augmenting of our resources by way of Central devolution of shared taxes and grants-in-aid. As a result of the Niemeyer Award in 1937, the old Bombay State with a population of 2.1 crores without the merged areas was given 20 per cent. of the States' share of the divisible pool of taxes on income other than the corporation tax. The Deshmukh Award of 1949 raised this percentage to 21 for the then enlarged State of Bombay with the merged Princely States. In 1952, the First Finance Commission reduced this share to 17.5 per cent. even though the population of the State had increased to 3.59 crores as a result of the merger of the States just referred to. Now in 1957, while the reorganized Bombay State has a population of 4.82 crores, the Second Finance Commission has further reduced the State's share to 15.97 per cent. of the divisible pool. Meanwhile, be it noted, the collections of income-tax within the Bombay State have increased from 3.5 crores in 1937-38 and Rs. 50 crores in 1952-53 to more than Rs. 66 crores in 1957-58. This reduction in our share in income-tax is due to the fact that the Finance Commission has given greater weightage to population than before as compared to collection. It has also recommended that in future, the distribution should be entirely on population basis. I would leave it to the honourable Members to judge the loss which we have suffered in this respect by the two Finance Commission Awards since the Niemeyer Award in 1937 and the Deshmukh Award in 1949, and are likely to do so in future.

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7. The First Finance Commission had given to the State Governments a share of 40 per cent. in the net proceeds of Union Excise Duties on Matches, Tobacco (including manufactured Tobacco) and Vegetable Products and the share of this Government was fixed on a population basis at 10·37 per cent. in the States pool. The Second Finance Commission has extended the divisible Union Excise Duties to five more commodities, viz., Sugar, Tea, Coffee, Paper and Vegetable Non-essential Oils. The States' share in Union Excise Duties in these commodities has, on the other hand, been reduced from 40 per cent. to 25 per cent. In the divisible net proceeds we have been given a share of 12·17 per cent. though even on the basis of population, let alone consumption our share should have been 13·5 per cent. We are thus hit both ways; in the case of income-tax large weightage is given to population,—collection of tax being relatively ignored—and in the case of Excise Duties, however, even the population weightage has been changed to our disadvantage.

Estate Duty has been divided on the same basis as income-tax, i.e., with greater weightage to population against collection. The Government of India have levied with effect from 1st October 1957 a new tax on Railway Fares. The net proceeds of this tax under Article 269(d) of the Constitution belong to the States and the Finance Commission has recommended that the share of this Government in the net proceeds should be 16·28 per cent. based on earnings from passenger fares within the State. This is a welcome gain to our resources. The Commission has further added to the resources of State Governments other than Bombay, U. P. and Madras, by grants-in-aid under Article 275(1) of the Constitution, of an aggregate sum of Rs. 36·2 crores in 1957-58 to be increased to Rs. 39·5 crores in 1961-62.

8. Taken together, the effect of the Award of the Finance Commission with reference to the sharing of various taxes as well as grants-in-aid has meant an increase in the devolution of revenues levied and collected by the Centre to the States from a sum of Rs. 93 crores per annum, in 1956-57, to an average of Rs. 154 crores per annum, for the period 1957-58 to 1961-62. The First Finance Commission had also raised the devolution of Central revenues from an average sum of Rs. 73 crores to Rs. 93 crores per annum, during the period 1952-53 to 1956-57. Taking the period of the decade 1952-53 to 1961-62 covered by the schemes of distribution of the two Finance Commission Awards, the aggregate Central devolution to State Governments by shared taxes and grants-in-aid has been increased by a total sum of Rs. 500 crores which has replenished and benefitted the finances of all States to the singular exclusion of the Bombay Government, and this, in spite of the fact that the Bombay Government alone among the State Governments has not only fulfilled, but actually exceeded the target of additional taxation during the First Five-Year Plan period while the performance of other States in the matter of additional taxation was an aggregate levy of only Rs. 56·4 crores or 27 per cent. of the target additional taxation of Rs. 207 crores. Against our target of Rs. 23·5 crores we raised over Rs. 28 crores by additional taxation in the First Plan period. I am mentioning this because in the terms of reference of the Finance Commission it was specifically asked to take into account

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“the efforts made by the States to raise additional revenue from the resources available to them” for assessing the States which are in need of assistance by way of grants-in-aid under the substantive proviso to Article 275. In spite of this, the Commission has awarded to States other than Bombay and also U. P. and Madras, an annual grant-in-aid of Rs. 36·2 crores in 1957-58 to be increased to in course of time to Rs. 39·5 crores by 1961-62. In our memorandum submitted to the Commission we had pointed out that as a result of the reorganisation, the State Government was faced with the problems of meeting the anticipated budgetary deficits of Kutch, Saurashtra and Marathwada totalling Rs. 325 lakhs and that in addition, it had to tackle the problem of raising the standard of the under-developed component parts of the new State to the level of the former Bombay State which must be done to satisfy the legitimate aspirations of the people. As a matter of fact the integration of services alone is going to cost us Rs. 3 crores annually.

9. Further, in its recommendation on the question of compensation to be paid to State Governments for their present revenue from Sales Tax on mill-made textiles, sugar and tobacco, including tobacco products, to be replaced by corresponding additional Union Excise Duties, the Commission has unfortunately, in spite of our emphatic pleading in this respect, reduced the existing sales tax revenue of the State Government from these commodities by an annual sum of Rs. 4 crores consisting of (1) Rs. 3 crores from inter-State sales tax revenue from these commodities, and (2) at least Rs. one crore from intra sales tax on these commodities. In its recommendations relating to the compensation to be paid to the States on the replacement of State Sales Taxes by additional Union Excise Duties, the Commission completely excluded the States' income from Inter-State Sales Tax which had already accrued since July 1957. This was entirely wrong in our view. Further, the Finance Commission seems to have considered distribution of Sales Tax Revenue on these commodities, income from which was being voluntarily foregone by the States in consideration of full compensation for the same, also as a matter of devolution of revenues according to needs, as it has introduced an element of population apart from consumption in their distribution scheme which was not contemplated. For a State like Bombay for which the Sales Tax has proved to be a very helpful source of revenue and the income from which has been steadily improved from a humble beginning of a little over Rs. 1 crore in 1946-47 to about Rs. 11 crores in 1952-53 and Rs. 32·5 crores in 1957-58, the award in this respect is a very serious financial loss. The net result also is that an elastic source of revenue for us has been replaced by a relatively frozen devolution from the Centre. This is a loss which this Government can ill afford to bear and yet it had to agree to it, the Commission's recommendations being considered as an Award to be accepted by all.

10. It is significant to note, however, that the Government of India in spite of having virtually compelled us to accept the recommendations of the Commission as an award, are themselves having second thoughts on the Commission's recommendations relating to the terms and conditions on which Central loans

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are disbursed to the States. This part of its recommendations would have benefitted us as also other States. I hope that the Government of India having treated the recommendations as an Award, will not now modify that part of the recommendations which affects them.

11. *Pension, Leave and Dearness Allowance*.—The Revised Pension Rules did not admit of the grant of death-cum-retirement gratuity to the family of a Government servant who dies while in service with less than five years' qualifying service. This benefit has been now extended by Government to the families of all Government servants who die while in service with less than five years' qualifying service at a sliding scale indicated below :—

Completed years of service.					Death gratuity.
0	...	...	...	...	Nil. —
1	...	...	...	...	2½ months' pay.
2	...	...	...	...	5 months' pay.
3	...	...	...	...	7½ months' pay.
4	...	...	...	...	10 months' pay.

The rate of earned leave for Class IV Government servants was 1/22 of duty for the first 10 years, 1/16 of duty for the next 10 years and 1/11 of the period spent on duty thereafter. The rate of earned leave for Class I, Class II and Class III Government servants is 1/11 of the period spent on duty throughout the period of service. Consistent with our aim to remove disparities in the conditions of service between Class III and IV servants, the rate of earned leave for Class IV Government servants has been brought on par with other Government servants, viz. 1/11 of duty throughout the period of service.

With effect from 1st April 1957 the dearness allowance to employees drawing pay up to Rs. 50 has been increased from Rs. 35 to Rs. 40 per month. The benefit has also been extended to primary school teachers.

12. *Abolition of Mahar Vataas*.—In the field of land reforms, it has been Government's policy to abolish inams of all kinds. The question of abolition of inams of inferior servants including Mahars has been carefully considered by Government and it has now been decided to do away with the system of hereditary village servants and to appoint stipendiary persons to render the services that are at present rendered by the hereditary inferior village servants. This is to be achieved by a phased programme. In the first phase, it is proposed to make a beginning with inferior village servants in Marathwada and Kutch during the next year. A provision of Rs. 5 lakhs is proposed for the purpose in the next year's budget.

13. *Administration of Sales Tax*.—The general sales tax is the largest single source of taxation revenue levied by the State Governments in India. In the Bombay State we have made all efforts to increase administrative efficiency and to check evasion of tax. Whereas at the end of the financial year 1952-53,

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the total number of dealer years pending assessment were 3,69,797, at the end of the financial year 1956-57, as a result of measures of vigilance and administrative efficiency, we have been able to reduce the number of dealer years pending assessment to 73,235. Further, it may also be noted that while the number of dealers in default in respect of quarterly returns was about 44 per cent. in 1952-53, this has now been brought down to only 5 per cent. We have taken special enforcement measures in the cities of Bombay, Ahmedabad and Surat to reduce evasion of the tax. I think it would be correct to say that the most important single cause of our financial success and viability is the efficient administration of all our taxation measures, specially the Sales Tax.

14. *Vigilance Section in Finance Department*.—A separate Vigilance Section in the Finance Department, with two sub-offices at Rajkot and Nagpur, has been set up. This section is, at present, concentrating particularly on two problems about which Government has been feeling very anxious, viz., final settlement of pending pension cases and the disposal of old outstanding audit inspection reports and audit objections. Incessant efforts are being made to tackle them from all possible directions, by adopting suitable measures. Training of clerks attached to different Collectorates and important Departments in pension rules and procedure has been undertaken and it is proposed that all cases of pension arising in the Districts will be routed through these trained clerks.

As regards the budgetary irregularities which are usually reported in the Audit Reports on the annual Appropriation Accounts, this section has issued a detailed Memorandum containing elaborate instructions for the guidance of the estimating and controlling officers, describing therein the various types of budgetary irregularities, the causes normally responsible for their occurrence and the precautions required to be taken by the estimating and controlling authorities to avoid them.

The Vigilance Section is undertaking inspection of all important Government Offices in the State. It is to be hoped that as a result of its efforts, the accounting and budgetary procedure of the State Departments would show considerable improvement.

15. *Food and Agricultural situation*.—A notable event during the current year concerning the food and agricultural situation in the country was the publication of the Report of the Asoka Mehta Foodgrains Enquiry Committee in November 1957. One of the major findings of the Committee is that the key to the successful implementation of the Development Programme of an under-developed country like ours is the management of the food problem not merely in relation to its production potential or output trends, but also its consumer costs from time to time in different parts of the country. Since the per capita availability of foodgrains both in 1954 as well as 1957 was 18.1 and 18.0 ozs. per day respectively and yet prices in the latter year have been higher than in

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the former, our food problem is not just a problem of output or production potential, but also that of marketable surplus, its periodical flow to areas of demand, the purchasing power in the hands of the community, the propensity to consume various types of foodgrains and stock-keeping habits and practices of the farmers, purchasers, middlemen and the consumers at large. Amidst the dynamic changes in these various factors, the most strategic points of the pendulum of food and consumer costs of living are seasonal agricultural conditions, facilities of water supply, techniques of cultivation and climatic environmental conditions in the main four pockets of the scarcity areas of the country. One of these is extensively located in our State, viz., the millet growing areas of parts of Saurashtra and Northern Gujarat in Western India and the Maharashtra Desh and Marathwada on the Deccan Plateau. Conditions of rainfall and its spread over during the current year, particularly in parts of Saurashtra and Northern Gujarat, have not been favourable. The following table indicates the total output of cereals in the component areas of the Bombay State and the output of millets and coarse grains for each of the years 1953-54 to 1957-58 :—

Year				Millets excluding coarse grains (in lakh tons)	Total Cereals (in lakh tons)
1953-54	...	...	...	48	70
1954-55	...	...	...	52	75
1955-56	...	...	...	41	62
1956-57 (latest revised)	...	...	...	46	68
1957-58 (rough estimates)	...	...	...	45	65

It would be seen from the above data that while the population every year increased at the rate of between 1·2 to 1·5 per cent., the output both of cereals as a whole, and particularly of millets, has declined compared to the peak level reached in 1954-55. The food problem in the Bombay State therefore remained difficult in 1957-58 and would require the most careful watching next year.

16. Faced with the difficult food situation, particularly with the knowledge that our State even in normal years has a deficit of over a million tons, the Government of India cordoned off parts of our State in respect of the movement of wheat and rice and thus shutting off from the surplus areas of the country has fallen rather heavily on us. It has, therefore, been found necessary to introduce in Greater Bombay distribution of wheat and rice through a system of modified rationing by issue of family cards with effect from 5th January 1958. As the supply position of wheat is satisfactory, no card is required for purchasing wheat. Austerity measures have also been undertaken to conserve rice which is in short supply. The supply of foodgrains will require the most careful attention particularly in the matter of coarse grains and rice. As a result of our special plea, the Government of India have allotted a monsoon reserve quota of 12,000 tons for supply to Ratnagiri District and other

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in accessible areas. For our own part we have instructed the Collectors and the Deputy Commissioners to make all available arrangements for storage of food-grains required for purposes of sale at fair price shops. Three hundred and fifty-seven godowns have so far been opened in the State. In cities like Bombay, Ahmedabad and Nagpur, Food Advisory Committees have been set up and the utmost vigilance is being kept so that we may tide over the current year and the next without undue hardship. I am glad to say, that in spite of the fact that scarcity has overtaken us in parts of Saurashtra and Northern Gujarat as well as some villages of the Ahmednagar District and that conditions akin to scarcity prevail in some villages of Poona and Nasik districts, the situation is well under control and all necessary relief measures have been quickly and adequately taken.

17. *Revised Estimates for 1957-58.*—The Budget Estimates for the current year as presented in March last showed a revenue deficit of Rs. 2·37 crores while the final budgetary position as mentioned by me in my budget speech in June last disclosed a deficit of Rs. 3·17 crores. As against this, the revised estimates for the current year as framed on the basis of the first eight months' actuals reveal a revenue surplus of Rs. 5·57 crores. The following table gives the position (i) as in March last at the time of presentation of the Budget, (ii) as modified in June last and (iii) and as it exists under the eight monthly revised estimates :—

(Figures in crores of Rupees).

			Budget estimates as presented in March 1957.	Modified estimates as mentioned in the Budget speech in June 1957.	8-monthly revised estimates.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue Receipts	...	...	106·32	109·44	117·34
Revenue Expenditure	...	...	108·69	112·61	111·77
			—2·37	—3·17	+5·57

It will be seen that the receipts have gone up by Rs. 7·90 crores as compared to the modified estimates while the expenditure has gone down by Rs. 84 lakhs. The main increase in receipts is under 'Other Taxes and Duties' (Rs. 9·10) 'Union Excise Duties' (Rs. 3·29 crores) and Forests (Rs. 1·28 crores), which is counter-balanced by fall under 'Receipts on account of Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development Works' (Rs. 2·39 crores), Grants-in-aid from Central Government (Rs. 1·39 crores), 'XXXVI-Miscellaneous Departments' (Rs. 1·07 crores), and 'XLVI-Miscellaneous' (Rs. 62 lakhs). The increase under 'Other Taxes and Duties' is mainly under 'General Sales Tax' (Rs. 8·04 crores) of which Inter-State Sales Tax levied from 1st July 1957 accounts for Rs. 1·54 crores. The increase under 'Union Excise Duties' is based on the intimation received from the Government of India which takes into account the award of the Second Finance

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Commission. The revised estimates of Rs. 6.48 crores under this head includes an amount of Rs. 3 crores on account of the State's share in Additional Excise Duties on tobacco, mill-made textiles and sugar levied by the Government of India in lieu of sales tax. Though the State is getting its share from these duties, there is no corresponding reduction this year under Sales Tax as the intra-State sales tax on the said three commodities, for practically all the four quarters, will be received by us.

The reduction of Rs. 84 lakhs in expenditure is made up of reductions under certain heads which are partly counter balanced by increases under other heads. The main reductions are under community Development Projects Notional extension, 'Service and Local Development Works' (Rs. 2.93 crores), 'Miscellaneous' (Rs. 1.59 crores), 'Medical' (Rs. 63 lakhs), and 'Industries' (Rs. 61 lakhs) while the main increases are under 'Education' (Rs. 2.67 crores), 'General Administration' (Rs. 98 lakhs) and 'Civil Works' (Rs. 65 lakhs).

18. *Capital Expenditure 1957-58*.—Against the total Capital Expenditure of Rs. 46.51 crores inclusive of supplementary demands presented in June Session, as mentioned in my budget speech in the June last, the revised estimate comes to Rs. 40.56 crores. The fall is mainly due to slower tempo of expenditure on irrigation schemes (Rs. 99.14 lakhs), Electricity Schemes (Rs. 1.98 crores), and reduced expenditure on buildings (Rs. 1.41 crores).

19. *Budget Estimates for 1958-59*.—I will now turn to the Budget for the next year. The estimates for 1958-59 show a revenue deficit of Rs. 2.01 crores without any change in existing taxation as shown below :

(In crores of Rupees.)		
Revenue Receipts	..	120.00
Revenue Expenditure	..	122.01
Deficit	..	2.01

There is an increase of Rs. 2.66 crores in receipts and of Rs. 10.24 crores in expenditure as compared to the revised estimates of the current year.

The next year's estimate of Rs. 14.43 crores under Union Excise Duties includes Rs. 10.84 crores as our full year's share in additional Excise Duties in lieu of Sales Tax. The increase under 'Income Tax' (Rs. 61 lakhs) is based on the latest intimation received from the Government of India while the increase of Rs. 76 lakhs under 'Taxes on Railway Fares' is due to the full year's receipts on account of surcharge on Railway fares levied with effect from 1st October 1957. The increase under 'Medical' (Rs. 87 lakhs), 'Education' (Rs. 69 lakhs), 'Agriculture' (Rs. 89 lakhs) and 'Industries' (Rs. 60 lakhs), are generally due to larger grants from the Government of India in respect of Plan and Centrally sponsored schemes. The increase of Rs. 10.24 crores in expenditure is spread over a number of heads and is generally due to larger provision for both Plan and Centrally sponsored schemes. Important provisions on expenditure side include an amount of Rs. 22.97 crores for 'Education', Rs. 10.36 crores for 'Medical and Public Health', Rs. 12.71 crores for 'Police', Rs. 8.60 crores for 'General Administration' and of Rs. 9.95 crores for Debt Charges.

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20. *Capital Expenditure 1958-59*.—The next year's estimate for Capital expenditure including the expenditure met from the State Road Fund, but exclusive on expenditure of State Trading Schemes, comes to Rs. 48.23 crores. This figure does not take into account the sum of Rs. 21.36 crores provided under Loans and Advances. The important items under the Capital Section are a provision of Rs. 17.39 crores for Irrigation Schemes, Rs. 8.50 crores for Koyna Project and Rs. 14.50 crores for Roads and Buildings. The Capital expenditure will be met from Loans from Central Government, from our share in Small Savings, by a withdrawal from the fund for Development Schemes and from other earmarked funds like Port Development and Reserve Funds, Milk fund, State Road Fund, Sugarcane Cess Fund, etc. Attempts will be made to meet part of the balance from open market borrowing in consultation with the Government of India. Important items under Loans and Advances are a provision of Rs. 5.32 crores for Loans to the Electricity Board, of Rs. 1.99 crores for Industrial Housing and of Rs. 1.55 crores for Low Income Group Housing Schemes. Another item calling for special mention is the provision of Rs. 3.04 crores for the repayment of the Bombay Government Loan, 1958.

21. *Agriculture, Irrigation and National Extension Service and Community Development Projects*.—I would now briefly review the progress already achieved and outline the programme chalked out for the coming year in some of the important sectors of development.

In the Second Five-Year Plan of the Bombay State estimated to cost Rs. 350.28 crores, we have made a provision of about Rs. 191 crores, or 55 per cent. for schemes of Agriculture and Community Development as well as for multi-purpose, major, medium and minor irrigation schemes, as would directly benefit agricultural output. We have a target of additional potential food-grains production programme of 15 lakh tons. To facilitate this programme, an aggregate provision of Rs. 35.8 crores has been made during the year 1958-59 consisting of Rs. 22.1 crores for schemes of Agriculture and Community Development and of Rs. 13.7 crores for schemes of major and medium irrigation.

22. In accordance with the recommendations of the Mussorie Conference of Food and Agriculture Ministers, the agricultural production programme of the Bombay State was further reconsidered by a Cabinet Sub-Committee. The recommendations of the Sub-Committee which have been accepted by Government include the following :—

(1) Construction of 35,000 new wells and repairs to 28,000 old wells by the end of the Second Plan period with the assistance of loans as well as subsidies. It has been decided that Tagavi loans up to Rs. 2,500 and subsidy equal to 25 per cent. of the cost of the proposal for each well, subject to a maximum of Rs. 500 should be granted to the cultivators for new wells. For repairs to old wells, a loan up to Rs. 1,000 per well will be admissible.

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(2) Installation of pumping sets on wells which have good water supply and are located on the banks of perennial rivers must be stepped up. The Second plan target has been raised from 7,500 pumping sets to 15,000.

(3) Measures should be taken to ensure that water from projects which have already been constructed is utilised as fully as possible. Further, to induce cultivators to use irrigation water certain concessions in irrigation rates should be given for a limited period of years for irrigation works which have been completed or are in progress. As the Hon'ble Members are aware, this has already been implemented.

(4) Completion of the programme to establish during the year 1958-59, a Taluka Seed Farm in each of the Talukas of the State, so as to ensure adequate supply of nucleus seeds. During the year 1957-58, about 166 Talukas will be covered and the balance of 284 Talukas in the State will be provided with seed farms in 1958-59. A total provision of Rs. 91.5 lakhs has been made in the budget on this account. Further, the scheme of soil conservation and the new method of paddy cultivation will be intensified and extended to all the component areas next year. The total area suitable for such method of paddy cultivation in the State is 7 lakh acres and of this about 1.7 lakh acres has been covered so far.

23. *Irrigation*.—In the ultimate analysis, agricultural production, given supply of seeds and manure, has a functional and causative relation with facilities of water supply. Conditions in Bombay State in this respect are far from satisfactory. While the area under irrigation in relation to total sown area is 17.5 per cent. for the country as a whole, the proportion of area irrigated in the State is only 5.5 per cent. of the sown area. Since over 94.5 per cent. of the total area under cultivation is dependent on the monsoon, our Grow More Food efforts by supply of seeds, manure, wells, fertilisers, land development and even land reforms, will not substantially augment the output and make us self-sufficient in food supply, so long as vagaries of nature determine the quantum of production. Under the Second Five-Year Plan, we have, therefore, made a provision of over Rs. 92 crores on schemes of multi-purpose, major, medium and minor irrigation. Of this, budget provision of Rs. 18.4 crores has been made in 1958-59 on irrigation schemes. Of the six major irrigation projects carried over from the First Five-Year Plan period in the old Bombay State areas excluding Karnatak, the Ranand Tank, the Radhanagari (Irrigation Part), and the first stage of the Gangapur Project have been practically completed. The Kakrapar, Mahi and Ghod projects are in full swing. The Ghod project is expected to be completed during the Second Five-Year Plan period. An important policy now adopted is to phase these projects so as to reap the benefits as we progress with the construction. As far as possible, the linking of canals with the fields is also being ensured so that water supply can be speedily used. In addition to the spill over works, the Second Five-Year Plan of the former Bombay State also includes 16 new major and medium irrigation projects. Of these the Vir, Mula and Khodiar projects

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have been administratively approved and a start on construction has been made. The Gangapur project has also been technically cleared for its second stage. In addition, 16 irrigation schemes for the permanent improvement of scarcity areas estimated to cost Rs. 9.9 crores, of which Rs. 3 crores were spent in the First Plan and on which an expenditure of Rs. 1.53 crores has been incurred in 1956-57, are also in full swing and are expected to be completed by the end of the Second Plan.

No major irrigation projects were provided in the First Five-Year Plan of Vidarbha. For the Second Five-Year Plan, the former Madhya Pradesh Government had provided a sum of Rs. 2.5 crores. The Planning Commission has agreed that this provision may now be increased to Rs. 5 crores. Four medium projects, viz. Bagh, Itiadoh, Dinanadi and Katapura will be undertaken because of the additional provision, while work is already in progress on the Bor and Nalganga projects. The projects in Vidarbha will add 3.56 lakh acres under irrigation in those areas. It may be mentioned that the Planning Commission has not agreed to make this increased provision of Rs. 2.5 crores by enlarging the Plan of the new Bombay State and we have taken up the matter with the Commission. Meanwhile, the increased provision of Rs. 75 lakhs for Irrigation made for Vidarbha areas next year has been accommodated within the Plan phasing of the old Bombay State.

In addition to the Purna project which is the most important, estimated to cost Rs. 5.5 crores with an irrigation potential of 1.6 lakh acres in Marathwada area, projects costing Rs. 6.9 crores with a Second Plan provision of Rs. 3.6 crores estimated to irrigate 1.2 lakh acres will be undertaken. Of the spill over works, the Bensusa and Khesapur projects are nearly completed, while work is in progress on four others and two more projects have been administratively approved.

In Kutch, a programme of irrigation works estimated to cost Rs. 108 lakhs for which a Second Plan provision of Rs. 49 lakhs has been made, will be undertaken. Of the projects in hand, plans and estimates of the Gajansar project and Rudramata Tank have been approved.

Of the 13 spill over irrigation works in Saurashtra, 6 have been practically completed and work is in progress on the remaining. There are in all 15 new irrigation projects provided in the Second Plan of Saurashtra at an ultimate estimated cost of Rs. 13.6 crores and a Second Plan provision of Rs. 7.5 crores. Of this, work on the Shetrunji is in full swing and in view of the rapid progress on the dam work an additional allotment of Rs. 40 lakhs has been sanctioned during the current year. Six other works, viz., Bhadar, Fulzar, Sakroli, Demi, Blogawo-II and Limbdi-Bhogawo, are at various stages of progress.

24. *Co-operation*.—The scope of the co-operative movement is no longer restricted to the field of agricultural credit. The movement has been extended to the other sectors of the rural economy, particularly in the fields of marketing, processing, housing, cottage and small scale industries. The

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schemes included in the Second Five-Year Plan pertaining to the Co-operative movement have been based on the recommendations of the All India Rural Credit Survey Committee, which have thrown considerable financial and administrative responsibility on Government. In order to implement these recommendations particularly in the field of agricultural credit and with a view to strengthening the integrated co-operative rural credit, Government contributed during the year 1956-57 an amount of Rs. 58.12 lakhs to the share capital of 181 co-operative institutions including 2 Apex Banks and 9 District Central Co-operative Banks. This year it is proposed to contribute Rs. 1.5 crores towards the share capital of co-operative credit institutions. Next year, it is proposed to contribute an amount of Rs. 1.25 crores. It will thus be seen that from year the financial base of the rural economy is being considerably strengthened. Further, in the field of long term credit the uneconomic branches of the Land Mortgage Banks are proposed to be subsidised.

The Bombay State Warehousing Corporation has been established during the year and is expected to have a net-work of warehouses all over the State during the course of the Plan period. Government is contributing this year Rs. 15 lakhs towards the share capital of the Corporation. It is also proposed to contribute Rs. 5 lakhs during the next year. Closely connected is the problem of co-operative marketing for which Government proposes to organize new marketing Societies and open branches of existing Societies in major and important minor marketing centres so as to bring within the fold of co-operative marketing at least 30 per cent. of the marketable agricultural produce. It is intended to start 60 warehouses by the State Warehousing Corporation during the remaining Five-Year Plan period.

Out of the 18 Co-operative Sugar Factories registered in the State, 17 have obtained the necessary licences under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. Nine of these have gone into production with a total crushing capacity of 8,400 tons per day. Government has so far contributed an amount of Rs. 1,67,99,750 to the share capital of the 17 Co-operative Sugar Factories and has guaranteed or has agreed to guarantee jointly with the Government of India on 50 : 50 basis, a total amount of Rs. 7,16,50,000 to be obtained as loans by 14 Co-operative Sugar Factories from the Industrial Finance Corporation of India. In order to enable some of the Co-operative Sugar Factories to bridge the gap between their estimated block capital account and their total resources, Government has also guaranteed an amount of Rs. 1,16,94,000 obtained as medium term loan by them from the Central Financing Agencies.

25. *Power Projects.*—The development of Power Projects included in the Plan is making satisfactory progress. The work on Koyna Hydro-Electric Project is progressing almost according to schedule. Government has taken suitable steps to assure a fair deal to the population that will be displaced from the valley, and suitable measures are being taken as advised by the Koyna Rehabilitation Committee constituted for advising Government in the matter.

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Government has also appointed a Rehabilitation Officer for the work of rehabilitation. A Resettlement Committee has also been constituted to advise the Rehabilitation Officer in the implementation of the programme of resettlement of the persons affected by the Project.

26. *Industrial Development.*—Government attaches great importance to the rapid industrial development of the State. With this end in view, arrangements to prepare a Master Plan for further industrialisation of the State are taking shape. Some specialised staff will be appointed to assist the Director of Industries in collecting and scrutinizing the data and for carrying out spot investigations for the preparation of the Master Plan. With a view to establishing a plant for the manufacture of pig iron in the Chanda District in Vidarbha which contains valuable deposits of iron ore and deposits of coal and limestone which may be capable of being utilised for the manufacture of pig iron, it is proposed to carry out pilot plant tests with the help of the National Metallurgical Laboratory at Jamshedpur. Government also proposes to provide for a scheme to supply water to the industrial concerns in the area near Porbandar which are in need of regular water supply for their proper functioning and growth. With a view to bringing about planned development of industries, it has been decided to establish 16 industrial estates in the State. An Industrial Estate at Rajkot has already been established and the scheme for the establishment of Industrial Estates at Baroda, Uda, Kurla, Hadapsar and Kolhapur has already been approved by the Government of India who have sanctioned a loan of Rs. 15.14 lakhs for the purpose. The survey of the land for the establishment of an industrial estate for heavy industries at Atale near Kalyan is completed. A tentative lay out is prepared and the proceedings for acquisition of land are in progress. The scheme for the establishment of industrial estates at Malegaon, Karad, Nagpur, Amravati, Nanded, Ahmedabad and Bapri Road are under preparation and are likely to be taken up during the next year.

27. Government also attaches great importance to the resuscitation of Cottage and Small Industries. As the House is aware, the Cottage Industries have always occupied an important place in India's industrial structure. Village Industry is the source of subsidiary income to the Indian cultivator and a source of employment to the landless labourer. The main stress in Government policy has been on offering training to artisans in the use of improved tools and equipment, conducting research in village and cottage industries, organisation of industrial co-operatives and encouragement of non-official agencies like the Bombay Village Industries Board and the Saurashtra Khadi and Village Industry Board. It is hoped that the development of Cottage Industries will prove an effective antidote to the problem of unemployment.

The Cottage Industries Department has been placed under the administrative control of a full-fledged head of Department who is designated as Director of Cottage Industries.

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The most important industrial co-operative societies having employment potential are the Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies and the Forest Labourers' Co-operative Societies. To both these types of societies, financial, technical and other assistance is being made available. In this connection it may be added that the starting of Forest Labourers' Societies has helped to a great extent in ameliorating the conditions of the Adivasis and the backward classes.

28. *Road Transport*.—Nationalised passenger transport now covers over 94 per cent. of the road mileage in the former Bombay State, 15·8 per cent. in Vidarbha, 95 per cent. in Kutch, 47·1 per cent. in Saurashtra and 55·5 per cent. in Marathwada. The total aggregate route mileage operated by nationalised transport in the State at present is 59,883. Nationalisation of passenger transport will be carried forward during the next year.

29. *Roads*.—Including National Highways, Central Road Fund Works, Express Highways, West Coast Works, Centrally aided Roads and Works in the State Plan, the aggregate programme of roads and bridges envisaged in the new State is Rs. 41·27 crores for the period of the Second Plan. Of this provision, programme for an expenditure of Rs. 13·23 crores will be undertaken in 1958-59 of which a Budget provision of Rs. 4·2 crores on National Highways will be included in the Central Budget and over Rs. 9 crores in the State Budget. The aggregate Second Plan programme envisages construction and improvement of 4,723 road miles and construction of 166 major bridges and causeways. During 1956-57, 854 road miles were constructed and improved and 18 bridges completed. During 1957-58, 1,000 road miles will be improved and constructed while 10 bridges are expected to be completed. Over and above this, 22 bridges are under construction. During the next year, apart from the completion of the left over works of the current year, 1200 miles of roads will be constructed or improved and 50 bridges will be taken up for construction.

An additional provision of Rs. 75 lakhs has been made in the budget for roads in Vidarbha, over Rs. 36 lakhs on account of roads in scarcity areas and over Rs. 38 lakhs on account of new roads. As in the case of Irrigation this provision also has been accommodated within the Plan phasing of the former Bombay State.

30. *Education*.—Amongst the States in India Bombay State is one of the foremost in the progress of Education. In the areas which form part of the new State the number of educational institutions increased from 41,605 in 1949-50 to 64,030 by 1955-56 at the end of the First Plan and to 70,687 in 1957-58. The number of pupils in these institutions has increased from 42·8 lakhs in 1949-50 to 59·6 lakhs by the end of 1955-56 and to 69·4 lakhs in the current year. There has thus been an expansion of 62 per cent. in educational

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development on the whole compared to 1949-50. The following table indicates the growth in the number of pupils under instruction during each of the years 1949-50, 1951-52, 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58 :—

Year.	Primary.	Secondary.	Higher.	Special.	Total	Per-centage 1949-50 =100.
1949-50 ..	34,72,419	5,30,232	53,483	2,20,432	42,76,566	100·00
1951-52 ..	36,88,567	5,93,316	66,673	2,93,312	46,41,868	108·54
1955-56 ..	46,13,543	7,78,541	1,00,279	4,71,830	59,64,193	139·46
1956-57 ..	50,59,590	7,86,034	1,11,678	4,90,054	64,47,356	150·76
1957-58 ..	54,44,295	8,54,527	1,21,309	5,20,431	69,40,562	162·29

Government has already applied during the current financial year the old Bombay rates of dearness allowance paid to Primary Teachers to other component areas of the State at an annual cost of Rs. 1·27 crores. It is also proposed to give the following revised uniform basic scales of pay for the Primary Teachers of the entire State :

- (i) Rs. 40 per month for untrained teachers,
- (ii) Rs. 50—1½—65—2½—90 for one year trained teachers.
- (iii) Rs. 50—1½—65—2½—100 for two years trained teachers.

The above uniformity in the basic scales of pay will mean an extra burden of the order of Rs. 1 crore during the next year of which 50 per cent. will be shared by the Government of India. Secondary education as well as technical education are making progress according to the schedule laid down in the Plan. A proposal to establish a University for Marathwada has been accepted and the necessary legislative proposals will be placed before the House during the current session. A notable feature this year is the decision to introduce National discipline scheme in educational institutions for which financial provision of Rs. 5 lakhs has been made in the budget proposals.

31. *Medical and Public Health*.—The number of Hospitals and Dispensaries in the State has increased from 1,595 in 1955 to 1,937 at the end of 1957 with the total bed strength increased in the latter year to 19,138 from 18,237 in 1955. For providing medical relief to the rural areas 8 Cottage Hospitals, 475 Subsidised Medical Practitioner Centres, 353 Village Aid Centres and 32 Special Dispensaries are functioning. The reconstruction programme of the J. J. Group of Hospitals is making headway and a provision of Rs. 18·2 lakhs has been made in the Budget for this purpose.

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6 Ayurvedic dispensaries in Saurashtra, 8 in Vidarbha and 3 in Marathwads will be established next year.

There are already 7 Medical Colleges under Government and 2 Colleges run by the Bombay Municipal Corporation. The total admissions in the First year of these Colleges has been increased to 742 pupils. The Medical College at Aurangabad is being developed. In addition to these Colleges there are 2 Dental Colleges, viz., Sir C. E. M. Dental College and Hospital and the Nair Dental College and Hospital, and it is proposed to increase admissions to the C. E. M. Dental College from 60 to 100 during the next year.

For imparting instruction and to serve as demonstration to rural training in public health, there were hitherto only two health units—one at Sirur in the Poona District and the other at Saoner in Nagpur district. Three more units have now been established at Bawla, Palghar and Padra. For the isolation and treatment of infectious diseases in the rural areas there were only two mobile hospital units in the Bombay State with an additional half equipped unit. One more mobile hospital unit will be added in 1957-58 by the end of the year to function in Marathwada and Vidarbha areas. An additional unit will also be established during the next year.

The Second Plan provides for 130 primary health centres of which 50 have been provided by the end of 1957-58 and 27 more will be established in the next year. The anti-malaria measures are being conducted through 24 health units and 4 D. D. T. units. In addition, 6 units are working to irradiate malaria.

32. *Housing*.—A Cabinet Sub-Committee has been reviewing the housing problem in the State with a view to draw up a phased comprehensive programme to accelerate the pace of construction. Meanwhile Government has constructed in the State 33,113 tenements, 2,505 shops and 13 school buildings for displaced persons. Loans have also been granted to individuals and Co-operative Societies for construction of 1,268 tenements. For the general population, particularly industrial workers and low income group population, the progress of housing construction is as follows :—

Area	No. of tenements completed at the end of December 1957.	No. of tenements under construction.
(a) Industrial Housing—		
Former Bombay areas	12,831	12,800
Saurashtra	1,649	1,385
Vidarbha	1,730	2,720
Marathwada	1,490	1,490
	17,700	18,395
(b) Low Income Group Housing	1,926	2,306
(c) Rental Housing		700

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Including housing for displaced persons, Government housing construction is thus responsible for setting up 57,739 tenements and work is in hand on 21,401 tenements. When these latter are completed, Government would have provided accommodation for a population of 3,56,130 at the rate of 4.5 persons per family to a tenement. Since the urban population has increased several times more within the last few years, and since we have a backlog of unsatisfied wartime demand for housing in urban areas, particularly in the industrial cities, the achievement, though substantial in monetary terms, may appear modest in relation to demand. It is hoped that the industrial employer would actively co-operate in this task. In addition to the provision for housing, a programme of slum clearance estimated to cost Rs. 4.29 crores has been taken in hand since the current year and an aggregate provision of Rs. 1.50 lakhs has been made in the budgets of the current year and the next.

33. *Increased grants to Village Panchayats and Local Bodies*.—A special feature of the next year's budget is the increased provision for grants to village panchayats and other local bodies. It is the intention of Government to make every village a self-contained unit able to cater to the essential civic needs of its people. To this end, it is, however, necessary to provide them with an assured source of income. At present there is no uniformity in the grants payable to village panchayats in the different component parts of the new State. Government has therefore decided to adopt uniform rates throughout the reorganised State. The village panchayats will get grants ranging from 25 per cent. to 30 per cent. of land revenue realised in their respective areas. Extra provision of Rs. 62.70 lakhs is made in the next year's budget for this purpose. It is intended that village panchayat secretaries throughout the State will hereafter be appointed and paid for by Government and also trained at Government cost. Audit of village panchayats will also be conducted by Government. An additional provision of Rs. 37.30 lakhs is proposed in the next budget for the pay of village panchayat secretaries and their training and for the audit of village panchayat accounts. Government has also decided to bring about uniformity in grants payable to District Local Boards in the different areas of the new State. It has, therefore, been decided that District Local Boards in old Bombay areas and Kutch, Janapada Sabhas in Vidarbha, District Boards in Marathwada and District Panchayats in Saurashtra should be paid a grant equal to five per cent. of the land revenue collected in the area of the particular body. Government has also decided to pay to these bodies 2 per cent. of forest revenue as in the case of old Bombay State. An extra provision of Rs. 32 lakhs is proposed in the next year's budget for the payment of the above grants. Government has also decided that District Local Boards, Janapada Sabhas and Municipalities in the entire new State should be paid dearness allowance grants according to old Bombay State practice, i.e. 50 per cent. of the expenditure incurred by them on payment of dearness allowance to their staff. The decision has necessitated an extra provision of Rs. 67 lakhs in the next year's budget. It is hoped that such increased financial assistance from Government will materially help the said Local Bodies in the State in carrying out their functions.

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34. *Social Welfare*.—All activities concerning social welfare including Backward Class welfare and rehabilitation have now been brought under one department. The welfare extension projects continued to make progress under the State Social Welfare Board and there has been a good deal of expansion in their activity. As against the current year's provision of Rs. 5 lakhs, a sum of Rs. 9.2 lakhs is being provided for the next year.

Welfare and education of the physically handicapped through Government as well as voluntary agencies continues and two schools for the blind, deaf and dumb are being opened in Vidarbha. Under the correctional administration, problems of juvenile delinquency and beggars are being tackled. A special drive was launched and 430 leper and 312 disabled and infirm beggars in Bombay City have been provided with institutional care. Children's Act has been extended to Nagpur and Aurangabad. Certified schools and Remand Homes have been opened. Similarly, the Beggars Act is proposed to be extended to Poona and Ahmedabad cities. Two State Homes and six District Shelters under the Moral and Social Hygiene and aftercare programme have already been opened. One more State Home and eight more District Shelters will soon start functioning. This activity will further be expanded next year for which a provision of Rs. 7 lakhs is made. Training-cum-production centres will be attached to the State Homes in order to afford permanent rehabilitation of the inmates. During 1958-59, the entire budget provision of Rs. 31 lakhs would be utilised for the expansion and enlargement of activities under various categories of social work.

The Backward Classes who constitute nearly one-fourth of the total population of the State, continue to receive special attention from Government. The total provision proposed in the next year's budget for various schemes for backward classes welfare amounts to over Rs. 4.80 crores, which include an amount of Rs. 1 crore for schemes in the State Plan and an amount of about Rs. 66 lakhs for Centrally sponsored schemes for which the entire finance is provided by the Government of India. The schemes undertaken during the current year will be continued with increased tempo during the next year and in addition several new useful activities will be undertaken, e.g. establishment of a model colony for Scheduled Tribes, provision of housing sites for Scheduled Castes, grant of legal aid to Scheduled Castes, extension of legal aid to Scheduled Tribes and Vinukta Jatis in the component units, subsidy in the form of additional rent to caste Hindu landlords for taking Harijans as their tenants; encouragement of inter-caste marriages between caste Hindus and Harijans; overseas scholarships to backward classes students and development of backward class hostels.

35. *Small Savings*.—I would now turn to a matter which is of vital importance to the successful implementation of our Plan, viz. Small Savings. During the current financial year the Government of India have changed the basis of sharing net collections of Small Savings with the State Governments and we shall now be getting 2/3rds of the net collections in our State every year. The States' share, moreover, will be paid every month or every quarter as desired by the State Governments according to the latest available monthly

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and quarterly estimates of net collections. In the current year, therefore, we shall receive not merely the State's share of small savings against our net collections in 1956-57 on the basis of the old formula of sharing, but also 2/3rds of the net collections during the year 1957-58. The aggregate State share thus expected to be received in 1957-58 from Small Savings is estimated at Rs. 13 crores.

During the current year there has been a general decline in net collections of Small Savings for the country as a whole and also in our State, compared to the net collections during the last year. This decline is due to a variety of reasons which I shall not go into here. It, however, indicates the necessity for our undertaking all possible measures, administrative and organisational, to make Small Savings a mass movement. Since the beginning of 1957, the State Government has been taking energetic measures to popularise the Scheme by making it widely known throughout the State and arousing the interest of our rural areas in the movement which was confined to, more or less, urban areas so far. Only recently we have celebrated a "Savings Fortnight" in the State which has helped to arouse public consciousness in the movement, to intensify the collection drive and to increase the number of agents. The momentum thus given to the movement would be of material assistance in giving an impetus to collections. I am glad to be able to report that according to information received, the total collections during the "Savings Fortnight" have amounted to about Rs. 2 crores and an equal amount has been promised during the remaining part of the current financial year. The recent concession of allowing hypothecation of the Savings Certificates should act as an incentive to larger collections. The Directorate of Small Savings has been concentrating on publicity measures and to interest women, students and labour as well as agriculturists in the movement. To secure the non-official co-operation, Advisory Committees have been set up in each district and even in talukas, and in every Division with the apex Advisory Council of Small Savings for the whole State with the Chief Minister as its Chairman. Organisation of a mass movement will require patience, faith in the cause, wide publicity and active public co-operation. For the movement to succeed, we require spontaneous mass support so that it may become not merely a campaign for plan resources but also a campaign for cultivating the habit of thrift as a national character. Small Savings is not a movement of the Government imposed on the people, nor are collections for it a contribution, donation or gift. Small Savings basically is a movement of the people, for the people by the people; and once we all recognise this fact, the realisation of the target that we have set before us should not be difficult in the long run. I would earnestly commend the cause to the honourable Members of the House and through them to all sectors of the public.

36. *Delegation of Financial Powers*.—Time and again, Government is confronted with the question of avoiding administrative delays. In order to minimise these the posts of Commissioners have been revived. In the interest of decentralisation of administration so as to facilitate quick decisions and avoidance of duplication of work, it has been accepted in principle that

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many more powers might be delegated to the Heads of Departments and Offices. In line with this decision, orders have already been issued delegating more financial powers to Heads of Departments and Offices. It is hoped that with the delegation of these powers to the Commissioners and other local officers administrative delays will be reduced in future.

37. *Spending Capacity*.—Against the target expenditure of Rs. 350.28 crores of our Second Five-Year Plan the expenditure in 1956-57 is estimated at Rs. 44.45 crores only, largely due to the transitional effects and difficulties of reorganisation. Against the Plan provision of about Rs. 73.5 crores during the current financial year the revised estimates indicate that an expenditure of not more than Rs. 65 crores is likely to be incurred. Since we are now stepping up Plan expenditure to Rs. 76.8 crores during the next year and larger provisions will be made in the rest of the Plan period thereafter, it is indispensable that we develop our spending capacity to the fullest extent of the task before us. Various factors generally come in the way of spending capacity and create a gap between the budgeted provision and actual Plan expenditure. Briefly these are (1) time lag in communicating sanctions of the budgeted provisions to all the spending officers right down to the district and taluka levels, (2) time lag in getting projects cleared with administrative and technical sanction at the Secretariat in this Government and with the corresponding Ministries of the Government of India in cases where Central assistance is received, (3) difficulties of getting requisite technical personnel and (4) difficulties of getting constructional materials like iron and steel cement as well as machinery, some of which has to be imported. These problems are under review by the Government at various levels. The recent decision to delegate financial powers to Heads of Departments and offices in a larger measure than before should also help to improve matters. The organisation and methods section in the Secretariat and the vigilance sections in the Public Works and the Finance Departments have in hand some of these problems and I hope ways and means will be found to fully utilise both manpower and materials according to the resources provided in the budget and the time schedule laid down in the Plan.

38. *Additional Taxation Measures*.—The budgetary position for 1958-59 which I have indicated shows a deficit on revenue account of Rs. 2.01 crores. In order to balance the revenue budget and to augment our resources to meet the increased expenditure under various developmental heads for the fulfilment of our Second Five-Year Plan, we are committed to an additional taxation target of Rs. 24 crores in the new State. It has been found necessary to provide for a Plan expenditure of about Rs. 76.8 crores in the next year which includes an expenditure on revenue account of Rs. 21.57 crores. Our normal revenue expenditure after the reorganisation of the State has also increased by about Rs. 5 crores which is accounted for by Rs. 3 crores on account of integration of services and increase of Rs. 5 in dearness allowance to employees getting a salary up to Rs. 50 per mensem; Rs. 1.27 crores on account of increase in dearness allowance by Rs. 5 granted to primary school teachers in the former Bombay State areas as well as to those in other component areas, and extension of the former Bombay State rates of dearness allowance to

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primary teachers in the other component areas and Rs. 0.67 crores for giving dearness allowance grants to municipalities and other local bodies according to the practice prevalent in the former Bombay State. The amount of Rs. 5 crores mentioned above is exclusive of a liability of Rs. 1 crore on account of revision of pay-scales of primary school teachers.

39. To meet the deficit and to augment the existing resources during 1958-59, I propose the following measures of additional taxation or those for unification of taxes in the component areas of the State. The Bills relating to these taxation measures will be placed before the House.

40. I propose a levy of a tax on all passengers and on luggage carried by stage carriages at such rates as would yield an amount equal to ten per cent of the inclusive amount of fares payable to the operator of a stage carriage, except where such stage carriage plies exclusively within a Municipal area. From the tax assessed as above, I expect an aggregate revenue of Rs. 180 lakhs during 1958-59.

41. We have in the new State a variety of taxes levied at different rates in the different component units. Now that the transitional period immediately after reorganisation is over, it is necessary to unify the tax-laws as has been done in the case of services, pay-scales and dearness allowances, because differences in tax rates within a single State raise difficulties of tax administration and also lead to differential burdens being put on different areas which is not equitable.

Before dealing with measures of unification of taxes, I would like to mention that wherever the existing taxes in the component areas were found to be invidious, Government has decided either to abolish or to modify them. In pursuance of this policy, in the Marathwada area, sales tax which was being levied at 3 per cent. on cereals and pulses and paddy under the Hyderabad General Sales Tax Act has been abolished. Similarly, sales of fresh fruits which were subject to a multi-point tax in that area have also been exempted. It has further been decided that flour including Atta, Maida, Suji and Bran should also be exempt from sales tax in Marathwada. Government also proposes to abolish the levy of agricultural income tax in Marathwada and the tax on trade, professions, callings and employment in Vidarbha from the 1st April 1958.

In Vidarbha and Marathwada Sales Tax is being levied on cotton at 2 per cent. Government has decided to reduce the rate to 1 per cent. as in the former Bombay State areas.

42. I propose to unify taxes throughout the State generally along the lines and at the rates these taxes are being levied in the former Bombay State areas as under :—

(a) taxes on motor vehicles;

(b) taxes on motor spirit including high speed diesel oil used as fuel;

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- (c) taxes on the consumption of electrical energy ;
- (d) duty on entertainment ; and
- (e) stamp duty on non-judicial instruments.

Advantage is also being taken of the amendment in the taxation laws to express the rates of taxes in terms of new coinage. Of the total aggregate target additional taxation of Rs. 24 crores, a target of Rs. 12 crores or nearly 50 per cent. has to be fulfilled by the former Bombay State areas excluding Karnatak. Unification of taxation does not mean some additional taxation only in component areas other than the former Bombay State areas. I also propose changes in some of the above taxes within the former Bombay State areas as well.

43. The unification of taxes on various categories of motor vehicles envisages levy of taxes on motor vehicles at the rates at present operative in the former Bombay State areas. Unification of motor vehicles taxation is expected to yield an annual revenue of Rs. 15 lakhs.

44. Motor spirit at present is being taxed under Sales Tax at the rate of 6 annas per gallon in the former Bombay State areas, Kutch and Saurashtra at 12½ per cent. of the sale price of petrol in Vidarbha and at 4 annas per gallon in Marathwada. I propose that motor spirit may be taxed uniformly in all areas by the State Government taking powers to levy the tax up to a maximum of 20 per cent. *ad valorem*. The actual quantum of the tax which will be levied on Motor Spirit which includes petrol, aviation spirit and high speed diesel oil, will be prescribed by Rules. The levy would be at different rates on the three types of motor spirit. Hitherto, high speed diesel oil has been taxed under the General Sales Tax Act in all areas except Marathwada where it is taxed under the Special Act relating to taxation of motor spirit. Now it will be taxed in all the areas under the Motor Spirit Taxation Act. The unification and additional taxation on motor spirit which includes high speed diesel oil as mentioned before used as fuel, is expected to bring in an additional revenue of about Rs. 30 lakhs.

45. Stamp duties may be broadly classified as judicial stamps used in litigation in the Law Courts and non-judicial instruments used for other purposes. So far as unification of stamp duty on judicial instruments used in Law Courts is concerned, Government has decided to appoint a Committee to go into the question. Unification of non-judicial stamp duties, however, can be undertaken without much difficulty and a Bill will, therefore, be moved generally applying rates of taxation on non-judicial instruments at rates prevailing in the former Bombay State. At present the Indian Stamp Act with amendments in its application to former Bombay State, Vidarbha and Saurashtra, is in force in these areas. The Central Act is applicable to Kutch while Marathwada is governed by the Hyderabad Stamp Act. It is now proposed to enact a self-contained Bill applicable to the whole State to provide

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for rates of stamp duty on instruments other than those falling under entry 91 in List I of the Indian Constitution and also to include in it the surcharge leviable under the Bombay Increase of Stamp Duties Act, 1943. On conveyances, the present rates of stamp duty are as follows :—

Type of Instrument.	<i>Ad valorem</i> Rate of duty.
1. Moveable property of any kind ...	2 1/4 per cent.
2. Rural Immoveable Property ...	2 1/4 per cent.
3. Urban immoveable properties other than those in the areas of Greater Bombay, Ahmedabad, Poona, Surat, Sholapur, Thana, Nasik, Kalyan, Baroda and Kolhapur.	3 per cent.
4. Urban immoveable properties in the cities of Ahmedabad, Poona, Surat, Sholapur, Thana, Nasik, Kalyan, Baroda and Kolhapur.	4 1/2 per cent.
5. Urban immoveable properties in Greater Bombay ...	6 per cent.

I propose that the present rates in the former Bombay State on the instruments of conveyance of urban and rural movable property and rural immoveable property may be applied uniformly throughout the State. So far as urban immoveable property is concerned, while the rate of 6 per cent. will be levied in Greater Bombay as at present, I propose that the rate of 4½ per cent. *ad valorem* on instruments of conveyance of immoveable property transactions at present applied to the cities of Ahmedabad, Poona, Surat, Sholapur, Thana, Nasik, Kalyan, Baroda and Kolhapur may also be applied to the cities of Nagpur, Dhulia, Akola, Amraoti, Jalgaon, Jalna, Aurangabad, Rajkot, Bhavnagar and Jamnagar. The rate of 3 per cent. on conveyances of immoveable property in other urban areas may be applied to all urban areas throughout the State. These changes, along with unification of stamp duties on other non-judicial instruments, are expected to bring in an additional taxation revenue of about Rs. 25 lakhs in 1958-59.

46. I propose that the rates of duty on the use of electrical energy on industrial power, power used for commercial purposes and for domestic consumption at present applied in the former Bombay State areas may be extended to all the component units subject to the present concession in various areas continuing for the time being. This unification measure is expected to bring in an additional revenue of about Rs. 25 lakhs.

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47. In consonance with the recommendations of the Taxation Inquiry Commission, entertainment duty in the former Bombay State since 1st April 1957, is being levied on a percentage basis including the duty at the following rates :

Area.	Value of admission including rate of entertainment duty.	Entertainment duty.
		<i>ad valorem.</i>
(a) Areas of the Municipal Corporation of Greater Bombay, Poona, and Ahmedabad.	Re. 0 5 0	20 per cent.
	Over Re. 0 5 0	} 25 per cent.
	Upto Rs. 1 5 0	
	Over Rs. 1 5 0	33 1/2 per cent.
(b) All other areas ...	Upto Rs. 1 5 0	20 per cent.
	Over Rs. 1 5 0	25 per cent.

I propose that the rates of taxation on admission to places of entertainment other than the Race Course at present applied to Greater Bombay, Ahmedabad and Poona may also be made applicable to all cities in the State with a population of 1 lakh and over. In all other cases, the rates mentioned at (b) above would be made applicable. It is expected that these changes in the entertainment duty would bring in an additional revenue of Rs. 25 lakhs.

48. The aggregate effect of the additional taxation measures proposed by Government would be to bring in an additional revenue of about Rs. 3 crores in 1958-59 as follows :—

	Rs.
Tax on Passenger fares	180 lakhs.
Tax on Motor Vehicles	15 lakhs.
Tax on motor spirit and diesel oil used as fuel ..	30 lakhs.
Stamp duty on instruments used for non-judicial purposes.	25 lakhs.
Tax on consumption of electrical energy	25 lakhs.
Changes in entertainment duty	25 lakhs.
Total ..	300 lakhs.

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49. The legislative measures for unification of taxation of motor vehicles and motor spirit also provide for the setting up of a State Road Fund for the entire State of Bombay and earmarking to the same revenue from motor vehicles tax, less cost of collection, as well as 50 per cent. or more of the revenue from taxes on motor spirit and diesel oil, less cost of collection. In view of this, of the aggregate additional taxation revenue of Rs. 300 lakhs, Rs. 75 lakhs is likely to be earmarked for the State Road Fund to enable the road programme to be expedited and will thus not be available for balancing the Revenue budget. The balance of additional taxation of Rs. 225 lakhs will thus convert the budget deficit of Rs. 201 lakhs at existing rates of taxation in 1958-59 on revenue account into a nominal surplus of Rs. 24 lakhs.

50. So far as unification of Sales Tax Laws and procedure is concerned, the House is already aware that the subject has been referred to a Committee appointed by Government. It is expected that the Committee's report will be available to Government at the end of June 1958. It is, therefore, not possible to take into account the financial implications of the unification of Sales Tax Laws at this stage. The same is the position with regard to unification of Judicial Stamp Duties. Government would undertake consequential legislation when the reports of the two Committees referred to above are received and considered by it.

51. *Ways and Means.*—At the end of the year 1956-57, there was a balance of Rs. 43·97 crores inclusive of the amount invested in treasury Bills. During the current year I expect an over-all surplus of Rs. 1·38 crores on the basis of the revised estimates made up as follows :—

	(In crores of Rupees)
Revenue Surplus	+5·57
Net Capital expenditure (i.e. including recoveries on capital account which are taken in reduction of capital expenditure)	—37·00
Betterment under Debt Heads inclusive of loans received from the Central Government and open market borrowing	+32·81
	+1·38

The year is thus expected to close with a balance of Rs. 45·35 crores (Rs. 43·97 crores *Plus* 1·38 crores). Excluding the amount of Rs. 6·50 crores which is expected to be invested in long dated securities, etc., during the current year, the closing balance at the end of the current year will be Rs. 38·85 crores which is inclusive of the amount invested in treasury Bills.

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The next year's estimates reveal an over-all deficit of Rs. 20·26 crores after taking into account Government's taxation proposals, as follows :—

	(In crores of Rupees)
Revenue Surplus	+0·24
Net capital expenditure (i.e. including recoveries on capital account which are taken in reduction of capital expenditure)	—39·49
Betterment under Debt Heads including of loans received from the Central Government but without taking into account open market borrowing ..	+18·99
	—20·26

The year 1958-59 is thus expected to close with a balance of Rs. 18·59 crores inclusive of the amount invested in treasury bills. This will, however, increase to the extent of our estimated open market borrowing viz., Rs. 10 crores.

52. *Revised arrangement of Budget Literature.*—I may here refer to a small change in the White and Blue books that have been presented to the House. In the past, statements showing summary of revenue and expenditure of the State used to be given in the White Book. These statements are now included in a separate booklet called "Financial Statement (Budget) of the Government of Bombay for the year 1958-59" (Green Book). The Introductory Note of the Finance Secretary, the major head-wise figures, the schedule of demands for grants, statements of outstanding debt, etc., which in the past were incorporated in the Blue Book also now find place in the new publication. The new booklet will serve as a handy publication showing the budgetary position of the State in a nut-shell.

In the past, copies of my budget speech were being supplied in Hindi and regional languages to the Hon'ble Members desirous of having them. From this year, in addition to the budget speech, translations of the White, Blue and the Green Books for 1958-59 in Hindi, Marathi and Gujarati will be made available to such Hon'ble Members as desire to have them. It is hoped that this change will enable a wider circle of the House and the public to understand and study the budget literature.

53. *Appendix to the Speech.*—With the increase in the size of the State as well as its budget the nature of our socio-economic and financial problems has become complex. It is necessary, therefore, to take a review of the budget in the background of basic statistical data of the new State. I have, therefore, appended to my speech essential statistical data which will assist a critical analysis of the Budget.

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54. *Conclusion.*—Sir, before concluding, I would like to do a little loud thinking as to the future role which Finance should play in a progressive welfare State. The success of the First Five-Year Plan laid the foundations for a more ambitious Second Plan, pledged to increase the National Income, provide more avenues of employment and lead the country to a socialistic pattern of Society. We, in Bombay State, did not lag behind and what is more, by a careful husbanding of our resources and wise management of our finances, have built up a prosperous economy which augurs well for the future. We have to march from one success to another; fortunately we have the means to do so. To this end I feel that a new orientation in our financial policy has become essential. Time has come when we should change over from orthodox finance to welfare finance; in other words, we should utilize our accumulated reserves to create more physical assets, more wealth and more amenities in the State which will help in augmenting our resources for spending on welfare activities and thus increase the prosperity of our masses, particularly of the rural areas. With this object in view, I am tentatively visualising the creation of sizeable ear-marked funds for the developmental activities of the State in various fields. We already have such ear-marked funds, e.g. the Famine Fund, the State Road Fund, the Sugarcane Cess Fund, the Milk Fund or the Port Development Fund. I am merely visualising the extension of the scope of such Funds. The advantage of an earmarked fund is the facility of evolving a suitable time programme of implementing a desired objective without the risk of lapsed grants. As I said, this is just loud thinking and no concrete shape has been given to the proposal in the present budget. The objects and conditions attaching to the formation of such earmarked funds, the budgetary procedure and the terms and conditions subject to which they will be expended over a period of years will have to be carefully worked out and meticulously laid down in order that the money is spent wisely and on the principle of self-help, as far as possible. In the general discussion on the budget I shall very much value suggestions from the Honourable Members of the House so that Government may come to some definite conclusions on the subject and put concrete proposals before the House in the form of Supplementary Demands in its next Session. In other respects too, I am thinking of radically re-organising my department so that delays in issuing sanctions are minimised and Development Departments are encouraged to increase their activities and spending capacity by a wider delegation of financial powers, decentralization and other means.

55. Sir, I will not take any more time of the House which has shown me the kind indulgence of listening patiently for so long. My only excuse, however, is that this is an occasion when Government has to fully explain to the House, and through it to the People, its policies and programme committed as it is to achieving the ideal of a welfare State within the time schedule laid down. Let us hope that with the united efforts of us all, we shall march to our goal steadily but surely. In the end, I would appeal to all sections of the House to give their whole-hearted co-operation to Government in the noble task of nation-building to which it has set itself.

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With these words, Sir, on behalf of the Hon. Finance Minister, I present the Budget Estimates for the year 1958-59.

The CHAIRMAN : The Budget Estimates for the year 1958-59 are presented to the House.

APPENDIX TO THE BUDGET SPEECH

GENERAL REVIEW OF BUDGETARY POSITION.

1957-58 and 1958-59 (Budget) with Statements showing the financial position and the Socio-Economic Indicators of the Progress of the Component Areas of the Reorganized Bombay State, from 1949-50 to 1957-58.

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STATEMENT I.

The General Budgetary Position, 1957-58 (BUDGET), 1957-58 (REVISED ESTIMATES), 1958-59 (BUDGET).

The White and Blue books of the annual State Budget do not readily indicate the exact Budget surplus or deficit in the economic sense of the difference between all current receipts and current expenses. This is because the Budget financial statements are maintained on a cash basis and include within them financial transactions of statutory and non-statutory funds. At times, the full measure of activities cannot be had because some items of expenditure are shown by way of deduct entries whereby they are met by recoveries equivalent or otherwise. In the statements given in this Appendix, therefore, budgetary data have been recast.

2. The Budget surplus or deficit in any given year has been shown by indicating the difference between :—

(A) Aggregate current annual expenditure on—

(i) revenue account,
(ii) capital account,
(iii) expenditure on activities other than monetary transactions financed from funds as well by grant of loans and advances not included in (i) and (ii) above, and

(B) The aggregate current annual receipts from—

(i) Revenue through State share in Centrally collected taxes like :—

(a) Taxes on incomes other than the corporation tax,
(b) State share in Union Excise Duties,
(c) State share in Estate Duty.
(d) State share in tax on railway passenger fares, and
(e) State share in Motor Spirit duty given as grants from Central Road fund.

To this, in the Revised estimates for 1957-58 and Budget estimates of 1958-59 are added,
(f) State share in the additional Union Excise Duties given as compensation in replacement of the State Sales Taxes on Mill-made Textiles, Sugar and Tobacco including Tobacco products.

(ii) State tax revenue from taxes levied by the State Government like Land Revenue, State Excise, Judicial and non-Judicial Stamp Duties, Tax on motor vehicles, the Entertainment Duty, the cess on Sugarcane, the Electricity Duty, tax on Prize Competitions, Sales Tax on motor spirit, the General Sales Tax etc.

(iii) Fees and other current non-tax receipts in the revenue account,

(iv) Central grants separately for Plan schemes and for outside the Plan schemes.

(v) Central loans for Plan schemes and for outside the Plan schemes as well as State share in Small Savings given as Central loans.

(vi) Open market borrowing and

(vii) Recoveries of loans and advances, as well as use of current accretions to statutory and non-statutory funds.

The gap or deficit, if any, between current receipts and expenditure is met by, withdrawals from funds and balances.

3. Statement I indicates the general budgetary position in the aggregate of both or revenue and capital accounts. The statement shows that the size of the State Budget has expanded from Rs. 190.9 crores according to the Budget estimates of 1957-58 for the reorganized State to Rs. 204.3 crores during the next year 1958-59. Over the last 20 years, the size of the Budget of the Government of Bombay has grown by 17 times from about Rs. 12 crores in 1937-38 to nearly Rs. 204 crores by 1958-59 though the population has grown only 2½ times from 2.1 crores in 1937-38 to 4.82 crores in 1951-52. The increase in the size of the Budget has not been due to the four-fold increase in prices alone. It reflects more largely the impact of the development programme and efforts made to mobilize resources for the same from time to time during the last 10 years.

More than the revenue, the impact of budgetary trends on the economy of the State may be measured by the effect of the expenditure activities. The per capita expenditure in the new State would increase from Rs. 39.57 nP. in 1957-58 to Rs. 42.33 nP. in 1958-59. Of this total expenditure of Rs. 42.33 nP. Rs. 27.37 nP. would be spent in the revenue account largely on recurrent activities and Rs. 14.96 nP. per capita on activities of capital formation.

The Budget of 1957-58 indicates an aggregate deficit on revenue and capital accounts taken together of Rs. 17 crores; the revised estimates however indicate a net surplus on revenue and capital accounts taken together of Rs. 1.33 crores. The Budget of 1958-59 indicates a deficit of Rs. 10.26 crores.

(G.C.P.) MO-B Hb 349—3

STATEMENT I.
General Budgetary Position.

Serial No.	Items.	Budget Estimate, 1957-58.		Revised Estimates, 1957-58.		Budget Estimates, 1958-59.	
		Amount.	Per Cent. to the total.	Amount.	Per Cent. to the total.	Amount.	Per Cent. to the total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
I Receipts on Revenue Account—							
	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.
(a)	Due to Unification and Addition Taxation.	.....	...	.....	...	3,00	1.5
(b)	Revenue at current rates of Taxation and other receipts.	1,19,14	68.5	24.69	66.9	1,29,31	65.6
	Total—I ...	1,19,14	68.5	24.69	66.9	1,32,31	67.1
II Receipts on Capital Account—							
(a)	Capital Section of Account.	48,78	28.0	10.10	29.8	11.21	54.84
(b)	Loans and Advances recovered by the State Government.	6,05	3.5	1.25	3.3	1.25	6.89
	Total—II ...	54,83	31.5	11.35	33.1	12.46	61.73
	Grand Total (Receipts) I and II.	1,73,97	100.0	36.04	100.0	37.71	100.0

*Per Capita based on the 1951-52 population.

STATEMENT I—contd.

Serial No.	Items.	Budget Estimate, 1957-58.		Revised Estimates, 1957-58.		Budget Estimates, 1958-59.	
		Amount.	Per Cent. to the total.	Amount.	Per Cent. to the total.	Amount.	Per Cent. to the total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
III Expenditure met from Revenue ...							
	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.
	1,22,32	64.0	25.34	1,16,27	64.4	24.09	1,32,07
IV Expenditure on Capital Account—							
(a)	Capital Section of Account. Major Heads 68 to 85-A.	48,61	24.4	9.65	22.0	8.26	48,21
(b)	Obligatory Debt—Services (Net).	.....	...	6.47	3.6	1.34	2.66
(c)	Loans and Advances granted by the States Government.	22,06	11.6	4.58	10.0	3.74	21,36
	Total—IV ...	68,67	36.0	14.23	35.6	13.34	72,23
	Grand Total (Expenditure) III and IV	1,90,99	100.0	39.57	100.0	37.43	2,04,30
	Surplus (+) or Deficit (—) ...	—17,02	—3.53	+1.38	0.28	—10.26	—2.12

(a.c.p.) MO-3 Hb 349-3a

STATEMENT II.

Receipts and expenditure on Revenue Account.

The receipts on revenue account may be broadly grouped into—

(a) Receipts by way of taxation, and

(b) Receipts other than those derived by taxation, i.e. receipts from fees and other charges, net receipts of commercial enterprises and Central grants for Plan as well as for outside the Plan activities.

Statement II indicates that, as a result of the Budget of 1958-59, the tax revenue will increase from 76.7 crores budgeted in the current year to Rs. 89.96 crores as budgeted for the next year. Tax revenue accounts for 64.4 per cent. of the revenue in 1957-58 (budget), and 68.1 per cent. of the revenue in 1958-59.

The tax revenue per capita in the Bombay State with the additional taxation in 1958-59 would be Rs. 18.68 nP., compared to Rs. 18.47 per capita in 1957-58 (Revised Estimates).

The expenditure on revenue account may be broadly classified into—

(a) Development expenditure, i.e. expenditure which directly aids the Socio-Economic life of the people and

(b) Non-development expenditure or expenditure which is required to meet the primary and protective functions of the State.

Under non-development is included expenses of the Government on (i) *Administrative charges*, i.e., cost of Civil Administration, Ministerial Establishments, Secretariat Departments, Offices of the District Collectors, expenditure of emergency character like famine relief as well as cost of collection of taxes, (ii) *Obligatory charges*, i.e., expenses by way of interest and payment of instalments on the public debt and provision for pension and superannuity charges; and (iii) *Security services* or expenditure for the maintenance of peace and security, Police, Jails and Convict Establishments as well as the Judiciary.

The development expenditure includes expenditure on social services like Education, Medical and Public Health facilities as well as expenditure which helps economic life such as assistance to agricultural and industrial pursuits, the construction and maintenance of roads, major, minor or medium irrigation works, State enterprises and power projects etc. It is obvious from the above description of items included under what is called development expenditure and what has been termed as non-development expenditure that the two are complementary to each other. Without the satisfactory maintenance of law and order, efficient administration or punctual repayment of Government financial liabilities, no development work worth its name can be expected. An adequate performance of the protective functions of the State alone can create the necessary peaceful environment for the development of social and economic output activities. With the advance of socialism and the growing popular ideals of the Welfare State, however, it may be expected that the proportion of expenditure required to meet the primary and protective functions called non-development expenditure to the total expenditure would progressively decrease so that more and more resources can be diverted to what is called development expenditure that directly helps socio-economic life and assists the improvement in the standard of life of the common man enjoined by the directive principles of State policy laid down in the constitution.

The total expenditure of the Bombay State in 1958-59 has been estimated around Rs. 204 crores; of this, only Rs. 55 crores or 26.7 per cent. is non-Developmental while the Development Expenditure is Rs. 149 crores or 73.4 per cent. Thus of the total per capita expenditure of Rs. 42.33 nP., Rs. 11.31 nP. would be non-development and Rs. 31.02 per capita would represent development expenditure.

Of the total expenditure of about Rs. 204.30 crores, an expenditure of Rs. 132.07 crores will be incurred on the revenue account. The expenditure of Rs. 132.07 crores in 1958-59 indicates an increase of Rs. 9.75 crores over the Budget estimates of the current year. Within the revenue account the development expenditure is 62 per cent, and the non-development expenditure 38 per cent.

STATEMENT II.
Receipts and Expenditure on Revenue Account.

Serial No.	Items.	Budget Estimates, 1957-58			Revised Estimates, 1957-58			Budget Estimates, 1958-59.		
		Amount.	Percent to the total.	Per Capita.	Amount.	Percent to the total.	Per Capita.	Amount.	Percent to the total.	Per Capita.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
I. Receipts on Revenue Account—										
		Rs. in lakhs		Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs		Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.		Rs. nP.
(a)	Tax Revenue	76.76	64.4	15.90	89.16	73.1	18.47	89.96	68.1	18.68
(b)	Non-Tax Revenue	42.38	35.6	8.76	32.68	26.9	6.78	42.35	31.9	8.77
	Total, I	119.14	100.0	24.69	121.84	100.0	25.25	132.31	100.0	27.45
II. Expenditure on Revenue Account—										
(a)	Development Expenditure	74.67	61.0	15.47	70.07	60.3	14.52	81.66	62.0	16.93
(b)	Non-Development Expenditure.	47.65	39.0	9.87	46.20	39.7	9.57	50.41	38.0	10.44
	Total, II	122.32	100.0	25.34	116.27	100.0	24.09	132.07	100.0	27.37
	Surplus (+) or Deficit (—)	—3.18	...	—0.65	+5.57	...	+1.16	+24	...	+0.04

STATEMENT III.

Classification of Receipts on Revenue Account.

The taxation revenue forms 68.1 per cent. of the total revenue composed of 14.5 per cent. by way of State share in Centrally collected taxes such as taxes on incomes other than the Corporation Tax (12.29 crores), State share in Union Excise Duties (3.6 crores), State share in the tax on railway passenger fares (1.6 crores), Grants from the Central Road Fund (1.02 crores) and Estate Duty (0.32 crores). To this, may be added the share of Rs. 10.8 crores or 8.1 per cent. in the revenue which represents compensation to the State Government as State share in additional Union Excise Duties in replacement of the State Sales Tax on mill-made textiles, sugar and tobacco including tobacco-products.

If the latter change did not occur, the State Tax Revenue i.e. revenue from taxes imposed by the State Government may be said to have increased from Rs. 68.6 crores in 1957-58 (Revised Estimates) to Rs. 70.1 crores in 1958-59 (Budget). As a matter of fact, the State Government has incurred a loss of Rs. 4 crores in the existing present income from sale tax because of the Finance Commission's Award on the State share in the additional Union Excise Duties.

2. While tax revenue represents 68.1 per cent. of the annual receipts on Revenue Account, revenue from commercial enterprises accounts for 6.7 per cent. or Rs. 8.88 crores. Of this, Rs. 4.94 crores comes from forests. Against the revenue of Rs. 1.4 crores from the irrigation works, the State Government has to pay from the expenditure met from revenue a sum of Rs. 2.62 crores as interest on works for which capital accounts are kept. Irrigation as a commercial enterprise, therefore, involves the State Government in a loss of Rs. 1.2 crores per annum. The State Government also receives from the statutory corporations interest or dividend Rs. 38 lakhs from the Bombay and Saurashtra Road Transport Corporations, Rs. 54 lakhs from the Bombay Electricity Board, while the Aarey Colony gives a net receipt of Rs. 15 lakhs. The activities of the Bombay Housing Board financially do not yield any profit mainly because industrial housing has to be subsidised and also because the overhead expenses of the Board have to be partly subsidised because all the full economic rent cannot be levied on the tenants.

3. From fees and other charges, a revenue of Rs. 21.4 crores or 16 per cent. is expected to be derived in 1958-59 (Budget) compared to Rs. 15.8 crores in 1957-58 (Budget). These receipts depend for their magnitude on the expenditure on development activities.

4. Grants from the Central Government account for an aggregate revenue of Rs. 12.1 crores of 8.3 per cent. of the total revenue. Of the total grants, Rs. 6.5 crores are received for the Plan expenditure in the Revenue Account of Rs. 21.57 crores.

It has been indicated in the Budget Speech that over the decade 1952-53 to 1961-62, while the First and Second Finance Commissions' Awards have increased Central devolution by way of shared taxation and grants-in-aid of an aggregate sum of Rs. 500 crores to the State Governments, Bombay State alone has not received any financial benefit out of the two Awards in spite of its exceeding the Plan target of additional taxation.

STATEMENT III.
Receipts on Revenue Account.

Serial No.	Items.	Budget Estimates, 1957-58.			Revised Estimates, 1957-58.			Budget Estimates, 1958-59.		
		Amount	Percent to the total.	Rs. nP.	Amount	Percent to the total.	Rs. nP.	Amount	Percent to the total.	Rs. nP.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
I. Tax Revenue—										
(a) Centrally collected Taxes—										
	(i) Excise Duty in replacement of States Sales Tax.	.....	...	...	3.00	2.5	0.62	10.83	8.1	2.24
	(ii) Others	17.97	16.1	3.72	20.55	18.9	4.26	18.74	14.5	73.94
	(b) (i) State Taxes	58.79	48.3	12.18	65.61	53.7	13.59	57.39	43.1	11.88
	(ii) Additional Taxes	.....	...	...	...	...	...	3.00	2.4	0.62
	Total, I	76.76	64.4	15.90	89.16	73.1	18.47	89.96	68.1	18.68
II. Non-Tax Revenue—										
(a) Receipt from Commercial Enterprises.										
	(b) Fees and other charges	7.61	6.4	1.53	8.95	7.2	1.85	8.88	6.7	1.84
	(c) Central Grants—	15.87	13.3	3.29	13.77	11.3	2.91	21.35	16.9	4.42
	(i) Plan	6.49	5.5	1.35	6.61	5.3	1.33	6.50	4.9	1.35
	(ii) Others	12.41	10.4	2.57	3.35	2.1	0.69	5.82	3.4	1.16
	Total, II	42.88	35.6	8.79	32.68	26.9	6.78	42.85	31.9	8.77
	Grant Total, I and II	119.14	100.0	24.69	1,21.84	100.0	25.25	1,32.31	100.0	27.45

STATEMENT IV.

Expenditure on Revenue Account.

The conceptual difference between the Development and Non-Development Expenditure has already been indicated in the notes on Statement II.

2. The development expenditure may be broadly grouped into (a) expenditure on Social Services which includes the development of facilities provided by the Government in the spheres of social life such as education, medical, public health, labour welfare, etc., and (b) expenditure on Economic Services which represents what directly aids activities of production, distribution, exchange and consumption of goods and services produced within the State, such as agriculture, veterinary, co-operation, industries including small-scale and cottage industries, irrigation, power supply, etc.

Within the revenue Account, the expenditure on Social Services amounts to Rs. 42.8 crores or 32.3 per cent. of the expenditure on Revenue Account in 1958-59 (Budget) while the Economic services are granted an expenditure of Rs. 38.9 crores or 29.7 per cent. The *per capita* expenditure on Social Services amounts to Rs. 8.56 nP. and that on Economic Services Rs. 8.07 nP.

It may be noted, however, that though the expenditure on Social services in the Revenue Account exceeds that on Economic services, much the larger part of expenditure on the capital account is on Economic Services. Taking the revenue and capital accounts together, while the aggregate expenditure on economic services amounts to Rs. 101.48 crores or Rs. 21.05 nP. *per capita* of the population, that on Social Services amounts to Rs. 48.16 crores or Rs. 9.97 nP. *per capita*. Within the Revenue Account, each group of Social Services and Economic Services may be classified under (a) Committed expenditure or expenditure at the levels of welfare reached in 1955-56, (b) Plan expenditure or the expenditure on State Plan schemes which seek to raise these levels, (c) Expenditure on Centrally sponsored schemes, i.e. the expenditure provided within the Central Plan which also raise these levels, and (d) Supplementing (a), (b) and (c) above, expenditure on new activities outside the Plan as have been found necessary for purposes of adjustment in the original Plan as are allowed for in the Plan Report itself under annual phasing and flexibility.

3. It will be seen from Statement IV that in the Revenue Account, committed expenditure amounts to Rs. 47.3 crores or 35.7 per cent. of the total expenditure in 1958-59, Plan expenditure amounts to Rs. 21.6 crores or 16.4 per cent. expenditure in the Central Plan comes to Rs. 3.3 crores or 2.5 per cent. and expenditure outside these categories amounts to Rs. 9.3 crores or 6.1 per cent.

4. The non-development expenditure amounts to Rs. 50.4 crores or 38.0 per cent. of the expenditure on revenue account composed of (a) Rs. 23.9 crores or 17.8 per cent. on administrative charges or the salaries and allowances at the Secretariat and in the offices of the District Collectors including Ministerial establishments, (b) obligatory debt service charges of Rs. 9.94 crores or 7.5 per cent. of the expenditure paid by way of interest and instalment of public debt, and (c) security services of Rs. 16.5 crores or 12.4 per cent. incurred by way of expenditure on Police, Jails and Convict Settlements as well as the Judiciary. It will be seen from the table that Government has kept a strict control over expenditure on administrative charges as well as security services.

5. The expenditure on debt service charges has increased from Rs. 8.5 crores in 1957-58 (Budget) to Rs. 9.94 crores in 1958-59 (Budget). This, however, does not represent the full measure of expenditure on debt service charges. A sum of Rs. 2.66 crores on debt service charges has been transferred to the Capital account as expenditure on the increase of the public debt during the Second Plan. Taking this into account, it may be stated that the expenditure on debt service charges has increased from Rs. 8 crores in 1957-58 to Rs. 12.60 crores in 1958-59. About 2/3rds of the public debt is owed to the Government of India. For loans from the Government of India granted to the end of 31st March 1956, the Finance Commission has recommended as follows :—

(a) with effect from 1st April 1957, in respect of loans made to the States for the rehabilitation of displaced persons and lent by them, the States be allowed to pay to the Union only the amounts of principal and interest collected, including arrears, if any ;

(b) no modification be made in the rate of interest or terms of repayment of interest-free loans ; and

(c) of the remaining loans—

(i) the balances on 31st March 1957 of all loans carrying interest at three per cent. or more per annum and repayable on or after 1st April 1977, be consolidated into one single loan at 3 (three) per cent. per annum repayable on 31st March 1987 ;

(ii) the balances on 31st March 1957 of all loans carrying interest at 3 (three) per cent. or more per annum and repayable on or before 31st March 1977 be consolidated into one single loan at 3 (three) per cent. per annum repayable on 31st March 1972 ;

(iii) the balances on 31st March 1957 of all loans carrying interest at less than three per cent. per annum and repayable on or after 1st April 1977 be consolidated into one single loan at 2 1/2 (two and a half) per cent. per annum repayable on 31st March 1987 ; and

(iv) the balances on 31st March 1957 of all loans carrying interest at less than 3 (three) per cent. per annum repayable on or before 31st March 1977 be consolidated into one single loan at 2 1/2 (two and a half) per cent. per annum repayable on 31st March 1972.

If the Government of India implement this recommendation, there would be a benefit to the Bombay State of about Rs. 2 crores per annum as savings in debt service charges composed of Rs. 70 lakhs for interest payment and Rs. 130 lakhs for principal instalments. The Government of India has not yet accepted all these items, though all the States have implemented the Award on all other matters including the Government of Bombay, in spite of its losses in sales tax recommendations.

STATEMENT IV.
Expenditure on Revenue Account.

Serial No.	Items.	Budget Estimates, 1957-58.			Revised Estimates, 1957-58.			Budget Estimates, 1958-59.		
		Amount.	Per cent. to the total	Per Capita	Amount	Per cent. to the total	Per Capita	Amount	Per cent. to the total	Per Capita
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
I Development Expenditure—										
1. Social Services—										
	(a) Committed Expenditure	26.57	21.7	5.50	25.44	21.9	5.27	23.83	21.7	5.97
	(b) Plan expenditure	6.18	5.1	1.28	5.46	4.7	1.13	10.34	7.8	2.14
	(c) Non-Plan expenditure	19	0.2	0.04	18	0.1	0.04	1.33	1.0	0.28
	(d) On centrally Sponsored Schemes.	82	0.6	0.17	78	0.7	0.16	2.27	1.8	0.47
	Total ..	33.76	27.6	6.99	31.86	27.4	6.60	42.77	32.3	8.86

2. Economic Services—										
(a) Committed Expenditure	13.70	11.2	2.84	13.11	11.3	27.2	18.53	14.3	3.84	
(b) Plan ..	12.78	10.4	2.65	11.38	9.7	2.34	11.23	8.5	2.34	
(c) Non-Plan ..	4.93	4.0	1.02	4.72	4.1	0.98	8.11	6.1	1.67	
(d) Centrally Sponsored Schemes.	9.50	7.8	1.97	9.00	7.8	1.88	1.02	0.8	0.22	
Total ..	40.91	33.4	8.48	38.21	32.9	7.92	38.89	29.7	8.07	
Total I ..	74.67	61.0	15.47	70.07	60.3	14.52	81.66	62.0	16.93	
II Non-Developmental Expenditure—										
(a) Administrative charges ..	23.83	19.5	4.94	22.80	19.6	4.72	23.98	18.1	4.97	
(b) Obligatory Debt Services ..	8.50	7.0	1.76	8.74	7.5	1.81	9.94	7.5	2.06	
(c) Security Services ..	15.32	12.5	3.17	14.66	12.6	3.04	16.49	12.4	3.41	
Total II ..	47.65	39.0	9.87	46.20	39.7	9.57	50.41	38.0	10.44	
Grand Total, I and II ..	1,22.32	100.0	25.34	116.27	100.0	24.09	1,32.07	100.0	27.37	

STATEMENT V.

Taxation.

Of the 17 various measures of taxes and cesses open to the State Governments, the Government of Bombay can rightly claim to have fully exploited 15 taxes except (i) the tax on agricultural income which though levied in Marathwada is insignificant as an important source of revenue and (ii) the tax on trades, professions and callings which is levied only in Vidarbha. The sales tax on foodgrains, maida etc. in Marathwada has been abolished and the sales tax of 2 per cent. on cotton in Marathwada and Vidarbha has been reduced to 1 per cent. Further, Government has also decided to abolish the tax on Agricultural Incomes in Marathwada and the tax on Trades, Professions, Callings, and Employment in Vidarbha as these taxes exist only in these regions, respectively.

During the First Five-Year Plan the Government of Bombay had a taxation target of Rs. 23.5 crores which was more than fulfilled by the levy of additional taxation of Rs. 28 crores. For the Second Five-Year Plan the new State has an aggregate taxation target of Rs. 24 crores. Of this Rs. 12 crores will be derived from inter-State Sales Tax during the Plan period while the State Government has imposed additional taxation so as to yield a sum of Rs. 3 crores in 1958-59.

Among the taxes, the General Sales Tax is the most important, yielding a revenue in 1958-59 of Rs. 32.6 crores of which Rs. 10.83 crores comes as compensation by way of State share in the Union Excise Duties. The Government of Bombay after experimenting with all the different systems of sales tax like single point, multi-point and two-point has improved upon administration and efficient collection of the tax under the two-point system. The revenue from the General Sales Tax has increased from Rs. 1 crore in 1946-47, Rs. 11.9 crores in 1951-52, Rs. 30.5 crores in 1957-58 and to Rs. 32.5 crores in 1958-59. As a result of the Finance Commission Award, about 40 per cent. of the revenue now stands more or less frozen and incapable of elastic expansion. This is a serious limitation to the further growth of this most important single source of State Tax revenue. The problem of unification of sales tax throughout the State is at present under examination by the Sales Tax Enquiry Committee.

Land Revenue accounts for Rs. 13.2 crores or 11.7 per cent. of the tax revenue. During the last 20 years there has been little change in the incidence of land revenue except in Saurashtra.

2. Inclusive of the revenue from the Nasik Distillery, the revenue from State Excise has gone down from Rs. 173 lacs in the revised estimates of 1957-58 to Rs. 117 lacs in 1958-59 mainly because of further stages in the progress of the introduction and extension of prohibition to the parts of Vidarbha and Marathwada not so far covered.

Of the aggregate revenue of Rs. 5.57 crores from Stamp Duties, about Rs. 3.8 crores represent revenue from non-judicial stamps and about Rs. 1.8 crores from Court Fees. As a result of unification of stamp duties in 1958-59, the revenue from stamp duty will go up to Rs. 5.82 crores. The question of unification of court fees is being referred to a Committee.

From the users of roads by vehicles mechanically propelled, the Government of Bombay derives a revenue of Rs. 3.7 crores by way of taxes on the registration of motor vehicles and Rs. 2.3 crores from the sales tax on motor spirit used as fuel. As a result of unification of taxation the revenue from the tax on motor vehicles will increase to about Rs. 3.8 crores and with the inclusion of high speed diesel oil as motor spirit and unification of sales tax on motor spirit the tax on fuel used by vehicles will yield a revenue of Rs. 258 lacs. Of the aggregate tax of Rs. 6.41 crores on users of roads by vehicles mechanically propelled a sum of Rs. 4.11 crores will be transferred to the State Road Fund for the construction of important roads. In addition to the normal users who own or possess vehicles, passengers of stage carriages outside those that ply solely within municipal limits will now contribute a sum of Rs. 1.80 crores by way of the tax on passengers fares and on luggage.

3. The revenue from admissions to the race course and places of entertainments has grown at the existing rates of taxes from Rs. 2.7 crores in 1957-58 to Rs. 2.95 crores in 1958-59 (budget) largely because of the implementation of the percentage rates of taxes on admissions to the places of entertainments other than the race course as recommended by the Taxation Enquiry Commission to the former Bombay State Areas. During the next year as part of the unification of taxation proposals it has been envisaged that rates of taxation on admissions to places of entertainments other than the race course of the former Bombay State will be extended throughout the State and the rates of taxation at Greater Bombay will be applied to all the cities with a population of one lac and over. As a result, the revenue from the entertainment duties will increase from Rs. 2.95 crores to Rs. 3.20 crores.

It is also proposed to unify the taxes on the various uses of electrical energy subject to the present concessions being continued for the time being. The revenue from the electricity duty will be expanded from Rs. 2.8 crores in 1957-58 to Rs. 3.1 crores in 1958-59. This will further increase to Rs. 3.35 crores as a result of the unification proposals.

4. The Urban Immovable Property Tax yields a revenue of 1.8 crores. Though the Taxation Enquiry Commission has recommended that this tax should be foregone by the State Government and passed on to the local authorities in the course of five years, implementation has been postponed in view of the financial needs of the State Government and also in view of the fact that the Government of Bombay in its budget has increased the grants to the local authorities from an annual sum of Rs. 17.8 crores in 1957-58 to Rs. 21.2 crores in 1958-59. This has happened because of the development of Panchayats in the component units along the lines of the former Bombay State areas and grants on account of dearness allowance to the staff of local authorities also on the same lines. The former Hyderabad State gave no grant to the District Local Boards in Marathwada. The situation has now changed because the District Local Boards will not merely be given assignments of land revenue and forest revenue but also other grants for expenditure on roads dispensaries, etc. The grants to the local authorities would account for 16.5 per cent. of the annual expenditure met from the revenue in 1958-59 compared to 14.5 per cent. in 1957-58 (budget estimates).

The revenue from the cess on sugar cane though envisaged at an annual sum of Rs. 60 lacs only in the financial forecast of the Second Five Year Plan prepared in 1955-56 has actually increased to Rs. 89 lacs in 1957-58 and is expected at Rs. 100 lacs in 1958-59 mainly because 9 co-operative sugar factories have in the meantime gone into production. In view of the increase in the revenue from the cess on sugar cane the State Government has stepped up expenditure on roads financed from this cess fund which will improve communications in the sugar cane factory areas.

But for the Finance Commission's Award, and the Inter-State Sales Tax exclusion from the State Compensation, the revenue from Inter-State Sales Tax would have been an annual sum of Rs. 6 crores instead of a sum of Rs. 3 crores per annum only as budgeted in 1958-59.

STATEMENT V.
Receipts and Expenditure on Revenue Account.

Serial No.	Receipts. Items.	Budget Estimate 1957-58.		Revised Estimate 1957-58.		Budget Estimate 1958-59.	
		Amount.	Percent to the total.	Amount.	Percent to the total.	Amount.	Percent to the total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Tax Revenue.</i>							
1	Share in Central Taxes	17,97	16.1	20,55	16.8	29,67	22.6
2	Land Revenue	13,19	11.1	13,05	10.7	13,26	11.7
3	State Excise	1,62	1.4	1,55	1.3	99	0.7
4	General Sales Tax	24,50	20.6	32,55	24.6	21,66	16.3
5	Stamps	5,08	4.3	5,47	4.5	5,82	4.2
6	Registration	47	0.4	58	0.5	58	0.4
7	Taxes on vehicles	3,37	2.8	3,79	3.1	3,85	2.8
8	Other Taxes and duties*	10,56	7.7	11,62	11.6	14,13	9.4
<i>Non-tax Revenue.</i>							
9	Forest	3,64	3.1	4,97	4.1	4,94	3.7
10	Receipts from Commercial Enterprises.	3,97	3.3	3,98	3.2	3,94	3.0
†11	Central Grants	18,90	15.9	9,96	8.3	12,12	8.3
12	Fees and Other Charges	15,87	13.3	13,77	11.3	21,35	16.1
	Total	1,19,14	100.0	1,21,84	100.0	1,32,31	100.0

*For Detail of "Other Taxes and Duties"—Please see P. 64.

†The amount of Central Grants in 1958-59 compared to 1957-58 is lower because of the abolition of (i) Grants to Saurashtra for Primary Education and (ii) the interim Award Grants of Rs. 130 lakhs.

STATEMENT V—contd.

Serial No.	Receipts Items.	Budget Estimate 1957-58.		Revised Estimate 1957-58.		Budget Estimate 1958-59.	
		Amount.	Percent to the total.	Amount.	Percent to the total.	Amount.	Percent to the total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Deficit (—) of Surplus (+)	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.
		—3.18	—0.65	5.57	+1.16	+24	+0.04
<i>*Details of Other Taxes and duties.</i>							
	Entertainment Tax	1,92	0.39	2,30	0.47	2,55	0.53
	Betting Tax	82	0.18	70	0.16	92	0.22
	Electricity Duty	2,81	0.58	3,05	0.63	3,10	0.64
	U. I. P. Tax	1,59	0.33	1,63	0.34	1,74	0.36
	Motor Spirit Sales Tax	2,14	0.44	2,28	0.47	2,58	0.52
	Tax on Passenger Fares	.....	...	.....	...	1,80	0.39
	Cess on Sugarcane	89	0.18	1,00	0.21	1,00	0.21
	Prize Competition	*	...*	26	0.05	*	...*
	Sales tax on intoxicants	38	0.08	40	0.08	45	0.09

*Negligible.

STATEMENT V—contd.

Serial No.	Expenditure Items.	Budget Estimate, 1957-58.			Revised Estimate, 1957-58.			Budget Estimate, 1958-59.			
		Amount.	Percent. to the total.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Amount.	Percent. to the total.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Amount.	Percent. to the total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Direct Demands on Revenue	8,03	6.8	1.66	9,14	7.9	2.10	8,36	6.3	1.73	
2	Tax Revenue transfer to ear-marked Funds	4,07	3.3	0.84	3,45	3.0	0.71	4,34	3.3	0.90	
3	General Administration	7,11	5.8	1.47	7,98	6.9	1.65	8,60	6.5	1.78	
4	Justice	2,56	2.1	0.53	2,59	2.2	0.54	2,67	2.0	0.55	
5	Police	11,73	9.6	2.43	12,42	10.7	2.57	12,71	9.9	2.63	
6	Education and Scientific Department.	9,75	8.0	2.02	10,31	8.9	2.14	10,81	8.2	2.24	
7	Medical and Public Health	9,22	7.5	1.91	8,13	7.0	1.68	10,28	7.8	2.13	
8	Agriculture Veterinary and Co-operation.	6,02	4.9	1.25	5,75	4.9	1.19	7,37	5.6	1.53	
9	Industries	2,18	1.8	0.45	1,42	1.2	0.29	2,24	1.7	0.46	
10	C. D. P./N. E. S. L. D. W.	5,78	4.7	1.20	2,85	2.4	0.59	3,27	2.5	0.68	
11	Civil Works	5,26	4.3	1.09	4,26	3.7	0.88	3,24	2.4	0.67	
12	Grants and Assignment to local authorities:										
	(a) Municipalities										
	(b) District Local Boards	17,76	14.5	3.68	18,93	16.3	3.92	21,17	16.5	4.39	
	(c) Panchayats, (d) Janapads										
13	Miscellaneous and Others	32,85	26.7	6.81	29,04	24.9	5.83	37,01	27.3	7.68	
Total		1,22,32	100.0	25.34	1,16,27	100.0	24.09	1,32,07	100.0	27.37	

*Grants to Local Authorities shown in item 12 and excluded from items 1 to 11.

*Grants to Local Authorities shown in Item 12 and excluded from Items 1 to 11.

STATEMENTS VI AND VII.

Receipts and Expenditure on Capital Account.

The Public Account in the Budget outside the Consolidated Fund Account shows transactions worth Rs. 430 crores to which may be added expenditure booked under the heads '68' to '85' of a sum of Rs. 35.1 crores. All these transactions, however, do not represent capital expenditure on capital formation i. e. on activities of construction of multi-purpose, major, medium and minor irrigation projects; roads, ports and other means of communications; construction of buildings for schools, colleges, hostels, dispensaries, medical colleges and hospitals; works for water supply and drainage and housing for industrial workers, low income group persons of Government employees; construction of administrative buildings, factories, plants, machinery; important mineral developments and generation of electrical energy etc.

2. The aggregate expenditure on activities of capital formation booked outside the revenue account which may be termed as capital account may be estimated at Rs. 72.23 crores. Of this expenditure, Rs. 50.8 crores is directly incurred by the State Government while a sum of Rs. 21.4 crores will be advanced as loans to individuals and institutions like Co-operative societies, the Bombay State Electricity Board, the Bombay Housing Board, the Bombay State Road Transport Corporation etc. Of this aggregate expenditure of Rs. 72.23 crores, a sum of Rs. 67.98 crores represents development expenditure and Rs. 4.25 crores represents non-development expenditure and included in the latter are debt service charges transferred to the capital account. Of the aggregate development expenditure of Rs. 67.98 crores, a sum of Rs. 55.2 crores will be spent on plan capital formation, Rs. 3.33 crores on capital formation in the Central Plan and the balance of Rs. 9.37 crores will be spent outside the Plan Capital formation including a sum of Rs. 5.5 crores on completion of committed works and a sum of Rs. 1.25 crores on the Reserve Bank Scheme of Development of Co-operative credit institutions as part of the implementation of the Rural Credit Survey Report. Of the aggregate expenditure of Rs. 72.23 crores, including loans and advances, a sum of Rs. 62.58 crores represents capital formation on economic services and the balance of Rs. 9.7 crores consists of—

Rs. 5.4 crores capital formation for social services and
Rs. 4.3 crores on non-development expenditure.

3. The capital expenditure of Rs. 72.23 crores is envisaged to be met from the following sources:—

(Rs. in lacs.)

(A) Surplus of revenue including receipts by way of additional or unification of taxes.	...	...	...	10,00
(B) Open Market Borrowing (Estimate)	...	...	...	10,00
(C) Small Savings	...	...	...	25,36
(D) Central Loans other than Small Savings	...	...	...	9,48
(E) Net Receipts from Funds and balances	...	...	...	6,89
(F) Recoveries of loans and advances	...	...	...	61,97

This leaves a gap of Rs. 10.26 crores in 1958-59 against a budgeted gap of Rs. 17 crores in 1957-58 (Budget Estimates) and surplus of little over Rs. 1 crore in the Revised Estimates of 1957-58.

STATEMENT VI.
Receipts and Expenditure on Capital Account.

Serial No.	Items.	Budget Estimate, 1957-58.		Revised Estimates, 1957-58.		Budget Estimates, 1958-59.					
		Amount.	Per cent. to the total.	Amount.	Per cent. to the total.	Amount.	Per cent.				
1	2	3	4	5							
I Receipts on Capital Account—											
	(a) Surplus of Revenue	...	—3.18	—6.1	—0.65	+5.57	2.6	+1.16	+24	0.4	0.04
	(b) Open Market Borrowing	...	6.00	11.6	1.24	6.00	18.2	1.37	10.00	16.1	2.07
	(c) Small Savings	...	9.00	17.4	1.86	13.02	19.8	2.70	10.00	16.1	2.07
	(d) Central Loans	...	23.67	45.8	4.90	24.88	25.5	5.16	25.36	46.1	5.25
	(e) Other net receipts excluding C. B. I. and 85-A.	10.11	19.6	2.10	9.65	14.7	2.00	9.48	15.3	1.99	
	(f) Recoveries of Loans and Advances granted by the State Government.	6.05	11.7	1.25	6.05	9.2	1.23	6.89	6.0	1.42	
Total I		51.65	100.0	10.70	65.76	100.0	13.62	61.97	100.0	12.84	

STATEMENT VI—contd.

Serial No.	Items.	Budget Estimates, 1957-58.		Revised Estimate, 1957-58.		Budget Estimate, 1958-59.				
		Amount, to the total.	Per cent. to the total.	Amount, to the total.	Per cent. to the total.	Amount, to the total.	Per cent. to the total.			
1	2	3	4	5						
	Expenditure on Capital Account—									
	(a) Development Expenditure ...	44.42	64.7	9.20	38.29	59.5	7.94	—46.62	64.5	9.66
	(b) Non-Development Expenditure.	2.19	3.2	0.45	8.04	12.5	1.66	4.25	5.9	0.87
	(c) Loans and Advances by the State Government.	22.06	32.1	4.53	18.05	28.0	3.74	21.36	29.6	4.43
	Total II ...	68.67	100.0	14.23	64.38	100.0	13.34	72.23	100.0	14.96
	Deficit (—) or Surplus (+)	...	—17.02	—3.53	+1.38	...	+0.28	—10.26	...	—2.12

STATEMENT VII.
Expenditure on Capital Account.

Serial No.	Items.	Budget Estimate, 1957-58.		Revised Estimates, 1957-58.		Budget Estimates, 1958-59.	
		Amount.	Per Cent. to the total.	Amount.	Per Cent. to the total.	Amount.	Per Cent. to the total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.
I Development Expenditure—							
I Social Services—							
	(a) Committed Expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	...
	(b) Plan Expenditure	3,56	5.1	3,15	4.9	4,65	6.4
	(c) Non-Plan Expenditure	1,26	1.9	90	1.4	49	0.7
	(d) On Centrally Sponsored Schemes.	...	...	...	...	25	0.3
	Total	4,82	7.0	4,05	6.3	5,39	7.4
2 Economic Services—							
	(a) Committed Expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	...
	(b) Plan Expenditure	34,60	50.4	30,63	43.6	2,35	2.7
	(c) Non-Plan Expenditure	3,21	4.7	2,31	3.6	35,62	45.8
	(d) On Centrally Sponsored Schemes.	1,75	2.5	1,26	1.9	2,42	3.1
	Total (2)	39,60	57.7	34,24	53.2	41,23	57.1
	Total (I & II)	44,42	64.7	38,29	59.5	46,62	64.5

II. Non-Developmental Expenditure—							
(a) Administrative charges	1,77	2.6	0.27	1,27	2.0	0.26	0.17
(b) Obligatory Debt Services	...	...	..	6,47	10.0	1.34	0.54
(c) Security Services	42	0.6	0.08	30	0.5	0.06	0.16
Total, II	2,19	3.2	0.45	8.04	12.5	1.66	0.87
Total, I & II	46,61	67.9	9.65	46,33	72.0	9.80	10.53
III. Loans and Advances Granted by the State Government							
(a) Committed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Plan	16,36	23.8	3.40	14,47	22.4	3.01	3.11
(c) Non-Plan	4,28	6.2	0.89	2,68	4.2	0.55	0.32
(d) for Central Sponsored Schemes	1,42	2.1	0.29	90	1.4	0.18	0.46
Total III	22,06	32.1	4.58	18,05	28.0	3.74	4.43
Grand Total, (I, II & III)	68,67	100.0	14.23	64,38	100.0	13.34	14.96

STATEMENT VIII.

Total Expenditure on Revenue and Capital Account.

The aggregate expenditure of activities met from revenue and outside the revenue account may be estimated at Rs. 204.3 crores in 1958-59 which represents an increase of Rs. 14 crores over the budget of 1957-58 and addition of Rs. 25 crores over its revised estimates.

Of the aggregate expenditure of about Rs. 204.3 crores only Rs. 54.6 crores or 26.7 per cent. is non-developmental, including therein a sum of Rs. 12.6 crores or 6.1 per cent. by way of obligatory debt service charges. The statement indicates that Government has kept control over the expenditure on administration as well as on security services.

Of the aggregate expenditure of Rs. 149.7 crores on developmental activities, Rs. 101.5 crores represent expenditure on economic activities that directly aid production, distribution, exchange and consumption of goods and will have a substantial impact of increasing the National Income immediately. The balance of expenditure of Rs. 48.2 crores will be incurred on Social Services like development of Medical and Public Health facilities Educational development and Housing facilities as well as welfare of backward classes. In course of time these will help in increasing the capacity of the citizens to raise the standard of life and are bound to increase the National Income as well.

In per capita terms Statement VIII shows that the Government of Bombay spends an annual sum of Rs. 42.33 nP. on the average citizen. Of these Rs. 21 per capita assist the citizens in augmenting the supply of goods and his activities of out put while Rs. 10 per capita add to his Social standing including his health and facilities of shelter. The balance of Rs. 11 per capita is required for primary and protective functions which keep the environment conducive to socio-economic development.

STATEMENT VIII.

Total Expenditure on Revenue and Capital Account.

Serial No.	Items.	Budget Estimate 1957-58.		Revised Estimate 1957-58.		Budget Estimate 1958-59.				
		Amount.	Per Cent. to the total	Amount.	Per Cent. to the total	Amount.	Per Cent. to the total			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)			
I Development Expenditure—										
1. Social Services—										
		Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.			
	(a) Committed Expenditure	26.57	13.9	5.50	25.44	14.1	5.27	28.23	14.1	5.97
	(b) Plan Expenditure ..	9.74	5.1	2.02	8.61	4.8	1.78	14.99	7.3	3.10
	(c) Non-Plan Expenditure ..	1.45	0.8	0.30	1.08	0.6	0.23	1.82	0.9	0.38
	(d) On Centrally Sponsored Schemes.	82	0.4	0.17	78	0.4	0.16	2.52	1.2	0.52
	Total—I	38.59	20.2	7.99	35.91	19.9	7.44	48.16	23.5	9.9
2. Economic Services—										
	(a) Committed Expenditure ..	13.74	7.2	2.85	13.15	7.3	2.73	20.88	10.4	4.33
	(b) Plan Expenditure ..	47.38	24.8	9.82	41.92	23.2	8.68	46.85	21.5	9.71
	(c) Non-Plan Expenditure ..	8.14	4.2	1.68	7.03	3.9	1.46	10.53	4.0	2.18
	(d) On Centrally Sponsored Schemes.	11.25	5.9	2.33	10.35	5.7	2.15	1.86	3.5	0.40
	Total—2 ..	80.51	42.1	16.68	72.45	40.1	15.02	80.12	39.4	16.62
	Total—I ..	119.09	62.3	24.67	108.36	60.0	22.46	128.28	62.9	26.59

STATEMENT VIII—contd.

Serial No.	Items.	Budget Estimates 1957-58.			Revised Estimates 1957-58.			Budget Estimates 1958-59.		
		Amount	Per cent. to the total.	Capita	Amount.	Per cent. to the total.	Capita.	Amount.	Per cent. to the total.	Capita.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(5)	(5)	(5)
II. Non Developmental Expenditure—										
		Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. in lakhs.	Rs. nP.	Rs. nP.
(a)	Administrative Charges	25.60	13.4	5.31	24.07	13.3	4.98	24.81	12.1	5.14
(b)	Obligatory Debt Services	8.50	4.5	1.76	15.21	8.4	3.15	1,260	6.1	2.60
(c)	Security Charges	15.74	8.2	3.25	14.96	8.3	3.10	17.25	8.5	3.57
	Total II	49.84	26.1	10.32	54.24	30.0	11.23	54.66	26.7	11.31
	Total (I & II)	163.93	88.4	34.99	162.60	90.0	33.69	182.19	89.6	37.74
III. Loans and Advances Granted by State Government—										
(a)	Committed	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	2,62	1.3	0.54
(b)	Plan	16.36	8.6	3.40	14.47	8.0	2.30	14.95	7.3	3.11
(c)	Non-Plan	4.28	2.2	0.89	2.68	1.5	0.55	1.55	0.7	0.32
(d)	For Centrally Sponsored Schemes.	1.42	0.8	0.29	90	0.5	0.89	3.24	1.1	0.46
	Total III	22.06	11.6	4.58	18.05	10.0	3.74	21.36	10.4	4.43
	Total (I+II+III)	190.99	100.0	39.57	180.65	100.0	37.43	204.30	100.0	42.33

STATEMENT IX.

Development Expenditure on Plan.

Out of the total allocation of Rs. 350.28 crores made available for the Second Five-Year Plan of the Bombay State an expenditure of Rs. 44.45 crores was incurred in the year 1956-57; the preliminary revised estimate for the year 1957-58 being Rs. 65 crores. It is proposed to allocate Rs. 76.78 crores for the development programme of the year 1958-59.

STATEMENT IX.

(In lakhs of Rs.).

Head of Development.	Second Plan Provision.	Expenditure in 1956-57.	Preliminary Revised Estimates, 1957-58.	Proposals for 1958-59.
I. Agriculture and Community Development.	86,75.22	882.45	15,44.27	22,10.00
II. Irrigation and Power ...	13,659.17	1,820.01	2,732.47	2,752.00
III. Industry and Mining ...	1,318.97	180.61	238.74	180.00
IV. Transport and Communications.	2,924.41	688.55	664.00	781.00
V. Social Services—				
(1) Education ...	2,294.04	186.84	300.32	434.00
(2) Health ...	2,749.05	306.87	469.45	550.00
(3) Housing ...	1,735.97	292.51	357.21	389.00
(4) Other Social Services and Scientific and Industrial Research.	1,713.10	87.31	193.95	382.00
Deduct for Abu Taluka	—41.55	.....	.....	.....
	350,28.39	4,445.15	6,500.41	7,678.00

STATEMENT X.

Socio-Economic Indicators of the progress of the reorganized Bombay State areas during and since the year 1949-50 to 1957-58 (estimated).

The new Bombay State consists of five component units, namely, Kutch, Saurashtra, the former Bombay State areas, Vidarbha and Marathwada. In all these areas even prior to reorganization, Post-War reconstruction and Five-Year Plan activities were undertaken and the reorganization carries forward the stages of progress reached. Statistical data given in the statement indicate the continuity of progress since 1949-50.

The Socio-Economic indicators in the different areas of the reorganized State during the period of 9 years from 1949-50 to 1957-58 show that—

I. There has been (a) a 17.4 per cent. increase in the production of cereals and millets,

(b) an increase of 95.4 per cent. in the production of cotton from 11 lac bales to about 21 lac bales,

(c) an increase of 35 per cent. in the production of sugar-cane from about 5 lac tons to 7 lac tons, and

(d) an increase of 41.4 per cent. in the production of tobacco from 4 lac tons to nearly 6 lac tons.

The increase in the production of commercial crops has given a diversified pattern to the agricultural output augmenting thereby the monetary incomes of the cultivators.

II. There have been increased efforts on a substantial scale for democratic decentralization of welfare efforts through the means of the Community Development Projects and National Extension Service Programme. Starting in 1952-53 with a population covering 13 lacs the programme now in 1957-58 benefits a population over 10 or 11 times as much. The percentage of rural population covered has increased from 3/84 per cent in 1952-53, to 38.9 per cent. in 1957-58.

III. A further development has taken place in that the population covered by Co-operative Societies has been increased from 20 to 35 per cent. and the working capital of the societies had reached a level of Rs. 1.5 crores by 1956-57.

IV. The number of passengers carried by Nationalised Transport has been increased from about 14.6 crores in 1955-56 to over 21 crores in 1957-58 and the annual income of the Nationalised undertakings of the new State has increased from Rs. 9.2 crores in 1955-56 to about Rs. 13 crores in 1957-58 while the capital investment amounts to Rs. 17 crores.

V. Planning basically depends for its success on enlightened public opinion. This requires increased educational facilities. Compared to 1949-50 there has been a 70 per cent. increase in the number of institutions and 62 per cent. increase in the number of pupils. In 1957-58 about 69.4 lac pupils were under instruction; of whom about 48 lacs i.e. 10 per cent. of the total population of the new State, being at the lower primary stage in the age-group of 7-11 years. The target of compulsory education generally comes to 14 per cent. of the population at School.

VI. The number of hospitals and dispensaries in the State has gone up by 24 per cent. The number of beds in Hospitals and Dispensaries increased from 18,237 in 1955 to 19,438 in 1957, i.e. by 6 per cent.

VII. There are over 11,492 factories in the new State in which are employed 10.27 lac persons. There has been a continuous growth in the industrial production in the State compared to 1956. In 1957, the production of soda ash has increased by 20 per cent., that of sulphuric acid by 25 per cent., of power-driven pumps by 25 per cent., bicycles by 20 per cent., cement by 25 per cent. and salt by 20 per cent. compared to the year 1956; while the production of cloth has been maintained at the high level of about 3,600 million yards or 67 per cent. of millcloth production in India as a whole.

In 1950, partly as a result of failure of the monsoon and also due to cyclone there was acute power shortage in the Bombay region. However within the last 7 years 1950 to 1957, the generation of electrical energy has more or less been doubled in the various component parts of the State, i.e. from 1.6 billion units to 3.2 billion units. The consumption has been also increased from 1.4 billion units to 2.8 billion units. This increase in power development has naturally assisted the industrial production in our State at a high level.

VIII. For the Second Plan, the State has a programme of construction and improvement of 4,723 road miles and 166 bridges. Of this programme 854 miles of roads and 18 bridges were completed in 1956-57 and 1000 miles of roads and 10 bridges will be completed in 1957-58 and 81 bridges are under construction.

Barely 10 per cent. of the National income is utilised for expenditure in the public sector and within these limited means radical improvement in the standard of life must be expected within limitations. All the same, one can confidently state that in the Bombay State the foundations for substantial progress have already been laid.

STATEMENT X.

Socio-Economic indicators of Progress in Reorganised Bombay State 1949-50, 1955-56, 1956-57, 1957-58 Estimated.

	Year 1949-50.	Year 1955-56	Year 1956-57	Year 1957-58	Percentage increase/over 1949-50 in 1957-58.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I.—POPULATION, LITERARY AND VITAL STATISTICS.						
(1) Death rate per thousand of the Population	...	Not available	Not available.	14.2	13.1	.....
(2) Birth rate per thousand of the population	...	Do. ...	Do. ...	31.7	30.1	.....
(3) Infant mortality per 1,000 live Births	...	Do. ...	Do. ...	100	100	.....
II. AGRICULTURE.						
(1) Production of cereals and Millets (000 tons)	...	55,46	61,85	68,63	65,12	17.4
(2) Production of Cotton (000 bales)	...	10,64	19,14	22,84	20,81	95.4
(3) Production of Groundnut (000 tons)	...	10,66	10,42	14,84	11,26	5.6
(4) Production of Sugarcane (000 tons)	...	4,98	7,81	6,21	6,74	35.1
(5) Production of Tobacco (000 tons)	...	42	62	67	60	42.8

STATEMENT X—contd.

1	Year 1949-50.	Year 1955-56	Year 1956-57	Year 1957-58	Percentage increase/over 1949-50 in 1957-58.	Remarks.
	2	3	4	5	6	7
III. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.						
(1) No. of Blocks of C. P. A. Pattern	...	133.25	176.25	244.25	.....	Figures in Column 5 indicate pro-gress up to December 1957.
(2) No. of Villages covered	...	13,356	1,81,13	25,802	.....	
(3) Area covered (Square miles)	...	38,711	51,808	73,814	.....	
(4) Population covered (in '000)	...	89.50	1,17.83	1,62.36	.....	
IV. CO-OPERATION						
(1) Percentage of population covered by the movement	20	31	37	.....	85.0	
(2) No. of members of the Co-operative Societies in the State ('000).		3,257	38,12	.....	.....	
(3) Working Capital (Rs. 000)		1,47,41.33	1,85,02.12	.....	.....	
V. ROADS AND ROAD TRANSPORT.						
(1) Route Mileage of Extra-Municipal Roads	...	9.12	9.97			
(a) Cement Concrete	...	32.57	33.46			
(b) Asphalt	...	1,42.45	1,44.97			
(c) Water Bound Macadam	...	1,84.14	1,88.40			
(d) Gravel or Kankar or Murum	...	83.54	89.42			
(e) Kutch Road	...	70.32	72.73			
		1,63.86	1,62.15			
Grand Total	...	3,38.00	3,59.55			

(2) Number of major bridges constructed	..	....	28	18	10	....	
(3) Number of Motor Vehicles registered for purposes of Taxation ('000).	....	....	....	95	100	....	
(4) Number of Passengers carried in ('000) by the—							* Information is for the period from April to November 1957.
(a) Bombay State Transport Corporation	..	....	13,98.09	16,04.30	18,39.76	....	
(b) Saurashtra State Transport Corporation	..	....	50.75	89.39	92.12*	....	
(c) Kutch State Transport Corporation	..	....	16.60	17.12	N. A.	....	
(d) Provincial State Services, Nagpur	..	....	....	....	84.61*	....	
(e) State Transport, Marathwada	..	....	....	....	61.48*	....	
(5) Capital invested (in lakhs of Rs.) in—							
(a) Bombay State Road Transport Corporation	..	....	13,26.44	15,12.56	....	....	
(b) Saurashtra State Road Transport Corporation	..	....	19.81	66.28	87.40	....	
(c) Kutch State Road Transport Corporation	..	....	20.32	22.88	27.34	....	
(d) Provincial Transport Services, Nagpur	..	....	25.19	25.19	45.21	....	
(e) State Transport, Marathwada	..	....	....	..	N. A...	....	
(6) Total gross Revenue (in lakhs of Rs.) in—							
(a) Bombay State Road Transport Corporation	....	8,09.80	9,09.47	10,19.00	....	....	
(b) Saurashtra State Road Transport Corporation	....	31.24	55.41	64.95	....	....	
(c) Kutch State Road Transport Corporation	....	19.32	22.12	22.98	....	....	
(d) Provincial Transport Services, Nagpur	....	43.11	49.75	67.93	....	....	
(e) State Transport, Marathwada	....	....	27.39	75.17	....	....	
Total	..	....	9,03.47	10,64.14	12,65.93	....	

STATEMENT X—contd.

1	Year					Percentage increase over 1949-50 of 1957-58.	Remarks.
	1949-50.	2	3	4	5	6	7
(7) Total Expenditure (in lakhs of Rs.) of the—							
(a) Bombay State Roads Transport Corporation		769.76	849.35	955.39	.....	.....	.....
(b) Saurashtra Road Transport Corporation		20.88	33.75	82.05	.....	.....	.....
(c) Kutch Road Transport Corporation		17.22	20.20	21.56	.....	.....	.....
(d) Provincial Transport Services, Nagpur		30.06	40.01	57.88	.....	.....	.....
(e) State Transport Maharashtra			23.72	74.07	.....	.....	.....
Total			967.03	11,90.95	.....	.....	.....
VI. EDUCATION.							
(1) Number of Primary Schools		31,668	43,078	45,442	48,731	.....	69.90 per cent. increase in the number of educational institutions
(2) Number of pupils in all Primary Schools		34,72,419	46,13,543	50,59,590	54,44,295	.....	increase in the number of educational institutions
(3) Number of Secondary Schools		1,788	2,366	2,220	2,358	.....	increase in the number of educational institutions
(4) Number of pupils in Secondary Schools		5,30,232	7,78,541	7,86,034	8,54,527	.....	increase in the number of educational institutions
(5) Number of Colleges (Arts and Sciences)		119	174	202	211	.....	increase in the number of educational institutions
(6) Number of students in Colleges		53,483	1,00,279	1,11,678	1,21,309	.....	increase in the number of educational institutions
(7) Number of University Depts. and Research Institutions		80,20	18,412	19,072	19,387	.....	increase in the number of educational institutions
(8) Number of Scholars in all University Depts. and Research Institutions.		2,20,432	4,71,830	4,90,054	5,20,431	.....	increase in the number of educational institutions

VII. PUBLIC HEALTH.

(1)	(a) Number of Hospitals and Dispensaries	..	.....	1,595	1,736	1,750	.....
	(b) Bed strength	..	.....	18,237	.....	19,138	.....
2)	Number of patients treated—						
	(a) Indoor	..	.....	.....	8,97,000	10,76,400	.....
	(b) Outdoor	..	.....	.....	1,68,22,000	1,98,73,000	.....
VIII. INDUSTRIES.							
(1)	Number of Working Factories	..	.....	.....	10,813	11,492	.....
(2)	Total Number of persons employed (in 000) in the factories.	..	.....	.....	1,014	1,027	.....
(3)	Industrial Production—						
	(a) Cotton Yarn (Mill made) in million lbs.	..	.....	.....	870	908	.....
	(b) Cotton Cloth (Mill made) in million yards	..	.....	.....	3,592	3,595	.....
	(c) Woollen fabrics ('000 yds.)	..	.....	.....	3,364	2,578	.....
	(d) Vanaspathi (Tons)	..	.....	.....	88,063	88,860	.....
	(e) Soda Ash (Tons)	..	.....	.....	84,234	1,04,892	.....
	(f) Caustic Soda (Tons)	..	.....	.....	7,641	8,602	.....
	(g) Sulphuric Acid (Tons)	..	.....	.....	34,245	48,000	.....
	(h) Power driven pumps ('000)	..	.....	.....	24.0	30.0	.....

STATEMENT X—contd.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Year 1949-50.	Year 1955-56.	Year 1956-57.	Year 1957-58.	Percentage increase over 1949-50 of 1957-58.	Remarks.
(c) Glass ware (including Scientific and excluding therosus flask) in Tons.			26,000	31,700	.....	Figure in Col. 4 is an estimate.
(j) Sugar ('000 Tons)	...		240	241	.....	
(k) Bicycles	...		1,50,943	1,82,000	.....	
(l) Cement (000 Tons)	...		669	838	.....	
(m) Salt (in lakhs of B. Md.)	...		517	602	.....	
IX. ELECTRICITY.						
(1) Total installed capacity of generating units in million K. W. Hours.	1,667.27	.....	.....	3,260.77	95.5	
(2) Total consumption of electricity in million K. W. Hours.	1,417.73	.....	.....	2,834.00	100.0	
X. LIVE-STOCK AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.						
(1) Total livestock (in '000) ..	...		37,073	.....	.....	
(2) Total Poultry (in '000) ..	...		10,759	.....	.....	
(3) Ploughs (wooden) ..	...		2,70,812	.....	.....	
(4) Plough s (Iron) ..	...		3,87,469	.....	.....	
(5) Tractors ..	...		3,118	.....	.....	

Blank space indicates that the data are not available.

PRESENTATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF EXPENDI-
TURE FOR THE YEAR 1957-58.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to present to the House the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the year 1957-58.

The CHAIRMAN : The Supplementary Statement for the year 1957-58 is presented to the House.

The House now adjourns, and will re-assemble on the 26th February, 1958, at 2.00 p.m.

The House was adjourned at 2.30 p. m. on Wednesday, the 26th February 1958.

Wednesday, the 26th February 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 26th February 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published).

APPLICATION OF PRIZE COMPETITIONS ACT, 1955, THROUGHOUT BOMBAY STATE.

Shri Y. B. CHAVAN (Chief Minister) : Sir, I beg to move :

“Whereas in pursuance of resolutions passed by the Houses of the Legislatures of certain States, under Article 252 of the Constitution of India, Parliament passed the Prize Competitions Act, 1955 (XLIII of 1955), to provide for the control and regulation of prize competitions ;

And whereas by sub-section (2) of section 1 of that Act, the Act extends to *inter alia*, the territories which immediately before the 1st November 1956 were comprised in the States of Bombay, Hyderabad, Saurashtra and also the former Part C State of Kutch, but the Act did not extend to the former State of Madhya Pradesh ;

And whereas, in consequence thereof, after the 1st November 1956 the Act extends to and is in force in the whole of the State of Bombay except the Vidarbha region of that State ;

And whereas it is now expedient to adopt the Act throughout the State of Bombay ;

Now, therefore, in pursuance of clause (1) of Article 252 of the Constitution of India, this Council hereby resolves to adopt the said Act throughout the State of Bombay.”

Resolution proposed.

Shri Y. B. CHAVAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I need not give elaborate reasons for the acceptance of this Resolution, as the Resolution itself contains those reasons. Before Parliament passed the Act, certain States had passed Resolutions, under Article 252 of the Constitution of India, to provide for the control and regulation of prize competitions, but, unfortunately, the old Madhya Pradesh was not one of these States which did so, with the result that when the Act was passed by Parliament it became applicable to the Old Bombay State, the Hyderabad State, the Saurashtra State and also the former Part C State of Kutch. That means that the Act is applicable today to all the areas of the Bombay State except Vidarbha, which till recently formed part of the former Madhya Pradesh State. It is necessary that there should be uniformity in the Acts and, therefore, it must be made applicable to the Vidarbha area also. Hence, Government has thought it fit to come before this House with this Resolution under Article 252 of the Constitution, so that the Act may be made applicable automatically to all the parts of the State, if both the Houses accept the Resolution. I hope that the House will accept the Resolution.

Resolution put, and agreed to.

(G.O.P.) NO-2 Hb 802—1

DISCUSSION ON REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR SCHEDULED
CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES FOR 1955.

Shri N. K. TIRPUDE (Minister for Social Welfare and Rehabilitation):
Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1955 be taken into consideration."

Motion put, and agreed to.

Shri N. K. TIRPUDE: Sir, I do not think that there is anything much for me to say in the beginning of the discussion on the Report. I will try to reply in the end to the points that may be raised during the course of the debate on this Motion. I may point out that according to the requirements of the Constitution, the Report of the Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is being annually submitted to Parliament, and there discussion also takes place. During the course of such discussion, there was a lot of criticism and some of the hon. Members in the Parliament suggested—and there was a suggestion in the Report itself also—that the State Governments are rather in an advantageous position to explain the schemes which are formulated by the States and which are also implemented there. Therefore, there was a suggestion from the Central Government that in the interest of all, it would be better if the State Governments also discuss the report in their State Legislatures. I think, ours is the first State Government which has accepted the suggestion and consequently we are now discussing the Report. That is all that I have to say at this stage.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE (Maharashtra-Graduates): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to offer a few remarks on the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1955. I find from the debates in the Lok Sabha that the Report for the year 1953 was considered in the Lok Sabha on 24th December 1954 and later the Report for the year 1954 was considered in the Lok Sabha in September 1955. This particular report is for the year 1955, but in the library I could not get any reference from which it can be said that this Report was discussed in the Lok Sabha. The Hon. Minister has already stated that a suggestion was made that the Report should also be discussed by the State Legislatures. In this particular Report also on page 2 it is stated that a suggestion was made in Parliament that these reports should be discussed by the State Legislatures. In a way, I would congratulate this Government for having placed this Report before this House. Probably this is the first State Legislature which is considering a report of this type.

Going over the Report, we find that there are 3 or 4 points mentioned so far as this particular subject is concerned. I have also to congratulate the Department concerned for having brought out these reports in time setting forth a lot of useful information and suggestions.

Then, coming to the 3 or 4 points, I would say first that this report considers three main aspects of the problem. One is about the Scheduled Castes, the other is about the Scheduled Tribes and the third is about the other Tribes.

[Dr. V. D. Sathaye]

If we go through the Report we find that the problems of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are in no way different. Going further through the Report we find that so far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned, there is a significant mention in one of the Debates of the Lok Sabha as to what one member of the Scheduled Tribes feels regarding this question. That reference can be found on page 13,380 of the Debates of the Lok Sabha dated 15th September 1955. The hon. Member Shri M. R. Krishna, while speaking on the subject, said:—

"I do not care whether anybody has food in my house or not. What I want is that the Harijans should have better houses to live in, they must have better clothes to wear and they must have good food to eat. If these things are provided, I do not care whether any Brahmin comes to my house to take food or not. These are primary necessities of every individual and a Government which does not guarantee these things cannot be called a Government."

That means there are only three main aspects. The point that was made out was that the Harijans' main needs are better houses to live in, better clothes to wear and good food to eat. If the economic betterment of these people is brought about, then most of the problems of the Scheduled Caste people will be solved.

Then, there is one problem so far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned, and that is regarding the activities of the missionaries in some parts of the tribal area and I want to know what is the position regarding this so far as our State is concerned.

Then, the second point which we find from the report is the question of jobs and reserved posts so far as these Scheduled tribes and the Scheduled Castes are concerned. We find from the Report that the old Saurashtra Government was the only Government which reserved some posts for the Scheduled Castes and I would like to know what is the position so far as our State is concerned.

Then, there is a complaint made in the Report and the debates of the Lok Sabha that so far as the Public Service Commission is concerned, one of the posts should be reserved for a member of the Scheduled Castes and that was one of the points which was made out in the debates which were held in the Central Legislature.

So far as the educational facilities to the Backward Class people are concerned, we find from the report that ours is the only State which is doing many things for providing educational facilities to these classes. We find from the Budget for the next year which was presented the other day that an amount of nearly Rs. 4.8 crores has been provided for for the welfare of these backward classes. Actually from the report we find that so far as these classes are concerned, the amount spent for the welfare of these backward class people came to about Rs. 3 crores and now that our State has become a much bigger State, the amount that would be spent for the welfare of the backward classes would probably come to about Rs. 5½ crores, as can be seen from the Budget speech. Then from the 1953 report we find that about Rs. 1½ crores were reserved for the purpose of giving scholarships to the students from the backward classes.

(G.O.P.) NO-2 Hb 802-1a

[Dr. V. D. Sathaye]

Then, as we go through the Report, we find that a complaint has been made that, though the Report, no doubt, mentions that so many schools have been built and so many dispensaries have been started, but what is the real change in the living conditions of these two classes for whom so much welfare work is being done. We find that there are some references that although the buildings have been constructed, the necessary propaganda is not there and nobody is attending the school. Same is the case with the dispensaries which are found to be located at inconvenient places so far as the tribal areas are concerned. We also find from the report that there was a complaint about development of the roads and communications in the tribal areas.

Then, there is a complaint that so far as the sanctioned grants are concerned, they are not received in time and, therefore, a particular programme which was particularly chalked out for particular period could be not undertaken by Government. In this respect we now find that a regular allotment has been made in the five year plan and the difficulty of the grants lapsing will not arise in future.

These are some of the remarks which I wanted to offer.

શ્રી. છબીવદાસ પી. મહેતા (સૌરાષ્ટ્ર-લોકલ ઓથોરીટીઝ) : માનનીય સભાપતિજી, પછાત વર્ગની ઉન્નતિ માટે સરકાર જે પ્રયત્નો કરી રહી છે એ અંગે થોડુંક સૂચનો કરવા મને બહુ જ ગમ્યા છે. હાઉસ સમક્ષ રજૂ થયેલા પછાત વર્ગના કમિશનરના અહેવાલની અંદર જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે આપણા રાજ્યમાં ડાંગ વિસ્તારની અંદર નવા કૂવા ખોદવામાં આવ્યા છે, સડકારી ધોરણે નંગલ સોસાયટીઓની રચના કરવામાં આવી છે, આદિવાસીઓને ત્યાં ગોકવવામાં આવ્યા છે, હરિજનો માટે ગામડાઓમાં સગવડતા કરવામાં આવી છે, પછાત વર્ગના વિદ્યાર્થીઓને સ્કોલરશીપ આપવામાં આવી છે વગેરે. બીજા સ્ટેટોની સાથોસાથ મુંબઈ રાજ્યના જુદા જુદા વિસ્તારોનો પ્રવાસ કરી કમિશનર જે અનુભવ્યું છે તેનો ઉલ્લેખ આ રિપોર્ટમાં કરવામાં આવ્યો છે. પણ મારો જે અનુભવ છે તે હું આ હાઉસની સમક્ષ મૂકું તો આ હાઉસને ખ્યાલ આવશે કે હજુ પણ આપણા રાજ્યની અંદર આભરછેતનું તુત ઉભું જ છે. દસ વર્ષના આપણા વહીવટ પછી હજુ પણ આપણે આ આભરછેતના તુતને સંપૂર્ણપણે દૂર કરી શક્યા નથી. આપણે આ કાર્યની પાછળ ઘણું ખર્ચ કર્યું છે અને કરીએ છીએ અને છતાં હજુ પણ ગામડાઓની અંદર હરિજનોની અવદશા થાય છે. સાહેબ, એને અંગેના ૨-૪ દાખલાઓ હું આપું. જે જાતિને આપણે એક્સ-કીમીનલ ટ્રાઈબ્સ ગણીએ છીએ, ભૂતપૂર્વ ગુન્હેગાર જાતિ ગણીએ છીએ, એ લોકોને આ રાજ્યના વહીવટ તરફથી, આ રાજ્યની પોલીસ તરફથી અનેકવાર હેરાન કરવામાં આવે છે તે આપણે જોઈએ છીએ. આ લોકો ગુન્હાખોર વૃત્તિના માણસો છે એમ માનીને પોલીસ ખાતું જો કોઈ નાનો મોટો ગુન્હો બને તો સૌથી પહેલાં આ કોમના માણસોને પકડે છે. આ રીતે પછાત વર્ગના માણસોને પકડીને પોલીસ ખાતું હેરાન પરેશાન કરે છે. ૨-૫ નંબરે આવા દાખલા બન્યા છે. આ દાખલાઓ તો મારી નજર સામે બન્યા છે. સ્ટેટમાં બીજી જગ્યાએ આવા બીજા કેટલા કિસ્સા બનતા હશે તે અંગે હું કહી શકું નહિ. શ્રીડયુલ ટ્રાઈબ્સની એડવાઈઝરી બોર્ડની કોન્ફરન્સ જે દિલ્હીમાં મળેલી એણે આને માટેના નક્કર ઉપાયો બતાવ્યા છે. કોન્ફરન્સે કહ્યું છે કે આ દુષણના મૂળમાં જો કોઈ વસ્તુ પડી હોય તો તે આ લોકોમાં પડેલી ગરીબી છે; આ લોકો પછાત છે એ એનું કારણ છે. એના પછાતપણાના નિવારણ માટે એની જે આર્થિક સ્થિતિ છે તે જ સધર બનાવવામાં આવે તો હું માનું છું કે આ પછાત જાતિઓને ઉંચે લાવવા માટે આપણે જે કોશિષ કરીએ છીએ તેમાં આગળ વધી શકીએ. એટલે એની પ્રગતિનો મુખ્ય આધાર એની આર્થિક હાલત સુધારવા ઉપર છે.

[શ્રી. છબીવદાસ પી. મહેતા]

તે ઉપરાંત રાજ્યની અંદર પછાત વર્ગના વિદ્યાર્થીઓને સ્કોલરશીપ આપવામાં આવે છે પણ એ કેટલી અસિદ્ધિત અપાય છે એનો હું એક દાખલો આપવા માગું છું. સૌરાષ્ટ્રની અંદર પછાત વર્ગના વિદ્યાર્થીઓને છેલ્લા બે વર્ષથી સ્કોલરશીપ હજુ મળી નથી. ગયા વર્ષની સ્કોલરશીપ પણ સૌરાષ્ટ્રના પછાત વર્ગના વિદ્યાર્થીઓને નથી મળી.

સાહેબ, એક બીજી વાત કહું. સૌરાષ્ટ્રની અંદર પછાત વર્ગની જાતિની ઉન્નતિ માટે, એના રક્ષણ માટે, એના વિદ્યાર્થીઓના અભ્યાસ માટે, એની સગવડતાઓ માટે, એની સુવિધાઓ માટે પછાત વર્ગ બોર્ડ સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સરકારે ઉભું કરેલું. આ પછાત વર્ગ બોર્ડનું આજ પણ સૌરાષ્ટ્રમાં અસ્તિત્વ છે. પરંતુ એની મુદત નવેમ્બર સુધી લંબાવવામાં આવી છે. આ પછાત વર્ગ બોર્ડને કાયમ રાખવાનું છે કે કેમ એ અંગેની નીતિ આ રાજ્ય ચોક્કસ કરવી જોઈએ. કારણ કે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સ્ટેટની અંદર આ બોર્ડ પછાત વર્ગની ઉન્નતિ માટે અનેક મહત્વના કાર્યો કર્યા છે. આ દ્વિભાષી રાજ્યની રચના થયા પછી આ બોર્ડનું અસ્તિત્વ રહેશે કે કેમ તે એક શંકા છે. ગયા વર્ષની અંદર એમ કહેવામાં આવ્યું હતું કે આ બોર્ડની એક વર્ષની મુદત લંબાવવામાં આવે છે. આજે આપણા સ્ટેટમાં બીજી જગ્યાએ આવા બોર્ડ નથી. પણ મારું સૂચન એ છે કે રાજ્યની અંદર રાજ્યવ્યાપી આવા બોર્ડની રચના કરવી જોઈએ. સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સ્ટેટની અંદર જે ધોરણે આ બોર્ડ કામ કરતું હતું તે ધોરણે આખા સ્ટેટની અંદર રાજ્યવ્યાપી બોર્ડ રચાય અને એ કામ કરે તે ઘણું જરૂરી છે.

બીજે એક દાખલો આપું. સાસણ વિસ્તારની અંદર માલધારીઓના વિદ્યાર્થીઓ માટે એક શાળા આ બોર્ડ તરફથી ખોલવામાં આવી છે. ઘણી મુશ્કેલીએ આ શાળામાં ૬ થી ૭ વિદ્યાર્થીઓ દાખલ થયા છે, અને ૬ થી ૭ માણસોનો સ્ટાફ આ શાળામાં છે. થોડી સંખ્યામાં વિદ્યાર્થીઓ શાળામાં આવ્યાનું કારણ એ છે કે માલધારીઓના વિદ્યાર્થીઓને ભણવા માટે આકર્ષી શકાય એવી કોઈ યોજના આપણે ઉભી કરી શક્યા નહિ.

આ ઉપરાંત ખાંભડા ગામમાં પણ પછાત વર્ગના વિદ્યાર્થીઓ માટે તારીખ ૧૮મી ફેબ્રુઆરી ૧૯૫૫ના રોજ શાળા ખોલવામાં આવી. આ શાળા એક વર્ષ ચાલીને ૧૯૫૭ના એપ્રિલમાં બંધ થઈ ગઈ. આ શાળાનું હજાર-દોઢ હજારનું જે ફરનીચર છે તેના ઉપર આજે ધુળ ઉડે છે.

હું ધોરાજી ગયો હતો. ધોરાજી સૌરાષ્ટ્રમાં એક મોટું શહેર ગણાય છે. આ શહેરમાં હરિજનોનો હોટેલમાં પ્રવેશ કરવાનો તથા મંદીર પ્રવેશનો કાર્યક્રમ હતો. સૌરાષ્ટ્રના કાર્યકર્તાઓ તે દિવસે હરિજનો સાથે પ્રવેશ કરવાના હતા. પરંતુ એકાએક સવારે નવ વાગે બજાર ઉઘડી અને હોટેલો તો ઉઘડી જ નહિ. સાહેબ, હોટેલો શું કામ બંધ હતી? કારણ કે હરિજનો તે દિવસે પ્રવેશ કરવાના હતા. હોટેલોના માલિકોએ સંપ કરીને તમામ હોટેલો તે દિવસે બંધ રાખી. આપણા રાજ્યની અંદર આભરછેતનું તુત હજુ પણ ચાલે છે. આવા મોટા શહેરની અંદર હરિજનો હોટેલમાં પ્રવેશ ન કરે એટલા માટે હોટેલવાળાઓ પોતાની દુકાનો બંધ કરે, અને આ રીતે તેમને દાખલ થતાં અટકાવવામાં આવે તો કાયદો શું કરે? હોટેલો ઉઘાડી હોય અને હરિજનોને પ્રવેશ કરતા અટકાવવામાં આવે તો કાયદો કંઈ કરી શકે. પણ જ્યાં હોટેલોના માલિકો હોટેલો બંધ કરી દેતા હોય તો ત્યાં કાયદો પણ લાચાર બની જાય છે. આ વસ્તુ ઉપર આપણે વિચાર કરવો જોઈએ. પછાત વર્ગને ઉંચે લાવવા માટે અથવા તો આ અસ્પૃશ્યતાનું કલંક જે આપણા ઉપર છે એ કલંક દૂર કરવા માટે જે કોન્ફરન્સ દિલ્હીમાં મળી હતી તેણે એક મહત્વનું સૂચન કર્યું છે. માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રીને હું કહું કે મુંબઈ રાજ્ય પ્રગતિશીલ રાજ્ય કહેવાય છે તો રાજ્ય આ સૂચનનો સ્વીકાર કરે. કોન્ફરન્સે સૂચન કર્યું છે કે આ “હરિજન” નો શબ્દ છે તેને ડીસ્કનરીમાંથી કાઢી નાખો. જે આ “હરિજન” શબ્દ છે એ આભરછેત ઉભી કરી છે. એટલે કોન્ફરન્સે એ શબ્દ કાઢી નાખવા માટે જે આ સૂચન કર્યું છે તે સ્વીકારવા માટે સરકારને હું આગ્રહ કરું છું.

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

તે ઉપરાંત હોસ્ટેલ હોય, કોઈ પણ જાતની સ્કૂલ હોય, નાના મોટા વિદ્યાર્થીગૃહો હોય એના ઉપર એ ફરજિયાત હોવું જોઈએ કે તેણે ઓછામાં ઓછા દસ ટકા વિદ્યાર્થીઓ પછાત વર્ગના દાખલ કરવા અને એમ કરે તો જ એને સરકાર ગ્રાન્ટ આપવી જોઈએ અથવા તો કોઈ પણ જાતની મદદ આપવી જોઈએ. હું જાણ છું કે જે નાના નાના વિદ્યાર્થી ગૃહો જુદા જુદા વર્ગના હોય છે એમાં પણ આ સામાજિક કામ છે એમ કહીને મ્યુનિસિપાલિટી પાસેથી અથવા તો સરકાર પાસેથી તેઓ જમીન મેળવતા હોય છે. હું સરકારને વિનંતિ કરું છું કે જો આ લોકોને જમીન મફત આપવામાં આવતી હોય તો એ લોકો પછાત વર્ગના દસ ટકા વિદ્યાર્થીઓને લેવા કબૂલ ન કરે તો એમને એ રીતે જમીન ન આપવી જોઈએ.

આ ઉપરાંત ફોરેસ્ટ ઓરિયાની અંદર કો-ઓપરેટીવ સોસાયટી ચાલે છે એમ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે. દૂબળા લોકો માટે સંસ્થાન કરવામાં આવ્યું છે કે આ દૂબળા લોકોનું ત્રણ વર્ષ પહેલાંનું જે દેણું હોય તે તાત્કાલિક માફ કરવું જોઈએ. જેમ ઋણ રાહતનો કાયદો કરીને ખેડૂતોને આપણે મદદ કરી શક્યા એમ પછાત વર્ગના આ લોકોને માટે, અથવા તો હારજનો માટે કે આ દૂબળા લોકો માટે આવો કાયદો લાવીને મદદ કરવી જોઈએ. ગુજરાતમાં આજે પણ હાળી પ્રથા અમલમાં છે. ત્યાં આ લોકોને લગભગ ગુલામ તરીકે રાખવામાં આવે છે. એમને વાર્ષિક ૧૫૦ કે ૨૫૦ રૂપિયા મહેનતાણું આપવામાં આવે છે. આ ગરીબ માણસોને, જે એ લીધેલા પૈસા કોઈ પણ રાંજિતોમાં ન ભરી શકે તો, જીંદગીભર ગુલામીમાં રહેવું પડે છે. આવા લોકો માટે કાયદો લાવીને ત્રણ વર્ષ પહેલાંનું જે દેણું હોય તે માફ કરવું જોઈએ અને બાકીના ત્રણ વર્ષનું જે તાજું દેણું હોય તે ઓછામાં ઓછા વ્યાજથી ભરવું પડે એ જાતની વ્યવસ્થા કરવી જોઈએ, તેમજ કો-ઓપરેટીવ ક્રેડિટ સોસાયટીઓ ઉભી કરીને આ દૂબળા લોકોને કરજમાંથી મુક્ત કરીને એની આર્થિક સ્થિતિ સુધારવા માટે કોશિષ કરવી જોઈએ. આજે સમાજની અંદર હરિજનોને પછાત ગણવામાં આવે છે. આજે સમાજમાં ઉપરનો અને નીચેનો એમ બે થર છે. આપણે વાતો કરીએ છીએ કે સમાજવાદી સમાજ રચના આપણે કરવા માગીએ છીએ પણ હજુ તેનો એક અંશ પણ આપણે અમલ કરી શક્યા નથી. આજે એક તરફ કોરોડાધિપતિ અને લાખોપતિ છે, જ્યારે બીજી તરફ ગરીબ અને બેકાર જીવન ગુજારતા હરિજનો તથા પછાત જાતના લોકો પડ્યા છે. જ્યાં સુધી આ બન્નેને એક નહીં કરવામાં આવે ત્યાં સુધી લોકશાહી સરકારનું કામ અધૂરું જ રહેવાનું છે.

માનનીય સભાપતિજી, સુધરાઈઓની અંદર કામ કરતા હરિજનો-સફાઈ કામદારોને આજે પૂરતો પગાર આપવામાં આવતો નથી. અલબત્ત ઘણી સુધરાઈઓ આ બોજ સહન કરી શકે તેમ નહીં હોય પરંતુ તેથી સફાઈ કામદારોને સહન કરવું પડે તે કઈ જાતનો ન્યાય? આપણે તેમની પાસેથી ઘણું કામ લઈએ છીએ પરંતુ પગારની વાત આવે છે ત્યારે આપણે નીચું જોઈએ તે બરાબર નથી. આ બાબત સરકારે તથા સુધરાઈઓએ તાત્કાલિક વિચારણામાં લેવાની જરૂર છે. આજે બર્વે કમીટી તથા વ્યાસ કમિટીની જે ભલામણો છે તે પ્રમાણે પણ સોશાઈની ઘણી સુધરાઈઓ અમલ કરતી નથી અને પગાર બાબત નિર્ણય કરતી નથી. આ વસ્તુ બરાબર ન કહેવાય. આજે ૧૯૫૮ના સ્પુટનીક યુગમાં પણ આપણા ગામડામાં તથા શહેરોમાં આપણા આ હરિજન ભાઈઓ—સફાઈ કામદારો—પોતાના માથે મેલું ઉપાડી શહેરની તથા ગામડાની ગલીઓમાં ફરે છે. આપણું રાજ્ય એ પ્રગતિશીલ રાજ્ય છે. આ પ્રગતિશીલ રાજ્યની સરકારે આ બાબત યોજના કરવી જોઈએ કે કોઈપણ હરિજન ભાઈ આ રીતે માથે મેલું લઈ ફરે નહીં. આ રીતે મેલું માથે લઈ ગામડા તથા શહેરોની ગલીઓમાં તેઓ ફરે તે શરમભર્યું છે. આનાથી આરોગ્યને પણ બહુ જ નુકસાન થાય છે. આ બાબત સરકારે તાત્કાલિક હાથમાં લઈ યોગ્ય કરવું જોઈએ અને એ રીતે આ હરિજન ભાઈઓને સાથ આપવો જોઈએ. આપણા આ પ્રગતિશીલ રાજ્યમાં આના માટે ચોક્કસ કાયદો કરી આ પ્રથા તાત્કાલિક બંધ કરાવવી જોઈએ. આ બાબત કમીશનર સાહેબના અહેવાલમાં ભલામણ કરવામાં આવેલ છે પરંતુ માનનીય સભાપતિજી, હું આ તકે એ કહેવા માગું છું કે આ બાબત તાત્કાલિક અમલ થવો જોઈએ અને આટલો વખત જે પથ ચાલી તે હવે ન ચાલે તે બાબત બંદોબસ્ત કરવો જોઈએ.

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

આ ઉપરાંત માનનીય સભાપતિજી, આ ગરીબ માણસોને ઘણી વખત કોઈ વાર સાચી રીતે તો કોઈ વાર ખોટી રીતે અધિકારીઓ તરફથી તથા નાણા ધીરનાર શાહુકારો તરફથી કનડવામાં આવે છે. આ લોકો બિચારા અજ્ઞાન અને ગરીબ છે. આજે એમની પાસે પૈસા નથી કે જ્યેથી આવી બાબતમાં તેઓ વકીલોની ફી ખર્ચી સામનો કરી શકે અને કાયદાની અદાલતમાં ન્યાય મેળવી શકે. બેકાર સ્થિતિના કારણે આ રાહ તેઓ લઈ શકતા નથી. અને ગમે તેટલો અન્યાય થાય તો પણ તેઓ સહન કરી રહ્યા છે. આ બાબત યોગ્ય કરવા હું રાજ્ય સરકારને ભલામણ કરું છું.

આ ઉપરાંત આ લોકોને જમીન આપવામાં આવે તે માટે હું સરકારને અનુરોધ કરું છું જ્યેથી આ ગરીબ લોકો કાંઈક ઉદ્યમ કરી શકે. આપણે આ લોકોને માટે યોજનાઓ કરીએ છીએ. આ લોકોને કામ આપીએ છીએ. તેના માટે નાના પ્રોડક્શન સેન્ટરો ખોલીએ છીએ પરંતુ આપણા રાજ્યમાં એવી હજારો એકર જમીન પડી છે કે જે જમીન આ લોકોને આપી તેમને સારી રીતે વસાવી શકાય. સૌથી વધારે ગામડામાં મહત્વનો પ્રશ્ન એ છે કે દરેક ગામડામાં હરિજનવાસ હોય છે અને ગામડાની બહાર તે આવેલ હોય છે. ખાસ કરીને નદી કાંઠે આવેલ હોય છે. ચોમાસામાં પૂર આવવાથી આ હરિજનવાસમાં પાણી ભરાઈ જાય છે અને ગોઠણ ગોઠણ સુધી પાણી ભરાઈ જાય છે. આ ગરીબ માણસોના ઝૂંપડા તેમાં ડુબી જાય છે અને તેઓને દર વર્ષે ઘણી નુકસાની સહન કરવી પડે છે. ઘરવખરીનો સામાન પણ આમાં તણાઈ જાય છે. રાજ્યની સરકાર દર વર્ષે નવા ઝૂંપડા બાંધવા માટે બસો-પાંચરો રૂપિયાની રાહત આપે છે. પરંતુ આને બદલે આ લોકોને માટે ગામડાની વચમાં નહીં પરંતુ ગામડામાં રહેલાંને લાયક સારી જગ્યા પર રહેવાને લાયક સારા મકાનો બાંધી આપવા જોઈએ જ્યેથી આ લોકોનો કાયમી પ્રશ્ન પતી જાય અને સારી રીતે પોતાના દિવસો પસાર કરી શકે. આ માટે સરકારે તાત્કાલિક સગવડ કરવી જોઈએ. આ બાબત સરકારને હું વિનંતિ કરું છું કે દર વર્ષે પાંચસો-છસો રૂપિયા આ બાબત જુદા તારવવામાં આવે તેના કરતાં કાયમી ઉકેલને માટેની આ યોજના છે જ્યેથી આ બાબત ધ્યાન આપી યોગ્ય કરવું જોઈએ.

બીજી મહત્વની વાત એ છે કે સફાઈ કામદારો જે છે તેની મેડીકલ સરવે કરવી જોઈએ. આમાંથી ઘણાય લોકો જુદા જુદા રોગથી સબડે છે. કેટલાય તો ટી. બી. જેવા ભયંકર રોગથી સબડે છે. મને ખ્યાલ છે ત્યાંસુધી એક ગામમાં અમે આ બાબત મેડીકલ સરવે કરાવેલ અને ૬૦ ટકા લોકો તો ટી. બી. જેવા ભયંકર રોગથી સબડતા માલમ પડ્યા હતા. પૈસા ખર્ચી આ લોકો વૈદ્યકીય રાહત મેળવી શકતા નથી. આથી સરકારને હું વિનંતી કરું છું કે સફાઈ કામદારોની મેડીકલ સરવે કરાવી લેવી જોઈએ અને મેડીકલ રિપોર્ટ જે આવે તે રાજ્યમાં ફેરવવો જ્યેથી લોકોને ખ્યાલ આવે કે આપણા રાજ્યમાં કેટલા લોકો આ જાતના રોગથી સબડે છે. આ બાબત સરકારે ખાસ ધ્યાન આપવાની જરૂર છે.

હમણાં જ દિલ્હીમાં એક કોન્ફરન્સ મળી હતી. જેમાં પ્રોડક્શન-કમ-ટ્રેનીંગ સેન્ટરો ખોલવા બાબત વિચારણા કરવામાં આવી હતી. પરંતુ ઉદ્યોગ માટે જોઈએ તેવી પૈસાની સગવડ નથી. અને જે માલ તેથાર થાય તેને માટે જોઈએ તેવું બજાર નથી. આ માટે પછાત વર્ગના ભાઈઓને વગર વ્યાજે લોન આપવી જોઈએ. કારખાનદારોને લોન આપવા માટે તો ફ્રીનાન્સ કમીશન જેવું મોટું કમીશન છે પણ ગરીબ અને પછાત જાતના લોકોને રાહત આપવા માટે જે લોનની જરૂર છે તેને માટે વ્યવસ્થા કરવી જોઈએ અને એ રીતે તેને ઉત્સાહ આપવો જોઈએ. સોશાઈમાં પછાત વર્ગ બોર્ડ તરફથી વગર વ્યાજે આ જાતની લોન આપવામાં આવતી. આ રીતે આપણા રાજ્યના પછાત વર્ગ બોર્ડ તરફથી આવી યોજના કરવી જોઈએ અને તે માટે લોન આપવી જોઈએ તેમજ જે પ્રોડક્શન થાય તેને માર્કેટ મળે તે માટે વ્યવસ્થા કરવી જોઈએ.

આ ઉપરાંત, સાહેબ, ભાવનગરમાં એક મોટું મંદિર ગામની વચોવચ છે. જે રિપોર્ટ રજૂ થયો છે તેમાં કમીશનર સાહેબે લખ્યું છે કે તેમાં મંદિર-પ્રવેશનું કામ ચાલે છે. સાથોસાથ તેઓશ્રીએ જણાવ્યું છે કે ઘણી જગ્યાએ મંદિર પ્રવેશને માટે હરિજન ભાઈઓને મશ્કેલી પડે છે. આજે ભાવનગર

[શ્રી. છબીવદાસ પી. મહેતા]

જેવું મોટું શહેર છે, જેની અંદર ગામની બરોબર વચમાં મંદિર આવેલ છે તેમાં હજુ સુધી હરિજન પ્રવેશ થઈ શક્યો નથી. આ બાબત હરિજન વિદ્યાર્થીઓએ જાહેરાત કરી છે અને નોટિસ આપી છે પરંતુ આજસુધીની મારી માલિની છે કે હજુ તે સગવડ આપવામાં આવી નથી. વધુમાં માનનીય સભાપતિજી, આ મંદિરના ટ્રસ્ટી તરીકે સળંગના ક્વેક્કર છે છતાં પણ આ જાનની પરિસ્થિતિ છે. અવગત સરકારે પછાત વર્ગના બાઈઓને ઉંચેલા વાવમાં માટે વાળા પ્રયાસો કર્યા છે એ આવકાર-દાયક છે પણ સાથોસાથ જેવું જોઈએ કે જ્યાંસુધી આઈડીસીને લેખીને ઉંચે નાવીએ ત્યાંસુધી બંધું નકામું છે. આપણે અસ્પૃશ્યતાના કલંકને જેવા ધરે તેમ જલદીથી દૂર કરવા પ્રયાસો કરવા જોઈએ.

મં જે જે સુચનો સરકારને કર્યા છે તે પ્રાપ્ત સરકાર પૂરી કાળજી લેવામાં કરશે અને વહેલી તકે અમલમાં મુકશે તેવી આશા રાખું છું.

Shri M. V. DONDE (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra-Teachers): Sir, the Report that is being considered by this House is a very important report because it refers to a very serious problem which this country has been facing all these years, and for which all of us feel very earnestly namely, the removal of untouchability, which is a blot on the civilisation of this great country.

I shall not refer to many incidents which are embodied in the report, but I would like to draw the attention of the House particularly to one chapter, and section 4, which begins on page 66, which is shown as "Social disabilities and efforts made to remove them by official and non-official agencies." This refers to the scheduled castes. Sir, I have no difference of opinion as regards the various ways by which Government has been attempting to remove this disability upon the Indian citizen. It has been rightly treated as a social problem, and also attempts are being made to better the economic condition of the Scheduled Castes. Propaganda is a very important step that has been taken according to the programme which Government has been following. Not only that, but social service organisations are being roped in to help Government in reaching this message of the removal of untouchability to the villages. This is, no doubt, a laudable step. But, Sir, one impression I carried, and it is this, that there appears to be a feeling of complacency so far as the seriousness of this problem is concerned. I do not find any anxiety on the part of Government to get rid of this evil of untouchability as early and as quickly as possible. I may give one or two small instances. Sir, there is a reference made that the State Government should be requested to prepare a list of those villages which are guilty of practising untouchability because untouchability has been made a crime according to the Constitution. I think that is a very important provision in our Constitution. On page 78 of the Report the heading runs thus: "Maintenance of lists of villages where untouchability is practised." The suggestion was made that the list should be prepared. Now, what is the reply given by the Government of Bombay? The Government of Bombay has stated that it is not possible for them to maintain a list of villages where untouchability is practised but they have agreed to maintain a list of such villages in which untouchability is not practised, suggesting thereby that it is a very convenient and easy task because the list will be comparatively very small. If a list were to be prepared of those

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villages where untouchability is practised, then that would be a very long list, and that might also, if I put it rather strongly, expose the present state of things that the number of such villages runs into pages and pages and it will be quite clear to the world that our efforts have not so far succeeded. It may be a correct attitude from the point of view of Government, but I personally feel that this is rather an attitude of indifference. Even if the list of those villages where untouchability is practised is a long one, it will be a social exposure of the evil and that would bring down the good name of the villages and they will practically be black-listed. It would also be a slur upon the touchables living there, on the social service organisations working there and on the leaders staying in that locality. Therefore, they themselves will have to tackle the problem very seriously. That is why I would say that I do not like the spirit or the attitude of the Government in this connection.

Then, Sir, I feel that it was unwarranted for this Government to say,—which it has stated in paragraph 14 on page 82 of the Report—that in a number of cases, investigations made have also shown that the complaints made are either false or exaggerated. It may be that there might be some complaints which are exaggerated, but even if there is one genuine complaint, it should be attended to and the grievances should be redressed and the hardships removed. But from the statement which Government has made that some complaints are exaggerated or that some are false, it appears that evidence is being created to show that the problem is not so very serious in view of these exaggerated complaints. As I have said, even if there are a few genuine complaints, that itself is an indication of the seriousness of the problem. There may be hundred other instances which may be false or exaggerated, but what about the serious and genuine instances that may be there? Even these few instances should serve as an eye-opener. Therefore, there appears to be an attempt made on the part of the Government to make the people believe that the problem of untouchability is to a certain degree an exaggerated problem and it is not as bad as it is believed to be.

Then as regards the circulars, laws, rules and regulations, I think that my hon. lawyer Friends will bear me out that even if offences under this Act are committed, hardly 20 to 25 per cent. of the cases are detected and out of those cases which are detected, hardly 10 per cent. end in conviction because according to the legal procedure that is laid down, evidence has to be led to prove the case. Now, in the cases of complaints made by the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes residing in a village in which a few of them are surrounded by 4 or 5 times touchables, would it be possible for them to get some evidence in their support? It is no use saying that we rely on the Indian Penal Code or other provisions of the law and, therefore, we are making an effort to bring the offenders to book. This would not be sufficient and the real perspective ought to be taken into account. To me it appears that there is a handicap so far as these people are concerned.

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Then, lastly—I will not take more time of the House—the step which the late Dr. Ambedkar took a month or so before passing away, advising those people to become Buddhists, is a step, which according to me, is a very great social revolutionary step in the history of mankind. It is rather unfortunate that we have not been able to see eye to eye with him. Can we point out any instance in the world where lakhs of people, because of the hardships and sufferings of ages and ages, had of themselves come forward and declared that it would be impossible for them to live in a particular belief or religion and they would go to another religion of their own choice? In the past history, there have been several instances of change of religion, but they have been for various reasons. There are instances of conversion by force. There are also instances where conversion has taken place because of poverty of the people. Taking advantage of the poverty, starvation and hunger of the people, they have been made to change their religion. There are also instances where we find that ignorance is exploited in the matter of conversion saying that a piece of bread had been thrown into the well and as you have drunk its water, you have been converted to a particular sect. But can we, Sir, find out any instance where the people who, for ages and ages have lived in a particular religion, have come forward giving a challenge that they are now disgusted with the treatment given to them by the religion, we have been there for ages and ages, various saints have for ages made attempts but they have failed, people have not cared to listen to the teachings of the greatest of the mankind Lord Gautam Buddha, and, therefore, of their own accord, without any kind of inducement, without any kind of economic advantages, without any kind of worldly advantage, we, lakhs and lakhs of people go to another religion? Is it not a very serious state to be taken note of by the Government? On the contrary, unfortunately, I would say that the attitude of the Government has been more and more hostile to these people. Where is the sympathy for the Scheduled Castes? The sympathy was there when they allowed themselves to be called the Scheduled Castes or the Harijans and what not. But the moment they said that they honestly revolted against the oppression, we say “Yes, we leave you to your fate because you have chosen to change your religion.” Sir, I may quote one instance. Unfortunately, the Government of Bombay has been guilty of a very serious lapse on that point. When the question about the Neo-Buddhists was discussed in the Parliament, representatives of the Neo-Buddhists raised that question. The Government of India issued a statement that because of the fact that the Scheduled Castes have changed their religion, the concessions and the advantages that had been given to them should in no way be affected except—rightly and correctly it is stated—that as the Constitution stands at present, they cannot be called members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and therefore the representation that is given to them in the different legislative bodies and Parliament cannot be given to them because the Constitution was rigid. It is perfectly legitimate; but it was emphasised that all the other advantages that were given to them should in no way be taken away. What has the Bombay Government done? The Bombay Government issued a statement and when it was represented to the Bombay Government

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that this attitude is wrong, the Government said “After mature consideration this decision has been taken.” And what is the decision? The fact that they have changed their religion will not entitle them even to any concessions even in educational matters. I think that that is really a very cruel attitude and, therefore, if the Neo-Buddhists come out and say “Yes, there is absolutely no change in the attitude of Government because 95 per cent. of them are touchables.” Sir, my Hon. Friend the Minister for Backward Classes is present no doubt; but he is one among the crowd and though he may strain every nerve—and I am sure he will do so because he has himself undergone these difficulties—his representation may not be effective in the Cabinet or in a society like this. What I want to emphasise, Sir, is this. The present attitude which has the semblance of hostility and enmity towards the Neo-Buddhists must go. I would go a step further and say—and I appeal to my Hon. Friend the Hon. Minister for Backward Classes—that this is a very serious situation which has arisen because lakhs of people are going to be affected thereby. He should insist on the appointment of a Committee to study this problem and to see what are the economic effects of it, what are the social effects of it, what are the religious effects of it, etc. Let us not look at this problem from the political point of view. It is wrong to submit social problems to political exigencies and I think it will create a very good confidence in the minds of the Scheduled Caste people if Government comes forward with a proposal to appoint—let it be a mixed Committee of officials and non-officials—a committee to go into the problem and see what are the conditions.

Sir, hon. Members here will be glad to know and realise the miracles that have been worked out in the life of the Neo-Buddhists. Some of the Scheduled Caste people go to some of the Buddha Vihars. I may mention of the Buddha Vihar at Worli. Early in the morning hundreds of men and women go there in plain white clothes with a feeling of devotion and a feeling of piety and sit in the Buddha Vihar. Early in the morning you go there and you will find them in hundreds. Those are the people who have been denied any right of worship and who have been denied any entry in the temple. It is the human soul that was craving with devotion for an offering to the Almighty. They have been denied that right and they have found out a full scope. They go to the temple and devoutly worship there for hours and hours together. Sir, it is a situation in which, according to me, the test of Government lies. What is the attitude towards this kind of thing? We cannot brush aside such a large section of people saying that we leave them to their fate. It will be a drag upon the progress of our country. Unless we look at this problem with sympathy and love and with a spirit of the welfare of the fellow-beings there will be no sense in saying that the provisions of the Constitution of India are clearly meant for safeguarding their interests.

Sir, in passing, I might mention one incident of how this matter has been agitating the minds of even other people. Sir, on a Goodwill Mission in 1954 I had an occasion to visit the Soviet Union. We were nearly 40-50 members, men and women, representing different classes. I was selected as one belonging

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to the teaching profession. I am not going to narrate the different events that took place there or the incidents that occurred there. But one very important event struck and that is this. There was a Presidium of Advocates. It is a very important body which represents the whole legal profession. We went there and we had a general discussion. We put a number of questions to the members of that Presidium. The leader of our delegation was an ex-Judge of the Lahore High Court, Justice Teja Singh. He was a Sikh gentleman. He was a very senior official. He was, I think, on the Linguistic Commission.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH: What is there in the name?

Shri M. V. DONDE: I was just trying to recollect his name. I am merely giving his description. He was asked the first question "What are you doing about untouchability in your country?" The President of that legal body was a very famous lawyer who was connected with a number of very important international cases. He asked this question. I happened to be the Deputy Leader of our Delegation. We said "We have made a provision in the Constitution that it is a crime to practice untouchability? That old man very quietly said "Very good, very creditable. But does it function? Is it effective?" Naturally, as the question was a surprise sprung upon us, we fumbled and we had to come out with a very long explanation that untouchability is a long-standing thing which cannot be removed immediately. But, Sir, we could not make any good impression in that respect. Excuse me, Sir, for making a personal reference. I myself was rather amazed as to why this particular question was put to us, when there were so many other things which he could have referred to. I went with the interpreter to that gentleman and asked him—"How are you particularly interested in this?" and he told me—"You people may not have heard about this, that we, the progressive nations of the world, still believe that unless these two problems, namely, the problem of the Negroes and the problem of the untouchables in India, are resolved, humanity cannot progress." I am simply mentioning this incident for what it is worth. I am impressed with the attitude adopted by them in this connection. I would appeal to my hon. Friends of the majority Party and the Hon. Minister here and request them to look at this problem more sympathetically than what we have been professing to do. Let us not be hostile or unsympathetic towards such a big conversion. It is a big social upheaval according to me. We should really feel very very grieved at this state of affairs, when people in a secular State feel the necessity of choosing one religion in preference to another.

I would, therefore, make an appeal in this connection and say that the whole attitude has to be changed. I have no complaints about all the other efforts that are made, say, radio talks, *shramadans*, *satyanarayan pooja*, etc. I have no quarrel about all these things, but the problem has to be looked at from

[Shri M. V. Donde]

the real perspective. Taking a Harijan couple to a *satyanarayan pooja* or for Ganpati *darshan* does not elevate these people; on the contrary, it is a kind of mortification and humiliation for them, as if they are animals taken for worship. I have protested a number of times at public meetings that I for one do not like such an attitude. Whatever that may be, I feel very strongly about this. I had the good fortune of working with the late Dr. Ambedkar for about thirty years and I knew what his feelings in this connection were. I know the feelings of hundreds and lakhs of his followers, and that is why, with that depth of feeling, I make an appeal to the Hon. Minister.

These, Sir, were some of the observations that I wanted to make on the report before the House.

श्री. के. आर. पाटील (विदर्भ-लोकल अर्थोरेटिज): माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज, अनुसूचित जाती आणि अनुसूचित जमातीसंबंधीचा तारीख २६ फेब्रुवारी १९५६चा रिपोर्ट आपण आज चवला घेत आहोत. म्हणजे १९५६ सालामधला फेब्रुवारीनंतरचा सगळा काल, १९५७चे पुरे वर्ष आणि आतापर्यंतचा १९५८ सालचा काल एवढ्या काला-मधल्या अनुसूचित जाती आणि अनुसूचित जमातीच्या घडामोडींची चर्चा आपल्याला आज करावयाची आहे. मराठीमधल्या एका नाटककाराने सरकार कचेऱ्यांमध्ये कैसेसचा निकाल लागण्याला कसा विलंब लागतो यासंबंधीचे एक विडंबन केले आहे त्याची मला आज आठवण होते. एका शेतकऱ्याने आपली पत्नी आपल्या ताव्यांत मिळावी असा अर्ज कोर्टात केला होता आणि शेवटी त्या कैसेचा निकाल त्याच्या नातवाच्या हाती आला असा तो प्रसंग वर्णन केलेला आहे. १९५६ साली हा अहवाल लिहिला गेला त्या वेळी ह्या सभागृहात कोण सभासद होते आणि आज ह्या सभागृहात कोण मॅबर आहेत याचा विचार केला तर मी वर सांगितलेल्या विडंबनाला लाजविणारी ही घटना आहे असे म्हणावे लागते.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, जवळच्या पृथ्वीतलावर आमचा भारत देशच असा एक देश आहे की, जेथे सर्व समाजाला गेल्या एक पिढ्यांपासून अस्पृश्यतेचा महारोग लागलेला आहे आणि ह्या महारोगाच्या पायांच आमचा देश कित्येक वर्षे मुसलमानांच्या गुलामगिरीत राहिला आणि त्यानंतर १५० वर्षेपर्यंत इंग्रजांच्या गुलामगिरीत खिचपत राहिला. ह्या महारोगामुळे इतकी गुलामगिरी काढल्यानंतर आता आपल्याला स्वातंत्र्य मिळाल्यानंतर आमच्या सरकारने ह्या रोगाचे समूळ उच्चाटन करण्याच्या दृष्टीने किती प्रगति केली आहे व करीत आहे ह्याबद्दलचा हा अहवाल आहे. आमच्या समाजात कबिरासारख्या संतांनी जातीयतेविरुद्ध मोहीम काढली होती, व अस्पृश्यता हा हिंदू समाजाला कलंक आहे असे त्यांनी प्रतिपादन केले. त्यानंतर महात्मा फुले, महात्मा गांधी व डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर यांनी हा कलंक धुवून काढण्यासाठी आपले जीवन खर्च केले. पण हा प्रश्न सोडविण्यासाठी महात्मा गांधी आणि डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर यांनी जे प्रयत्न केले त्या प्रयत्नांच्या अंशोचमध्यें फार मोठा फरक होता. हा फरक लक्षात घेतला म्हणजे ह्या प्रश्नाच्या बाबतीत आमचे सरकार आजपर्यंत की प्रगति करू शकले नाही हे समजून येईल. महात्मा गांधींनी हिंदू समाजाकडे तोंड वळवून त्यांना असे सांगितले की, हिंदू समाजाने आजम्ये पिढ्यानपिढ्या अस्पृश्यांवर अन्याय केलेला असल्यामुळे निदान आता यापुढे तरी तुम्ही त्या समाजावर दया करा, त्यांना मानसकीने वागवा, याच्या उलट, डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकरांनी स्फुट हिंदू समाजाकडे पाठ फिरवून आणि आपल्या अनुसूचित समाजाकडे तोंड वळवून त्यांना सांगितले की, ह्या भारतात जवळच्या आत्महत्यापिशा किंवा इतर

[श्री. के. आर्. पाटील]

कोणत्याही जमातीपेक्षा आम्ही निराळे नाहीत. तेव्हा इतर समाजांना जे जे म्हणून सामाजिक हक्क आहेत त्या हक्कांसह जगण्याचा आणि माणुसकीने राहाण्याचा अस्पृश्यांचा हक्क आहे. कोणाच्या लाचारीवर तुम्ही अस्पृश्यांना जगण्याचे कारण नाही. अशा रीतीने डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकरांनी स्पष्ट हिट्कडे पाठ फिरवून आणि आपल्या अस्पृश्य समाजाकडे तोंड करून त्यांचा आपल्या हक्कांची जाणीव करून दिली. तेव्हा अस्पृश्यनिवारणासाठी ह्या दोन पुढाऱ्यांनी केलेल्या प्रस्तावनांवर हा मोठा फरक आपण लक्षात ठेवला पाहिजे. आपल्याला स्वातंत्र्य प्राप्त झाल्यानंतर अस्पृश्य निवारणासाठी जे प्रयत्न आजपर्यंत झाले ते महात्मा गांधींच्या मार्गांनी झाले व हात असल्यामुळे अजून अस्पृश्य समाजाला जगण्यासाठी स्पृश्यांची लाचारी पत्करावी लागत आहे.

अस्पृश्य निवारणासाठी सरकार अनेक मार्गांनी प्रयत्न करीत आहे, यासाठी घटनेत तरतूद करण्याचे ठरले आहे व निरनिराळे कायदे करण्यात आले आहेत, असे सरकार नेहमी सांगत असते. पण आताच माझ्या पूर्वीच्या सन्माननीय सभासदांनी सांगितल्याप्रमाणे, ज्या लोकांनी भारताची घटना लिहिली त्यांनी भारतातील समाजाच्या परिस्थितीच्या वास्तवतेची नोंद योग्य प्रकारे केलेली आहे. भारतामध्ये पूर्वीसारगामून जातीयुता असल्यामुळे समाजाचे अलग अलग असे घटक निर्माण झाले आणि त्यामुळे समाजाची आणि एकंदर देशाचीही अनैक्यता डेव्हलपमेंट झाली. समाजातील काही लोक भूदेव बनले तर काही लोक समाजाच्या अगदी खालच्या थराला गेले. ह्या समाज रचनेत बदल करून ती सभ पातळीवर आणण्याचा कोणी प्रयत्न केला नाही. एकाद्याच्या शरीराचा एकादा अवयव दुबळा बनला असा आणि त्याला जर आरव्या शरीराची सर्वांगीण वाढ करावयाची असली तर दुबळ्या झालेल्या अवयवाला स्पेशल ट्रीटमेंट देण्याची आवश्यकता असते. दुबळ्या अवयवाची हयवाय केली तर सर्व शरीर निकामी होतं. याचप्रमाणे आपल्या समाजरूपी शरीराचा अस्पृश्य समाजरूपी एक अवयव आज कित्येक पिढ्या दुबळा होऊन बसला आहे. ह्या गोष्टीची जाणीव असतांना आमच्या समाजाने तिकडे दुर्लक्ष केले व त्यामुळेच आपल्या देशाला शेकडो वर्षे परकीयांच्या गुलामगिरीत खितपत पडावे लागले. आता आपल्याला स्वातंत्र्य मिळाले आहे, तेव्हा निदान याच्यापुढे तरी आपण आपल्या समाजाचा हा लुळापांगळा झालेला अवयव इतर अवयवांप्रमाणे समर्थ बनवित्याशिवाय आपल्याला तरणापाय नाही. ह्या गोष्टीची जाणीव ठेवूनच आपल्या देशाची घटना बनवितांना घटनाकर्त्यांनी अस्पृश्यांना इतर समाजाच्या लेव्हलवर आणण्यासाठी काही खास आदेश दिले असून त्याप्रमाणे काही तरतुदीही करून ठेवल्या आहेत. पुराणांतली वांगी पुराणांत असे ह्या तरतुदीच्या बाबतीत होऊ नये म्हणून घटनेमध्ये ३३८वें एक खास कलम घालण्यात आले आहे. ह्या आदेशाप्रमाणे प्रत्यक्ष अंमलबजावणी कितपत झाली आहे ह्यासंबंधीचाच हा व्हवाल आहे.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, आतापर्यंत भारतातल्या अनेक पुढाऱ्यांनी आणि सामाजिक कार्यकर्त्यांनी अस्पृश्य निवारणासाठी आपली आयुष्ये वाहिली आहेत. आपल्या देशावर परकी सत्ता असतांना ह्या लोकांनी समाजसुधारणेचे हे कार्य केले ते खरोखरी कौतुकास्पद असेच होतं. त्यांनी केलेल्या कार्याच्या मानाने आपल्याला स्वराज्य मिळाल्यानंतर सरकारने किती प्रगति केली आहे याचा आढावा घेतला तर फार समाधानकारक कार्य झाले आहे असे दिसून येत नाही. माझ्या पूर्वीच्या एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी असे सांगितले की, मध्यवर्ती सरकारने आणि निरनिराळ्या राज्य सरकारांनी अनुसूचित जाति व अनुसूचित जमातींच्या उद्धारासाठी गेल्या पांच वर्षांत करोडो रुपये मंजूर केले आहेत. पण या बाबतीत सरकारतर्फे किंवा सरकार पक्षाच्या तर्फे अस्पृश्य निवारणाच्या प्रगतीच्या मोजमापासाठी जे थर्मामीटर लावण्यांत येते ते मूलतः चुकीचे आहे. पहिल्या पंचवार्षिक

[श्री. के. आर्. पाटील]

योजनेमध्ये सरकारने इतके कोटि रुपये खर्च केले व म्हणून ती योजना यशस्वी झाली असे ज्याप्रमाणे सांगण्यांत येते त्याप्रमाणे किती खर्च केला हे सांगून खर्चाचा थर्मामीटर लावणे हे चुकीचे आहे हे मला ह्या सभागृहाच्या निदर्शनास आणावयाचे आहे. विरोधी पक्षाच्या लोकांना डोळे असून दिसत नाही, कान असून ऐकू येत नाही असा आक्षेप सरकार पक्षाकडून केला जातो, पण हा आरोप विरोधी पक्षावर करण्याऐवजी मी असेच म्हणून की, आज आपल्या राज्यांत जे काही चालले आहे ते काँग्रेसवाल्यांनाच दिसत नाही. थोडक्यांत सांगावयाचे झाले तर मी असे म्हणून की, हा प्रश्न ज्या रीतीने हाताळण्यांत आलेला आहे ती रीत योग्य नाही. अर्थात योग्य रीत कोणती याबाबतचे निवेदन मी माझ्या भाषणांत करणार आहे.

अशा प्रकारचा रिपोर्ट सादर करण्याचा उपक्रम सुरु करण्याचे कारण या रिपोर्टांत ग्रहित करण्यांत आलेले आहे. या रिपोर्टाच्या उपोद्घातांत पान १ वर असे म्हटलेले आहे की—

“पांच वर्षांच्या कालावधीत अनुसूचित जातींच्या व अनुसूचित जमातींच्या शैक्षणिक तसेच आर्थिक हितसंबंधाच्या विविध कार्यांत आतांपावेतां केलेल्या प्रगतीचा कच्चा आराखडा आणि सामाजिक अन्याय व पिढवणुकीचे सर्व प्रकार यांपासून त्याचे संरक्षण करण्याकरितां”वगैरे.

याचाच अर्थ असा की, अनुसूचित जातींचा व अनुसूचित जमातींचा मागासलेपण नाहीसा करणे, त्यांची आर्थिक उन्नति करणे, सामाजिक विषमता दूर करणे आणि सर्व प्रकारच्या पिढवणुकीतून या दोन्ही जमातींचे आणि जातींचे संरक्षण करणे, याबाबत झालेल्या प्रगतीचा आढावा घेणे, हा या रिपोर्टाचा उद्देश आहे. आपल्या भारतातील एकंदर समाज रचनेचा आर्थिक विषमतेवर आणि पिढवणुकीवर आधारलेली असतांना या दोन जातींचे आणि जमातींचे एक्स्क्लूझिव्हेशन दूर होणे कसे शक्य आहे हे माझ्यासारख्या अडाणी शेतकऱ्याच्या मुलाला समजत नाही, आकलन होत नाही. द्विभाषिकाचा मुख्य मंत्री झालेला शेतकऱ्याचा मुलगाच ही गोष्ट समजू शकत असेल असे मला वाटते. ह्या प्रश्नावर आपण काही तरी रियलॅस्टिक व्ह्यू घेतला पाहिजे. सामाजिक पिढवणुकीवरच जो समाज आजपर्यंत पोसला आणि वाढला त्याची सर्व प्रकारच्या पिढवणुकीतून आपण कशी सोडवणूक करू शकणार हे मला तरी आकलन होत नाही. ही लाचारी प्रामाणिकपणे कबूल करण्यास कोणत्याही प्रकारचा कमीपणा मला वाटत नाही.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, सामाजिक डिसअॅबिलिटीजबाबत पुष्कळसे विवेचन या रिपोर्टांत करण्यांत आलेले आहे. मागासलेल्या जमातींच्या पुनर्वसनासाठी व इतरही काही गोष्टींसाठी मध्य प्रदेश सरकारने पुष्कळसे कायदे केलेले होते. मुंबई सरकारने देखील त्यांच्याकरिता काही कायदे केलेले असतील. यासाठी वरून आदेश आलेले आहेत. तसेच “रिम्बूल् ऑफ अनटर्चेबिलिटी” करतां केंद्र सरकारने देखील कायदे केलेले आहेत. यासाठी भारताच्या संविधानांत देखील तरतूद करण्यांत आलेली आहे, पण त्याची अंमलबजावणी किती प्रमाणांत करण्यांत आलेली आहे असा माझा सवाल आहे. अस्पृश्योद्धारासाठी आपल्या देशातील निरनिराळ्या राज्यांत कायदे करण्यांत आलेले आहेत असेही माझ्या काही मित्रांनी या ठिकाणी सांगितले. माझे या सभागृहातील सदस्यांना असे आव्हान आहे की, या सर्व कायद्यांची आणि संविधानातील निरनिराळ्या तरतुदींची अंमलबजावणी किती आणि कोणत्या प्रकारे झालेली आहे याची खरीखुरी हकीकत छातीवर हात ठेवून आणि ईश्वराला साक्ष ठेवून या सभागृहात निवेदन करावी. या जातींची प्रगति कितपत साधली याबद्दल जर कोणाला प्रश्न विचारला तर त्या प्रश्नाचे काही समाधानकारक उत्तर मिळेल किंवा काय याबद्दल मला शंका आहे. या प्रश्नाचे उत्तर माझे मित्र ज्यांनी सरकारच्या याबाबतच्या कार्याची स्तुती केलेली आहे त्यांनी दिले तर मला फार बरे वाटेल.

[श्री. के. आर्. पाटील]

अध्यक्ष महाराज, मानशास्त्र असे सांगते की, एखाद्या मनुष्याने एखादी गोष्ट मागितली आणि ती आपण दिली नाही किंवा देण्यास विलंब केला तर त्याच्या अपेक्षा वाढीस लागतात. प्रथमच मागितलेली गोष्ट झटपट देऊन टाकली तर तो मनुष्य तेवढ्यातच समाधान मानतो. आपल्या भारतीय स्वातंत्र्याचीच गोष्ट घ्या. आपल्या भारतीय नेत्यांनी ब्रिटिशांकडे प्रथम डोमिनियन स्टेटसची मागणी केलेली होती. त्यांनी त्यावेळी ती मागणी मान्य केली असती तर आमच्या नेत्यांनी आणि जनतेने त्यांतच समाधान मानले असते. पण त्या वेळी ती मागणी नाकारण्यात आली. याचा परिणाम काय झाला? भारतीय जनतेने आणि भारतीय नेत्यांनी पूर्ण स्वातंत्र्याची "कम्प्लीट इन्डिपेन्डन्सची" मागणी केली. भारतीय जनतेने आणि नेत्यांनी सांगितले की, आम्हांला आता डोमिनियन स्टेटस नको, संपूर्ण स्वातंत्र्यच आम्हांला हवे आहे. तीच गोष्ट या मागासलेल्या वर्गाच्या लोकांच्या बाबतीत घडली. डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर ज्या वेळी तरुण वयात इंग्लंडून परत आले त्या वेळी त्यांनी अशी मागणी केली की, आम्हीहि हिंदूच आहोत तेव्हा हिंदूंच्या देवाळांत जाऊन देवाचे दर्शन घेण्याचा अधिकार आम्हांलाहि असाव्यास पाहिजे. त्याप्रमाणे नाशिकच्या देवाळांत प्रवेश करू देण्याची त्यांनी इच्छा व्यक्त केली. परंतु आमच्या हिंदु धर्मातील त्या वेळच्या धर्म मार्तंडांनी आपल्या पाठीराख्यांच्या बळावर त्यांची ती मागणी लाथाडली. आता त्यांच्या साठी मंदिरे खुली करण्यांत आलेली आहेत, पण त्याचा काय उपयोग? डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकरांनी सांगितले की, दगडाच्या देवाचे दर्शन घेण्याची आम्हांला मुळीच गरज नाही. डोमिनियन स्टेटसची मागणी मान्य करण्यांत आली असती तर ज्या प्रमाणे कम्प्लीट इन्डिपेन्डन्सची मागणी पुढे आली नसती त्याप्रमाणे हरिजनांनी मंदिर प्रवेशाची केलेली पहिली मागणी मान्य करण्यांत आली असती तर दगडाच्या मूर्तीचे दर्शन न घेण्याच्या प्रतिज्ञेप्रत डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकर पोहोचले नसते.

हरिजनांची आजची जी मागणी आहे ती त्यांच्यावर होत असलेला सामाजिक अन्याय दूर व्हावा आणि आर्थिक उन्नति व्हावी ही आहे. त्या दृष्टीने आमचे सरकार काय करीत आहे हे आम्हांला पहावयाचे आहे. अनुसूचित जाती आणि अनुसूचित जमाती तसेच इतर मागासलेल्या जातींच्या विद्यार्थ्यांना देण्यासाठी करोडो रुपयांच्या स्कॉलरशिप्स सरकारने जाहीर केलेल्या आहेत. यासाठी एक सेन्ट्रल कमेटी नियुक्त करण्यांत आलेली आहे. तिच्या मार्फत या स्कॉलरशिप्स देण्यांत येतात. परंतु आमच्या विदर्भातील 'अदर बॅकवर्ड क्लाससेटफ' एकच रिप्रेझेंटेटिव या कमेटीवर घेण्यांत आलेला आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे 'अदर बॅकवर्ड क्लाससेटफ मध्ये' मोडणाऱ्या तेली, माळी या ज्या जाती आहेत त्या जातींच्या मुलांना या स्कॉलरशिप्सचा फायदा मिळत नाही या जातींच्या किती मुलांना स्कॉलरशिप्स मिळालेल्या आहेत या बाबतची आकडेवारी निवेदन करून सरकारने माझ्या म्हणण्याचा पडताळा पहावा. असाच प्रकार सर्व ठिकाणी होत आहे. इतर मागासलेल्या वर्गावर हा जो अन्याय होत आहे तो विदर्भातच नव्हे तर सर्व ठिकाणी होत असल्याचे निदर्शनास येईल.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, या लोकांना ज्या सवलती किंवा स्कॉलरशिप्स मिळतात त्या कांही संस्थामार्फत देण्यांत येतात. मध्य प्रदेश दलित संघ आणि हरिजन सेवा संघ यासारख्या संस्था निर्माण झालेल्या आहेत. यांना शेंकडो नव्हे, हजारो नव्हे तर करोडो रुपयांनी पैसा देण्यांत आला. परंतु या संस्थांनी या पैसाची कशी अफरातफर केली, हा पैसा कोणत्या कामासाठी वापरला या बाबतीतील असंख्य उदाहरणे माझ्याजवळ आहेत. हा १९५५ सालचा रिपोर्ट आहे. त्यांतहि या बाबतची अनेक उदाहरणे उद्धृत करण्यांत आलेली आहेत. या सरकारची मला कीव येते, परंतु या संघातर्फे करण्यांत आलेली कृत्ये सांगण्याची पाळी दुर्दैवाने माझ्यावर आलेली आहे. १९५५ साली अशा प्रकारची अनेक अफरातफर कृत्ये

[श्री. के. आर्. पाटील]

या संघटनांकडून केली गेली असतांना देखील मध्य प्रदेश दलित संघास ता. २४ मार्च १९५६ रोजी १,६७,००० रुपयांचे अनुदान सरकारकडून देण्यांत आलेले आहे. कशाकरिता, तर अस्पष्टाद्वाराचा प्रचार करण्याकरिता!

श्री. एन्. के. तिरपुडे : अध्यक्ष महाराज, ज्या प्रकरणांसंबंधी सन्माननीय सभासद उल्लेख करीत आहेत ते प्रकरण न्यायासनासमोर आहे. तेव्हा त्यासंबंधाने चर्चा करणे बरोबर तर होणार नाहीच, परंतु कायदेशीर देखील होणार नाही असे मला वाटते.

The CHAIRMAN : It is *sub-judice*.

श्री. के. आर्. पाटील : अध्यक्ष महाराज, १,६७,००० रुपयांचे अनुदान दिल्यानंतर देखील २०-२० हजारांच्या अनेक रकमा त्या संघास देण्यांत आलेल्या आहेत. त्या केसेस जर सब्-ज्युडिस आहेत असे मंत्र्यांचे मत असेल तर मात्र मी त्याबद्दल बोलणार नाही. त्या केसेस सब्-ज्युडिस आहेत याचा अर्थ काय आहे हे मी सभागृहास निराळ्या तऱ्हेने सांगायचास नको. या केसेस कोर्टात जाण्यास कोणते कारण घडले या गोष्टीचा विचार सभागृहच करू शकेल.

श्री. एन्. के. तिरपुडे : या बाबतीत सरकारने काय काय केले आहे हे मी माझ्या भाषणांत सांगणारच आहे.

The CHAIRMAN : I try to follow also those hon. Members who speak in Marathi and if the hon. Member will speak slowly I would be able to follow him.

श्री. के. आर्. पाटील : अध्यक्ष महाराज, मी आता ज्या रकमेचा उल्लेख केला त्या बाबतची केस सब्-ज्युडिस असल्यामुळे मी त्या संबंधाने उल्लेख करीत नाही. परंतु इतर बाबतीत सांगायचे झाले तर नागपूरच्या चार डिव्हिजन्सनां २० हजार रुपये, मराठवाड्याच्या चार जिल्ह्यांना २० हजार रुपये आणि मध्य प्रदेशासाठी ६० हजार रुपये अशा रकमा अनुदान म्हणून हरिजन सेवक संघ आणि दलित फंडेशन ह्या संस्थांना देण्यांत आलेल्या आहेत. माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज, या बाबतीत माझे एकच म्हणणे आहे की, ह्या ज्या रकमा देण्यांत आलेल्या आहेत त्या जरी अनुदान म्हणून देण्यांत आल्या असल्या तरी त्यांचा हिशोब त्या संस्थांनी दिला पाहिजे. माझ्या माहितीप्रमाणे पुष्कळशा रकमांचे हिशोब सादर करण्यांत आलेले नाहीत, आणि ज्यांचे हिशोब सादर करण्यांत आले आहेत त्यांतही शंका घेण्याला जागा राहिलेली आहे. विहीर खोदली असे दाखविण्यांत आले असून त्याबाबतचे व्हाउचर नाही, आणि व्हाउचर दाखविण्यांत आले असले तर विहीरच खोदलेली नाही. तेव्हा मला एवढेच म्हणावयाचे आहे की, मुंबई सरकारने ह्या बाबतीत विचार करावा आणि हा जो कांही खळबडोबा चाललेला आहे त्याला वेळीच आळा घालावा.

म्हणून, माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज, माझा सरकारवर असा आरोप आहे की, ह्या ज्या रकमा देण्यांत येतात त्या रॉलिंग पार्टीच्या कलाने वागणाऱ्या काँग्रेसवाल्यांना देण्यांत येतात, आणि विरोधी पक्षाचे जे लोक प्रगतीच्या मार्गाने प्रयत्न करीत आहेत त्यांच्यामध्ये रिफ्ट पाडण्याकरिता त्यांचा दुसऱ्यांय करण्यांत येत आहे. This is a public scandal या गोष्टीची मध्यवर्ती सरकारने कसून चौकशी केली पाहिजे. ह्या संस्थांना ज्या रकमा देण्यांत येतात त्यांचा काय उपयोग करण्यांत येतो यावर लक्ष ठेवून, जर दुरुपयोग करण्यांत आला

[श्री. के. आर. पाटील]

आहे असें आढळून आले, तर त्याला जो कोणी जबाबदार असेल त्याच्याविरुद्ध उपाययोजना केली पाहिजे. आज आपल्याला असें दिसून येतं की, जो कोणी सरकारजवळ किंवा सरकारपक्षाजवळ लाचारी करील, त्यांच्या म्हणण्याप्रमाणे वागायला तयार असेल त्याला घर बांधायला कर्ज मिळतं, अशाने अस्पृश्योद्धार होणे शक्य नाही. ह्या सरकारच्या राज्यांत आपला उद्धार होणे शक्य नाही असें दिसून आल्यावर ज्या अस्पृश्यांनी बुद्ध धर्म स्वीकारला त्यांना अस्पृश्य म्हणून पूर्वी ज्या सवलती मिळत होत्या त्या नाकारून सरकारने त्यांच्यावर फार मोठा अन्याय केला आहे. तेव्हा मला असें सांगायलाचं आहे की, नुसते करोडो रुपये खर्च करून किंवा नुसते कायदे करून अस्पृश्यता नाहीशी होणार नाही. यासाठी अंतःकरणापासूनची दयाबुद्धि आणि सेवा करण्याची इच्छा पाहिजे. अशा प्रकारची बुद्धि सरकारने आजपर्यंत दाखविली असती तर डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकरांना आपल्या लाखो अनुयायांसह धर्मांतर करण्याची पाळी आली नसती. त्यांनी धर्मांतर केले तें सुखामुखी केले नाही. आपल्या मूळच्या हिंदू धर्मात राहून आपल्या समाजाची उन्नति करण्याची त्यांनी शिकस्त केली, या बाबतीत सरकार काय करू इच्छितं याची वाट पाहिली, आणि शेवटी जेव्हा ते निराश झाले तेव्हा त्यांनी मोठ्या दुःखाने धर्मांतर करण्याचं ठरविले. धर्मांतर करतांना त्यांनी असे उद्गार काढले की, मी हिंदु धर्मात जन्माला आलों आणि.....

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member is repeating the same arguments. This is the fourth time that he is repeating the same arguments.

श्री. के. आर. पाटील: अध्यक्ष महाराज, मला असें म्हणावयाचं आहे की, अस्पृश्योद्धार-संबंधीचे सरकारचे धोरण यशस्वी झाले असतं तर डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकरांना आपल्या अनुयायांसह धर्मांतर करण्याची पाळी आली नसती. अस्पृश्यांसाठी सरकार प्रयत्न करित आहे म्हणजे कोठे दोन शाळा काढल्या आहेत, एकादा दवाखाना उघडला आहे, हाच की नाही? घराला आग लागली, सगळे नुकसान झाले तरी हवा शुद्ध झाली असें म्हणण्यासारखं हें आहे. अशा रीतीने आपल्याच पक्षाच्या संस्थांना करोडो रुपये देऊन त्या पैशाच्या खर्चाबाबत दुर्लक्ष करण्याचे परिणाम चांगले होणार नाहीत. देशाचं ऐक्य मजबूत करणं हा उच्च हेतु आमच्या नेत्यांपुढे आजपर्यंत होता, असें असतांना ज्या नवबौद्धांनी धर्मांतर केले त्यांच्यावर रिव्हेंज घेण्याची प्रवृत्ति आमच्या सरकारने दाखविली आहे. उदाहरण त्या वेळीं त्याच्या मुलाला १० वें वर्ष असलं तर कोणत्या कायद्याप्रमाणे ह्या १० वर्षांच्या मुलाला मुसलमान ठरविले जातं हें मला तरी कळत नाही. नवबौद्धांबद्दल अध्यक्ष महाराज, मध्यवर्ति सरकारने असा एक हुकम काढला होता की, ज्या अस्पृश्यांनी बौद्ध धर्म स्वीकारला आहे त्यांना पूर्वी ज्या सवलती मिळत होत्या त्या तशाच चालू ठेवण्यांत याव्यात, त्या कमी करू नये. असें असतांना आमच्या मुंबई सरकारने ह्या लोकांच्या सवलती काढून घेण्यांत याव्यात असे जाहीर करून त्यांच्यावर कां अन्याय केला? अस्पृश्यता निवारणाचाच हा एक मार्ग आहे काय? खेड्यापाड्यांतील लोकांनी ह्या नवबौद्धांवर बायकोट टाकला होता, त्यांना दुकानांतून सामान मिळत नव्हतं. पुण्याला पेशवाईत अशी एक प्रथा होती की अस्पृश्यांनी रस्त्याने चालत असतांना पाठीमागे कांहीं त्यांची जी पावले उमटतील ती आपोआप पुसून निघावीत. हें उदाहरण पेशवाईतले झाले. झाले होते त्यांना अमूक एका रस्त्याने त्यांनी जाऊ नये असें बंधन घातलं होतं. नवबौद्धांना काम द्यावयाचं नाही, त्यांना सामान मिळू द्यावयाचं नाही अशीं बंधने घालून त्यांचा कोंडमारा केला. यामुळे कंटाळून जाऊन आणि अस्पृश्य निवारणाचे निरनिराळे कायदे अस्तित्वांत

[श्री. के. आर. पाटील]

असतांना कित्येक लोकांना आपले गांव सोडून वणवण फिरावे लागलं, मला सरकारला असें विचारावयाचं आहे की, ही जी उदाहरणे झाली त्यांच्या बाबतीत सरकारने कायद्याची कोणती कारवाई केली? अशी कारवाई सरकारने केली नाहीच, पण या लोकांना पूर्वी ज्या शैक्षणिक सवलती होत्या त्या काढून घेऊन आपल्या सूडवृत्तीचं प्रदर्शन मात्र केले. अध्यक्ष महाराज आपली एकच गोष्ट सांगून मी आपले भाषण संपविणार आहे. अस्पृश्य नवबौद्ध होवोत किंवा नवबौद्धांतून जैन धर्मात धर्मांतर करोत त्यांची आर्थिक उन्नति केल्याशिवाय त्यांची आर्थिक परिस्थिति सुधारणार नाही. अस्पृश्यांवर सूड घेण्याची सरकारची वृत्ति आहे ती सरकारने सोडून दिली पाहिजे.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, हा सरकारी रिपोर्ट असला तरी त्यांत वास्तवता कोठेहि दिसत नाही. अस्पृश्यांची आर्थिक परिस्थिति सुधारण्याकरितां कांहीं ठिकाणच्या अस्पृश्यांना जमिनी बांटून देण्यांत येत असल्याचा उल्लेख करण्यांत आलेला आहे. केवळ मोघमपणेच हें वाक्य या रिपोर्टांत घालण्यांत आलेलें आहे. बाकीच्या गोष्टींची आंकडेवार माहिती या रिपोर्टांत देण्यांत आलेली आहे. परंतु अस्पृश्यांना किती जमीन देण्यांत आली याचा तपशील मात्र देण्यांत आलेला नाही. अनुसूचित जातींच्या आणि अनुसूचित जमातींच्या कमिशनरचें प्रतिवेदन, १९५५, भाग २रा, ६ वें प्रतिवेदन यांत मात्र कांहीं थोडा तपशील दिलेला आहे, ही समाधानाची गोष्ट आहे. अस्पृश्यांना जी जमीन देण्यांत आलेली आहे तिचे आंकडे पाहिले तर आपल्याला असें दिसून येईल की ही जमीन फारच थोडी आहे.

इंग्रजांच्या कारकीर्दीत बी आणि एफ क्लासच्या जमिनी वहितीखाली देण्यांत आल्या. त्या जमिनींची कोणाला जरूरी आहे याचा विचार न करतां ज्यांच्याजवळ ४०-४० एकर जमीन आहे अशा जमीनदारांना देखील त्या देण्यांत आल्या. तेव्हा लॅन्डलेस लोकांनी देखील आपल्याला जमिनी द्याव्यात अशी मागणी केली. तेव्हा इंग्रजांनी असें ठरविले की ज्यांना ५ एकर किंवा त्यापेक्षा कमी जमीन असेल त्यांना लॅन्डलेस समजले जाईल आणि ई आणि एफ क्लासची जमीन त्यांना देण्यांत येईल. त्याप्रमाणे जास्तीत जास्त १२ एकरांपर्यंत प्रत्येक शेतमजुराला जमीन देण्यांत आली. जे लोक स्वतः कसणारे होते त्यांनाच ही जमीन देण्यांत आलेली होती. त्यापैकी बहुतांश लोक अस्पृश्य जमातींचे होते. मागच्या वर्षी सरकारने अशी ऑर्डर काढली की सरकारने दिलेल्या जमिनीवर शेती करणे बंद करावें, कारण त्या जमिनी सरकारला त्यांच्याकडून परत घ्यावयाच्या आहेत. त्याप्रमाणे कायद्याला भिगारे जे शेतकरी होते त्यांनी ती जमीन न कसतां तशीच पडू दिली. कांहीं शेतकरी मात्र बेकायदेशीर मार्गाने गेले आणि दरवर्षी प्रमाणे त्याहि वर्षी ती जमीन पेरली. एक वर्षांनंतर सरकारतर्फे अशी ऑर्डर काढण्यांत आली की ती जमीन कसण्याबाबत जी सुदत देण्यांत आलेली आहे ती एक वर्षांनं वाढविलेली आहे. ही सुदत आतां ३१ मार्च रोजी संपत आहे. पुनः एक वर्षांनं या ऑर्डरची सुदत सरकारने वाढविलेली आहे किंवा काय हें मला माहीत नाही. परंतु तशी ती वाढविलेली असेल तर मी सरकारला धन्यवाद देईन. ही आहे आमच्या सरकारची एफिशियन्सी! सरकारच्या या धरसोडीच्या वृत्तीचा परिणाम काय झाला? ज्या लोकांनी कायद्याचें नीट पालन केले त्यांना आपल्या एका वर्षांच्या उत्पन्नावर पाणी सोडावे लागले आणि ज्यांनी कायदा न जुमानतां जमिनी पिकविल्या त्यांना कायद्याचा आश्रय मिळाला. आतां या अस्पृश्य लोकांचे बेटरमेन्ट सरकार कशा प्रकारे करणार आहे तें लौकरच दिसेल. पहिल्या प्रथम असें करा की, अस्पृश्यांपैकी जे लॅन्डलॉस असतील त्यांच्याकडे जमिनी ठेऊं नका. त्यांच्याकडून त्या काढून घ्या. जे काश्तकार लॅन्डलेस असतील त्यांच्या जमिनी काढून घेण्याचा किंवा त्यांना जी ऑर्डर दिलेली आहे ती रिन्यू करण्याचा प्रश्नच उपस्थित करूं नका. ई आणि एफ

[શ્રી. કે. આર. પાટીલ]

વર્ગીકૃત જમીન વાંટણાચ્યા વેઠીં અસ્પૃશ્ય આણિ જમીનહિન લોકાંતા પ્રેકરન્સ ઘા. હા પ્રશ્ન એક દિવસાંત સુટગારા નાહીં. પરંતુ આપણ યોગ્ય માર્ગાંને જા આણિ ત્યા જમાતીચે લોક સુલાને નિશ્વાસ સોડતીલ અસે કાંઈ તરી કરા એવઢેંચ મલા સરકારલા સાંગાવયાચેં આહે. એકા વર્ષાકરિતાં કિવા ૨-૪-૬ મહિન્યાંકરિતાં આપલી ઑર્ડર રિન્યૂ કરૂં નકા. યા પદ્ધતીનેં હા પ્રશ્ન આપણાંસ સોડવિતાં યેનાર નાહીં.

યા રિપોર્ટાંતીલ ચાંગલ્યા ગોષ્ટી પઢાળેં મ્હજે ડોંગર પાંચરૂન ડંદીર કાઢળ્યાસારલેં આહે. જ્યા માનાનેં અસ્પૃશ્ય આણિ આદિવાસી જમાતીચર પૈસા લેચેં કરળ્યાંત આલેલા આહે ત્યા માનાનેં ત્યાંચી સુવારણા જાલેલી આહે અસેં આપલ્યાલા મ્હજતાં યેનાર નાહીં. સામાન્ય જનતેવા હા નિઢળચા ઘામાવા પૈસા અશા તન્હેનેં આપણ લેચેં કરૂં નકા. જ્યા પઢિત જમિની સરકારજવલ શિલ્લક આહેત ત્યા યા અસ્પૃશ્યાંતા ઘા અશી નમ્ર વિનંતી કરૂં મી આપલેં માણ સંપવિતોં.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ (વિધાનસભા તરફથી ચૂંટાયેલ): માનનીય સભાપતિજી, જે રિપોર્ટ હાઉસના ટેબલ ઉપર રજૂ થયો છે એની બે બાબતો છે. એક બાબત એમ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે સામાજિક સુધારણા કેવી રીતે કરવામાં આવે છે અને બીજી બાબત એ આ આખા પ્રશ્નનો કેવી રીતે ઉકેલ કરવા માગીએ છીએ તેના માર્ગો સૂચવવામાં આવ્યા છે. આ ઉપરાંત કમિશનર પોતાના પ્રવાસમાં જે જે નજરે જાયું છે એનું તથા અસ્પૃશ્યતા નિવારણ માટે બીજા જે જે પગલાં લેવાઈ રહ્યાં છે તેનું વિવરણ કર્યું છે. મને એમ લાગે છે કે આ પ્રશ્ન માત્ર સામાજિક પ્રશ્ન નથી. આ પ્રશ્ન માત્ર આભડછેટનો કે માત્ર માનવતાનો નથી. મંદિરોમાં માત્ર પ્રવેશ મળવાથી કે પીવાના પીણીની છૂટ મળવાથી કે સાથે ભોજન સમારંભો યોજવાથી કે હરિજનોના બાળકો માટે છાત્રાલયો ઉભા કરવાથી કે હરિજનોને નામે બીજા જે કંઈ સગવડો આપી શકાય તે આપવાથી આ પ્રશ્ન ઉકેલી શકાય એવો નથી. કારણ કે આ પ્રશ્ન એ માત્ર સામાજિક પ્રશ્ન નથી, પણ તેઓ પછાત હોવાનું મુખ્ય કારણ આ વર્ગની ખરાબ આર્થિક પરિસ્થિતિ છે. એ ઉપરાંત આ વર્ગ પ્રત્યે સમાજ જે અમાનુષી વર્તવ કરે છે તેને કારણે પણ તેઓ કેટલાય વર્ષોથી પછાત રહ્યા છે. આર્થિક રીતે તથા સામાજિક કારણોએ તેઓ ગુલામી અને અર્ધગુલામી દશામાં રહ્યા છે. ગુજરાતના સુરત જિલ્લાની બાબતમાં ગુજરાતી રિપોર્ટના પાના ૨૧ ઉપર કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે:-

“અનુસૂચિત જાતિ અને જનજાતિમાંના કેટલાક હજુ, મોટે ભાગે કોઠ જેવા ઘરોમાં અને જ્યાં પ્રાથમિક આરોગ્યની સગવડો પણ નથી હોતી એવાં ઘરોમાં રહીને મનુષ્યજીવનથી પણ નીચી કક્ષામાં સબડી રહ્યાં છે. આ લોકો પોતાના માલિકના હાથ તળે અર્ધ-ગુલામ દશામાં નોકરી બજાવે છે. કારણ કે પોતાના વડવાઓએ લીધેલી લોન પાછી વાળવા માટે જીંદગી સુધી નોકરી બજાવવાનું ખતપત્ર લખી આપ્યું હોય છે. એ લોકો પાસે બિલકુલ જમીન નથી હોતી એ કહેવાની કંઈ જરૂર નથી. માટે ભાગે આ લોકોના ઝુંપડાં જમીનદારોની જમીન પર ઉભાં કરવામાં આવ્યા હોય છે. આ જમીનદારો સુરત જિલ્લામાં ધણિયામાં નામે ઓળખાય છે. આ ગરીબ પ્રજાને હંમેશાં ઝડપતા જમીનદાર ખાલી કરાવશે એવા ભયમાં જીવવું પડે છે.”

આ પ્રમાણે આ રિપોર્ટમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે. એમાં એમ પણ જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે આ હાળી પ્રથા છે તે હજુ દૂર થઈ નથી. આ લોકો અર્ધ-ગુલામી દશામાં છે તે એનું સૌથી મોટું કારણ છે. જમીનદારો પાસેથી એક વખતે જે પૈસા કરજે લીધા હોય છે, એ પૈસા કોઈ પણ સંજોગોમાં એ નથી ભરી શકતો એટલા માટે એને જમીનદારની વંશપરંપરાગત ગુલામી કરવી પડે છે. ડાંગ વિસ્તાર માટે ગુજરાતી રિપોર્ટના પાના ૩ ઉપર ઉલ્લેખ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે. એમાં જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે:-

“છ ગામડામાં એકાદ નાળું કે નંદીથી જ પીવાનું પાણી પૂરું પડે છે, અને જેમાં ૩૬ પાકા કૂવાઓ છે. જ્યારે બાકીના ગામડાઓમાં કૂવાઓ જ નથી, આ ગામડાઓમાં કેટલીક જગ્યાએ કાચા કૂવાઓ છે જે ઉનાળામાં સુકાઈ જાય છે.”

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

એટલે આ વિસ્તારમાં પાણી માટે કોઈ પણ જાતની સગવડ નથી. એટલું જ નહિ પણ જે ઘરો બાંધવામાં આવ્યા છે તે વિષે પણ કેટલોક ખ્યાલ આપવામાં આવ્યો છે. જમીન વિષે પાન ચાર ઉપર કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે:-

“ડાંગ જિલ્લાની કલ ૪,૨૮,૮૬૫ એકર જમીનમાંથી માત્ર ૪૫,૨૭૦ એકર પર પાક થાય છે અને ૪,૬૧૭ એકર પર ચોખા પાકે છે. માત્ર આઠ જ એકર જમીનમાં સિંચાઈ થાય છે. આ જિલ્લાની વનવિસ્તાર જ માત્ર અની અંતર્ગત સમૃદ્ધિ છે. કારણ કે એમાંથી સરકારને ૨૫ લાખ રૂપિયાની ઉપજ છે.”

આજ પાના ઉપર આગળ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે:-

“આ લોકો જંગલની મજૂરી પર પોતાનો જીવનનિર્વાહ કરે છે, જે માત્ર વર્ષના ચાર જ મહિના એ લોકોને મળી શકે છે. સ્વાભાવિક રીતે જ એ લોકો ખેતીવાડી પર આધાર નહિ રાખી શકે, કારણ કે તેનું કોત્ર બહુ જ મર્યાદિત છે.”

આ વિસ્તારની પ્રજા ભીલ, વારલી, કોંકણા અને મોચી છે. જંગલમાં મજૂરી ઉપર મોટા ભાગના લોકો ઉદર-નિર્વાહ કરે છે. અને તેમાં પણ આ લોકોને માત્ર ચાર જ મહિના કામ મળી રહે છે. બાકીના સમયમાં કોઈ પણ જાતનું કામ મળતું નથી. રિપોર્ટમાં એમ પણ જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે જંગલના કોન્ટ્રેક્ટરો બહારથી ૫૦ ટકા મજૂરો લાવે છે. આ જંગલના વિસ્તારની અંદર કોન્ટ્રેક્ટરો મોટર અને લોરીઓ વાપરે છે અને તેને પરિણામે ગાડા વાપરવાની કોઈ પણ જાતની તક આ વિસ્તારના રહેવાસીને રહેતી નથી. જે પચાસ ટકા મજૂરો બહારથી લાવવામાં આવતા હોય તો ત્યાંના રહેવાસીની હાલત કેવી થતી હશે? જે વસના ચાર જ મહિના કામ મળતું હોય અને બાકીના આઠ મહિના કામ ન મળી શકે એવી સ્થિતિ હોય તો ત્યાંના લોકો કઈ રીતે પોતાનો જીવનનિર્વાહ ચલાવતા હશે? ત્યારે સવાલ એ ઉભો થાય છે કે આ બાબતમાં સરકાર શું કરવા માગે છે તેનો ખુલાસો કરવાની જરૂર છે. રિપોર્ટમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે સાડા ત્રણ લાખ રૂપિયાના ખર્ચે એક હોસ્પિટલ આખા જિલ્લા માટે બનાવવામાં આવી છે. એમ પણ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે જે જંગલનો ઈજરો મજૂરોની સહકારી મંડળીઓને આપવામાં આવે તો આ પ્રશ્ન કંઈક અંશે ઉકેલી શકાય. પણ વસ્તુ એ છે કે આ પ્રશ્ન ક્યાં આગળ આવીને રાકાયો છે તેની માહિતી જે આ સભાગૃહ પાસે હોત તો વધારે સારી રીતે આ અંગે કહી શકાત. અનુસૂચિત જાતિ અને અનુસૂચિત જનજાતિના કમિશનરનો જ આ અહેવાલ છે તેનાં એકેએક પાન ઉપર નજર કરતાં જણાઈ આવે છે કે આ આખોય સવાલ એની આર્થિક પરિસ્થિતિનો સવાલ છે. આજે એમની પાસે જમીન નથી, એમની પાસે રહેવા માટે ઘરો નથી અને જે ઘરો છે તે પણ નીચાણવાળા ભાગોમાં છે.

સૌરાષ્ટ્રની બાબતમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે ત્યાંની હાઉસિંગ સોસાયટીએ જ ઘરો બાંધ્યા છે તેમાં હવાઉંજસ નથી. તંદુરસ્તી જાળવી શકાય એવી સગવડ નથી. પાચખાના પાસે ઘરો આવેલા છે, ગંદી જગ્યાએ ઘરો છે, પાણી એના ઘરમાં ઘુસી જાય એવી સ્થિતિ છે. તે ઉપરાંત ટીન કે હલકી સામગ્રીમાંથી ઘરો બનાવેલા હોય છે અને પરિણામે એ ટકાઉ હોતા નથી અને મોટા ભાગના ઘરો વરસાદથી ધોવાઈ જાય એવા છે. આ વર્ગના લોકો પાસે આજે ઘરો બાંધવા માટે પૈસા નથી. ઘરો બાંધવાનો પ્રયાસ બહુ ઓછી જગ્યાએ ચાલી રહ્યો છે એમ આ રિપોર્ટ ઉપરથી દેખાઈ આવે છે. આ વર્ગને ઘરો બાંધવા માટે સરકાર તરફથી લોન આપવામાં આવે છે, પણ આ લોનના પૈસા પાછા આપી શકે એવી એની હાલત છે કે નહિ એ પણ એક સવાલ છે. જે લોકોને બાર મહિનામાં માત્ર ચાર જ મહિના કામ મળતું હોય અને એ ચાર મહિનાની મજૂરી ઉપર આખું વર્ષ કાઢવાનું હોય તો એ લોકો સરકારની લોનના પૈસા કઈ રીતે પાછા આપી શકે? જે લોકો ભંગી કામ કરે છે એના પગારને લક્ષમાં લઈને જે એની પાસે રહેવા માટે કોઈ સગવડ ન હોય તો સરકારની એ ફરજ બને છે કે એણે આ લોકોને મફત ઘરો બાંધી આપવા જોઈએ. આ સિવાય આપેલી લોનનું વ્યાજ પણ આપી શકવાની સ્થિતિમાં આ લોકો નથી એમ આ રિપોર્ટ ઉપરથી જણાઈ આવે છે.

[શ્રી રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

આ ઉપરાંત રિપોર્ટમાં આ વર્ગને માટે ઉદ્યોગધંધા અંગે અને રોજગારી અંગે જે કેટલીક જગ્યાએ પ્રયાસો ચાલી રહ્યા છે તે બાબત વર્ણન કરવામાં આવ્યું છે.

રિપોર્ટના ૮મા પાના ઉપર સૌરાષ્ટ્ર અંગેની કેટલીક વિગતો આપવામાં આવી છે:—

“ બજારોમાં હું અનુસૂચિત જાતિના લગ્નમાં ફર્યાદી ત્યાં મને ગરમ કપડું વણવામાં હોયિયાર એવી અનુસૂચિત જાતિ જોવા મળી. એ લોકોને વધારે તાલીમ અને માર્ગદર્શનની જરૂર છે. કારણ કે એ લોકો અત્યારે જે કાપડ બનાવે છે તે પૂરતું બારિક અને સુંવાળું નથી હોતું. આજ રીતે કુંડલામાં હું વણકરોની સહકારી મંડળીના સદસ્યોને મળ્યો. આ લોકો પાસે પોતાના તૈયાર માલ માટે બજાર નથી અને પૈસા તેમજ હાથે કાંતેલા સુતરની તંગી છે એવી તેમની ફરિયાદ હતી.”

એટલે આવા તો અનેક દાખલા મળી આવે છે. ચામડાના ધંધા ચાલે છે ત્યાં પૈસાની તંગી ઉપરાંત બજાર મેળવવાની મુશ્કેલી તથા પાણીની તંગી હોય છે. બીજાં સાધનોની પણ તંગી હોય છે. જે લોકોને થોડીઘણી જમીન આપવામાં આવી છે, એ લોકો પાસે બળદ, બિયારણ અને ખાતર વગેરે માટે પૈસાની સગવડ હોતી નથી. એક કારખાનાનો દાખલો આપવામાં આવ્યો છે કે તે કારખાનામાં જે ખાતર થાય છે, તે બીજે થાય છે તેના કરતાં પુષ્કળ મોંઘું પડે છે; અને પરિણામે એ ધંધો નુટી પડે છે. જે કે હું આ બાબતમાં બહુ વિસ્તૃત રીતે નહિ કહું, પણ જે પશુ-ઉછરનો ધંધો છે તેને અંગે પશુઓ ચરાવવા માટે જગ્યા પણ મળતી નથી. એટલે આ લોકો ધંધો કરી શકે એને માટે સ્ટેટ તરફથી સગવડતા કરી આપવી જોઈએ. અને સાથે સાથે રાજ્ય તરફથી એવી ખાતરી આપવી જોઈએ કે એ લોકો જે ઉપજ કરશે, તે ઉપજ ઉપર તેમનો પોતાનો અધિકાર રહેશે, આમ થશે તો જ આ પ્રશ્નનો કાંઈક અંશે ઉકેલ થઈ શકશે. સૌથી માટે પ્રશ્ન મને લાગે છે તે જમીનનો પ્રશ્ન છે. આ અંગે હું જે કેટલાંક સૂચનો કરવા માગું છું તે એ છે કે જે ગ્રામ વિસ્તારોમાં વધુ પડતી જમીન હોય, તે જમીન, જમની પાસે જમીન નથી અથવા તો ઓછી જમીન છે, એવા નીચલા થરના ખેડૂતો વચ્ચે વહેંચી આપવી જોઈએ. આને માટે જે ગ્રામ કમિટીઓ છે, એ ગ્રામ કમિટીઓ દ્વારા વહેંચણી થવી જોઈએ.

બીજે પ્રશ્ન એ છે કે જમીન વગરના અને ગરીબ ખેડૂતોના દેવાં માફ કરવાં જોઈએ. કારણ કે આ જે પ્રશ્ન છે, તેમાં જાણીએ આવે છે કે આખાં દેવાં શાહુકારોનાં અને ઈજારદારોનાં છે; અને એમના પંજમાં આ નીચલા થરના લોકો ફસાયેલા છે; અને દેવાંને કારણે અર્ધ-ગુલામી જેવી સ્થિતિમાં સપાડાયેલા છે. આવા તો અનેક દાખલા બને છે. આ અંગે મેં સુરતનો દાખલો આપ્યો હતો. એટલે આ દેવાં માફ કરી, એ લોકોની રૂબરૂમુક્તિ કરી જ્યાંસુધી આ પ્રશ્નનો ઉકેલ કરવામાં નહિ આવે, ત્યાંસુધી આ લોકોની સ્થિતિ સુધરવાની નથી. આ માફ બીજું સૂચન છે.

બીજું, એ લોકો ઉપર જે મહેસૂલ બાકી હોય, તે માફ કરવી જોઈએ, રદ કરવી જોઈએ. ત્રીજું સૂચન એ છે કે આજે જમીન ઉપરની જે મહેસૂલની પ્રથા છે, તેમાં ફેરફાર કરવાની જરૂર છે; અને એની જગ્યાએ ઉત્પન્ન ઉપર એવી રીતનો કર નાખવો જોઈએ, કે જે મહેસૂલના અડધા ઉપરાંત ન હોવો જોઈએ. એટલે કે ઉત્પન્ન ઉપર કર લેવાવો જોઈએ. આનું કારણ એ છે કે ખાસ કરીને બહુ નાની જમીનવાળા અને જનજાતિના ખેડૂતો ગરીબ છે અને તેઓની સંખ્યા બહુ મોટી છે. એમની સાથે આ વર્ગ બહુ સંકળાયેલો છે. બીજા ધંધાદારીઓ હોય છે, એ લોકોને ત્રણ હજાર રૂપિયા કે તેથી વધુ આવક ઉપર ઇન્કમ-ટેક્સ વગેરે ટેક્સો આપવા પડે છે, જ્યારે ખેડૂતોને તો પાક થાય કે ન થાય, તો પણ મહેસૂલ તો ભરવી જ પડે છે. એટલે વસ્તુસ્થિતિ એ છે કે મહેસૂલની બાબતમાં સરકારે “ ઉત્પન્ન ઉપર કર ” એ રીતની મહેસૂલ પદ્ધતિ અપનાવવી જોઈએ; અને ખેતીનું ઉત્પાદન જેમ જેમ વધતું જાય તેમ કરનું પ્રમાણ વધે તે રીતે એના ઉપર કર નાખવો જોઈએ; તો જ આ બાબતમાં કાંઈક અંશે સુધારો થઈ શકે એમ છે. એ ઉપરાંત એ લોકોને વિનાવ્યાજે લાંબા વખત સુધીની લોન આપવા માટેની વ્યવસ્થા કરી આપવી જોઈએ. ઘરો બાંધવા માટે અને બીજાં કારણોસર જે લોન સહકારી મંડળીઓ દ્વારા આપવામાં આવે છે, તે અંગે હકીકત એમ બને છે કે જે લોકોને એ લોન લેવાની હોય,

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

એ લોકોએ લોનની રકમની સામે ઘર કે ખેતર જે કાંઈ હોય, તે લખી આપવું પડે છે. નહિતર એ લોન સામાન્ય ખેડૂતને મળી શકતી નથી. એટલે આમાં સવાલ એ છે કે જે લોકો નાના નાના ઉદ્યોગ કરીને પોતાની રોજી કમાવા માગતા હોય, અથવા તો જે લોકો પોતાની નાની એવી જમીન ઉપર ખેતી કરી હોરઠાંકર વગેરેની સગવડતા કરવા માગતા હોય; એ લોકોને નાણાંની જરૂર પડે ત્યારે તેમને સરકારી લોન મળતી નથી માટે તેઓને માટે શાહુકારો પાસે જવા સિવાય બીજે કોઈ રસ્તો રહેતો નથી. એટલે જ્યાંસુધી એ લોકોને સરકાર તરફથી લાંબા વખત માટે વિનાવ્યાજે લોન મળે એવી વ્યવસ્થા કરી આપવામાં નહિ આવે, ત્યાંસુધી કોઈ પણ રીતે એ લોકોનું કલ્યાણ થઈ શકવાનું નથી. કારણ કે આજે વસ્તુસ્થિતિ એ છે કે એ લોકો જે રકમ શાહુકારો પાસેથી કરજ લે છે, એનું વ્યાજ પણ એ લોકો ભરી શકતા નથી; આ ખાસ કરીને ઉધારી ઉપર નભનારો વર્ગ છે; અને તેને પરિણામે એ લોકો ઉપર બહુ મોટાં દેવાં થઈ ગયાં છે. એટલે પોતાની પાસે રહ્યું સહ્યું જે કાંઈ હોય છે, એ પણ એ લોકોને વ્યાજ પેટે ગુમાવી દેવું પડે છે. એટલે જે આપણે એ લોકોને શાહુકારોના દેવામાંથી મુક્ત કરવા માગતા હોઈએ, તો એ લોકોને લાંબા વખત માટેની વગર વ્યાજની લોન આપવાની વ્યવસ્થા કરી આપવી જોઈએ.

એ ઉપરાંત પાણીની વ્યવસ્થા પણ કરી આપવાની જરૂર છે. ડાંગનો જે રિપોર્ટ છે, એની અંદર જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે પાણી મળી શકે તેમ નથી, લોકોને પીવાના પાણીની પણ મુશ્કેલી છે. એટલા માટે સરકારે ઊંડા બોરીંગના કૂવા ખોદી લોકો માટે પીવાના પાણીની સગવડતા કરી આપવી જોઈએ. તે ઉપરાંત જે લોકોને જમીન માટે સિંચાઈના પાણીની જરૂર હોય, એ લોકોને સિંચાઈના પાણી માટે પણ વ્યવસ્થા કરી આપવી જોઈએ. એકલા ડાંગ માટેની આવાત નથી, પણ આખા ધ મુંબઈ રાજ્યની વાત છે.

બીજું, યોજનાઓ માટે જે કર લેવાય છે, એ બંધ કરવા જોઈએ. ખાસ કરીને પછાત વર્ગના અને લેન્ડલેસ લેબર્સ છે, નાની નાની જમીનવાળા ખેડૂતો છે, જનજાતિના અને હરિજન વર્ગના માણસો છે, તે લોકોને અનેક પ્રકારના કર આપવા પડે છે, તે કરમાંથી તેઓને મુક્તિ આપવી જોઈએ.

બીજું, ગામડે ગામડે ખેતી ઉપયોગી ચીજ પૂરી પાડવા માટે પણ પ્રબંધ કરવો જરૂરી છે. કારણ કે આજે વસ્તુસ્થિતિ એ છે કે અનાજ, બિયારણ ઉપરાંત એમના જીવનની જરૂરિયાતની વસ્તુ એ લોકોને બહુ મોંઘા ભાવે મળે છે. એ લોકોની અજ્ઞાનતાને કારણે દુકાનદારો સામાન્ય ભાવ કરતા બહુ મોંઘા ભાવે માલ વેચે છે. એટલા માટે સસ્તા અનાજની દુકાનોની વ્યવસ્થા કરી આપવી જોઈએ. બિયારણની જોગવાઈ પણ કરી આપવી જોઈએ. જે કે આ રિપોર્ટની અંદર એને અંગેનો ઉલ્લેખ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે, એમાં જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે કોઈ કોઈ ઠેકાણે આ પ્રમાણે વ્યવસ્થા થયેલી છે. એ ઉપરાંત લોકોને કામ આપવા માટે આજે ગામેગામે રસ્તા તૈયાર કરાવવા જોઈએ. ખેતમજૂરોનો જે મોટો વર્ગ છે તેમની સ્થિતિ ઘણી કફોડી છે; અને તેથી કરીને તેઓને માટે ઓછામાં ઓછી રોજીનું પ્રમાણ નક્કી કરવાની વ્યવસ્થા સરકારે કરી આપવી જોઈએ. એ ઉપરાંત પાણી અંગે દર ૨૫ ઘર દીઠ એક કૂવો કરવાની વ્યવસ્થા થાય તો જ પાણીનો પ્રશ્ન ઉકેલી શકાય તેમ છે. અસ્પૃશ્યતા નિવારણની તેમજ બીજી બધી પ્રવૃત્તિઓ ગામડાઓમાં ચાલી રહી હોવા છતાં પાણીનો પ્રશ્ન ઘણો કપરો છે અને તેને લીધે મારપીટના અસંખ્ય બનાવો બને છે અને લોકોને પાણીની સખત હાડમારી ભોગવવી પડે છે. એટલે જ્યાંસુધી ૨૫ ઘર દીઠ એક કૂવો કરવાની વ્યવસ્થા કરવામાં નહિ આવે, ત્યાંસુધી આ પાણીનો પ્રશ્ન છે, તે હલ થઈ શકે તેમ નથી.

તે ઉપરાંત નાની નાની જમીનની પુરાણી વ્યવસ્થા છે, તેને બદલે મોટાં ફાર્મ્સ બનાવવાં જોઈએ, કે જે ફાર્મ્સ ઉપર એ લોકોને બહુ મોટા પ્રમાણમાં કામ મળી શકે. જે પડતર જમીન છે, તે પડતર જમીન ઉપર ખેતમજૂરોને મજૂરીના ઠીક દર મળી રહે તે રીતે મોટાં સરકારી ફાર્મ્સના ગોઠવણ કરવી જોઈએ. આ રીતની વ્યવસ્થા કરવામાં આવશે, તો ઉત્પાદનની બાબતમાં પણ એ લોકોને તાલીમ મળશે; અને રોજીનો જે સવાલ છે, એનો પણ ઉકેલ થઈ જશે; અને વધુ અનાજ ઉગાડવાની જે પ્રવૃત્તિ છે, તેને પણ મદદ મળી શકશે.

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

ખેડૂતોને સરકારી સહાયના શિક્ષણ દ્વારા ખેતીની બાબતમાં સહકારી પ્રથા દાખલ કરવી જોઈએ. ખેતીમાં વૈજ્ઞાનિક પ્રયાનું અવલંબન કરવું જોઈએ એટલે કે વૈજ્ઞાનિક પદ્ધતિ ખેતીમાં દાખલ કરવા કોશિષ કરવી જોઈએ. સહકારી પદ્ધતિએ ખરીદ અને વેચાણની વ્યવસ્થા કરવી જોઈએ. કારણ કે જે ગૃહ-ઉદ્યોગોની વાત અહીં કરવામાં આવી છે એ માટે રિપોર્ટમાં જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે ગૃહ-ઉદ્યોગોની જે માલ બનાવવામાં આવે છે તેના ખરીદ અને વેચાણ માટે કોઈ પણ જાતની વ્યવસ્થા નથી. એટલે ખરીદી અને વેચાણ માટે પણ સહકારી પ્રથા દાખલ કરવી જોઈએ અને એ રીતે માલ વેચાઈ જશે એની ખાતરી આ ઉત્પાદક વર્ગને મળી રહેવી જોઈએ. આ ઉપરાંત સરકારી સહાયથી ગૃહ-ઉદ્યોગો ઉભા કરવાની પ્રથા ઉભી કરવી જોઈએ.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member should confine his remarks to the conditions of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes only.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ: એટલે આ જે મુદ્દાઓ છે તે મુદ્દાઓનો જો અમલ કરવામાં આવશે તો ખાસ કરીને આ જેઓ બેકવર્ડ ગણાય છે, જેઓ પછાત વર્ગમાં ગણાય છે તેઓની ઉન્નતિમાં મહત્વનો ભાગ ભજવશે. આજે આ લોકો પછાત હોવાનું કારણ મોટા ભાગે એ છે કે આજે તેમની પાસે કોઈ આર્થિક સાધન નથી, પગભર રહેવા માટે કોઈ ઈલાજ નથી. આજે એમને સરકારની મદદ નથી એટલા માટે તેઓ પછાત છે. હું જ્યારે ખેડૂતોની વાત કરું છું ત્યારે આ પછાત વર્ગનો મોટો ભાગ ખેતી કરનાર અને ખેતીની સાથે જોડાયેલો વર્ગ છે તેને નજર સમક્ષ રાખીને કહું છું. મને લાગે છે કે આ પ્રશ્ન છે એ આર્થિક પ્રશ્ન છે. આ વર્ગને મજૂરી કેવી રીતે મળી શકે, ખેતીમાં કંઈ પ્રથાનો બંદોબસ્ત થઈ શકે, ખેતી કંઈ રીતે સુધરી શકે તે ઉપર ભાર મૂકવાની જરૂર છે.

પછાત વર્ગના લોકોના સ્વાસ્થ્ય અંગે પણ રિપોર્ટમાં જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે. આજે તેમને બાર મહિનામાં થોડાક મહિના જ કામ મળે છે અને જ પગાર મળે છે તે પણ ઓછો મળે છે. પરિણામે જે આ લોકોનો ખોરાક હલકો અને સ્ટફ વગરનો હોય છે અને એની અસર એના સ્વાસ્થ્ય ઉપર પડે છે એમ જણાઈ આવે છે. ખાસ કરીને મહારાષ્ટ્રના ગામોમાં પાણીના જંગુવાળા અને બીજા રોગોથી લોકો આજે પીડાતા હોય છે. આ ઉપરાંત પેટેના રોગો અને બીજા રોગો પણ આ વર્ગમાં પ્રબળ બને છે. આ માટે હોસ્પિટલની વ્યવસ્થા ઉપર ખાસ ભાર આપવો જોઈએ તેવું મારું સૂચન છે.

શિક્ષણ બાબતમાં અહીંયા રિપોર્ટમાં છેલ્લા પાનાઓ ઉપર જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે, ગુજરાતી રિપોર્ટના પાના ૪૦ થી ૪૭ છે તેમાં જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે, કે સ્કૂલોની સંખ્યા દિવસે દિવસે ઘટતી જાય છે. ૧૯૫૨માં ૧૩૬૪ની જે સંખ્યા હતી તે ૧૯૫૩માં ૧૩૫૮ જેટલી થઈ છે. તે ઉપરાંત નાશિક, સુરત, પંચમહાલ અને વડોદરા જિલ્લાઓમાં અનુક્રમે ૧૦૬, ૭૧, ૫૮ અને ૩૮ શાળાનો ઘટાડો થયો છે. ભરૂચ, પશ્ચિમ ખાનદેશ અને સાબરકાંઠા જિલ્લાઓમાં અનુક્રમે ૬૮, ૩૬ અને ૩૪ જેટલી પ્રાથમિક શાળાનો વધારો થયો છે. માધ્યમિક શાળાઓ માટે પણ એ પાના ઉપર જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે ૧૯૫૨ની અંદર ૭૩૩ જેટલી સ્કૂલોની સંખ્યા હતી તે ૧૯૫૩માં ૫૬૧ જેટલી થઈ છે. આ બતાવે છે કે માધ્યમિક શાળાની સંખ્યા પણ ઓછી થઈ ગઈ છે. બીજે ઠેકાણે પણ શાળાની સંખ્યા જે ૨૮ હતી તે ઘટીને ૨૩ની થઈ છે. શિષ્યવૃત્તિ મેળવતા વિદ્યાર્થીઓની સંખ્યા જે ૧૩૬ ની હતી તે પણ ૭૩ જેટલી થઈ છે. સરકારનું આ બાબતમાં કેટલું દુર્લક્ષ છે તે આ ઉપરથી જણાઈ આવે છે. આજે આપણે જ્યારે પછાત વર્ગના વિદ્યાર્થીઓને શિક્ષણ આપવા માગીએ છીએ ત્યારે બીજી તરફથી પ્રાથમિક અને માધ્યમિક શાળાઓની સંખ્યા પણ ઘટતી જાય છે. આનો અર્થ એ થયો કે નાની ઉંમરના બાળકોને મજૂરી તરફ વળવું પડે છે. કારણકે આજે એ સિવાય એની પાસે બીજા કોઈ રસ્તો નથી. અને પરિણામે સમાજના માથે આજે જે આ કલંક છે તે દૂર થઈ શકતું નથી. માત્ર અસ્પૃશ્યતા નિવારણના સપ્તાહો ઉજવવાથી, માત્ર મંદિરોમાં હરિજનોનો પ્રવેશ કરાવવાથી અથવા તો બોજન સમારંભો ગોઠવવાથી કે થોડી લોન મળે એવી જાતની વ્યવસ્થા કરવાથી આ પ્રશ્નનો ઉકેલ

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

આવી જશે એમ માનવામાં આવતું હોય તેમ દેખાય છે. આખો રિપોર્ટ જોતાં મને લાગે છે કે આખા જે જે મૂળ પ્રશ્ન છે તે પ્રશ્ન બેરોજગારીનો પ્રશ્ન છે. જમીન વગરના બેઠાલ થઈ ગયેલા જે નીચલા થરના લોકો છે એમાંના આ લોકો છે તેમ જણાઈ આવે છે. સરકારની એમને માટેની આર્થિક પોલીસી શું છે? એમને જમીન આપવા બાબતમાં, એમના માટે ઘરો બાંધવા બાબતમાં, વગર વ્યાજ લોન આપવા બાબતમાં, શિક્ષણ આપવા બાબતમાં, એમના સ્વાસ્થ્ય બાબતમાં—આ બધી બાબતમાં સરકારની શું નીતિ છે? આ રિપોર્ટમાંથી સ્પષ્ટ થાય છે કે આ બધી બાબતોમાં સરકાર બહુ દુર્લક્ષ સેવી રહી છે. અને તેથી કરીને આજે પછાત વર્ગ છે તે માત્ર પછાત રહે છે. આ રિપોર્ટની બાબતમાં મારે છેલ્લે એટલું જ કહેવાનું છે કે આજે આખો પ્રશ્ન છે એ એમની આર્થિક સ્થિતિનો પ્રશ્ન છે અને તે ઉપર સરકાર લક્ષ આપે એવી વિનંતી કરું છું.

શ્રી એચ. ડી. અવોઢે (બમ્બઈ વિધાન સભા દ્વારા નિર્વાચિત): અધ્યક્ષ મહાશય, શેઢચૂલ્ડ કાસ્ટ ઓર શેઢચૂલ્ડ ટ્રાઇન્જ કી સન્ ૧૯૫૫ કી રિપોર્ટ જો ૨૭ માર્ચ કો ચર્ચા કે લિયે પ્રસ્તુત કી જાને વાલી થી, યકાયક માલૂમ ઢુઆ કિ આજ ઉસપર ચર્ચા હોની હૈ જિસકે કારણ પર્યાપ્ત તૈયારી ન કર સકા.

માનનીય સદસ્ય શ્રીમાન પાટિલ સાહેબ ને જિન સંસ્થાઓં કી વ્યવસ્થા કે બારે મેં ગમ્મીર આરોપ લગાઈ હૈં ઉસપર મેં અનુરોધ કરુંગા કિ હમારી સરકાર જો સંસદીય લોકસાહી પર વિસ્વાસ કરતી હૈં જાંચ કાયમ કરે. મુક્ષે વિસ્વાસ હૈં યદિ જાંચ કાયમ કી જાઈ તો પૈસે કે દુરુપયોગ કા પતા લગ જાઈગા. હમ સબૂત દેને મેં સમર્થ હૈં કિ હજારોં નહીં લાક્ષોં રૂપયા અસ્પૃશ્યતા નિવારણ કે નામ સે દિયા જાતા હૈં ઓર વહ ઉસ કાર્ય મેં ન લગાયા જાકર બર્બાદ કિયા જાતા હૈં.

યહ રિપોર્ટ જો સભાગૃહ કે સામને સાદર કી ગઈ હૈં ઉસમેં અસ્પૃશ્યતા નિવારણ કે સમ્બન્ધ મેં જિતના ઉલ્લેખ કિયા ગયા હૈં ઉસપર સે યહ સ્પષ્ટ દિખાઈ દેતા હૈં કિ સરકાર કી ઓર કમિશનર કી ઈસી ઇચ્છા નહીં હૈં ઓર ન ઈસી મંશા હૈં કિ “દેશ સે અસ્પૃશ્યતા દૂર હોની યાઈઈ”. “અસ્પૃશ્યતા દેશ કે સામને ઈક સમસ્યા હૈં” ઈસા વે નહીં માનતે. વે ઈસા માનતે હૈં કિ “અસ્પૃશ્ય સમાજ મેં, ઉનપર અત્યાચાર હુઈ હૈં ઉસકે કારણ, જો ચેતનતા ઉત્પન્ન હુઈ હૈં ઓર વહ છટપટા કર સ્વતંત્રતા પ્રાપ્ત કરના યાઈતા હૈં”, ઉસે કૈસે દબાઈ રખના યહ સમસ્યા ઉનકે સામને હૈં. અસ્પૃશ્ય સમાજ જિસ પરિસ્થિતિ મેં અબ તક રહા હૈં, જૈસી ક્ષોપકિયોં મેં ઓર સામાજિક દુર્વંશા મેં અપના જીવન અબતક વ્યતીત કરતા રહા હૈં શાસન ઉસે વૈસેહી અબ થી રખના યાઈતા હૈં. બડે બડે આસ્વાસન દેકર વહ સંસાર કે સામને યહ રખતા હૈં કિ ઉસને ઉનકે ઉદ્ધાર કે લિઈ કિતના અધિક કાર્ય કિયા હૈં. વહ અસ્પૃશ્ય સમાજ કે પ્રગતિ કા અવરોધ કરને કે લિઈ યહ બતલા રહી હૈં કિ ઉનકે ઉદ્ધાર કે લિઈ કોટિ કોટિ રૂપયા સર્ચ કિયા જા રહા હૈં. લેકિન ઉસકે કાર્ય મેં કોઈ નિષ્ઠા નહીં હૈં ઉસકે કાર્ય મેં કોઈ સચ્ચાઈ નહીં હૈં.

પિછલે દિનોં જબ ડા. બાબાસાહેબ અમ્બેડકર ને બૌદ્ધ ધર્મ સ્વીકાર કિયા ઉનકે સાથ અનુસૂચિત જાતિયોં કે બહુત સે લોગોં ને બૌદ્ધ ધર્મ કી દીક્ષા લી. હમારી સરકાર ને ઉનકો મિલનેવાલી સુવિધાઓં કે વિષય મેં જો સ્થિતિ ગ્રહણ કી ઉસમેં ઉસને કહા કિ ૨૧ સાલ સે કમ આયુ વાલે વિદ્યાર્થીયોં ને બૌદ્ધ ધર્મ સ્વીકાર કિયા હૈં ઈસા નહીં સમજા જાયગા ઓર ઉનકો જો સુવિધાઓં પહિલે પ્રાપ્ત થી વે ઉનકો લી જાઈગી. કિન્તુ ઉસકે બાદ હી કૃતિ બિલકુલ ઇસકે ઊલટી હુઈ. છોટે છોટે ઓર નહીં નહીં વિદ્યાર્થી બાલકોં સે કહા ગયા કિ વે ઈસે સર્ટીફિકેટ લાઈ કિ “હમને બૌદ્ધ ધર્મ સ્વીકાર નહીં કિયા હૈં”. પરિણામ યહ ઢુઆ કિ છોટે છોટે ઓર નહીં નહીં વિદ્યાર્થીયોં કો ઇસ પ્રકાર કે સર્ટીફિકેટ

[श्री एच. डी. अवोडे]

प्राप्त करने के लिए इधर उधर भटकना पड़ता था। इन छोटे छोटे और नन्हें नन्हें बालकों को कोर्टों में जाकर यह एफिडेविट प्राप्त करना पड़ता था कि “हमने या हमारे पालकों ने बौद्ध धर्म स्वीकार नहीं किया है”। सरकार ने निर्णय लेने के बाद भी इन बौद्ध और अस्पृश्य विद्यार्थियों को इस बुरी अवस्था में सरकार ने डाल दिया कि जिससे उनको बड़ा कष्ट उठाना पड़ा। हजारों के झुन्ड में विद्यार्थियों को—अपना विद्याभ्यास छोड़कर—चार चार आठ आठ दिन एम. एल. एज., एम. पी. ज. और गेजेटेड आफिसर्स के पीछे उनको भटकना पड़ता था कि उनसे सर्टीफिकेट मिले। इसमें उन्हें कितनी कठिनाई सहन करनी पड़ी और कितना रुपया खर्च करना पड़ा इसका अनुमान करना कठिन है। हजारों की संख्या में भटकते हुए दुखी बालकों को देख लगता था—इस देश की मानवता के साथ छल किया और लज्जा प्रतीत हुई। मुझे लगता है हमारे देश से नीति और न्याय उठ गए। हमारे प्रवर्तनाय” ध्येय वाक्य अपनाया है ऐसे हमारे देश में—नीति और न्याय कायम नहीं है। बौद्ध धर्म स्वीकार करने वालों के बच्चों को जिनकी उमर अभी पूरी नहीं हुई है, छला जाता है। ऐसा व्यवहार करना कितना निन्दनीय है? सरकार की यह नीति ठीक नहीं है।

मैं एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ कि किस प्रकार से अनुसूचित जाति के बच्चों के साथ अन्याय हो रहा है। नागपुर के कुर्वेज न्यू माडेल हाई स्कूल में लोखंडे नाम का एक विद्यार्थी ७ वर्ष से पढ़ रहा है। ७ वर्ष से उसका नाम “हरिजन” करके अंकित गया और उसकी जगह “अनुसूचित जाति” लिखा जाए ऐसा निश्चित किया गया। उसके अनुसार और इस निश्चय के आधार पर ७ वर्ष से “हरिजन” नाम से सम्बोधित लिखाता तब तक उसे अपनी सम्पूर्ण फीस का रुपया देना पड़ेगा। फीस नहीं देगा तो उसे इन्जामिनेशन में बैठने नहीं दिया जाएगा। हेड मास्टर ने ऐसा प्रश्न उपस्थित किया प्रमाणपत्र लाने की खटपट की किन्तु समय पर ऐसा करना उसे सम्भव नहीं हुआ। तब वह बालक फीस लेकर गया लेकिन तब उसको कहा गया कि बाद में जब तुम्हें अनुसूचित जाति का होने का सर्टिफिकेट मिल जायगा तब फीस वापस करनी होगी इस लिए तुम्हारी फीस नहीं लेते। तुम को किसी भी हालत में “हरिजन” शब्द बदल कर उसके बजाए “अनुसूचित जाति” के होने का सर्टीफिकेट लाना पड़ेगा। वह अज्ञान बालक या उसे देहात से अपने बाप को बुलाकर यह प्रतिज्ञालेख लाना था कि वह अनुसूचित जाति का है तब उसकी परेशानी दूर होती। इस प्रकार का छल जानबूझ कर किया जा रहा है।

मैंने जब कभी इस प्रश्न को यहां उठाया तब यही कहा गया कि जो कंसेशन अनुसूचित जाति के बच्चों को मिलते आ रहे हैं वे उन्हें—उनके पालक बौद्ध होने पर भी—का फर्मान भेज दिया गया है। लेकिन जब शिक्षा अधिकारियों को पूछा जाता है तो वे कहते हैं कि इस तरह का कोई फर्मान या आज्ञापत्र नहीं आया।

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इतनी बड़ी रिपोर्ट में यही सब लिखा है कि अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जन जातियों के लिये सरकार की ओर से कोटि कोटि रुपया खर्च किया गया है। पहली पंचवर्षीय योजना में ३९ करोड़ रुपया और दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में ९१ करोड़ रुपया उनके उद्धार के लिये दिए गए हैं। इस प्रकार इन दो योजनाओं में १३० कोटि रुपया अर्बों रुपया अनुसूचित जातियों और जनजातियों के लिए भारत में खर्च किया गया है। बम्बई राज्य के हिस्से में जो रुपया आया वह भी कोटी में आता है इसमें शंका नहीं। परन्तु यह सारा रुपया बिना उनके लिए खर्च हुए सचमुच में बर्बाद हुआ है। हमारे देश के अन्दर आज समाज की जो दुर्व्यवस्था है उसको दूर करने का यथार्थ हल अभी तक अपनाया नहीं गया है। हमारे प्लानिंग कमिशनरों भी इस तरफ कोई कदम नहीं उठाया है। यदि उसने या शासन ने इस ओर कोई कार्य किया होता तो मैं समझता हूँ आज तक अस्पृश्य समाज की जो दुर्गति है वह दूर हो जाती। हमारे देश की सामाजिक व्यवस्थाएँ विचित्र हैं। हमारे यहां कि यह व्यवस्था सदियों पुरानी है। हमारे देश और समाज की रचना जातीयता पर आधारित है। हमारे यहां की ग्राम व्यवस्था भी जातीयता पर आधारित है। इसमें ब्राह्मण, क्षत्रिय, वैश्य और शूद्र ऐसे वर्ण हैं और उनके साथ छोटी मोटी और बहुत सी जातियां और उपजातियां हैं जो सदियों से बनी चली आती हैं। जो धंदे और उद्योग जिनके माथे पर दांध दिए गए हैं वही अब तक चले आ रहे हैं। जो शूद्र कही जाने वाली जाति के लोग हैं वह गरीब हैं, छोटे छोटे झोपड़ों में रहते हैं उनके पास किसी प्रकार की सम्पत्ति प्राप्त करने का उपाय नहीं है। हमारे देश की ग्राम व्यवस्था में, समाज व्यवस्था में, यहां कि अर्थ व्यवस्था में हजारों बरसों से कोई अन्तर नहीं हुआ है। और जितनी भी योजनाएं हमारे सामने आती हैं—अस्पृश्यता निवारण के लिए और अन्य भी—उनमें कोई ऐसी योजना नहीं जिसके द्वारा समाज की ये दुर्व्यवस्थाएँ स्थाई रूप से दूर की जा सकें। वही बात इस कमिशनर की रिपोर्ट में भी साफ दिखाई दे रही है। मैं आपको बतलाना चाहूंगा कि जब तक यहां कि समाज व्यवस्था, यहां की ग्राम व्यवस्था और यहां की अर्थ व्यवस्था में से जातीयता का नाम निशान नहीं निकलता और जातीयता नाम की कोई चीज शेष रहती है तब तक उसका अर्थ यही होगा कि करोड़ों रुपये की सम्पत्ति बर्बाद की जा रही है। करोड़ों रुपया सरकार बर्बाद कर रही है जिससे कोई स्थायी लाभ नहीं हो रहा है। हमारी आगे आने वाली पीढ़ी जब यह देखेगी कि हम लोगों ने किस तरह से हमारी सम्पत्ति को बर्बाद किया है और उससे कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ तो वह हमारे नाम से क्या कहेगी? इस बम्बई राज्य में ५० हजार गांव होंगे जिन में रहने वालों के लिए और अनुसूचित जातियों के लिए भी करोड़ों की सम्पत्ति खर्च की गई; लेकिन लाभ क्या हुआ? क्या कोई ऐसा गांव है जहां घरों की व्यवस्था आधुनिक काल की आवश्यकतानुसार हो, जहां के रहने वाले में ऊंच नीच का भाव न हो सब के सम्मिश्रण पार हों जहां के खेतों की व्यवस्था अच्छे और नए ढंग की बनाई गई हो। ऐसे गांव अगर हम बम्बई राज्य में चिराग लेकर भी ढूँढ़ें तो नहीं मिलेंगे। तब फिर आप ही सोचिए कि हमारी आनेवाली सन्तान इस रुपये के दुरुपयोग को क्या कहेगी?

जिस समाज की रचना जाति के नाम पर आधारित हो और जिसकी सारी अर्थव्यवस्था जातीयता पर कायम हो उसकी ये त्रुटियां आपकी ऊपरी योजनायें नष्ट कैसे कर सकेंगी? इस बात को ध्यान में रख कर काम करना चाहिए। अभी श्रीमान विनोबाजी बम्बई राज्य में आनेवाले हैं इनका स्वागत करने के लिए हमारे मुख्य मंत्री महाशय जाने वाले हैं। उन्होंने ऐसा विज्ञापन दिया है। श्रीमान विनोबाजी द्वारा जिस ग्राम व्यवस्था का प्रचार

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किया जा रहा है—जिसकी वे स्थापना करना चाहते हैं वह वैदिक काल पर आधारित ग्राम व्यवस्था है। इसका वे प्रसार करते हैं। उनका स्वागत करने के लिये हमारे मुख्य मंत्री महाशय जा रहे हैं तो उसका अर्थ यह है कि उनके तत्व का और उनके सिद्धांतों का हमारे मुख्य मंत्री जी प्रतिपादन और पुरस्कृत करते हैं। मैं यह कहूंगा कि जिस तरह की ग्राम व्यवस्था श्रीमान विनोबाजी करने वाले हैं यदि वैसी ग्राम व्यवस्था हो गई तो वह देश का दुर्दैव होगा। क्योंकि वह हमारी आज की जो गांव की दुर्व्यवस्था है उसको दूर करना नहीं चाहते और न गांधीजी उसे दूर करना चाहते थे और न विनोबाजी करना चाहते हैं। उनका तो चतुर्वर्ण पर विश्वास है। वे पुरानी जातीय व्यवस्था को आधुनिक करना चाहते हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में मैं नहीं समझता कि आखिर इस तरह गैर सरकारी तत्वहीन कार्य को सरकार पुरस्कृत क्यों करना चाहती है और उसके लिए हमारे मुख्य मंत्री उनका स्वागत करने के लिए क्यों जाते हैं। इसमें बड़ा धोका मालूम पड़ रहा है। मैं अत्यंत नम्रता पूर्वक बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि हमें यह देखना चाहिए कि इस प्रकार की बातें अब हमारे देश में न होने पावे।

पुनः मैं आपसे अनुरोध करूंगा कि आज हमारे देश में सबसे बड़ा कार्य ग्रामों में जो अव्यवस्था है उसे दूर करने का है। उसे अब हाथ में लेना बहुत आवश्यक है। आज हमें आदर्श ग्रामों का निर्माण करना चाहिए। अस्पृश्यता निवारण कार्य का बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा भी आदर्श ग्राम निर्माण में समाविष्ट हो जाता है। ग्राम सुधार के सर्व साधारण कार्य में ही अस्पृश्यता निवारण का बहुतसा कार्य हम कर सकेंगे। कम्युनिटी प्रोजेक्ट्स और नेशनल एक्स्टेंशन सर्विस स्कीमों में भी इस दृष्टि से कोई योजना या आयोजन नहीं किया गया। हमें ऐसे ग्रामों का निर्माण करना है जिनमें ऊँच-नीच, छुत-अछुत की भावना न हो। आधुनिक व्यवस्था की दृष्टि रखते हुये घर, सड़कें आदि बनी हों। खेती की आधुनिक रीति अपनाई गई हो। यदि सरकार इस कार्य को करे तो मैं आवाहन देता हूँ कि जिन लोगों को रहने के लिए ग्रामों में आज मकान नहीं है उनके लिए मकान बनवाने, भ्रमदान का नया कार्य शुरू करने हजारों नहीं लाखों की सेना में सरकार की सहायता के लिए पुरस्कृत कर सकता हूँ। इससे ग्रामों का उद्धार भी होगा और जिन लोगों को आज उद्योग नहीं है उनको उद्योग भी मिलेगा। सरकार यदि इन लोगों की सहायता के लिये १ करोड़ रुपये देती हो तो मैं आश्वासन देता हूँ कि भ्रमदान के रूप में मैं १० करोड़ रुपये की संपत्ति इस कार्य के लिये सरकार को दे सकता हूँ। सरकार यह कार्य हमारे सहकार्य और दूरदर्शिता से अब शुरू करें। तभी यह ग्राम सुधार और अस्पृश्यता का कार्य करना संभव हो सकता है। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि आज की इस चर्चा का यह परिणाम हो कि सरकार यह जो कोटि कोटि रुपये इन अस्थाई और अपरीणामकारक योजनाओं पर खर्च कर रही है—उन सब योजनाओं को अब इस दृष्टि से दुरुस्त कर जो लोग आज दुर्दशा में रहते हैं उन लोगों का दुःख निवारण करने की योजना हाथ में ले। इससे न केवल हम इन गरीब लोगों का सहयोग प्राप्त कर सकेंगे बल्कि उन्हें हम समाधान भी मिला देने में समर्थ हो सकेंगे। मैं सरकार को यह बतला देना चाहता हूँ कि आज जिनके पास संपत्ति नहीं है वे हजारों देश के निर्माण कार्यके लिए अपना पसीना बहाने के लिए तैयार हैं। इस तरह की कोटि कोटि की सम्पत्ति आज सरकार को जब उपलब्ध हो सकती है उसकी अवहेलना नहीं करना चाहिये। लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि इन लोगों से सचमुच में सहकार्य ही नहीं लिया जाता है। ये लोग जब सहकार्य देने के लिये, भ्रमदान करने के लिए लालाश्त हैं तो उनको ठुकरा दिया जाता है। इस तरह की दुर्दशा किसी भी देश में नहीं मिलेगी। इसलिये मैं नम्रतापूर्वक अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश के नव निर्माण में इस लाखों के दल का सहकार्य सरकार लेवे यदि सरकार उनसे सहकार्य चाहती हो और मैं चाहता हूँ

[श्री. एच. डी. अवोडे]

कि सरकारने उस दृष्टि से अब प्रयत्न करना चाहिये तो उसे सहकार्य मिलेगा। सरकार अपनी संपत्ति तथ्यहीन योजनाओं में न लगावे और आदर्श ग्राम निर्माण कराने में ही उपयोग में लावे तो हमारे ग्राम सुधर सकते हैं। यहां की जातीय अर्थ व्यवस्था, सामाजिक व्यवस्था और ग्राम व्यवस्था बदल सकती है। जब ऐसा होगा तभी सच्चे अर्थ में ग्रामों की उन्नति होगी। आज सदियों से गाँवों में अस्पृश्य समाज कुचला जा रहा है। डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकरने देश के अस्पृश्य और बौद्ध समाज में संसदीय लोकशाही पर अट श्रद्धा निर्माण करके देश पर अत्यंत उपकार किये हैं। वे न होते तो इतना पीड़ित और वंचित समाज न जाने किस दाम मार्ग से जाता किन्तु उनके कारण यह समाज अपना सर्वस्व अर्पण करके संसदीय लोकशाही के लिये राष्ट्र निर्माण के कार्य में सहयोग दे रहा है। इस समाज ने बहुत दिन तकलीफ उठाई है। इस समाज की सहनशीलता का दुरुपयोग किया जा रहा है, सहकार्य का हाथ दूर किया जाता है। जिन देशों में लोगों की सहनशीलता का दुरुपयोग हुआ है उन देशों में उसके परिणाम भी भयंकर हुए हैं। अपना ही देश कबतक अपवाद होगा। आज सदियों से यह जब हो रहा है तो इसके भी परिणाम भयंकर हो सकते हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ ऐसा न हो कि यह समाज जो सदियों से अपने हकों से वंचित रहा है वह मजबूरन यह लोकशाही का मार्ग छोड़कर किसी दूसरे मार्ग से जाना पसंद कर ले। इस बात को अत्यंत कटाक्ष से ध्यान में रखना चाहिये। मैं नम्रतापूर्वक इस सभागृह और सरकार से अनुरोध करूंगा कि वह मध्यवर्ती सरकार से इस योजना पर पुनर् विचार करने के लिए कहे और मैंने जो ग्राम पिकास संबंधी योजना बताई है उस प्रकार की योजना शुरू करने का हर तरह का प्रयत्न करे जिससे हमारी आगे आनेवाली पीढ़ियाँ यह कह सकें कि हमारे पूर्वजों ने हमारे लिये कुछ ऐसा काम किया जो स्थायी है और उसकी वजह से वे अपने को उन्नत बना सकें। धन्यवाद।

श्री. डी. बी. आगरवाल (महाराष्ट्र साउथ—लोकल ऑथॉरिटीज): अस्पृश्य, वनजाती आदि इतर मागासलेल्या लोकांबंधी हा जो अहवाल आपल्यापुढे चर्चेसाठी आलेला आहे त्या संबंधांमि मी आपले विचार मांडण्यासाठी उभा आहे. ह्या वेळी, अस्पृश्यता निवारणासाठी सरकारने केलेल्या कायद्याची जी अंमलबजावणी आज चालू आहे, त्या संबंधांमि कांहीं गोष्टींकडे मला सरकारचे लक्ष वेधावयाचे आहे.

मला असे आढळून आले आहे की, अस्पृश्यता निवारणासाठी सरकारने जे निरनिराळे कायदे केले आहेत त्यांची अंमलबजावणी नीट होत नाही. पुण्याला बँकवर्डक्लास ऑफिसरचे ऑफिस आहे. सर्व प्रकारच्या मागासलेल्या जातीच्या लोकांना शैक्षणिक सवलती देण्याचे काम ह्या ऑफिसमध्ये चालते. पण त्या ऑफिसमध्ये गेल्यानंतर असे आढळून येते की काम बरोबर केले जात नाही. मी कॅंटोनमेंटमध्ये राहात असल्यामुळे तेथील एक उदाहरण मी सभागृहाच्या माहितीसाठी सांगणार आहे. कॅंटोनमेंटमध्ये अस्पृश्य मुलांच्या पहिल्या मराठी चार इयत्ता पूर्ण झाल्यानंतर त्याच्या पुढचे शिक्षण फुकट मिळावे यासाठी सवलत मागण्यासाठी ही मूल बँकवर्डक्लास ऑफिसरच्या ऑफिसमध्ये जातात, पण कॅंटोनमेंटच्याच मागण्यासाठी ही मूल बँकवर्डक्लास ऑफिसरच्या ऑफिसमध्ये जातात, पण कॅंटोनमेंटच्याच शाळेत पुढे शिक्षण घेण्याची सवलत देण्याऐवजी ह्या ऑफिसकडून ह्या मुलांना कॉंपरिशनच्या शाळेत जाण्यास सांगण्यात येते. वास्तविक, त्या मुलांवर हा एक प्रकारचा अन्याय आहे. माझ्या माहिती प्रमाणे एकाद्या शाळेत अस्पृश्य समाजातला मुलगा शिक्षण घेऊ इच्छित असेल तर सरकार त्या शाळेला त्या मुलाची फी देते अशी व्यवस्था आहे. असे असतोना ह्या ऑफिसकडून ह्या सवलती का नाकारण्यात येतात हे मला समजत नाही.

त्याचप्रमाणे ह्या वर्गातील लोकांवर सरकारी नोकरीच्या बाबतीतहि अन्याय करण्यात येतो. माझ्या माहितीप्रमाणे ह्या लोकांना सरकारी नोकरीत १११ टक्क्यांचा क्वोटा सरकारने रिझर्व्हड म्हणून ठरवून दिलेला आहे, पण हा क्वोटा मुंबई सरकारकडून पाळला जात नाही

[श्री. डी. वी. आगरवाल]

असा अनुभव आहे. जर पाळला जातच असेल तर तो खालच्या दर्जाच्या जागांच्या बाबतीत. पाळला जात आहे. हा अहवाल हिंदुस्थान सरकारमार्फत हिंदुस्थानातील सर्व अस्पृश्य, वन्य जाती व इतर मागासलेल्या वर्गाबद्दल असल्यामुळे हिंदुस्थान सरकारने ह्या बाबतीत जो क्वोटा ठरवून दिला आहे तो त्या प्रमाणात अमलात आणला पाहिजे. पण प्रत्यक्ष हा क्वोटा पुरा केला जात नाही असाच अनुभव आहे. मध्यवर्ती सरकारमध्ये हि ज्या नोकऱ्या ह्या रिझर्वेशनप्रमाणे दिल्या जातात त्या खालच्या कनिष्ठ दर्जाच्या जागांवर दिल्या जातात. क्लास १ च्या जागांच्या बाबतीत हा क्वोटा पुरा केला जात नाही. माझे म्हणणे असे आहे की मी जरी स्पृश्य जमातीत जन्माला आलो नसलो तरी अस्पृश्य समाजामध्ये मी नेहमी फिरतो, त्यांच्यामध्ये काम करतो, त्यामुळे मला त्यांच्या काय अडचणी आहेत हे समजू शकते. मी तर अशी सूचना करू इच्छितो की, सर्वत्र हिंदुस्थानात ज्या १०-११ गव्हर्नरांच्या जागा होईल. माझी ही सूचना मुंबई सरकारने हिंदुस्थान सरकारकडे पाठविली तर ते योग्य होईल. गव्हर्नरच्या जागेवर जर अस्पृश्य माणसाला नेमले तर तो ते काम कार्यक्षमतेने करू शकेल काय, असा एक आक्षेप येतला जाण्याचा संभव आहे, पण मी असे म्हणून की, अशी शंका आपण येता कामा नये. यावर माझे उत्तर असे आहे की, ह्या वर्गातील लोकांना आपण पिढ्यान् पिढ्या तुच्छतेने वागविले आहे ही जाणीव ठेवून, जरी ह्या माणसाच्या अंगी थोडीशी कमी कार्यक्षमता असली आणि त्यामुळे आपले थोडेसे नुकसान होत असले तरी, त्यांना सवलती देऊन सांभाळून घेणे हे आपले कर्तव्य आहे.

ह्या बाबतीत दुसरा एक महत्वाचा मुद्दा असा आहे की, घटनेप्रमाणे मागासलेल्या जमातींना ज्या सवलती दिलेल्या आहेत त्या १९६० सालानंतर आपोआप नाहीशा होणार आहेत. अध्यक्ष महाराज, ह्या अहवालावर चर्चा करीत असतांना मी अशी सूचना करू इच्छितो की, ह्या सवलती १९६० सालानंतर बंद करण्याऐवजी त्या त्यापुढे आणखी १० वर्षेपर्यंत चालू ठेवण्यांत याव्यात.

यानंतर गलिच्छ वस्त्यांचा प्रश्न आपल्यापुढे उभा आहे. सरकार गलिच्छ वस्त्या स्वच्छ करण्याचा प्रयत्न करित असले तरी ह्या बाबतीत जेवढे काम व्हावयास पाहिजे आहे तेवढे आज होत नाही असे दिसून येते. ह्या गलिच्छ वस्त्यांमध्ये विशेषतः अस्पृश्य लोक राहात असतात. असे असतांना सरकारने ह्या गलिच्छ वस्त्या सुधारण्याकडे विशेष प्रामुख्याने म्हणून ६॥ कोटी रुपयांची तरतूद करण्यांत आली आहे. पण दर वर्षी ह्या ग्रांटस लेप्स जो अंमलबजावणीचा भाग आहे तो फार कमी आहे. आज सरकार जो खर्च करते ती आपल्या पक्षाच्या जाहिरातवाजीसाठी, तिकीट मिळविण्यासाठी काँग्रेसच्या बाजूला फिरणारे लोक असतील त्यांच्यासाठी केला जात आहे. सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. आवोडे म्हणाले त्याप्रमाणे एक कोटी रुपये त्यांच्या ऑल इंडिया शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट फेडरेशनच्या हातांत सरकारने दिले तर ते ह्या पैशाचा चांगला उपयोग करून दाखवतील. ते ह्या संस्थेचे सेक्रेटरी आहेत. अशा रीतीने विरोधी पक्षाकडून व इतर लोकांकडून जे सहकार्य मिळेल त्याचा स्वीकार करण्याची तयारी सरकारने दाखविली पाहिजे. जे लोक पैशाचा योग्य उपयोग करून दाखवू शकतील आणि चांगले काम करू शकतील अशा लोकांची मदत सरकारने घेतली पाहिजे. तेव्हा शेवटी मला एवढेच सांगावयाचे आहे की, पैसा किती खर्च होतो यावर जास्त भर न देता अंमलबजावणी किती होत आहे याकडे सरकारने लक्ष द्यावे अशी विनंति करून मी रजा घेतो.

(४-३५ पासून ५-०० वाजेपर्यंत रेसिस.)

(The Deputy Chairman in The Chair)

Shri CHANDRAKANT C. MEHTA (Gujarat-Graduates): Madam, Chairman, as I am closely associated with the various activities which are carried on 6-00 p. m. in my district, namely, Baroda, for the uplift of the Backward Classes, I welcome this opportunity to offer some remarks on the Report before the House. I have patiently heard the powerful and vocal speeches made by the hon. Members so far on the point of eradicating the evil of untouchability. I am sure that these hon. Members will be equally powerful and vocal when they go to their respective constituencies and do the work of removing the untouchability. If so many people come forward for doing the work of removing the evil of untouchability, then I am quite confident that this evil will go away from out of our country very sooner than expected.

Sir, various suggestions have been made for removing this evil from our society. Government is trying its best to remove untouchability. I also appreciate the new point made out by some of the hon. Members that legislation alone cannot remove this evil. For removing untouchability the assistance of social workers is necessary. It requires sustained efforts on the part of the people in general, if you want to eradicate this evil from our society. I am quite confident that if we pursue this matter vigorously and sincerely, this evil will disappear from our country within a short time.

As I said just now, I am closely associated with the work of removal of untouchability in the Baroda District. I find that during the last 10 years, we have made considerable progress in the matter of removal of untouchability. I also find that the results obtained are satisfactory so far as our district is concerned. I congratulate the Government which is making all possible efforts for the removal of untouchability.

The hon. Member from Saurashtra, Shri Mehta made a complaint that the Harijans were denied entry in some temple there. He said that he had given notice in respect of this entry to the Collector who happened to be the Chairman of the Trust Committee of that temple. I fail to understand why at all it was necessary to give such a notice. There is an Act of the Parliament. There is the favourable public opinion. Why did he not enter the temple along with the Harijans? I do not think anybody would have stopped him. If you seek the assistance of Government at every stage, then I do not think we will ever achieve our object. I remember in the former Baroda State in the year 1940 there was an Act called The Removal of Untouchability Act. There was a temple belonging to the then Baroda Government. We determined to enter into this temple along with the Harijans of Baroda. There was a loud protest. Even the police called me and they tried to persuade me not to enter into the temple with the Harijans. I said "There is an Act of the Baroda State Government. That Act is on the Statute Book also. You cannot prevent me from entering this temple." Then nobody came forward to obstruct us. We were given all facilities and we made our entry in the temple along with the Harijans. From that day onwards all the Harijans are freely going to the temple at Baroda. What I want to suggest is that it requires some sort of aggressiveness on the part of social workers. We are very aggressive and

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powerful in making speeches. But if we are equally aggressive and powerful in the matter of removal of untouchability, then I do not think that the authorities of any temple in the State of Bombay can prevent Harijans from entering it. So, I find that very few constructive suggestions as such have been made by the hon. Members opposite. They have criticised the policy of Government. Some of them criticised that the money which has been spent by Government for the uplift of Harijans is misspent. So far not a single constructive suggestion has come from the Opposition Side. It is a great pity. If the hon. Members make any suggestions which are constructive, I do not think that Government will refuse to accept them.

Sir, I would like to make some suggestions so far as the removal of untouchability is concerned. I may quote the instance of a Congress worker. He has taken a vow that whenever he goes to a village, if he finds that that village observes untouchability, he will never drink water or take food in that village. If all the hon. Members who made powerful speeches here made it a point that whenever they go to any village, they will not drink water or dine in that village unless untouchability is removed then it will go along way in removing the evil of untouchability. I may also make a suggestion that the Collectors and the Mamlatdars should be asked to make a list of villages which are observing untouchability. What is the index for them? Drawing of water from common wells is an index for that purpose. That will show whether untouchability exists in that particular village or not. The Collectors and the Mamlatdars may also be informed that whenever they go to a particular village, they should not attend any local social functions, if untouchability is observed in that village. That is one of the ways which will help to remove untouchability.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ : The Hon. Ministers should also follow that suggestion.

Shri CHANDRAKANT C. MEHTA : My suggestion is for all the hon. Members who were very vocal in the House to day. I said that there are people who believe that unless and until the evil of untouchability is removed from that particular village, they will not drink water or dine in that village or take any part in any social functions. If everybody does that, then it will go a long way in removing untouchability from our country.

Sir, we find that the Backward class people are heavily indebted. I think that a sort of Debt Relief Act for these people requires to be passed by this Legislature, so that money lenders will not be in a position to exploit them any further.

Sir, we are rendering all possible help to the Backward Class people in Baroda. We successfully fought on behalf of the employees of a municipality and on behalf of its scavengers in the Industrial Court against the municipality, and we have got a decretal order for Rs. 7,000 against the Municipality. When the amount was paid to the employees, I pleaded with the employees that they should at least retain 50 per cent. of that amount and give the same to us, so that we could utilise that amount for their benefit, but the employees

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refused to accede to my request and the municipal employees took away the money and within an hour the whole money was taken away by the money-lenders.

A suggestion has been made by some hon. Members that some co-operative societies should be started for the benefit of these backward class people. There are so many co-operative societies, but no advantage has been taken by these people. Therefore, I strongly suggest that a Debt Relief Act should be passed by this Legislature so that the moneylenders do not take undue advantage of the ignorance of these people.

Then, Sir, so far as the problem of the housing of the Backward Class people is concerned, our Government is giving loans to the extent of 75 per cent. of the cost of construction of the houses to these people. I would, however, like to make a suggestion that loans to the extent of the whole cost of construction should be given to these people. If we are giving them loans to the extent of 75 per cent. of the cost, why not give them loans to the extent of the whole cost? Such loans may be made repayable by suitable instalments within a period of, say, 25 years or so, so that these people will be able to pay off the whole sum during that period. I know of cases of certain backward class people who are so poor that they are even unable to pay the 25 per cent. of the cost of construction of the houses, and, therefore, they are not in a position to take advantage of the Housing Scheme which has been sponsored by Government. There is another aspect of this problem, and that aspect is, non-availability of land for construction of houses. I would suggest that Government should issue instructions to the Collectors and Mamlatdars that whenever the Backward Class Housing Societies ask for land for the purpose of constructing houses, land should be made available to them as early as possible. If this is done, then I think it will go a long way in solving the housing problem of the backward class people.

Another suggestion that I want to make on the floor of this House is this. So far as my district is concerned, I have seen a large number of houses being destroyed by fire or flood. I would suggest that, so far as the collapse of houses of the poor people, especially those of the Backward Classes people are concerned, a fund should be set apart for this purpose by the Government. I know that a small fund is at the disposal of the Collector, but that fund is not sufficient. Government should come forward with a big fund and place it at the disposal of the Collector, so that, whenever the houses of the Backward or Scheduled Classes are destroyed some sort of subsidy or grant may be given to these people.

So far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned, I have to make a suggestion. We have started a Backward Class Seva Mandal in the Baroda District for the last two or three years. We are conducting three or four Ashram schools in the scheduled area of the Baroda District. Hon. Members are aware as to what these Ashram schools are. They are more or less primary residential

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schools for the benefit of the Adivasi boys and girls. Now, these schools are being conducted by the Education Department of the Government of Bombay. I fail to understand why this Department should have been entrusted with this work. I feel that it falls within the province of the Social Welfare Department. In these schools which have been started in the Baroda District, there are about 70 to 80 children of the Adivasis taking primary education. They are staying in these Ashrams. In the beginning the Adivasi people were very hostile when we started this work in the Adivasi area. They were under the impression that their children would be taken away by Government and that they would not be returned, but now the necessary confidence has been created in them, with the result that not only boys but girls also are coming to these Ashram schools.

So far as the Adivasi people in the Baroda District are concerned, I may mention that there is no such thing as community life for them. They are staying in the so called villages which are actually not villages. They are in *kutcha* houses in their respective fields. They are all separated from each other since they are spread over a large area and hence it is difficult to start primary schools for their children. Even if primary schools are started, the children will not attend the schools. I may mention here that the only effective way of imparting education to the children of the Adivasis is to start Ashram schools in large numbers. It may be that Government is not increasing the number of Ashram schools due to paucity of funds. I would earnestly plead that Government should start a large number of Ashram schools in the areas inhabited by the Scheduled Caste people, in order that a large number of these children may get the benefit of primary education.

Now, Sir, so far as the working of these Ashram schools is concerned, 94 per cent. of the recurring expenditure was being borne by Government. However, Government has now decided to give only 80 per cent. of the recurring expenditure. We cannot get popular contribution from the people of backward area where these schools are located. So, Government cannot expect this expenditure to be met by voluntary agencies which are taking interest in this work. I would suggest that Government should continue to bear the recurring expenditure to the extent of 94 per cent. as it was doing before and there should not be any reduction whatsoever in this.

I would like to say here something about the Forest Labourers' Co-operative Societies. We know that, in the old days, there were forest contractors who used to extract a lot of work from the Adivasi people, without making adequate payment. They never used to pay these people even the minimum wages, but now they are paid their full wages. There is, however, a lurking impression in my mind that the Forest Department is not taking a keen interest in the working of the Forest Labourers' Co-operative Societies. I may mention that these societies are doing splendid work. Only yesterday our Finance Minister has paid a tribute to the Forest Labourers' Co-operative Societies in his Budget speech, but I find that Government is not giving any active encouragement

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to them. The income of these societies has gone down considerably. Formerly, the forest contractors had to pay a huge sum to the Government for the coupes given to them, but now Government cannot realise the same amount; but much benefit has accrued to the Adivasi people, and, therefore, Government should not mind losing a part of their income if real benefit in the shape of reasonable wages to Adivasi people has accrued by this arrangement. The Adivasi labourers are also now getting their full wages and their financial position has considerably improved. My suggestion is that the Forest Department should act as a social welfare department and that the Forest Labourers' Co-operative Societies should be given full encouragement.

I may mention here that the Government of India sets apart every year a large amount of money for the amelioration of the condition of the Adivasis, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Some of these funds are not actually spent because the State Governments are unable to formulate any good scheme for the amelioration of the condition of these people. I would suggest here that proper schemes should be formulated by our State Government. It should also see that the sanctioned grants from the Government of India come in time, because it so happens that the grants given by the Government of India come as late as January or February, with the result that the money cannot be utilised for any scheme that may be undertaken for the welfare of these people. I would request the Hon. Minister to see that the funds sanctioned by the Central Government are received in time, so that the schemes for the benefit of these poor people may be properly implemented.

Then, Sir, there are *Sanskar kendras* started by the Education Department in furtherance of the scheme of removal of untouchability. I fail to understand why these *kendras* are under the Education Department and not under the Social Welfare Department. I request the Hon. Minister to bear this point in mind, so that all such activities pertaining to the amelioration of the backward people, which are carried on by the State Government may be centralised and properly co-ordinated.

These, Sir, were some of the suggestions which I wanted to make in connection with the Report before the House.

श्री. एच्. बी. भिडे : माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज, कोणत्याही पक्षीय भूमिकेवरून या रिपोर्टाकडे मी पहात नाही. अस्पृश्य आणि इतर मागासलेल्या जमातीच्या लोकांना इतर वर्गाच्या पातळीवर आणण्यासाठी व त्यांच्यावर जो अन्याय झालेला आहे तो दूर करण्यासाठी कोणते प्रयत्न करण्यात आलेले आहेत, याचे दिग्दर्शन या रिपोर्टात करण्यात आलेले आहे.

अस्पृश्य आणि इतर जमाती कां निर्माण झाल्या, त्या योग्य आहेत किंवा काय, या गोष्टीचा विचार व्यावहारिक आणि त्यावेळी असलेली परिस्थिती या दोन भूमिकांवरून करावयास पाहिजे. ६० ते ७० सभासद बसतील अशा तऱ्हेचे हे सभागृह त्यावेळी बांधलेले होते. आता या सभागृहातील सभासदांची संख्या १०२ किंवा १०६ अशी झालेली आहे, त्यामुळे हे सभागृह अपुरे पडते. अशा तऱ्हेचे छोटेसे सभागृह बांधले

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ही चूक झाली तर तें जितकें अयोग्य व अवास्तव होईल तितकेंच या जाति ज्यांनी निर्माण केल्या त्यांना दोष देणें हें अयोग्य होईल. ज्या लोकांनी ह्या जाति निर्माण केल्या त्यांनी फार मोठी चूक केली असें कोणी म्हणणार असेल तर ती गोष्ट अयोग्य आहे असेंच मी म्हणें. त्या वेळची एकंदर सामाजिक परिस्थिती पाहतां त्या वेळच्या लोकांना अशा प्रकारची जाति-व्यवस्था निर्माण करणें योग्य वाटलें म्हणून त्यांनी त्या केल्या. याबद्दल त्यांना दोष देण्यांत कांहींच अर्थ नाही.

मी तर असें म्हणें की जातिव्यवस्थेचें पालन करण्याचें धोरण सरकार स्वतःच अवलंबित आहे. तेल्याच्या मुलाला धंदा शिकवावयाचा झाला तर तेल्याचाच धंदा त्याला शिकविला जातो. कारण काय तर तेल्याच्या मुलाला तेल्याच्या धंद्याचें लोकर आकलन होऊं शकते आणि इतरापेक्षा तो मुलगा तो धंदा जास्त चांगल्या तऱ्हेने शिकू शकतो. सुताराचा मुलगा सुतारकीचें काम झटपट करू शकतो म्हणून सुतारकीचें शिक्षण सुताराच्याच मुलाला देण्यांत येते. लोहारकीचें शिक्षण लोहाराच्याच मुलाला देण्यांत येतें. पण अशा गोष्टीमुळे जाति-व्यवस्था आपण कशी नष्ट करूं शकणार ? तेव्हां या गोष्टीचा सरकारने विचार करावयास पाहिजे. पूर्वी योग्य वाटलें, व्यवहार्य वाटलें म्हणून ह्या वेळच्या लोकांनी जातिव्यवस्था निर्माण केली, याचा अर्थ त्यांना कांहीं समजत नव्हतें, अकलेचा सर्व मक्ता आपल्याकडेच आलेला आहे असें कोणी समजण्याचें कारण नाही.

जातिव्यवस्था नष्ट होण्याचा हा काळ आलेला आहे आणि क्रमाक्रमानें ही जातिव्यवस्था नष्ट देखील होत आहे. दुर्दैवानें म्हणा अगर सुदैवानें म्हणा ही जातिव्यवस्था नाहीशी होण्यास कांहीं काळ लागणार आहे. आपल्याला ही जातिव्यवस्था ताबडतोब नष्ट व्हावी असें वाटत असेल तर लोकशाहीचा मार्ग सोडून देऊन हुकुमशाही मार्गानें, हिटलरशाही मार्गानें आपणांस जावें लागेल. या बाबतींत धोरानेंच पावलें टाकलीं पाहिजेत. एका दिवसांत या लोकांची सामाजिक सुधारणा करूं म्हटलें तर तें योग्य होणार नाही आणि शक्यहि होणार नाही. अंगावर अस्पृशांची सावली पडली असतां १०० वेळां स्नान करणारीं माणसे ज्या वंशांत जन्मलेली आहेत. त्याच वंशांत मी जन्मलेलों आहे. परंतु मी अस्पृश्याच्या घरी गेलेलो आहे आणि जेवलेलों देखील आहे. परंतु या गोष्टीस २५-३० वर्षांचा काळ गेलेला आहे ही गोष्ट आपण ध्यानांत घेतली पाहिजे. शांततेच्या मार्गानें सामाजिक सुधारणा करावयाच्या असतील तर त्या क्रमाक्रमानेंच केल्या पाहिजेत. घाईघाईनें सामाजिक सुधारणा करूं म्हटलें तर देशांत हिटलरिझम निर्माण होईल.

आतांच एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी आपल्या भाषणांत सांगितलें की या लोकांची वस्ती निरनिराळ्या ठिकाणी आहे. कांहीं अगदीं दूर डोंगरांत राहणारे लोक आहेत. रोज डोंगर चढून हें लोक आपल्या घरीं जातात. तसा डोंगर चढून जाण्याचें धाडस देखील आपल्यापैकी किंवा अधिकाऱ्यांपैकीं कित्येक लोक करूं शकणार नाहीत. अशा डोंगरांत या लोकांची २ किंवा ३ घरे असतात. जंगलांतील लांकूड आणि गवत जवळच्या गांवांत नेऊन विकावयाचें आणि आपला उदरनिर्वाह करावयाचा हा त्यांचा जीवनक्रम असतो. त्यांची सुधारणा व्हावी म्हणून डोंगरावरील त्यांचीं घरे मोडून त्यांना गांवांत आणावयाचें, उदरनिर्वाहाचीं साधनें द्यावयाचीं, त्यांना सर्व सवलती द्यावयाच्या या गोष्टी आपणाला कराव्या लागतील. हें सर्व करणे शक्य आणि योग्य आहे काय ? या प्रश्नाकडे मी भावनात्मक दृष्टिकोनांतून पाहतां नाही. व्यावहारिक दृष्टिकोनांतून पाहतो. अस्पृश्यता गेली पाहिजे ह्या इतरांच्या मताशीं मी देखील संपूर्णपणे सहमत आहे. परंतु अशा तऱ्हेनें हा प्रश्न सोडवावयाचें म्हटले तर आपली सर्व शक्ति कमी पडेल. पक्षनिष्ठ भूमिकेवरून हा प्रश्न सोडवावा असें आम्हीं म्हणत नाही किंवा सरकारनें देखील तसें मानूं नये. हा प्रश्न सोडविण्याचा प्रयत्न योग्य आणि व्यवहार्य अशाच दृष्टिकोनांतून व्हावयास पाहिजे.

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खेडेगांवांत अस्पृश्यता मानली जाते ही वस्तुस्थिति आहे. आपल्या देशांत एकहि खेडें असें सांपडणार नाही की, ज्या खेडेगांवांत अस्पृश्यता पाळली जात नाही. प्रत्येक खेड्यांत एक तरी मनुष्य असा निघेलच की जो अस्पृश्यता पाळतो. एका माणसानें अस्पृश्यता पाळली नाही म्हणजे तें गांव अस्पृश्यता पाळीत नाही असेंच समजलें जाणार. जो अस्पृश्यता मानीत नाही त्यानें हात वर करावा असें म्हटलें तर एकहि मनुष्य हात वर करणार नाही अशी माझी खात्री आहे. अशी वस्तुस्थिति असल्यामुळे अस्पृश्यता नष्ट करण्यासाठीं फार मोठे आणि प्रामाणिकपणानें प्रयत्न व्हावयास पाहिजेत ही गोष्ट सिद्ध होते.

आतां काळ बदललेला आहे आणि अशी परिस्थिति निर्माण झालेली आहे की, आतां अस्पृश्यता नष्ट झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. अस्पृश्यांनीं देखील कांहीं गोष्टी समजून घेतल्या पाहिजेत. ते स्वतः कशा तऱ्हेनें राहातात आणि वागतात याचा त्यांनीं स्वतः नीट विचार केला पाहिजे. माझ्या मते सरकारनें अस्पृश्यांवर एक सिनेमा काढावा. ते लोक कसे घाणेरडे राहातात याचें त्या सिनेमांत वर्णन करावें आणि त्यांनीं स्वच्छ कसे राहिलें पाहिजे याची शिकवण द्यावी. लहान लहान गोष्टींत देखील कशी स्वच्छता पाळली पाहिजे ही गोष्ट त्यांना समजावून सांगितली पाहिजे. मला आलेला एक अनुभव मी सांगतों. मी एका हरिजनाकडे गेलों. त्याने मला एक पाट देऊन ओट्यावर बसावयास सांगितले. मी पाटावर बसलों, तो गृहस्थहि माझ्या शेजारीच बसला आणि ओट्यावरच पचकन धुकला. मी त्यास सांगितलें, हें ठीक नाही. ज्या ओट्यावर आपण बसतो त्याच ओट्यावर धुंकाणें ही गोष्ट फारच घाणेरडी आहे. तूं लांब जाऊन धुंक. आपण अशा तऱ्हेनें धुंकून आरोग्य बिघडवितों ही गोष्ट त्यांना समजत नाही. यासाठीं सिनेमाद्वारे धुंकी ही किती घाणेरडी असते ही गोष्ट त्यांच्या निदर्शनास आणून दिली पाहिजे. स्वच्छता म्हणजे काय, स्वच्छतेने कसे राहिलें पाहिजे हें त्यांना दाखवून दिलें पाहिजे. माझा एक दुसरा मित्र आहे. त्याच्या मी घरीं गेलों असतां माझ्या दुष्टीसमोर असें दृश्य येतें की १०-१०, ११-११ वाजेपर्यंत मुलींच्या वेण्या घातलेल्या नसतात. अस्पृश्य असले म्हणून घाणेरडेपणाने रहावे असें नाही. ब्राम्हण समाजांत देखील आपण पाहातो की, जे ब्राम्हण लोक घाणेरडेपणानें राहातात त्यांच्याकडे कोणी जात नाही. अस्पृश्य स्वच्छतेने राहूं लागले तर स्पृश्य लोक त्यांच्याकडे आपोआपच जाऊ लागतील.

या रिपोर्टांत असें सांगण्यांत आलेलें आहे की, अस्पृश्यांकरितां बोर्डिंग उघडलेली आहेत. या बोर्डिंगना माझा विरोध नाही, परंतु मला या बाबतींत एवढेंच सांगावयाचें आहे की, हीं बोर्डिंग मिक्सड ठेवा. या बोर्डिंगमध्ये अस्पृश्यांबरोबर स्पृश्यांना देखील राहाण्याची संधी द्या. अर्थात, अस्पृश्यांचे प्रमाण अशा बोर्डिंगमधून जास्त ठेवा. १०० अस्पृश्य असतील तर ५ स्पृश्य ठेवा. एकंदर दुसरा जो समाज आहे त्यांच्याजवळ या अस्पृश्य समाजास येऊं द्या. त्यांच्याशीं मिळनमिसळून वागण्याची संधी द्या. नाही तर एका ठिकाणाचे अस्पृश्य उचलून ते दुसऱ्या ठिकाणी नेऊन बसविल्यासारखे होईल. किंबहुना मी तर असें म्हणें की, केवळ अस्पृश्यांकरितां ज्या शाळा आहेत त्या शाळेत स्कॉलरशिप्स देऊन स्पृश्य मुलें ठेवली पाहिजेत. त्यामुळे स्पृश्य आणि अस्पृश्य मुलांना एकत्र येण्याची संधि मिळेल. हीच पद्धत इतरत्र देखील आपल्याला अवलंबितां येईल.

मागासलेल्या जातींच्याकडे पाहिलें तर आपल्याला असें दिसून येते की, त्यांची आर्थिक स्थिति दिवसेंदिवस खालावत चाललेली आहे. त्यांना कांहीं तरी जमीन वांटली पाहिजे. तेली, सुतार यांना त्यांचा त्यांचा धंदा शिकविण्यांत आपण खर्च केलेला पैसा वाया जात आहे. त्यामुळे बेकारी कमी होईल असें मला वाटत नाही. ेली, सुतार यांना धंदा नाही. लहान लहान धंदे आजच्या काळांत चालत नाहीत. तेलाच्या मोठमोठ्या गिरण्या निघाल्या-

[શ્રી. એચ. બી. મિઠે]

મુઠ્ઠે તેલ્યાંચે ઘાળે ચાલત નાहींત. લાંકડૂ કાપण्याच्या मोठमोठ्या गिरण्यांमुळें सुताराचा घरगुती धंदा बसला आहे. मागासलेल्या जातींपैकीं न्हावी ही एकच जमात अशी आहे की, तिचा धंदा अजूनपर्यंत तरी बसलेला नाही. तेव्हां ज्या मागासलेल्या लोकांना आपण कोणताहि धंदा देऊ शकलेलो नाही, त्यांच्यासाठीं आपण कांहीं तरी केलें पाहिजे. जे धंदे चालणार नाहीत त्या धंद्यांसाठीं सबसिडी देऊन भागणार नाही. अशा तऱ्हेनें पैसा घेतल्यानें मागासलेल्या व किी आर्थिक परिस्थिति सुधारणार नाही.

देशांतील इतर समाजांबरोबर ह्या मागासलेल्या समाजाची देखील आर्थिक परिस्थिति सुधारे. सामाजिक परिस्थिति देखील सुधारे. पूर्वी त्यांच्या सांखलीकदेखील कोणी उभे राहात नव्हतें आतां त्यांच्याकडे जाऊन लोक विनदिकत पाणी पिऊं लागलेले आहेत. याचा अर्थ त्यांची आर्थिक आणि सामाजिक परिस्थिति सुधारण्यासाठीं आपण कांहीं करूं नये असा मुळींच नाही. अस्पृश्यता नष्ट करण्याच्या बाबतींत सुदैवानें सरकारी पक्ष विरोधी पक्ष आणि या सभागृहाबाहेरील सर्व जनता यांचे एकमत आहे. ज्या कारणांसाठीं ही जातिव्यवस्था निर्माण झाली ती कारणे आतां नाहीशी झालेली आहेत. सर्व जातींतील लोक व्हिलेज इन्डस्ट्रीजमध्ये भाग घेऊन गुरे सोलण्याचा धंदा करीत आहेत. ब्राम्हण जातींतील लोक देखील गुरे सोलण्याचा धंदा करूं लागलेले आहेत. अशा तऱ्हेचें काम करणें आवश्यक आहे ही गोष्ट एकदां समजली म्हणजे ती गोष्ट करण्यास कोणीही मागे-पुढें पाहणार नाही असें मला वाटतें. या दृष्टीनें इतर वर्गातील लोकांनीं भंग्यांचे काम करावें अशी एक चळवळ चालू केली होती, पण शेवटीं त्या चळवळीला यावे तसें यश आलें नाही. महात्मा गांधी आणि त्यांचे जे कोणी हाताच्या बोटांनीं मोजण्याइतके शिष्य होते ते हे काम करायला पुढें येत, पण त्यांच्याखेरीज इतर कोणी पुढे आले नाहीत. भिल्ल, कातकरी वगैरे जे लोक तुरुंगांत येत असत त्यांच्याकडून हीं कामें जबरदस्तीनें करून घेतलीं जात असत. पण अशांनें हे काम होणार नाही. एका विशिष्ट जमातीच्या लोकांबद्दल बोलावयाचें म्हणून मी हे बोललों नाही. तर ह्या जमातीच्या लोकांचा हा प्रश्न चर्चेला असल्यामुळें मी हे बोललों. मला असें म्हणावयाचें आहे की, ह्या लोकांना जर वर आणावयाचें असेल तर त्यांना चांगलीं कामें द्या, म्हणजे त्यांची परिस्थिति आपोआप सुधारे. पण त्यासाठीं सरकारनें कांहीं तरी प्रयत्न केला पाहिजे.

अस्पृश्यता नाहीशी झाली पाहिजे ही गोष्ट सर्वांना मान्य आहे, आणि त्या दृष्टीनें सर्व समाजाकडून प्रयत्न होत आहेत. ह्या लोकांना जंगल कुस आणि लांकडांचा धंदा दिलेला असल्याचा उल्लेख माझ्या आधीच्या एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनीं केला. डांग जिल्ह्यामध्ये अशा प्रकारच्या कांहीं सोसायट्या काम करतात, पण तें क्फायतशीर कां सरकारनें मदत करावी याबद्दल माझा वाद नाही, पण सरकारनें तरी किती वर्षे नुकसान सोसावयाचें याला कांहीं मर्यादा आहे. या दृष्टीनें विचार करून एखाद्या भावनेच्या आहारी न जातां, आपण जें कांहीं करतों त्याचा उपयोग कितपत होत आहे हे पाहिलें पाहिजे. ह्या लोकांना घरे बांधण्यासाठीं सरकार कांहीं आर्थिक मदत करतें हे ठीक आहे, पण याचा उपयोग किती होत आहे हेहि पाहिलें पाहिजे. नाही तर घर बांधायला मदत लागणार. तेव्हां असें होतां कामा नये. ह्या समाजाला शिक्षण देण्यासाठीं सरकारनें आर्थिक योजना आखली, म्हणजे सर्व कांहीं होईल. नुसते रिपोर्ट प्रसिद्ध करून कांहीं एक होणार नाही. यासाठीं सरकारनें पक्षनिरपेक्ष भूमिकेवरून कार्य केलें पाहिजे. पण ह्या दृष्टीनें सरकार प्रयत्न करीत नाही असा अनुभव आहे. सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. आगरवाल ह्यांनीं जी तक्रार केली ती बरोबर आहे. आपल्या पक्षाच्या नियंत्रणा-

[શ્રી. એચ. બી. મિઠે]

खाली ज्या संस्था असतील त्यांनाच मदत करावयाची, आणि इतरांना मदत करावयाची नाही ही भूमिका सरकारनें सोडून दिली पाहिजे. ह्या वर्षी ज्याप्रमाणें हा रिपोर्ट ह्या सभागृहापुढें चर्चेला आला तसा दर वर्षी आला तर साहजिकच हें सभागृह ह्या समाजाच्या निरनिराळ्या प्रश्नांवर चर्चा करील आणि समाजावर त्याचा कांहीं तरी चांगला परिणाम झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही अशी मला आशा आहे.

यांततर शेवटचा एकच मुद्दा सांगून मी रजा घेणार आहे. अस्पृश्यांपैकीं कांहीं लोक नुकतेच नवबौद्ध झालेले आहेत. शिक्षणाच्या बाबतींत त्यांना सवलती मिळाल्या पाहिजेत असें एथें सांगितले गेलें व त्याबद्दल माझा विरोध नाही. पण मला या बाबतींत एकच भीति वाटते की, आजपर्यंत ते अनुसूचित जमातींतले होते व आतां बौद्ध झाले यामुळें आपल्या समाजांत आणखी जाति निर्माण होण्याची मला भीति वाटते. तेव्हां कोणी बौद्ध व्हावें किंवा आणखी कोणी व्हावें, पण त्यामुळें आपल्या समाजांत जास्त जाती पडणार नाहीत याची आपण काळजी घेतली पाहिजे. संबंध समाज यापुढें एकजिनसी राहिला पाहिजे. शिवाय, ह्या अनुसूचित जमातीच्या लोकांनीं आपल्या मनांत जो न्यूनगंड आहे तो काढून टाकण्याचा प्रयत्न केला पाहिजे. नाही तर असें होतें की, त्यांनीं सर्व समाजांत मिळून मिसळून वागावें म्हणून सभा घेतल्या जातात, पण या लोकांनीं ह्या सभांत आपण होऊन येण्याएवजीं त्यांना हात धरून आणून बसवावें लागतें असें होतां कामा नये. एवढें सांगून मी रजा घेतों.

श्री. दामुभाई सी. शुक्ल (गुजरात—ग्रॅज्युअेटस): माननीय सभापतिजી, આ જે રિપોર્ટ અમારા ટેબલ ઉપર મુકાયો છે તે આ બધા ભાષણો સાંભળતા એમ લાગે છે કે યોગ્ય થયું છે. અસ્પૃશ્યતા 6-80 p.m. માટેના પોતાના વિચારો વ્યક્ત કરવાનો ઘણાં માનનીય સભ્યશ્રીઓને મોકો મળ્યો છે. કમનસીબે આપણે હજી ભાષણો કરવાના સ્ટેજ છીએ. અસ્પૃશ્યતા ઉપર જ્યારે બોલવાનું આવે છે ત્યારે આપણા લોહી તપે છે અને એના ઉપર આપણે સુંદર ભાષણો કરીએ છીએ. પણ અસ્પૃશ્યતા દૂર કરવા માટે આપણે પાતે શું આચરણ કરીએ છીએ તે આપણે આપણી જાતને પૂછતા નથી. હું માનું છું કે બીજા કોઈ દેશમાં આપણે ત્યાં આ અંગે જે કામ થયું છે એવું કામ થયું નથી. સમાજના અમુક વર્ગે કોઈ એક જાતિ ઉપર અત્યાચ કર્યો જ છે. આપણા દેશમાં આમ પહેલવહેલું જ શું બન્યું છે? જગતના બધા દેશોની અંદર માનવ સમાજ માટેનું આ મોટામાં મોટું દુષણ છે. ધર્મના નામે, નાતના નામે, પૈશાના નામે, વર્ણના નામે—ગમે તે નામે પણ અમુક માણસોએ અમુક જાતિને એક પ્રકારના અસ્પૃશ્ય ગણવાનો પ્રયત્ન કર્યો છે. ૧૯૧૭માં રસિયામાં ક્રાન્તિ થઈ એ પહેલાં ત્યાં ઝાર રાજ કરતો હતો. એ ઝાર લતાઓમાં બહાર નીકળતો ત્યારે કોઈ શહેરીથી બારી ઉઘાડી શકાતી નહિ અને જે કોઈ બારી ઉઘાડી એના ઉપર નજર કરે તો એને મારી નાખવામાં આવતો. એટલે આ રીતે રાજ સામે નજર પણ ન કરી શકાતી. ઈંગ્લંડ જેવા લીબરલ દેશમાં પણ અમુક વર્ગ એવો હતો કે જેના ઉપર આવી જાતનું વર્તન ત્યાં કરવામાં આવતું હતું. એના ઉપર અમાનુષી વર્તન ચલાવવામાં આવતું હતું. આપણા દેશમાં આ કંઈ નવી વસ્તુ થઈ છે એમ નથી. પણ એને કાઢવા માટે જે માનનીય સભ્યશ્રી એમ કહે છે કે આ સરકારે કંઈ નથી કર્યું અને સરકાર કોમ્પલેસન્ટ છે તો આ બાબતમાં હું સંમત થઈ શકતો નથી. મારા મિત્ર પોતે જ કોમ્પલેસન્ટ છે. આ સરકારના હાથમાં જ્યારથી સત્તા આવી છે ત્યારથી દરેક રીતે—પૈસા આપીને, પ્રચાર કરીને, તેમજ અનેક જાતની યોજનાઓ કરીને, જાહેરમાંથી જે કંઈ સૂચનો આવે તેને અમલમાં મૂકીને અને કેટલીક વખત તો આવા સૂચનોનો અમલ કરવા જતાં નકામા પૈસા બગાડીને પણ આ પ્રશ્નનો ઉકેલ કરવા માટે પ્રયત્ન કર્યો છે. દાખલા તરીકે તમારા ઘરમાં તમે અભ્યાસ કરતા અસ્પૃશ્ય બાળકને રાખો તો તમને અમુક પૈસા આપવા માટે સરકાર તૈયાર છે. જે માણસો સરકારની ટીકા કરે છે એ એમ કહી શકે એમ છે કે અમે અમારા ઘેર આવા કોઈ અસ્પૃશ્ય બાળકને રાખેલ છે? અથવા, અમે એની સાથે સમાનતાભરેલું વર્તન રાખ્યું છે?

[શ્રી. દામુભાઈ સી. શુક્લ]

મારા એક મિત્રે કહ્યું કે સરકાર જાતિભેદ ન હોય એવા નવા ગામડાની રચના કરે તો અમે લાખો માણસોને એ ગામડાઓમાં લઈ જવા તૈયાર છીએ. જે આ ભાઈ આ રીતે લાખો માણસોને લઈને નીકળી પડે તો સરકાર તેમને જરૂર મદદ આપશે. સરકાર એ નહિ જુઓ કે એ કયા પક્ષનો એ માણસ છે. સરકાર એ વસ્તુ જુઓ છે કે નવી રીત શોધી કાઢો કે જેથી કરીને માણસોના હૃદયમાં જે મૂળ કરીને આ ભાવના પડી છે એ દૂર થઈ શકે. સરકાર પાસે આ પ્રશ્નનો ઉકેલ કોઈ પણ માણસ બતાવી શકે તો એને સરકાર વધુમાં વધુ મદદ કરશે. આ પ્રશ્નનો ઉકેલ કરવા માગતા હોઈએ તો પહેલી વસ્તુ—પૂજ્ય ગાંધીજીએ કહી છે અને બીજા માણસોએ પણ કહી છે અને તે એ છે કે આપણે આપણા હૃદયનું પરિવર્તન કરવું જોઈએ. આપણા હૃદયમાં આ વસ્તુ પડેલી છે. આપણે મોટી મોટી વાતો કરતા છીએ પણ હકીકતે આ વસ્તુ આપણા હૃદયના ઉડાણમાં પડેલી હોય છે અને એ આપણને ગમતી હોય છે. આજે કેટલાયે હરિજન છોકરાઓ નિશાળોમાં ભણે છે. ૭-૭ વર્ષ એક જ સાથે નિશાળમાં ભણવા છતાં ખબર નથી પડતી કે આ હરિજન છે. આવી સરસ રીતે તેઓ પ્રત્યે વર્તન કરવામાં આવે છે. શહેરોની અંદર તો આ પ્રશ્ન ઘણો ખરો ઓછો થઈ ગયો છે. એક સભામાં મારે જવાનો પ્રસંગ થયો. એ સભામાં હરિજન વકીલભાઈઓ હતા, હરિજન ડોક્ટરો હતા, હરિજન એન્જિનિયરો પણ હતા. અભિનંદન આપવાનો મેળાવડો હતો, હરિજન ડોક્ટરો હતા, હતા. ત્યાં છોકરાઓને જોઈને હં ખુશ થઈ ગયો. જે એમાંના કોઈ મને રસ્તામાં મળે તો હું કલ્પના ન કરી શકું કે આ હરિજન છે. એમની વાણી, એમનું વર્તન, એમનો પહેરવેશ જોઈએ તો આપણને એમ લાગે કે આ હરિજન છે જ નહિ. આપણે ત્યાં અસ્પૃશ્યતાનો પ્રશ્ન લગભગ ઉકેલાઈ ગયો છે. રત્નજનના કાર્યક્રમો પણ આ ભાઈઓ રાખે છે. સમય મળે છે ત્યારે એમને ત્યાં હું ગયો છું. મને ઘણી વખત એ લોકો કહે છે કે તમે તમારો અભિપ્રાય આપો. હું એમ કહું છું કે સવર્ણ જ કરી શકે અને અવર્ણ ન કરી શકે એ વસ્તુ ખોટી છે. અમારા છોકરાઓ આથી વિશેષ કરી શકતા નથી. તમે આગળ આવતા જાવ છો. તમારા મગજમાંથી હવે તમે એ વસ્તુ કાઢી નાખો કે તમે બીજા કરતાં કાંઈ જુદા છો કે, તમે નીચી કક્ષાના છો. પણ કેટલીકવાર માણસના મનમાં જે કોમ્પલેક્સ હોય છે એને પરિણામે એક પ્રકારનો વિરોધ ઉભો થાય છે. દાખલા તરીકે મદ્રાસમાં હમણાં જ બનાવો બાળવામાં આવ્યા. અત્યારે જ આ દૂધાણ બન્નું છે એમ આપણે કહી શકવાના નથી. તમે તમારા મગજમાંથી આ વસ્તુ કાઢી નાખો. તમારે તો એટલું જ કહેવાનું છે કે “I am an Indian”. બંધારણે જે હક્કો આપ્યા છે એ પ્રમાણે વર્તવાનું છે. આજે તો એ બને છે કે જે કોઈપણ માણસ મંદિર પ્રવેશ માટે હલ્લો લઈને જાય છે તો જુનવાણી માણસો એને ચેલેન્જ સમજીને એની સામે થાય છે. પણ જે કોઈ માણસ કોઈને કહ્યા સિવાય મંદિરમાં જતો હોય તો કોઈને એની ખબર પણ પડતી નથી કે એ કોણ છે. કારણ કે આજે તો દરેકમાં યુનીફોર્મીટી ઓફર્ડ છે, યુનીફોર્મીટી ઓફ બીહેવીયર છે. કોઈને ખબર પડતી નથી કે આ માણસ કોણ છે અને કોણ નથી. સરકારને હું ભલામણ કરું છું અને જે હરિજન કાર્યકર્તાઓ છે એમને પણ વિનંતી કરું છું કે તમે એમને કહો કે તમે કાંઈ બીજાથી સાવ જુદા છો એ વસ્તુ હવે ભૂલી જાવ. તમે હિન્દુસ્તાનના નાગરિક છો. તમને કોઈ પૂછે કે તમે કઈ જાતના છો તો એને કહેવું કે હું હિન્દી છું. ઘર ભાડે લેવા જાય ત્યારે પૂછવામાં આવે કે કઈ નાતના છો, પરણ્યા છો કે કુંવારા છો. ત્યારે કહેવું જોઈએ કે અમારે નાત જાત કાંઈ છે નહિ, અમે હિન્દી છીએ. અમને ઘર આપો. ઘર ખાલી હોય અને જે ઘર માલિક ઘર ન આપતા હોય તો સરકારે તુરત જ પૂછવું જોઈએ કે કેમ ઘર આપતા નથી? એટલે આ રીતે આપણા હૃદયથી પરિવર્તન કરવું જોઈએ. ક્લાસલેસ સોસાયટી ઉભી કરવી હશે તો આપણે આ રીતે વર્તન કરવું પડશે. કોઈપણ માણસ ચર છે તેમ માનીને જે આપણે ચાલ્યું તો એનું વિકૃત પરિણામ આવશે. દરેક માણસ સજ્જન છે, દરેક માણસ પ્રમાણિક છે એમ માનીને વર્તન કરશું તો આ ઘણું આપોઆપ ચાલ્યું જશે. સમાજનો દરેક દરેક માણસ ગમે તે કોમમાં જન્મ્યો હોય, તો પણ એ હિન્દુસ્તાનનો નાગરિક છે, બંધારણે એને અધિકારો આપ્યા છે અને એ અધિકારો ભોગવવાનો એને હક્ક છે. આ રીતે નોર્મલ બીહેવીયરથી દરેક વર્તવાનું છે. આજે તો નિશોળોમાં પણ જુદા જુદા પત્રકો રાખવામાં આવે છે. આ બેકવર્ડ

[શ્રી. દામુભાઈ સી. શુક્લ]

છે, આ હરિજન છે, આ ચમાર, છે, આ શીડ્યુલ્ડ કાસ્ટનો છે. આ બધું હવે નીકળી જવું જોઈએ. કોઈ અમેરીકન આવે અને એને આપણે પૂછીશું તો એમ એકલેશે કે “હું અમેરીકન છું”. સ્વીટઝરલેન્ડથી આવેલ અમેરીકન એમ નથી કહેતો કે “હું સ્વીડીશ છું” પણ એ કહે છે “હું અમેરીકન છું”. રશિયાના કોઈ પણ ભાગમાં રહેતો માણસ આવે છે તેને પૂછતાં એ એમ કહે છે કે “હું રશીયન છું”. તો પછી હિન્દમાં રહેતા કોઈ પણ માણસને “હું હિન્દુસ્તાની છું” એમ કહેવામાં શું વાંધો આવે છે તેની મને સમજ પડતી નથી. “I am an Indian” એટલું કહે એટલે બસ. બંધારણે જે હક્કો આપ્યા છે એ હક્કો દરેકને મળવા જ જોઈએ. જે એ હક્કો કોઈને ન ભોગવવા દેવામાં આવતા હોય તો સરકારે એ હક્કો અપાવવા માટે પ્રયત્ન કરવો જોઈએ. જે આપણે આપણા હૃદયમાં આ જાતનું પરિવર્તન કરશું અને આપણી સરકાર પણ આ દિશામાં સચેત થશે તો એનું સારું પરિણામ આવશે. ઘણી વખત એવું બને છે કે વધુ પડતા આવેશમાં આવી જઈને આપણે કાયદા કરી બેસીએ છીએ પણ એનું પરિણામ આપણી ઈચ્છા મુજબનું આવતું નથી. જેમકે ગવર્નમેન્ટ કોલેજની અંદર અમુક ટકા હરિજન બાળકોને દાખલ કરવાનો નિયમ છે. અમુક કોલેજની અંદર એવું ધોરણ હોય છે કે ૭૦ થી ૮૦ ટકા માર્ક્સ મેળવનાર વિદ્યાર્થીને દાખલ કરવામાં આવતા હોય છે. ત્યારે આ નિયમને કારણે ૩૫ થી ૪૦ ટકા માર્ક્સ મેળવનાર હરિજન વિદ્યાર્થીને આવી કોલેજમાં એડમીશન મળે છે. અને એનું પરિણામ એ આવે છે કે હરિજન વિદ્યાર્થી પેલા આગળ રહેલા વિદ્યાર્થીઓ સાથે દોડી શકતો નથી. અને એ કાયમને માટે પાછળ રહી જાય છે. આ રીતે કરવાને બદલે આપણે એને કહેવું જોઈએ કે તમે પાછળ પડી ગયા છો, ઓવરાઈટ, પાંચ ટકા, દસ ટકા માર્ક્સ ઓછા લાવો. પણ સાથોસાથ તમારે કોમ્પીટીશનમાં ઉભા રહેવું પડશે. બિચારો છે, બાપલો છે એમ ખોટી દયા ખાવાથી પ્રશ્ન ઉકેલી શકાશે નહિ. ભણેલ હરિજન વિદ્યાર્થીઓને પણ આ રીતે કહેતા મેં સાંભળ્યા છે. એને આપણા ઉપર ચીડ ચડે છે. આપણા ખર્ચે, આપણી મહેનતે તે આગળ આવે છે અને પાછળથી આપણા માટે ધિક્કાર ફેળવતા હોય છે એવો મારો અનુભવ છે. હવે આવી ખોટી દયા બતાવવાની જરૂર નથી. આપણે કહેવું જોઈએ કે તમને હક્ક મળેલા છે, તમે આ રીતે કામ કરો. બધાની સાથે કોમ્પીટીશનમાં ઉભા રહો અને તમારામાં શક્તિ હોય તો આગળ આવો. પાછળ પડ્યા હતા એટલા માટે આટલા વર્ષો સુધી તમને પુશ કર્યા. હવે તમારે તમારી શક્તિથી આગળ આવવું પડશે. સમાજની અંદર તમારે સ્થાન મેળવવું હશે તો તમારે બધાની સાથે કોમ્પીટીશનમાં ઉભા રહેવાનું છે. આ જાતની આપણે બધી યોજનાઓ કરીએ અને આ લોકોમાં આત્મવિશ્વાસ ઉભો કરીએ, સ્વમાન ઉભું કરીએ. આમ કરશું તો હું માનું છું કે આ પ્રશ્નને વહેલો ઉકેલી શકીશું.

વિદર્ભના ગામડાઓમાં અમે જ્યારે ફરતા હતા ત્યારે અમે ખાસ માગણી કરી હતી કે અમને શીડ્યુલ્ડ ટ્રાઈબઝની વસતીના ગામડાં બતાવો. એ ગામડાં અમે જ્યાં તો એ સ્વચ્છ હતાં, સુંદર હતા. માણસો સાથે વાત કરી તો અમે ખુશ થઈ ગયા. હજુ પણ ટેમ્પો વધારવો હોય, આને માટેની ગતિ વધારવી હોય તો આપણે આપણો જ સાયકોલોજીકલ એપ્રોચ છે તેને ફેરવવો જોઈએ. કોઈ પણ માણસને સારો બનાવવો હોય તો એ માણસ સારો છે એમ માનીને વર્તન કરીએ તો એ સારો બની શકે. મને એક મારા પ્રોફેસર મિત્ર કહેતા હતા કે મારા વર્ગમાં કોઈ છોકરો પાછળ પડી જાય તો એને આગળ લાવવા માટે મારી પાસે એક રીત છે. જે એ છોકરો પાંચ માર્ક્સને લાયક હોય તો હું એને સાત માર્ક્સ આપું. અને પછી એ સાત માર્ક્સ મેળવવા માટે પ્રયત્ન કરે છે. નવાણું ટકા કિસ્સામાં મેં જ્યું છે કે છોકરો આગળનું સ્થાન જવા દેતો નથી અને આગળ આવવા માટે પ્રયત્ન કરે છે. આપણે પણ આ ભાઈઓને ને કહી દેવું જોઈએ કે તમે કોમ્પીટીશનમાં ઉભા રહો. તમારામાં શક્તિ હોય તો આગળ આવો. તમને મદદ છે, તમને તક આપવામાં આવે છે. હવે તમે પછાત છો એ વસ્તુ ભૂલી જાવ. કોને સહન નથી કરવું પડ્યું? બધાને સહન કરવું પડ્યું છે. અંગ્રેજે આપણને બધાને અસ્પૃશ્યો જ ગણતા હતા ને? આફ્રીકામાં રેલ્વેની ટીકિટ પણ હાથોહાથ આપવામાં આવતી નહતી. અંગ્રેજે શું એમ માનતા હતા કે આપણે રાજ્ય કરી શકીશું? એ માનતા હતા કે આપણે આ લોકોને રાજ્ય આપશું તો આ લોકો અંદર અંદર લડી મરવાના છે.

[શ્રી. દામુભાઈ સી. શુક્લ]

આજે આપણે જગતમાં શાંતિ સ્થાપી શક્યા છીએ. જગતમાં આપણા દેશની પ્રતિષ્ઠા વધારી શક્યા છીએ. એટલું જ નહીં પણ ખૂદ અંગ્રેજોને પણ આપણી પાસે સલાહ લેવા આવવું પડે છે. એવા ઘણા પ્રશ્નો ઉભા થાય છે કે જો ભારતમાં તેઓને આપણી સલાહ લેવા આવવું પડે છે. આજે આપણે સ્વતંત્ર થયા પછી ઘણું કરી શક્યા છીએ. જગતના લોકશાહી દેશોમાં આજે આપણું સ્થાન આગળ છે. આજે ૩૦-૩૦ વર્ષથી જે દેશ નથી કરી શક્યો તે આજે આપણે કરી શક્યા છીએ.

શીડ્યુલ્ડ કાસ્ટના માણસો મેં જે પ્રમાણે આજે ઉકીકત રહ્યું કરી તે મુજબ આવની કાવથી વર્તવું શરૂ કર્યું, દબાણથી નહીં પણ પ્રેમથી વર્તતા થશે તો જરૂર તેઓ આગળ આવી શકશે. અગાઉ શું હતું અને કેટલું દુઃખ હતું તે ભૂલી જઈ તેઓ આજે દેશના કલ્યાણને માટે કાર્ય કરતા થઈ ગયે તેમ હું માનું છું. આપણી લોકશાહી સરકાર અસ્પૃશ્યતા નિવારવા માટે પ્રયત્નો કરે છે અને હવે પણ વધુ પ્રયત્નો કરશે તેવી આશા રાખું છું. It will be a matter of past in a very short time.

શ્રી જી. એન. કોર્પે (મુંબઈ લેજિસ્લેટિવ્ઝ અસેમ્બલીને નિવડેલે) : હા સમાગ્રાપુરે હા જો અહવાલ ચર્ચેસાઈં આલા આહે ત્યાવર માણે વિચાર માંડળ્યાસાઈં મી ઉભા આહે. માણ્યા પૂર્વીચ્યા એકા સન્માનનીય સભાસદાંનીં અસેં સાંગિતલેં કીં, આપલ્યા સમાંજાત જ્યા જાતી નિર્માણ કાલ્યા હોલ્યા ત્યા કામાચ્યા સોધીચ્યા દૃષ્ટિનેં કાલ્યા હોલ્યા. જાતી કોળત્યાહિ કારણાસાઈં નિર્માણ કાલ્યા અસલ્યા તરી એક ગોષ્ટી સરી આહે કીં, હ્યા જાતિપદ્ધતીમુળેં સર્વાત કનિષ્ઠ માનલ્યા ગેલેલ્યા અસ્પૃશ્ય જાતીલા માણસકીનેં વાગવિષ્યાંત યેત નવ્હતેં. હી ગોષ્ટી લક્ષાંત ઘેઝન જેવ્હાં મહાત્મા ગાંધીનીં હ્યા જાતીલા ઉદ્ધાર કરણ્યાચેં કાર્ય મુરુ કેલેં તેવ્હાં હ્યા ગોષ્ટીલા પહિલ્યાનેં ચાલના મિઠાલી. હ્યા જમાનીતલ્યા લોકાંના સર્વસાધારણ માણસકીચીહિ વાગળૂક મિઠત નાहीं અસેં જેવ્હાં મહાત્મા ગાંધીચ્યા નજરેસ આલેં તેવ્હાં ત્યાંના ફાર દુઃખ કાલેં. ત્યાંનીં તાબડતોવ યા દલિત વર્ગાચા ઉદ્ધાર કરણ્યાચેં કાર્ય મુરુ કેલેં વ ત્યાંના માણસકીચી વાગળૂક મિઠાલી પાહિજે યા દૃષ્ટિનેં કાર્યાલા મરુવાત કેલી. હ્યા ચઢવઢીચા ગેલ્યા ૨૦ વર્ષાંના જર આપળ આઠાવા કાઢલા તર આપલ્યાલા અસેં દિમૂન યેઈલ કીં, મહાત્મા ગાંધીનીં ત્યા વેઢીં મુરુ કેલેલ્યા ચઢવઢીલા આજ ચાંગલેંચ ફઠ આલેંલેં આહે. સર્વસ્વી દલિત મ્હળૂત માનલા ગેલેલા હા વર્ગ આજ ઉચ્ચ થરાલા આલેલા આહે, ઉચ્ચ જાતીચ્યા પાતઢીલા આલા આહે વ ત્યાંનેં પ્રત્યેક ક્ષેત્રામધ્યેં ચાંગલી પ્રગતિ કેલેલી આહે. હ્યા વર્ગાચ્યા ઉદ્ધારાસાઈં પ્રામુખ્યાનેં જર કોળી કાર્ય કેલેં અસેલ તર તે મહાત્મા ગાંધીનીં વ ત્યાંચ્યા અનુયાયાંનીં કેલેં આહે. ત્યા વેઢીં કાર્ય કરણ્યાસાઈં વિરોધી પક્ષાંતલેં કોળી ઘજલેં નાहीं. અસેં અસતાંના સરકારનેં હ્યા વર્ગાસાઈં કાંઈં કેલેં નાहीं અસે આરોપ વિરુદ્ધ પક્ષાકડન કેલે જાત આહેત હી સરોસર આશ્વર્યાચી ગોષ્ટી આહે. આજ સેડચાપાડચાંત જાઝન પાહિલેં તર અસતીલ તર સેડચાપાડચાંતીલ અજ્ઞાની જનતેચ્યા ભાવના મડકાવૂન દેખ્યાચેં આણિ અરાજક માજવિષ્યાચેં કામ કરીત આહેત. વિદર્ભાચ્યા વાવતીંત સાંગાવયાંચેં કાલેં તર ત્યા સરકારનેં હરિજન આણિ અસ્પૃશ્ય યાસાંઈં કિતી તરી સવલતી દિલેલ્યા આહેત. પરંતુ એકીકડે સરકાર ચાંગલેં કામ કરીત અસતાંના વિરોધી પક્ષાચે લોક જનતેલા સરકારપાસૂન દૂર લોટળ્યાચા પ્રયત્ન કરીત આહેત હી મોઢી સેવાચી ગોષ્ટી આહે. યામુળેં ત્યા જનતેચેં અકલ્યાણ માત્ર હોત આહે. આજ સેડચાપાડચાંત હ્યા લોકાંનીં ઇતકે અરાજક માજવૂન ઠેવલેં આહે કીં, ત્યાંના અયોગ્ય માર્ગદર્શન મિઠત અસલ્યામુળેં તે ચોન્ચામાન્ચા કલ્હ લાગલે આહેત. રાત્રીચ્યા વેઢીં દરોડે ઘાલૂં લાગલે આહેત. કાંઈં સન્માનનીય સભાસદાંનીં ત્યાંચ્યા દૃષ્ટીને કાંઈં ગોષ્ટી યેથેં માંડલ્યા, પળ મી ત્યાંના આવ્હાન દેઝેં ઇચ્છિતોં કીં, તે સાંગત અસલેલ્ય.

શ્રી કે. આર. પાટીલ : મી આપલેં આવ્હાન સ્વીકારાયલા તયાર આહે.

શ્રી. જી. એન. કોર્પે : સન્માનનીય સભાસદાંનીં અસેં સાંગિતલેં કીં, કિલ્કેક ગાંવાંત હલ્લી અસ્પૃશ્યાંના રસ્ત્યાવરૂન જાળ્યાચી બંદી આહે, દુકાનાંત સામાન મિઠત નાहीं. કાંઈં ગાંવાંતીલ સ્પૃશ્ય સમાજાંતીલ લોકાંનીં અસ્પૃશ્યાંના સૂપ મારલેં અસેંહિ ત્યાંનીં સાંગિતલેં. અધ્યક્ષ મહારાજ, મી એવઢેંચ મ્હળેન કીં, જનતેચ્યા ભાવના મડકાવૂન દેખ્યાચા આણિ જનતેલા સરકારપાસૂન આણિ સરકાર પક્ષાચ્યા લોકાંપાસૂન દૂર ઠેવળ્યાચા હા એક પ્રયત્ન આહે. મી સન્માનનીય સભાસદાંના સાંગે ઇચ્છિતો કીં, અશા રીતીનેં યેથેં બોલૂન કિવા બાહેર લેક્ચર્સ દેઝન કામ હોત નાहीं. મહાત્મા ગાંધીની સ્વતઃ અંગ્યાચેં કામ કેલેં હોતેં, રસ્તે કાઢળ્યાચ કામ કેલેં હોતેં.

શ્રી. કે. આર. પાટીલ : મહાત્મા ફુલે યાંચ્યા કાર્યાલા કાંઈંચ મહત્ત્વ નાहीं કાય ?

શ્રી. જી. એન. કોર્પે : અધ્યક્ષ મહારાજ, કોળાચ્યા કાર્યાચી કિમત કમી લેખળ્યાચી માક્ષી મુઢીચ ઇચ્છા નાहीं. મી હું સાંગત હોતોં કીં, મહાત્મા ગાંધીની ત્યાવેઢીં અસ્પૃશ્યતા નિવારણાચી ચઢવઢ સ્વતઃચ્યા દેસરેલોલ્યાલીં હાતીં ઘેતલી તિચેં આજ આપલ્યાલા અસેં ફઠ દિસત આહે કીં, પૂર્વીચ્યા અસ્પૃશ્યતેચ્યા કલ્પનેચ્યા માનાનેં આજ અસ્પૃશ્યતા જવઢ જવઢ નાહીશી કાલી આહે. અર્થાત, જ્યાંના રાજકીય દૃષ્ટીનેં હ્યા પ્રશ્નાકડે પાહાવયાચેં અસેલ તે હી ગોષ્ટી કબૂલ કરણાર નાहींત, પળ ત્યાલા આમચા વ સરકારચા નાફલાજ આહે. કૉંગ્રેસ પક્ષાચ્યા લોકાંનીં આજપર્યંત રક્તાચેં પાળી કરૂન અસ્પૃશ્યતા નાહીશી કેલી આહે યાચેં એક ઉદાહરણ ઘાવયાચેં કાલેં તર આમચ્યા ભાગાંત ગ્રામપંચાયતીચી એક નિવડળૂક કાલી ત્યાંત ત્યા લોકાંનીં ગ્રામપંચાયતીચા અધ્યક્ષ એકા મેહતરલા કેલેં આહે. અધ્યક્ષ મહારાજ, અસ્પૃશ્યતા નાહીશી કાલ્યાચેં યાપેશાં આગલી કાય ઉદાહરણ ઘાવયાચેં ?

અસ્પૃશ્યાંપ્રમાણેંચ પહાડાંત રાહાળારે મિલ્લ વગરે જે માગાસલેલે લોક રાહત અસતાત ત્યાંનાહિ વર આળળ્યાચેં કાર્ય સરકાર કરીત આહે. ત્યાંના નાના પ્રકારચી મદત કરીત આહે. કારણ સરકારપુઢેં સર્વેક માગાસલેલ્યા લોકાંચા પ્રશ્ન આહે. અસ્પૃશ્ય સમાજાપેશાંહિ પહાડાંતીલ વન્ય જમાતીંચા પ્રશ્ન મહત્ત્વાચા આહે. એક સન્માનનીય સભાસદાંનીં માણ્યા આધીં અસેં સાંગિતલેં કીં, જે વન્ય લોક ડોંગરમાથ્યાવર રાહાત અસૂન ત્યાંચ્યાપર્યંત જાવયાચેં મ્હટલેં તરી દોન દોન મેલ ડોંગર ચઢાવાં લાગતો. ઇતકેહિ કરૂન તેથેં તીન કિવા ચાર મિલ્લ લોકાંચી ઘરેં અસતાત. અશા લોકાંપર્યંત જાઝન કાર્ય કરળેં કઠીળ આહે અસેં તે મ્હળાલે. કાર્ય કઠિળ અસલેં તરી તે મહત્ત્વાચેં આણિ જરૂરીચેં આહે અસેં માન્ય કેલ્યાનંતર તે કોળી તરી કેલેંચ પાહિજે. માગાસલેલ્યા આણિ દલિત લોકાંચી સેવા યાલાચ સરી જનસેવા આણિ દેસસેવા મ્હળતાત. પળ હી જનસેવા કરાવયાચી દુસન્ચાંનીં આણિ સરકારચ્યા આણિ સરકાર પક્ષાચ્યા લોકાંચ્યા કાર્યાંત દોષ કાઢાવયાચે વિરોધી પક્ષાંતલ્યા લોકાંનીં. અર્જાનેં સરેં કાર્ય હોળાર નાहीं. અધ્યક્ષ મહારાજ, મી અસેં મોઢચા અભિમાનાનેં સાંગે શક્તોં કીં, કૉંગ્રેસ પક્ષાચે કાર્યકર્તા આણિ સરકારચે અધિકારી પહાડી લોકાંમધ્યેં જાતાત, અસ્પૃશ્ય સમાજાંત જાતાત, ત્યાંચી વિચારપૂસ કરતાત, આણિ ત્યાંના શાઢા પાહિજે અસેલ કિવા ઇતર કાંઈં સોય પાહિજે અસેલ તર ત્યાચી વ્યવસ્થા કરતાત. હ્યા કામાસાઈં સરકારી અનુદાન નસેલ તર કાંઈં વેઢાં સ્વતઃચ્યા ક્ષિણાંતૂન પૈસે સર્વ કરતાત. તેવ્હાં કૉંગ્રેસ પક્ષાચે લોક હ્યા લોકાંસાઈં એવઢી મેહનત ઘેતાત ત્યાચેં દૃશ્યફઠ આજ આપલ્યાલા દિસત આહે. અશા પ્રકારચેં ચાંગલેં કામ હોત અસતાંના વિરોધી પક્ષાચે લોક ત્યાંચ્યા ભાવના ચેતાવતાત, ત્યાંચ્યા બુઢીલા નિરાઢેં વઢળ લાવતાત આણિ આમચ્યાપાસૂન ત્યાંના દૂર નેપ્યાચા પ્રયત્ન કરતાત. વિરોધી પક્ષાંચી હી જી વૃત્તિ આહે યાનેં કોળત્યાહિ પ્રકારચા ફાયદા હોળાર નાहीं. એક દિવસ અસા યેઈલ કીં, સત્ય કાય આહે હું લોકાંના કઢેલ આણિ મળ ત્યાંચી ચૂક ત્યાંના કઢૂન યેઈલ. સત્ય આણિ અહિંસા હ્યા મહાત્માજીની સાંગિતલેલ્યા માર્ગાનેં સરકાર વ સરકાર પક્ષાચે લોક કાર્ય કરીત આહેત વ શેવટીં તોચ માર્ગ જનતેલા હિતાવહ ઠરેલ અશી મલા લાગી આહે.

[श्री. जे. एन. कोर्पे]

सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. के. आर. पाटील यांनी असे सांगितले की, विदर्भांमध्ये सर्व मागासलेल्या जमातींसाठी शैक्षणिक स्कॉलरशिप्स मंजूर केलेल्या असतांना विशिष्ट जातीच्या लोकांनाच त्या मिळाल्या आहेत. अध्यक्ष महाराज, मी असे सांगू इच्छितो की ही गोष्ट खोटी आहे. गेल्या चार पांच वर्षांत मागासलेल्या वर्गासाठी सरकारने जेवढ्या स्कॉलरशिप्स मंजूर केल्या त्या सर्व मागासलेल्या लोकांना मिळालेल्या आहेत. तेव्हा ज्या लोकांचा सरकार पक्षाशी निकट संबंध नव्हता अशा लोकांना ह्या स्कॉलरशिप्स मिळाल्या नाहीत हे विधान खोटे आहे.

श्री. के. आर. पाटील : अध्यक्ष महाराज, खोटे हा शब्द अनपार्लमेंटरी आहे.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Yes.

श्री. जे. एन. कोर्पे : सन्माननीय सभासदांनी सांगितलेले गलत आहे असे मी म्हणतो.

Shri K. R. PATIL : The hon. Member has used the Hindi word “*Galat*.” It means the same thing as “*Khota*” in Marathi. He may be asked to withdraw this word also.

Shri V. S. DONGRE : If I may be allowed to intervene, with due respect I would submit that the word ‘*Khota*’ used by the hon. Member connotes ‘incorrect’ and not a ‘lie’. That is not unparliamentary.

श्री. जे. एन. कोर्पे : अध्यक्ष महाराज, खोटे म्हणजे सन्माननीय सभासद खोटे बोलले असे मला म्हणावयाचे नव्हते, त्यांचे म्हणणे बरोबर नाही असे मला सांगावयाचे होते.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member wants to convey the meaning of ‘incorrect’.

श्री. जे. एन. कोर्पे : त्यानंतर, अध्यक्ष महाराज, या ठिकाणी हरिजन सेवक संघाच्या कार्याचा उल्लेख करण्यांत आला. आज सर्व हिंदुस्थानामध्ये हरिजन सेवक संघाच्या उच्च दर्जाच्या कार्याची वाहवा होत आहे. ह्या संघामार्फत खेड्यापाड्यांमध्ये हरिजन वस्तीमध्ये कार्यकर्ते जातात, तेथे त्यांची पाण्याची सोय आहे की नाही, त्यांच्या मुलांच्या शिक्षणाची सोय आहे की नाही याची विचारपूस करतात. सोय नसेल तर ती करतात. विहीर नसेल तर बांधून देण्याची व्यवस्था करतात. अशा प्रकारे पैशाची व इतर हरएक प्रकारची मदत ह्या संघाचे कार्यकर्ते हरिजन वस्तीमध्ये जाऊन करीत असतात. अशाच प्रकारे विदर्भांमध्ये हा संघ कार्य करीत आहे. हे कार्य पाहिल्यानंतर हिंदुस्थान सरकारने हा जो रिपोर्ट प्रसिद्ध केला आहे त्याबद्दल त्या सरकारला धन्यवादच दिले पाहिजेत. आज सरकार मागासलेल्या जमातींना जसे साहाय्य करीत आहे तसेच पहाडी जमातींना सध्यांपेक्षा जास्त मदत करून यापुढे साहाय्य करावे.

श्री. एम. बी. गायकवाड (महाराष्ट्र नॉर्थ—लोकल अ‍ॅथॉरिटीज) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, सभागृहासमोर ठेवण्यांत आलेल्या मुंबई राज्यांतील प्रदेशासंबंधीच्या अनुसूचित जातीच्या आणि अनुसूचित जमातीच्या कमिशनरांच्या प्रतिवेदनावर बऱ्याच सन्माननीय सभासदांनी आपापले विचार मांडलेले आहेत. फारच उशीरा प्रतिपादन करण्यांत आलेले मत असेच स्वरूप त्यास प्राप्त झालेले आहे. १९५५ साली तयार करण्यांत आलेल्या या रिपोर्टावर

[श्री एम्. बी. गायकवाड]

१९५८ साली चर्चा होत आहे. अशा परिस्थितीत या रिपोर्टावर करण्यांत आलेला विचार विनिमय सेन्ट्रल गव्हर्नमेंटपर्यंत जाऊन पोहोचण्यात या जातीच्या आणि जमातीच्या लोकांची सामाजिक आणि आर्थिक दृष्ट्या किती उन्नति झालेली असेल या बाबतची माहिती सभागृहापुढे सादर करावयास पाहिजे होती. तथा प्रकारची माहिती सभागृहासमोर ठेवणे सरकारचे कर्तव्यच होते असे मी म्हणून. या रिपोर्टात प्रतिपादण्यांत आलेल्या कांहीं गोष्टी इतक्या जुन्या झालेल्या आहेत की त्यांवर चर्चा करणे योग्य होणार नाही. हा रिपोर्ट चाळून पाहिला असता एक गोष्ट जी लक्षांत येते ती ही की कमिशनर साहेबांनी निरनिराळ्या विभागांत दौरा करून जी प्रत्यक्ष माहिती मिळविली, त्यांना त्या दौऱ्यांत जो अनुभव आला, त्याचेच वर्णन या रिपोर्टात केलेले आहे.

अनुसूचित जातीच्या आणि अनुसूचित जमातीच्या लोकांची सामाजिक दृष्ट्या किती प्रगती झालेली आहे, अद्याप किती प्रगति व्हावयास पाहिजे, याचेच विवेचन या रिपोर्टात मुख्यतः करण्यांत आले असल्याचे दिसून येते. त्याचबरोबर या समाजाची सुधारणा करण्यासाठी जो कांहीं खर्च केलेला आहे त्या बाबतचे देखील कांहीं आंकडे या रिपोर्टात देण्यांत आलेले आहेत आणि या समाजाची जी एकंदर उन्नति करावयाची आहे ती एक कर्तव्य या दृष्टीने कशी करता येईल याची चर्चा या रिपोर्टात करण्यांत आलेली आहे. परंतु अशा प्रकारचे हे प्रतिवेदन अत्यंत असमाधानकारक आहे. आदिवासी आणि अस्पृश्य यांच्या पुनर्रचनेसंबंधीचा तसेच देशातील एक घटक या दृष्टीने त्यांच्या आर्थिक, सामाजिक आणि सांस्कृतिक उन्नतीच्या दृष्टीने कांहीं आमूलाग्र बदलांसंबंधी या रिपोर्टात विचार व्हावयास पाहिजे होता, परंतु तो झाला नाही असे दुर्दैवाने म्हणावेसे वाटते. समाजाची एकंदर सुधारणा करण्याकरिता या लोकांची आर्थिक पुनर्रचना करावयास पाहिजे होती, परंतु तशी दृष्टीच यांत नाही. कांहीं सन्माननीय सदस्य म्हणतील की, अशा तऱ्हेची दृष्टी ६-०० p.m.

निरनिराळ्या योजनांकरिता कांहीं रकमा ठेवलेल्या आहेत. या समाजाची उन्नति व्हावी यासाठी कांहीं सेवा मंडळांना आणि संस्थांना मोठमोठ्या रकमा दिलेल्या आहेत, असे असतांना यामागे या समाजाच्या आर्थिक उन्नतीची दृष्टी नाही असे आपण कसे म्हणता? आदिवासी आणि मागासलेल्या वर्गाच्या लोकांची प्रगति झाली असे आपण म्हणता त्यावेळी आपण १९५८ सालांत आहोत आणि १९५८ सालांत जगांत किंवा देशांत इतर समाज किती पुढे गेलेला आहे, त्याची किती प्रगति झाली आहे या सापेक्ष दृष्टिकोनातून त्यांच्या प्रगतीचा विचार करावयास नको काय?

आपल्या देशाला स्वातंत्र्य मिळून १० वर्षे झालेली आहेत. आपल्या देशाला नवी घटना मिळाल्यानंतर देशातील सर्व समाजांची आर्थिक आणि सामाजिक उन्नति कशी होईल या दृष्टीने आपण विचार करू लागलो तेव्हा या आदिवासी आणि अस्पृश्य यांची आर्थिक उन्नति आधुनिकतेच्या दृष्टिकोनातून व्हावयास नको काय? परंतु तथा तऱ्हेच्या दृष्टिकोनातून सरकार विचार करीत नसल्याचे दिसून येते. कांहीं सन्माननीय सभासदांनी असे सांगितले की, आपण होऊन पुढे जाण्याची या समाजाची इच्छा नाही. इतरांच्या मेहेरबानीवर ते लोक अवलंबून असतात. तसे न करता आपला मार्ग आपण शोधून काढण्याची वृत्ति त्यांनी ठेविली पाहिजे. हा समाज आपल्या उन्नतिसाठी उदासीन आहे, आपल्यावर जसे कांहीं संकट आले आहे या भूमिकेतून तो वागतो, तेव्हा त्यांच्या विकासाच्या बाबतीत कांहीं धाई करावयास नको असे कांहीं सन्माननीय सभासदांनी सांगितले. पण ही भूमिका सध्याच्या लोकशाही काळात समाजाच्या विकासाच्या मूलभूत धोरणाशी विसंगत आहे असे मला वाटते. कांहीं सन्माननीय सभासदांनी सांगितले की, विरोधी पक्षाचे लोक या

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रिपोर्टावर विनाकारण टीका करीत आहेत, हल्ले करीत आहेत, सरकार करीत असलेल्या गोष्टी विरोधी पक्षास पसंत नाहीत. आपलें घर त्यांना बांधावयाचें आहे, बाकीच्यांचें तोडून टाकावयाचें आहे. परंतु असल्या प्रकारची भाषा ही लोकशाहीशी विपरीत आहे. सरकारने केलेल्या कार्यावर टीका करण्यासाठी आम्ही येथें आलों नाही. सत्ताधारी पक्ष घरे बांधावयाला निघालेला आहे; आणि आम्ही ती मोडून टाका असे म्हणत आहेत, सरकार हें जंगल व इतर सोसायट्या स्थापन करीत आहे व त्या मोडून टाका असे आम्ही म्हणत आहोत, असें मुळीच नाही. अशा प्रकारची आमची भूमिका मुळीच नाही. या समाजाच्या लोकांचा सर्वांगीण विकास करण्याच्या दृष्टीने त्यांच्याकडे पहा अशी आमची भूमिका आहे.

हिंदुस्थानची फाळणी होऊन हिंदुस्थान आणि पाकिस्तान असे दोन विभाग झाल्यानंतर निर्वासितांचे असंख्य लोढे भारतांत येण्यास सुरवात झाली. तेव्हां या निर्वासितांकडे राष्ट्रीय दृष्टिकोनांतून पहावयास आपण सुरवात केली. त्यांची सर्व प्रकारची सोय कशी करता येईल इकडे सर्व राष्ट्रांनी लक्ष केंद्रित केलें. त्यांची राहाण्याची सोय जितक्या चांगल्या तऱ्हेने करणे शक्य होतें तेंचही सरकारने केली. त्यांना आपला उदरनिर्वाह चांगला करता यावा यासाठी प्रत्येक राज्याने शक्य ते प्रयत्न केलेले आहेत. त्याचप्रमाणे आदिवासी आणि अस्पृश्य यांच्या उद्धारासाठीदेखील महत्त्वाच्या मेसर्सचा आपण अवलंब केला पाहिजे. जे समाज गेली अनेक वर्षे दारिद्र्यांत वितरत पडलेले आहेत त्यांची सर्वांगीण उन्नति करण्यासाठी कांहीं महत्त्वाचे मेसर्स वापरले पाहिजेत. राष्ट्रीय दृष्टिकोनांतून या प्रश्नाचा विचार करावयास पाहिजे आणि या प्रश्नावर ताबडतोबीने कांहीं तरी उपाययोजना केली पाहिजे. या कमिशनरांच्या अहवालावर मी टीका करतो ती याचसाठी की अस्पृश्य आणि आदिवासींच्या उन्नतिसाठी मुंबई सरकारने आणि हिंदुस्थान सरकारने काय उपाययोजना करावयास पाहिजे तें सुचविलेले नाही. युद्धांत स्वतःचा बचाव करण्यासाठी आणि जीव वाचविण्यासाठी जशी सावधगिरीची पावले टाकणें भाग पडतें, तंतडीने हालचाल करणें भाग पडतें, तशा प्रकारचें पाऊल याहि लोकांच्या उन्नतीच्या बाबतीत टाकावयास पाहिजे, ही गोष्ट आपण लक्षांत ठेवली पाहिजे.

सरकारने पुष्कळच प्रगति केलेली आहे हें दाखविण्यासाठी कांहीं सन्माननीय सभासदांनी असा पुरावा पुढें केला की, पूर्वी जंगल सोसायट्या नव्हत्या, त्या आतां निर्माण झालेल्या आहेत, चार गांवांत एक विद्दर नव्हती, आतां ती बांधण्यांत आलेली आहे, पूर्वी दोन मैलांचा चांगला रस्ता नव्हता आतां ठिकठिकाणीं रस्ते बांधण्यांत आलेले आहेत. याचाच अर्थ असा की, पूर्वीपेक्षा आपली आणि पर्यायाने आदिवासींची आणि मागासलेल्या लोकांची पुष्कळच प्रगति झालेली आहे. कालानुसार ही सुधारणा झालेली आहे. याला कांहीं मोठी प्रगति म्हणतां येणार नाही. काळावर अवलंबून राहिल्याने कधी चांगली प्रगति होत नसते. समाजाच्या विकासासाठी, प्रगतिसाठी समाजानें आणि सरकारने काय केले यालाच मी जास्त महत्त्व देतो. आम्ही कांहीं मोठे कार्य करीत आहोत, आदिवासींवर मेहेरबानी करीत आहोत अशा दृष्टीने त्यांच्याकडे सरकारने पाहूं नये, एवढीच माझी सरकारला विनंती आहे.

माझे एक मित्र श्री. भिडे यांनी आपल्या भाषणांत असे सांगितले की, त्या काळी जातिव्यवस्था जरूर होती म्हणून ती निर्माण झाली. आज जाती नष्ट होण्याचा काळ आलेला आहे, तेव्हां त्या आपोआपच नष्ट होतील. त्यासाठी सरकारने जास्त कांहीं खटपट करण्याचें कारण नाही. मला सांगण्यास खेद वाटतो की समामुहांतील सर्वसाधारण

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कामकाजाच्या बाबतीत आमच्या वाजूला असणारे आणि सरकारच्या धोरणावर टीका करणारे श्री. भिडे हिंदू समाजातील मागासलेल्या वर्गाच्या लोकांच्या उन्नतीच्या बाबतीत सरकारपेक्षाहि भागे आहेत, प्रतिगामी धोरण स्वीकारणारे आहेत याचें कारण काय तें माझ्या लक्षांत येत नाही.

कांहीं सन्माननीय सभासद म्हणतील की, आदिवासी लोकांची आणि मागासलेल्या लोकांची उन्नती सरकार झपाट्याने करीत आहे, परंतु विरोधी पक्षास डोळे असून ती दिसत नाही. परंतु, नासिक जिल्ह्यांतल अनुभव काय आहे? डांग जिल्हा, दिंडोरी, कळवण ह्या ठिकाणच्या आदिवासींची परिस्थिति आपण जी पूर्वीपासून पाहात आलों आहोत तशीच आजहि आहे. त्यांत कांहींहि बदल झालेला दिसून येत नाही. आजहि ते मोडक्या तोडक्या झोपडींत राहात आहेत. त्यांच्या मुलांच्या शिक्षणाची सोय नाही, उदरनिर्वाहासाठी कांहीं उद्योगधंदे नाही, अशा परिस्थितीत आज ठिकठिकाणचे आदिवासी आपलें जीवन कंठीत आहेत. नाही म्हणायला अलीकडे त्यांच्यासाठी सरकारने जंगल सोसायट्या काढल्या आहेत व त्यामुळे थोड्यांच्या लोकांना फायदा होतो ही गोष्ट खरी आहे.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Will the hon. Member resume his seat? I want to bring to his notice that by 7-00 o'clock we want to finish the consideration of the report. The Hon. Minister has also to give his reply before the The hon. Member and, as a matter of fact most of the hon. Members, are repeatedly laying stress on the conditions of the Adivasis and the Scheduled Tribes, etc. If the hon. Member has to make any suggestions, he is most welcome to do so. The time at the disposal of the hon. Member is very short. He may take two minutes more.

श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड: महत्त्वाची सूचना मी एक अशी करीन की, आदिवासी आणि अस्पृश्य यांचा प्रश्न जर सरकारला सोडवावयाचा असेल तर ह्या लोकांना कसण्यासाठी जमीन देण्याची व्यवस्था शक्यतो लीकर झाली पाहिजे. ह्या बाबतीत एक अशी अडचण आहे की, आपल्याजवळ ह्या लोकांना देण्यासाठी जमिनी नाहीत. गांवामध्ये खासगी मालकीच्या जमिनी असतात किंवा सरकारी जमिनी असतात त्यांच्याबद्दल निरनिराळे प्रश्न उपस्थित होतात. अशा कांहीं वस्त्या आहेत की जेथे स्पृश्य आणि अस्पृश्य एके ठिकाणी राहातात, पण त्यांच्यामध्ये द्वेषाची भावना वावरत असल्यामुळे स्पृश्य लोक अस्पृश्यांना जमिनी मिळू देत नाहीत. ज्या कांहीं सरकारी जमिनी ह्या लोकांना मिळण्यासारख्या असतात त्या त्यांनी घ्यावयाच्या म्हटल्या तरी ह्या लोकांजवळ यासाठी आवश्यक असलेला पैसा नसतो. तेव्हां ह्या लोकांना आर्थिक साधन पुरविण्याची जबाबदारी सरकारने घेतली पाहिजे. पण आजपर्यंत ह्या बाबतीत समाधानकारक प्रगति झालेली दिसून येत नाही. तेव्हा सरकारने ह्या बाबतीत कांहीं तरी जास्त प्रयत्न केला पाहिजे असें मला सुचवावयाचें आहे.

यानंतर दुसरी एक अडचण अशी येते की, जंगलांमध्ये जीं गायराने म्हणून राखून ठेवलेली असतात त्यांपैकी कांहीं जमीन ह्या लोकांना देतां येण्यासारखीहि असून ती दिली जात नाही. ह्या गायरानांपैकी कांहीं जमीन लागवडीलायक असते. ही जमीन अस्पृश्यांना द्यावयाचें सरकारने ठरविलें तर ती जमीन गायरान म्हणून ठेवणें आवश्यक आहे अशी मागणी स्पृश्य लोकांकडून केली जाते. ह्या प्रश्नावरून कित्येक वेळां स्पृश्य आणि अस्पृश्य यांच्यामध्ये दंगली माजतात. अशा जमिनीच्या बाबतीत पाहणी करण्यासाठी जे सरकारी अधिकारी जातात ते स्पृश्य लोकांच्या संमतीने आपला निर्णय देत असल्यामुळे ह्या पाहणीचा फायदा अस्पृश्यांना मिळत नाही.

[श्री. एम. बी. गायकवाड]

यानंतर अस्पृश्यांच्या बाबतीत जो एक सामाजिक प्रश्न आहे तो अजून पूर्णत्वाने सुटलेला नाही. खुद्द शहरामध्ये मुद्रां अजून अस्पृश्यता पाळली जात आहे. पूर्वी अस्पृश्यतेची जी काही व्याख्या होती तिच्यामध्ये सापेक्ष दृष्टीने लोकांनी फरक केलेला आहे एवढेच. पण ह्या प्रश्नाकडे पाहण्याचा जो मूलभूत दृष्टिकोन आहे तो अजून बदललेला नाही. अस्पृश्य लोकांनी स्पृश्य लोकांमध्ये मिसळून राहण्यास शिकावे म्हणून निरनिराळ्या प्रकारचे मेळावे, सभा घडवून आणल्या जातात. ते स्पृश्य समाजात एकत्र आले आहेत हे दाख- गोष्टी सरकारपक्षीय भूमिकेवरून करण्यांत येतात यामुळे हा प्रश्न सुटणार नाही. अस्पृश्यता जर खऱ्या अर्थाने नाहीशी व्हावयास पाहिजे असेल तर हा प्रश्न सर्वपक्षीय आणि जाति निरपेक्ष भूमिकेवरून सोडविण्याचा सरकारने प्रयत्न केला पाहिजे. यासाठी इतर पक्षांचे सहकार्य पुढे येत असेल तर सरकारने आणि सरकार पक्षाने स्वीकारून त्याचा उपयोग करून घेतला पाहिजे. केवळ आपण नेमलेले नोकर असतील किंवा सरकारच्या छात्रावालीं चालणाऱ्या ज्या संस्था असतील त्यांनाच मदत करावयाची हे धोरण सरकारने बदलले पाहिजे. सरकारला जर हा प्रश्न सोडवावयाचा असेल तर सर्व पक्षीय कमिटी नेमून त्या कमिटीच्या सहकार्याने अस्पृश्य आणि आदिवासी यांचा प्रश्न सोडवावा अशी विनंति करून मी रजा घेतो.

श्री. बी. बी. बडवे (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंब्लीने निवडलेले) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, आपल्यासमोर जो अहवाल चर्चेसाठी आला आहे तो पाहिल्यानंतर असे दिसून येते की, ह्या अहवालाच्या कालामध्ये आपण अस्पृश्यता निवारणाच्या बाबतीत त्यांची आर्थिक, सामाजिक, सांस्कृतिक आणि धार्मिक प्रगति करण्याच्या बाबतीत मुळीच प्रगति प्रगतीपर विचार- सरणीचे जे श्रेक जगामध्ये आहेत ते विरोधाच्या ह्या मताशी सहमत नाहीत. विरोधी पक्षाकडून ही टीका करण्यांत आली ती अत्यंत अवास्तव आणि पूर्वग्रह दूषित असल्या- मुळे सरकारने त्या टीकेकडे लक्ष देण्याचे मुळीच कारण नाही. ह्या टीकेकडे लक्ष न देता आपल्या मार्गाने अस्पृश्यांचा उद्धार करण्याचा सरकारचा निर्धार आहे. ह्याच मार्गाने आपल्या देशाला स्वातंत्र्य मिळाले आहे आणि ह्याच मार्गाने आपल्या देशात ज्या अनेक विकट समस्या आहेत त्यांची सोडवणूक होईल याची खात्री पूर्वग्रहदूषित नसलेल्या जनतेला आहे अशी मला आशा आहे.

सामाजिक आणि धार्मिक बाबतीत पुष्कळ वेळां टीका केली जाते. मंदिर प्रवेश झुणकाभाकर मेळावा व सत्यनारायण ह्यांची विरोधी पक्षाकडून टिंगल करण्यांत आली, पण मला वाटते विरोधी लोकांनी हे प्रकार प्रत्यक्ष पाहिलेले नसावेत. उदाहरणार्थ, पंढरपूरचा मंदिर प्रवेश म्हणजे एक ऐतिहासिक आणि अविस्मरणीय घटना आहे. पंढर- पूरच्या मंदिर प्रवेशामुळे दक्षिण हिंदुस्थानातील हरिजन प्रश्न सुकर झाला ही गोष्ट ज्यांच्या- मनांत पूर्वग्रहदूषित विचार नाहीत त्यांना पटल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. पंढरपूरचे मंदिर

[श्री. बी. बी. बडवे]

हे दक्षिण हिंदुस्थानातील फार महत्वाचे स्थान असून ते ज्या मार्गाने खुले झाले तो स्पृह- णीय मार्ग होता, गांधीजींचा मार्ग होता. ह्या मंदिर प्रवेशाचा थोडासा इतिहास येथे सांगितला तर अयोग्य हाईल असें मला वाटत नाही. हे मंदिर हरिजनांसाठी खुले व्हावे म्हणून श्री. साने गुरुजी यांनी उपवास केला, बाहेर जनतेचे मतपरिवर्तन करण्यासाठी प्रचार केला आणि मंदिराच्या व्यवस्थापक मंडळीचेहि मतपरिवर्तन करण्याचा प्रयत्न केला. त्यांनी एकंदर १० दिवस उपवास केला होता. मला असें सांगावयाचे आहे की, मंदिर प्रवेश करण्यापूर्वी श्री. साने गुरुजींनी लोकांच्या मतपरिवर्तनाची आधी तयारी केली. मंदिराच्या व्यवस्थापकांचे हृदयपरिवर्तन झाले आणि महाराष्ट्रातील दक्षिण काशी समजल्या जाणाऱ्या गावांतील मंदिर हरिजनांकरिता खुले झाले. हा प्रश्न अत्यंत सुकर झाला याबद्दल मला तरी शंका वाटत नाही.

माझे उदाहरण द्यावयाचे झाल्यास मी आपल्याला सांगू इच्छितो की, मी उपाध्यायाच्या वर्गात जन्मलेला माणूस आहे. लहानपणी मी अस्पृश्यता पाळणारा होतो. परंतु गांधी- जींच्या शिकवणीमुळे माझ्या मतांत आणि आचारविचारांत परिवर्तन झाले. अस्पृश्या- विषयी सेवाभाव निर्माण झाला. अस्पृश्यता हा त्या जमातीवर लागलेला एक कलंक आहे आणि तो आपण धुवून टाकलाच पाहिजे ही गांधीजींची विचारसरणी मला पुरेपूर पटली. माझ्या कर्तव्याची जाणीव त्यांनी मला करून दिली. लहानपणी अस्पृश्यता पाळ- मनुष्याचे गांधीजींनी आपल्या शिकवणीमुळे मतपरिवर्तन केले, आचारपरिवर्तन केले.

लहानपणी अस्पृश्यता पाळणारा मी, पण पंढरपूरच्या हरिजन प्रवेशाच्या बाबतीत मी पुढाकार घेतला. माझा मोठेपणा म्हणून मी हे सांगत नाही. गांधीजींनी स्वीकारलेल्या मार्गाचे यश म्हणून ही गोष्ट मी सांगितली. गांधीजींच्या मार्गामुळे माझ्याप्रमाणेच हजारो जणांचे हृदयपरिवर्तन झाले. गांधीजींच्या मार्गानेच अस्पृश्योद्धाराच्या कार्याला यश येईल असा माझा विश्वास आहे. पक्षीय दृष्टिकोनातून या प्रकारच्या विचारसरणीवर टीका केली जाते. परंतु, केवळ टीका करून हा प्रश्न सुटणार नाही. माझ्यासारख्या हजारो सवर्ण हिंदूंचे हृदयपरिवर्तन झाले ते गांधीजींच्या मार्गामुळेच झाले. केवळ धर्मांतर करून अस्पृश्यांना हा प्रश्न सोडविता येणार नाही. लोकशाहीशिवाय अन्य मार्गाने हा प्रश्न सुटेल असे कोणास वाटत असेल तर ते निरर्थक आहे. गांधीजींच्या मार्गानेच हा प्रश्न सुटणार असल्यामुळे त्याच मार्गाचा आपण अवलंब केला पाहिजे हे मी पुनः एकदा सांगू इच्छितो.

झुणकाभाकर सत्यनारायणावर टीका करण्यांत आली. सर्वांनी याचे येंऊन, कोणत्याही प्रकारचा भेदभाव न मानता, एकत्र जेवण करावे व उच्चनीच हा जातिभेद विसरावा म्हणून श्री. गडगे गुरुजी यांनी हा उपक्रम सुरू केलेला आहे. हे लोक कां जमतात, कोणत्या भावनेने जमतात, परिणाम काय होतो, याबाबतची वस्तुस्थिति विसंगत माहिती मिळाली असल्यामुळे ही टीका झालेली आहे असें मला वाटते. दिवंगत हरि- भक्त परायण गाडगे महाराज यांच्या देखरेखीखाली देखील एकदा झुणकाभाकर सत्य- नारायण झाला होता. या सत्यनारायणास ५-६ हजार सवर्ण हिंदू हजर होते. या सत्य- नारायणाच्या पूजेला एकच हरिजन जोडपे बसले नव्हते तर १०-५ चांभार, महार, मंगी ही जोडपी बसली होती. गाडगे महाराजांनी स्वतः एका हरिजन जोडप्यास द्वार घातला आणि त्याच्या हातातून झुणकाभाकराचा प्रसाद घेतला. नंतर त्याच जोडप्याने जमलेल्या सर्वांना तो झुणकाभाकराचा प्रसाद वांटला. जमलेल्या मंडळींना अज्ञानात ठेवून हा प्रसाद वांटण्यांत आला असेंहि नाही. हा प्रसाद हरिजन मंडळींनी त्यांच्या हातातून बनविलेला आहे ही गोष्ट जमलेल्या सर्व लोकांना स्पष्ट करण्यांत आलेली होती. देवाची विटबना केली जाते अशांतला देखील प्रकार नाही. पूजा अगदीच साधी बांधण्यांत आली होती,

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देवाऐवजी सुपारी ठेवण्यांत आलेली होती. सामाजिक परिवर्तन करण्याचा एक मार्ग म्हणून गद्रे गुरुजींनी या झुणकाभाकर सत्यनारायणाची प्रथा सुरू केलेली आहे. हरिभक्त परायण गाडगे महाराज यांचा आशिर्वाद मिळालेल्या या झुणकाभाकर सत्यनारायण समारंभाला प्रसिद्धीही चांगली मिळालेली आहे. आतांपर्यंत ५ हजार लोकांना हरिजनांनी जेवण वाढलें आहे. या गोष्टीचें महत्त्वच कोणाला पटवून घ्यावयाचें नसेल तर मात्र मला त्यांच्याबद्दल कांहींच म्हणावयाचें नाही. अस्पृश्यांची जी सामाजिक क्रांती करावयाची आहे त्या क्रांतीच्या मार्गातील हा एक टप्पा आहे. याच मार्गानें हा प्रश्न सुटणार आहे. तद्द्वारा हा प्रश्न सोडविण्याची तळमळ ज्या ज्या लोकांना वाटते त्यांनी या कामांत सरकारला सहकार्य दिलें पाहिजे, सहाय्य केलें पाहिजे, अशी मी विरोधी पक्षाच्या सदस्यांना विनंती करतो.

त्याचप्रमाणे मंदिर प्रवेशाचा उल्लेख करण्यांत आला. मंदिर प्रवेशामुळें किती परिवर्तन झालें आणि बदल किती झाला याचें एकच गमक मी सांगू इच्छितों. तें सभागृहाला पटेल अशी माझी खात्री आहे. १९२१ साली प्रथम हरिजनांना पंढरपूरच्या देवळांत प्रवेश देण्याचा प्रयत्न करण्यांत आला. हरिजनांना मंदिरांत प्रवेश मिळावा म्हणून १०-५ लोक हरिजनाना घेऊन कार्यकर्ते मंदिराच्या द्वारापाशी पोहोचले त्या वेळीं त्यांच्या ह्या आस विरोध करण्यासाठी २ हजार लोक उभे राहिले होते. त्या ठिकाणी हिंसक परिस्थिति निर्माण करण्यांत आली होती. पोलिस संरक्षणाखाली त्या कार्यकर्त्यांना परत जावें लागलें होतें. १९४७ साली पुनः प्रयत्न करण्यांत आला. मी आणि माझ्यासारख्या लोकांच्या पुढारीपणाखाली करण्यांत आलेल्या या वेळच्या मंदिर प्रवेशाच्या वेळीं आमच्या बाजूला २० हजार लोक होते तर आमहांला विरोध करण्यासाठी १०-५ सनातनी लोक आलेले होते. १९२१ ते १९४७ या दरम्यानच्या २६ वर्षांच्या काळांत अशा प्रकारची प्रचंड क्रांती झाली. हा क्रांतीचा मार्ग गांधीजींनी दाखविलेला आहे आणि त्या मार्गाचा अवलंब आम्ही केलेला आहे. साऱ्या हिंदुस्थानांत गांधीजींच्या या मार्गाचा स्वीकार करण्यांत आला. अस्पृश्योद्धार जो कांहीं होईल तो याच मार्गानें, गांधीजींच्या विचारसरणीच्या मार्गानेंच होईल आणि त्यांच्याच मार्गानें हा प्रश्न सुटेल अशी माझी खात्री आहे.

मला जें कांहीं सांगायला आहे तें या गांधीजींच्या मार्गाविषयीच सांगायला आहे. गांधीजींच्या या मार्गावर या ठिकाणी फार मोठी टीका करण्यांत आली. गांधीजींचा हा मार्ग या सभागृहातील कांहीं सभासदांना पसंत नाही. त्यांनी जो मार्ग स्वीकारलेला आहे तो राजकीय दृष्टिकोनांतून स्वीकारलेला आहे. परंतु, हा प्रश्न राजकीय दृष्टिकोनांतून वाटतें. सरकारी पातळीवरून हा प्रश्न सोडवावयाचा असेल तर सरकारने या प्रश्नाच्या बाबतींत सहाय्य केलें पाहिजे.

आम्ही विध्वंसक टीका करतो किंवा हरिजनांकरिता बांधलेली घरे पाडावयास सांगतो असें कांहीं नाही, अशा तऱ्हेची भाषा विरोधी पक्षाच्या एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी बापरली. जें कांहीं करण्यांत आलें आहे त्याबद्दल सरकारला धन्यवाद देऊन ज्या गोष्टी केल्या नाहीत त्याबद्दल टीका केली असती तर ती विधायक टीका आहे असें आम्ही म्हणू असेल. केलेल्या चांगल्या गोष्टीबद्दल धन्यवाद दिले आणि कांहीं कमतरता दिसली तर त्याबद्दल टीका केली तर ती टीका स्वागतार्ह होऊ शकेल. परंतु ज्या चांगल्या गोष्टी आहेत त्याबद्दल धन्यवाद तर नाहीतच, परंतु उल्लेख देखील केला जाऊ नये, ही चांगली गोष्ट नाही असें मला वाटतें. सभागृहासमोर जो रिपोर्ट चर्चेसाठी ठेवण्यांत आलेला आहे

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त्यामध्ये हरिजनांची, मागासलेल्या वर्गांची झालेली, सामाजिक, राष्ट्रीय, राजकीय आणि सांस्कृतिक प्रगति दर्शविण्यांत आलेली आहे. ह्या क्षेत्रांत या मागासलेल्या लोकांची जी प्रगति झालेली आहे ती खरोखरीच स्वागतार्ह आहे. केवळ आर्थिक. विकासाकडेच पाहून आपल्याला हा प्रश्न सोडविता येणार नाही. पैशानेंच सर्व प्रश्न सुटत नाहीत असे म्हणणाऱ्यांपैकी मी एक आहे. केवळ भाकरीचा प्रश्न सोडविल्याने त्यांचे प्रश्न आपोआप सुटतील असें मला वाटत नाही. इतर प्रश्नांशी भाकरीचा प्रश्न निगडीत आहे असें मला वाटत नाही. यांत सेवेची वृत्ति आपल्या निदर्शनास येत नाही. हरिजनांचे सामाजिक, आर्थिक आणि सांस्कृतिक प्रश्न सोडवावयाचे असतील तर त्यासाठी लोकशाहीचा आणि हृदयपरिवर्तनाचाच मार्ग आपण स्वीकारला पाहिजे. मागासलेल्या लोकांचे हे प्रश्न सोडविण्याचा मार्ग लोकशाहीचाच आणि हृदयपरिवर्तनाचाच असला पाहिजे. या मार्गाचे मार्गदर्शन गांधीजींनी ३०-४० वर्षे केले. एवढेंच नव्हे तर आपलें प्राण देखील पणास लावले. त्यांच्याच मार्गानें हा प्रश्न सुटेल. सरकार जे कांहीं करित आहे त्याबद्दल सरकार धन्यवादास पात्र आहे. स्वातंत्र्योत्तर काळातील १० वर्षांच्या कालावधीत मागासलेल्या वर्गांच्या सामाजिक, आर्थिक आणि सांस्कृतिक उन्नतीसाठी ह्या सरकारने आणि भारत सरकारने जे कांहीं प्रयत्न केले त्याबद्दल त्यांना पुन्हा एकदा धन्यवाद देऊन मी आपली रजा घेतों.

श्री एन्. के. तिरपुडे (समाज कल्याण मंत्री) : उप-सभापति महोदया, आज इस प्रति-वेदन पर जो चर्चा दिन भर हुई उसमें जिन सन्माननीय सदस्यों ने हिस्सा लिया और चर्चा की उन सब सदस्यों का मैं सर्व प्रथम आभार मानता हूँ क्योंकि उनमें से कुछ सदस्यों ने अपने सुझाव भी इस सम्बन्ध में दिए, जिन्हें केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर भेज दिया जाएगा। लेकिन इस सम्बन्ध में मुझे बहुत ज्यादा निराशा भी हुई जिसे मैं सब से पहले जाहिर कर देना अपना कर्तव्य समझता हूँ। कारण उसका यह है कि दिन भर जो चर्चा चली, उसमें जिन सदस्यों को शासकीय कार्यों से विरोध है और जो कहते हैं कि सरकार के कार्यों से उद्देश्य प्राप्त नहीं होता वे इस चर्चा में अपना कार्यक्रम हमारे सामन रखेंगे और अपने सारे विचार यहां पर व्यक्त करेंगे ऐसी मैं उम्मीद करता था। और इसीलिए मने बड़ी सावधानी के साथ सारी चर्चा सुनी लेकिन अन्त में मुझे निराशा होना पड़ा क्योंकि उन लोगों ने सरकार की और शासकीय कार्यों की काफी टीका टिप्पणी की, लेकिन दूसरा रास्ता क्या होना चाहिए, दूसरा कौन सा रास्ता अपनाया जा सकता है, जिससे अपने उद्देश्य की पूर्ति हो और दूसरे रास्ते पर चलने कि लिए कार्यकर्त्ताओं का उद्देश्य क्या होना चाहिए, यह उन्होंने नहीं बताया। इसी लिए मुझे बड़ी निराशा हुई। बात असल में यह है कि टीका टिप्पणी करना आसान है लेकिन दूसरा रास्ता ढूँढकर निकालना कठिन काम है।

शासन जिस रास्ते को अपनाता है उसी पर चलने से हम कुछ न कुछ सफलता प्राप्त कर सकते हैं ऐसा शासन समझता है। इसलिए शासन अपना कार्यक्रम लोगों के सामने रखता है। लेकिन अगर शासन का रखा हुआ कार्यक्रम और उसका रास्ता विरोधी पक्ष के माननीय सदस्यों को ठीक नहीं मालूम होता तो उनको चाहिए कि वे आज हमारे सामने, शासन के सामने और सदन के सामने अपने ठोस सुझाव रखें। चूंकि उनकी ओर से कोई ठोस सुझाव नहीं आए इसलिए मैं उनसे केवल इतनी ही प्रार्थना करूंगा कि शासन हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के उन्नति के लिए जो कुछ कार्य कर रहा है उसकी जानकारी प्राप्त करें और किस रास्ते से हम उनका उद्धार करना चाहते हैं, यह समझने की कोशिश करें। अगर फिर भी वे हमारे कार्यक्रम से सहमत नहीं हैं, तो मैं आपके द्वारा उनसे प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि ६ महीने के लिए वे अपना कार्यक्रम रखें और उनके कार्यक्रम के अनुसार जो सुझाव होंगे उनको कार्यान्वित करने की कोशिश हम करेंगे।

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इस रिपोर्ट पर चर्चा करते हुए माननीय सदस्यों ने काफी विषयों पर चर्चा की और बहुत सी बातों का जिक्र किया। जो समय इस वक्त मेरे पास है उसके अन्दर उनके तमाम सवालों का जवाब दे यह मेरे लिए सम्भव नहीं है। जिन्होंने इस चर्चा के सम्बन्ध में अपने सुझाव रखने की कोशिश की है उन्हें मैं साफ बतला देना चाहता हूँ कि उनके सुझाव पर हम विचार करेंगे और जहाँ तक रिपोर्ट में दिए सुझावों का सम्बन्ध है उसकी अधिकांश सुझावें मान्य की गई हैं और उनको सामने रखते हुए ही शासन ने अपना कार्यक्रम तैयार किया है। दूसरी बात यह है कि जैसा मैंने कहा कुछ सदस्यों ने अपने भाषणों में ऐसी बातों का जिक्र किया है जिनसे मालूम होता है कि उनके दिल में अपने गलतफहमी पैदा हो गई है, इसीलिए उन्होंने ऐसे प्रश्न उठाए। उनको संक्षेप में जवाब देकर उनके गलतफहमियों को दूर करने की मैं कोशिश करूँगा।

एक माननीय सदस्य का यह कहना था कि सन १९५५ की इस रिपोर्ट पर पार्लमेंट में चर्चा नहीं हुई। जहाँ तक मेरा खयाल है इसकी चर्चा—कमिश्नर के प्रतिवेदन पर—पार्लमेंट में हो चुकी है क्योंकि यह संविधान की आवश्यकता है और हम से ज्यादा जिम्मेदार लोग मंसूब में ऊपर बैठे हैं जो अपने हकों को खूब अच्छी तरह समझते हैं। इसीलिए मैं कह सकता हूँ और जहाँ तक मेरा स्मरण है इसकी चर्चा पार्लमेंट में हो चुकी है।

यहाँ पर मिशनरियों के बारे में एक सवाल खड़ा गया कि उनके बारे में शासन का रुख क्या है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ तक धार्मिक प्रचार और प्रसार का सम्बन्ध है उसका अधिकार उनको उतना ही दिया गया है जितना सब को है। जहाँ तक वे कोई गलत रास्ता नहीं अपनाते वहाँ तक उसका काम्प्लीज शासन नहीं लेता लेकिन अगर उन्होंने कहीं पर कोई गलत रास्ता अपनाया हो जिससे किसी का धर्मपरिवर्तन हुआ हो तो ऐसे केसेस को शासन के सामने रखा जाए और शासन का ध्यान उनकी तरफ खींचा जाए तो शासन उसपर सोच सकता है।

शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के रिजर्वेशन के बारे में प्रश्न उठाया गया और पूछा गया कि अन्य राज्यों में क्या प्रथा है और बम्बई राज्य की क्या नीति है। यह भी कहा गया कि सौराष्ट्र में उनके लिए रिजर्वेशन था। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि अन्य राज्यों में क्या प्रथा है वह मुझे मालूम नहीं। सौराष्ट्र में रिजर्वेशन था जल्द उससे ज्यादा प्रमाण में था। अब समस्त बम्बई राज्य के लिए क्या नीति होनी चाहिए इसपर कुछ प्रमाण में यह बात तो सही है लेकिन वे आते नहीं इसलिए सरकार स्कूल नहीं खोलिगी ऐसा नहीं होगा। वरना लोग यह भी कहने लग जाएँगे कि हम हमारे बच्चे स्कूलों में भेजने के लिए तो तैयार हैं लेकिन स्कूल कहाँ हैं। जब स्कूल खोले जाते हैं तो वहाँ बच्चे तो होने चाहिए। इसलिए इन आदिवासीयों के दिल में जो गलतफहमी है उसको हमें पहले निकालना होगा। इन लोगों की समस्या जितनी आसान समझी जाती है उतनी वह नहीं है। इन लोगों में बहुत कुछ गलतफहमियाँ हैं उनको हमें पहले दूर करना होगा ताकि वे अपने बच्चे स्कूल में भेजने

6-30 p.m.

स्कूलों में भेजने के लिए तो तैयार हैं लेकिन स्कूल कहाँ हैं। जब स्कूल खोले जाते हैं तो वहाँ बच्चे तो होने चाहिए। इसलिए इन आदिवासीयों के दिल में जो गलतफहमी है उसको हमें पहले निकालना होगा। इन लोगों की समस्या जितनी आसान समझी जाती है उतनी वह नहीं है। इन लोगों में बहुत कुछ गलतफहमियाँ हैं उनको हमें पहले दूर करना होगा ताकि वे अपने बच्चे स्कूल में भेजने

[श्री एन्. के. तिरपुडे]

लगे। वे समझते हैं कि उनके बच्चों को बिगाड़ने के लिए ही स्कूल खोले जा रहे हैं, इसलिए उनको वे भेजना ही नहीं चाहते। यह चीज उनके दिल से निकालने के लिए हमारे कार्यकर्ता और कुछ संस्थाएँ भी काम कर रही हैं और उन्हीं पर यह जिम्मेवारी डाल दी गई है कि वे उनको समझाएँ और शासन की जो समाज उन्नति की योजना है उसमें भी उन्हीं का सहकार्य प्राप्त करले।

अब सौराष्ट्र में जो स्कालरशिप दी जाती है उसके सम्बन्ध में कहा गया कि उनके बच्चों को स्कालरशिप नहीं मिली है। मैं खुद राजकोट गया और स्वयं मैंने इस सम्बन्ध में वहाँ के जो कर्मचारी हैं उनको हिदायतें दीं और उन से कह दिया कि स्कालरशिप का बंटवारा जितने जल्दी हो सकता है उतने जल्दी होना चाहिए और उसके पश्चात् उस समय से बिल्कुल बाकायदा फॉर्टनाइटली रिपोर्ट मेरे पास आया करती थी और उसपर से मैं यह कह सकता हूँ कि स्कालरशिप का बंटवारा हो चुका है और यदि कुछ बाकी रह गया हो तो इस साल में किसी भी बच्चे को नुकसान नहीं पहुँचगा ऐसी ही शासन द्वारा कार्रवाई की जाएगी।

दुबला जमाती के सम्बन्ध में भी कहा गया। सौराष्ट्र में उनको आदिवासी कहते हैं और ये सदियों से गुलाम बने हुए हैं। ये लोग लैंडलॉर्ड के पास करार कर देते हैं और जीवनभर अपने आप को बांध लेते हैं। वहाँ सचमुच यह एक बड़ी भारी समस्या है। शासनने इस पर सोचा और यह मार्ग निकाला कि जब तक इन लोगों के लिए रहने का इंतजाम नहीं होता तब तक यह समस्या हल नहीं होगी क्योंकि इनके जो मकान हैं वे लैंडलॉर्ड के जमीन पर हैं और यदि वे उनके यहाँ नौकरी नहीं करेंगे तो ये लैंडलॉर्ड उनको मकान से निकाल देने की धमकी देते हैं। वे बेघर हो जायेंगे इस डर से मजबूरन उनके खेतों पर ये लोग काम करते हैं और करार से अपने को बांध भी लेते हैं। इनकी गुलामी नष्ट करनी है तो इसका यह एक रस्ता दीखता है कि इन लोगों को मकान बनवाकर दिए जाएँ। इस तरह सरकार ने इस पर विचार किया और इस तरह कोई को-ऑपरेटिव सोसायटीज काम करने को तैयार हो तो सरकार ने यह भी मंजूर कर लिया है कि ऐसे सोसायटीज को उनके लिए मकान बांधने के लिए सब्सिडी दी जाए। इस तरह की सरकार की स्कीम है और द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में इस समाज की मदद के लिए ३० लाख रुपये देने का निश्चय भी शासन ने किया है और उसमें से ७ लाख रुपये सौराष्ट्र में मकान बनाने के लिए देने का निश्चय किया गया है। सरकार इस बात को मानती है कि इन लोगों की गुलामी नष्ट करनी चाहिए यह बात इस स्कीम से स्पष्ट हो जाती है।

फिर भंगियों के सम्बन्ध में कहा गया कि वे अभी भी मैला सिर पर उठाते हैं। मैं जानता हूँ कि कुछ म्युनिसिपालीटियों में यह प्रथा अभी भी जारी है। भंगी लोग मैला को सिर पर डोते हैं। यह बात ठीक नहीं है यह शासन ने मान लिया है और म्युनिसिपालीटियों को सूचना दी है कि वे इस प्रथा को जल्दी से जल्दी बंद कर दें। इस सम्बन्ध में और भी एक बात बता देना चाहता हूँ कि इस कार्य के लिए शासन ने कालाबधि भी निश्चित कर दिया है कि उनको ३ साल के अन्दर इन सूचनाओं पर अमल कर लेना चाहिए और जो म्युनिसिपालीटी इन सूचनाओं पर अमल नहीं करेगी उनको बंसा कराने

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के लिए कानूनन कार्रवाई करने के लिए कानून में संशोधन भी किया गया है जिससे शासन को ऐसी म्युनिसिपालीटी के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही करने का हक मिल जाएगा। मंत्री कमेटी के जो सुझाव ह कुछ समय के अन्दर ही अब म्युनिसिपालीटियों को उन्हें मानलेना चाहिए और उनको अमल में लाना चाहिए। अब शासन इस बात की भी छानबीन कर रहा है कि कौन सी कौन सी म्युनिसिपालीटी ने इन सुझावों को अमल में नहीं लाया और क्यों। म्युनिसिपालीटी के रिपोर्ट हमारे पास आते हैं। किसी म्युनिसिपालीटी की आर्थिक परिस्थिति ठीक नहीं रहती या और कुछ कठिनाई रहती है। उनपर फिर शासन विचार करता है और यदि उनको पैसे की मदद लगती हो तो वेंसा शासन निर्णय भी लेता है। अब मैं इसके तफसील में नहीं जाना चाहता। शासन ने ऐसी प्रथा नष्ट करने के लिए हिदायतें दी हैं। मैं अब इस सम्बन्ध में इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि सिर पर होने की प्रथा को बंद करने के लिए जो म्युनिसिपालीटी पैसे की मदद मांगेगी उसको शासन आर्थिक मदद भी करेगा और भिर भी यदि कोई म्युनिसिपालीटी इसको बन्द नहीं करेगी तो शासन उसके विरुद्ध कड़ा गदम उठाने को भी किसी प्रकार की हिच-किचाहट नहीं दिखलाएगा।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, हरिजनों के लिये मकानों के सम्बन्ध में कहा गया और यह भी कहा गया कि ग्रामपंचायतें इस सम्बन्ध में बहुत सी अड़चनें पैदा करती हैं और उसी से हरिजन और आदिवासियों को मकान बनाने में तकलीफ होती है और वे मकान नहीं बना सकते। लेकिन इस सम्बन्ध में शासन की नीति साफ है। शासन ने कहा है कि इस बात को प्राइमरीटी देनी चाहिए और इनको घर बनवाने के लिए जमीन दी जानी चाहिए। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं इतना ही आश्वासन देना चाहता हूँ कि शासन इस नीति को अमल में लाने की हर तरह कोशिश करेगा। सिर्फ हरिजनों के ही नहीं बल्कि मकान का प्रश्न तो ऐसे कई लोगों के सामने है और ऐसे कई लोग हैं जिनके मकान दूसरे के जमीन पर हैं। इसलिए शासन ने यह तय किया है कि जिनको ऐसे मकान पर अपना अधिकार जमाना है उनकी सरकार हर तरह से मदद करेगी। यदि हो सके तो इस तरह की जमीन लेने के लिए सरकार इन लोगों को पसा भी देगी।

उप सभापति महोदय, यहाँ पर यह भी कहा गया कि जिन देहातों में अस्पृश्यता है उसकी लिस्ट बनाने के लिए कहा गया था लेकिन बम्बई स्टेट की द्वारा जो लिस्ट बनाई गई और जो उत्तर दिया गया उसमें यह बताया गया कि अस्पृश्यता कहाँ नहीं है, और इस तरह से लिस्ट के तयार करने में गलती की गई। इसके बारे में मेरा ख्याल है कि शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के कमिशनर की रिपोर्ट में जो उल्लेख आया है, बम्बई राज्य के उत्तर के बारे में, वह गलतफहमी पैदा करनेवाला है। मेरे पास अभी समय नहीं है वरना इस राज्य के द्वारा केन्द्रिय सरकारको जो उत्तर दिया गया उस पूरे को पढा होता। फिर भी उसका सारांश मैं आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। बात यह है कि अगर हम अपने अधिकारियों को पूछते कि किन गांवों में अस्पृश्यता है, छुआछूत और लोगों में भेदभाव है तो कोई अधिकारी यह न कहता कि हमारे यहाँ किसी गांव में अस्पृश्यता है, छुआछूत है और लोगों में भेदभाव की भावना है। क्योंकि अगर वह ऐसा कहता तो उससे यही पूछा जाता कि तुमने कानून का अमल अपने गांवों में ठीक से क्यों नहीं किया। इसलिए हमने बजाए वैसे पूछने के यह पूछा कि तुम्हारे अन्तर्गत गांवों में जितनी अस्पृश्यता पहले थी उसमें अब कितनी घटी है और कितनी बाकी है, यह उत्तर हमने मांगा। इस दृष्टि से जो उत्तर राज्य सरकार की तरफ से भेजा गया, सब अधिकारियों से मालुमात मांगा कर, वह गलत नहीं है। यह मैं मानता हूँ कि अस्पृश्यता हमारे राज्य से बिल्कुल नष्ट नहीं हो गई है। न मैं यह कह सकता हूँ और न

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सरकार का यह दावा है कि समूचे राज्य में से अस्पृश्यता नष्ट हो गई है। इसका न मैं दावा करता हूँ न शासन करता है। लेकिन अस्पृश्यता धीरे धीरे निकल रही है। यह भी मैं मानता हूँ कि बतलाए हुए १० कार्यों में ५ कार्यों पर अमल होता है शेष पर नहीं हो पाता लेकिन फिर भी सुधार हो रहा है और तरक्की हो रही है। उसका जब प्रतिवेदन हमारे सामने आएगा तब हम समझ सकते हैं कि कुछ प्रगति हो रही है, कुछ कदम आगे उठ रहा है। तो जो थोड़ा गलत उल्लेख हमारे उत्तर के बारे में इस रिपोर्ट में हुआ है उसके बारे में माननीय दोंदे साहब ने अपने भाषण में उल्लेख किया इसलिए मुझे यह सफाई देनी पड़ी।

फिर यह भी कहा गया कि अस्पृश्यता निवारण का काम जो गैर-सरकारी संस्थाएँ करती हैं उन्होंने काफी सम्पत्ति का, जो सरकारी अनुदान के रूप में उन्हें मिली, दुरु-पयोग किया। उसका उत्तर मैं देना चाहता हूँ लेकिन मुझे बड़ी खुशी होती यदि जिन माननीय सदस्य न सम्पत्ति का दुरुपयोग हो रहा है यह आरोप सरकार पर लगाए थे, शासन ने उसके लिए क्या किया है यह सुनने के लिए वे यहाँ पर होते। यह एक पार्ल-मेटरी कन्वेंशन है कि जो सदस्य शासन पर टीका करत हैं उन्हें, जब शासन की ओर से उत्तर दिया जाता है, तब उसे सुनने के लिए सदन में उपस्थित रहना चाहिए। मैं आपके द्वारा शासन की ओर उनसे प्रार्थना करूंगा और उन सदस्यों का ध्यान इस ओर आकृष्ट करूंगा कि वे आगे से शासन की ओर से जब दिया जाता है तब उत्तर सदन में उपस्थित रहें। मैं मानता हूँ, उप-सभापति महोदय, कि कुछ लोगों ने, उन गैर-सरकारी संस्थाओं में सरकारी अनुदान के पैसे का दुरुपयोग किया है। जैसे ही शासन को पता लगा शासन ने इसकी पुलिस द्वारा जांच करवाई। और जब आरोप सही साबित हुआ और यह मालूम हुआ कि शासन ने जो हिदायतें दी थीं उनके अनुसार पैसे का उपयोग नहीं किया गया तो अब उस पर मामला चलाया जा रहा है। यह मामला नागपुर की कोर्ट में चल रहा है। उनकी जानकारी के लिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि उस संस्था के जिन लोगों ने सम्पत्ति का दुरुपयोग किया वह कांग्रेस के सदस्य थे और उन पर शासन मामला चला रहा है। तब भिर शासन पर यह आरोप लगाना, और गम्भीर आरोप लगाना कि सरकार की ओर से राजकीय प्रचार के लिए पैसा दिया जाता है, उसमें कितनी सच्चाई हो सकती है इसका निर्णय मैं सदन पर छोड़ देता हूँ। वह खुद इसकी परीक्षा कर सकता है।

अस्पृश्यता निवारण का दूसरा पहलू यह है कि सरकारी स्तर पर अस्पृश्यता दूर करने का चाहे जितना प्रचार करें उसमें हम सफल नहीं हो सकते जब तक जनता इसके लिए तैयार न हो। जब तक साधारण जनता और सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता इसका अपने मन में संकल्प नहीं करते कि हमें यह काम करना है और बिना पक्षीय भावना के सब संस्थाएँ इस कार्य को अपने हाथ में नहीं लेती तब तक केवल शासकीय स्तर पर अस्पृश्यता निवारण के काम में सफलता नहीं मिल सकती। यह मेरी राय है और शासन की भी यही राय है।

एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि शासन को विरोधी संस्थाओं का भी सहकार लेना चाहिए। मैं सदन के सदस्यों को उनकी जानकारी के लिए इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह पैसा सिर्फ हरिजन सेवक संघ और डिप्रेस्ड क्लासेस लीग को ही देने का निश्चय किया गया है ऐसा नहीं है। इसके लिए शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट फंडेशन को भी पूछा गया था कि अगर आप भी हरिजनों के उद्धार के लिए काम करते हो और प्रचारक नियुक्त

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करते हैं और उनके रहने के लिए घर या उनके लिए कुएँ वगैरह बनवाने हैं तो आपको भी अनुदान की रकम दी जा सकती है। केन्द्रीय शासन की ओर से भी यह बात पुछी गई थी और केन्द्रीय शासन की रिपोर्ट में इस बात का उल्लेख है। इस कार्य के लिए शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट फंडेशन को भी रिकमनाइज किया गया था। लेकिन यह नियम है कि जो संस्था सरकारी अनुदान लेगी वह रजिस्टर्ड होनी चाहिए। इसलिए अगर आपको अनुदान पैसा दिया जाता है वह संस्था या सोसायटी रजिस्टर्ड होनी चाहिए। क्योंकि नियमानुसार, जिसे सरकारी हिसाब रजिस्ट्रार के पास भेजना चाहिए। लेकिन शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट फंडेशन की तरफसे यह जवाब दिया गया कि हम सिर्फ इसके लिए अपनी सोसायटी को रजिस्टर नहीं करा सकते। जब यह जवाब दिया गया, उस संस्था की ओर से, तब मैं पूछूँ कि माननीय सदस्य किस तरह का सहकार हम को देना चाहते हैं और शासन के पास कौन सा दूसरा रास्ता हो सकता है सहकार लेने का।

उप-सभापति महोदया, इसी वर्ष यानी इसी फायनेन्शियल ईयर में सरकार ने एक हरिजन सप्ताह मनाया और शासन की ओर से अस्पृश्यता निवारण की कोशिश की गई। माननीय सदस्यों का ध्यान में इस तरफ आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि शासन की ओर से एक परिपत्रक माननीय सदस्य को भेजा गया था जिसमें यह प्रार्थना की गई थी कि वे गांव-गांव में जाएँ और वहाँ की परिस्थिति को देखें और जिस गांव में अस्पृश्यता हो उसका विवरण हमारे पास भेजें। तथा साथ ही साथ यह भी जानकारी भेजें कि कौन से गांव ऐसे हैं जहाँ के मंदिर हरिजनों के लिए खुले नहीं हैं, कौन कौनसे गांव ऐसे हैं जहाँ हरिजनों को कुएँ पर पानी नहीं भरने दिया जाता और इस तरह से उनमें अस्पृश्यता कारी के लिए कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस विषय पर न तो किसी सदस्यों ने जानकारी दी और न लोगों से जितनी जानकारी मिलने की उम्मीद थी उतनी हमें मिली। मैं समझता हूँ कि शासन जिस पक्ष का है यानी काँग्रेस का तो उससे ज्यादा जिम्मेदारी उन लोगों की है जिन्होंने सरकार की टीका की है। उनकी ओर से भी कोई रिपोर्ट नहीं आई मैंने खुद उनके नाम से पत्र लिखे लेकिन कोई जवाब नहीं आया जिसका अर्थ मैं यह समझा कि कोई गांव ऐसा नहीं है जहाँ अस्पृश्यता मानी जाती हो—जब तक आपका इस तरह का रवैया है, मैं कहूँगा कि शासन पर टीका करने का आपको हक करने की आपकी भी जिम्मेदारी है। इस जिम्मेदारी की भावना यदि जनता में तथा उसके नेताओं में पैदा हो जाय तो बहुत अच्छा होगा। इस जिम्मेदारी की भावना को से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आपका टीका करने का हक है; इस बात को मैं मानता हूँ और शासन भी मानता है। और यदि शासन कुछ गलतियाँ करता हो, या उनकी नीति ठीक न हो तो उसके बारे में शासन को पहले खुद सुधार करना होगा और वह भी कुछ कर्तव्य हो जाता है इस बात को उन्हें न भूलना चाहिए। शासन जो भी काम कोशिश की जाती है उसमें जनता का तथा सब पक्षों का सहकार्य मिलना चाहिए ऐसी उसकी अपेक्षा होती है और मैं समझता हूँ कि जो लोग शासन पर टीका करते हैं उनका भी यह कर्तव्य हो जाता है। टीका करने के साथ ही साथ सहकार्य करने की भी जिम्मेदारी उनपर आ पड़ती है।

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दूसरी बात अधिकारियों के सम्बन्ध में कहीं गई कि शासन ने अपने अधिकारियों को अस्पृश्यता निवारण सम्बन्धी हिदायतें नहीं दी थी। लेकिन यह कहना बिल्कुल गलत है। शासन की ओर से सब अधिकारियों को यह हिदायतें दी गई थी कि जब कभी वे दौरे पर जाते हैं तो उनका यह फर्ज माना जाएगा कि उस जगह जो हरिजन बस्ती होगी उसको वे भेंट दें। और उनकी क्या कठिनाईयाँ हैं इसके बारे में वहाँ के लोगों से मिलकर जानकारी हासिल करें। तथा हरिजनों के लिए कुएँ, मंदिर, आदि यदि उस गांव में खुले न हो तो उनके लिए वे खुले करने की कोशिश करें। हमारे समाज में आज भी जो बहिष्कार की भावना है उसे दूर करने कि जिम्मेदारी गांव में जो सरकार के प्रतिनिधि रहते हैं, जैसे पाटील, तलाठी, ग्राम पंचायतों के अध्यक्ष, या वहाँ के स्कूल के हेड-मास्टर, इन लोगों पर डाल दी गई है। अभी हाल ही में इस राज्य में शासन की ओर से जो हरिजन सप्ताह मनाया गया उसमें भी, उन लोगों पर खास जिम्मेदारी डाली गई थी जैसा की मैंने अभी बताया। उनको यह कहा गया था कि हरिजन सप्ताह में उन्हें उस बस्ती के हरिजनों के साथ मेल बढ़ाना चाहिए। उनके साथ चायपान, जलपान, भोजन इत्यादि का कार्यक्रम किया जाना चाहिए, यदि वे लोग इन कामों को न करें तो यह माना जाएगा कि वे उनको सौंपे गए काम बराबर नहीं कर रहे हैं, यह सब काम उनकी ड्यूटी में माना गया है। हमारे पास हरिजन सप्ताह की जो रिपोर्ट आई है उससे मालूम होता है कि हरिजन सप्ताह में काफी काम किया गया।

एक बात यह भी कही गई कि शासन की ओर से हरिजन उद्धार के लिए कई योजनाएँ बनाई जाती हैं और उसपर खर्च करने के लिए लाखों रुपये बजट में रखे जाते हैं लेकिन वह खर्च नहीं होते और आखीर में वह रकम लेप्स हो जाती है। मैं भी इस बात को कुछ हद तक मानता हूँ कि इस तरह से कई बार रकम खर्च न हो कर लेप्स हो जाती है। उसकी खास वजह यह है कि इसके सम्बन्ध में जो योजनाएँ होती हैं वे अधिकतर राज्य शासन तथा केन्द्रीय शासन दोनों मिलकर बनाते हैं। इन योजनाओं के लिए उनकी तरफ से भी पैसा मिला करता है। कई बार ऐसा होता है कि जो योजना उनके पास मंजूरी के लिए भेजी जाती है वह जल्द मंजूर होकर नहीं आती या कभी कभी पैसा जल्द नहीं मिलता है। नतीजा उसका यह होता है कि पैसे देरी से मिलने के कारण वह खर्च न होकर लेप्स हो जाता है। अभी हाल ही में देहली में सब राज्यों के समाज कल्याण मंत्रियों का एक सम्मेलन हुआ था उसमें यह प्रश्न भी उठाया गया था कि केन्द्राय सरकार की ओर से रकम या योजनाओं की स्वीकृति जल्द न आने के कारण रकम लेप्स हो जाती है और काम जितना तेजी से होता चाहिए उतना नहीं होता। इसके बारे में विचार कर के कुछ योजना भी बनाई गई ताकि केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर से योजनाओं को मंजूरी जल्द मिल सके। और जो पैसा खर्च करने के लिए मिलता है वह भी जल्द मिल सके। संबंधित अधिकारियों को भी, उन्हें क्या करना है इसके सम्बन्ध में पहले ही सूचनाएँ दे दी जाएंगी। इस सम्बन्ध में जो कोशिश करनी चाहिए उसके लिए शासन ने आगे कदम उठाया है और मुझे उम्मीद है कि अगले वर्ष लोगों को इसका परिणाम दीख सकेगा।

यह भी कहा गया कि शासन जातीयता नष्ट करने की बात करता है और किसी खास जाति के लोगों को कुछ खास धन्दे करने चाहिए इस बात को दूसरी तरफ मान्यता देता है, यह कैसा हो सकता है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह आरोप बिल्कुल गलत है। शासन यह कभी नहीं कहता कि लुहार के लड़के को लुहारी या बढ़ई के लड़के को बढ़ई काम ही करना चाहिए। असल बात यह है कि शासन ने कुछ श्रामोद्योगों को माना है और

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उन उद्योगों में प्रशिक्षण देने के लिए कुछ योजनाएँ भी बनाई हैं। इन उद्योगों को चलाने के लिए तथा इनमें पढ़ाई आदि के लिए शासन की ओर से कुछ कर्ज या स्टैंडपेंड के रूप में रकम दी जाती है। शासन की ओर से इसमें ऐसी कोई शर्त नहीं रखी गई है कि इन उद्योगों में विद्यार्थियों की पढ़ाई के लिए कोई जातवार स्टैंडपेंड दिया जाय। बढई के लड़के को ही बढई काम सीखने के लिए स्टैंडपेंड मिलेगा ऐसा कोई नियम नहीं है। जो भी यह काम सीखना चाहे उसे वह मिल सकता है। लेकिन यदि बढई का ही लड़का इस काम को सीखने के लिए आय तो उसे रोका नहीं जा सकता, यह कहकर किन्तु बढई का लड़का है इस लिए तुझे स्टैंडपेंड नहीं मिलेगा। इसलिए शासन पर इस तरह का आरोप करना ठीक न होगा की शासन जातपात नष्ट करना नहीं चाहता।

मिक्स होस्टेल्स की बात भी कहीं कहीं। मैं उसके बारे में कुछ जानकारी देना चाहता हूँ। जो हरिजन होस्टेल हमारे राज्य में हैं वहाँ यदि कोई सवर्ण हिन्दू अपने बच्चे को रखे तो उस बच्चे को शासन की ओर से स्टैंडपेंड दिया जाता है। विदर्भ एरिया में इस योजना पर पहले ही से अमल किया गया है। सवर्ण लोगों के होस्टेल में यदि हरिजन विद्यार्थी लिया जाय तो उस होस्टेल को भी ग्रांट या अनुदान शासन की ओर से देने की व्यवस्था की गई थी। इसके पीछे हेतु यही था की जातपात नष्ट हो जाय और सब एक साथ रहे। विदर्भ एरिया में शासन की ओर से यह पहले ही किया गया था।

फिर शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज को वेस्ट लैंड देने का प्रश्न आया और कहा गया कि शासन उनको जमीन क्यों नहीं देती। मैं बड़ी मनत्रता के साथ बताना चाहता हूँ कि सन १९५५ तक पुराने बम्बई राज्य में ३९ लाख एकड़ जमीन हमने पिछड़े हुए वर्गों को खेती के लिए दी थी। कुछ पर्मानेंट लीज के ऊपर, कुछ एकसाली लीज के ऊपर और कुछ दूसरी तरह से सन १९५५ तक ३९ एकड़ जमीन उनको दी गई। उपसभापति महोदय, आप के द्वारा उनको मैं प्रश्न पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इतनी जमीन का बटवारा करने के बाद भी क्या वह यह कहना चाहते हैं कि शासन ने कुछ प्रयत्न नहीं किया। मेरे पास इस समय इतना वक्त नहीं है कि मैं उन तमाम योजनाओं को बतलाऊँ जो सरकार उनके लिए करना चाहती है। फिर भी मैं बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि जितनी भी वेस्ट लैंड है वह दूसरों को देने के पहले जो अधिकारी बटवारा करते हैं वह पिछड़े वर्ग के लोगों को पूछे बिना किसी दूसरे को नहीं देते। जब उनकी तरफ से कोई दस्तावेज जमीन के लेने के लिए नहीं आती तो तभी वहाँ के अधिकारी दूसरों को वह जमीन दे सकते हैं। अन्यथा नहीं दे सकते। वेस्ट लैंड्स के बारे में ऐसी सूचना उनको शासन ने दी है कि वह इस नियम कड़ाई से पालन करें। मैं समझता हूँ कि हर एक बात में शासन का जो रास्ता है वही सही रास्ता है और वह गलत रास्ता नहीं है।

उसके बाद हमारे मित्र, जो पंढरपुर के मेम्बर हैं, उन्होंने काफी जोर के साथ कहा कि हमारा रास्ता अच्छा है। उन्होने कहा कि गांधी जी ने सामाजिक क्रान्ति की अच्छी नींव डाली है। उन्होंने जो रास्ता बतलाया उसी पर हम सब चल रहे हैं। वह रास्ता कुछ भाइयों को ठीक नहीं दीखता। यह आखरी प्रश्न है जिसपर मैं कुछ दस मिनट और ज्यादा लेकर बोलूंगा। वह एक महत्व की बात है जो अनेक सदस्यों ने कही और जिस पर मैं आखीर में कुछ कहूंगा।

मैं पंढरपुर के माननीय सदस्य को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने अपने यहां हरिजनों के मंदिर प्रवेश के आन्दोलन में काफी आगेवानी की। वहाँ की जमात काफी सनातनी थी और आगे आना नहीं चाहती थी। वह स्वयं भी आगे बढ़े और वहाँ के लोगों को

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भी आगे बढ़ाया। उन्होने यह माना कि गांधीजी का रास्ता सच्चाई का रास्ता ही और उसके ऊपर चलने के लिए उन्होंने जो कुछ किया उसके लिए उनको मैं धन्यवाद देता हूँ। मैं मंत्री की हसियत से नहीं बल्कि अपनी निजी हसियत से कहना चाहता हूँ कि मंदिर खुल गए हैं पंढरपुर में और हरिजन उनमें दर्शन के लिए जा सकते हैं इतना यही ही काफी नहीं है। वहाँ पर जो पूजा होती है उस पूजा के करने का अधिकार केवल ब्राह्मण को है यह बात ठीक नहीं है। मैं यह चाहूँगा कि आप लोग और आगे जोर दें और उस मंदिर में जो पूजा होती है वह किसी निम्न श्रेणी के आदमी द्वारा हो। वह पूजा किसी मंगी के द्वारा की जाए तब खुशी की बात हो। शासन की ओर से हम इस बात को करना भी चाहें तो नहीं कर सकते। यह बात लोगों के अन्दर से स्वयं होनी चाहिए।

अब मैं इस विषय पर आता हूँ कि गांधीजी का रास्ता ठीक था या डॉ. अम्बेडकर का रास्ता ठीक था। मैं सदन को यह बात स्पष्ट कर देना चाहता हूँ कि गांधीजी का जो रास्ता था उस रास्ते से उन्होंने जो काम किया और जिस उद्देश्य को लेकर जिन लोगों में उन्होंने वह काम किया उस हद तक उनका वह काम ठीक था। मैं यह कभी कहने को तैयार नहीं हूँ कि गांधीजी का रास्ता बिल्कुल ही गलत था और डॉ. बाबासाहेब आम्बेडकर का सही या गलत था। दोनों जो रास्ते थे उन दोनों का उद्देश्य एक ही था सिर्फ मार्ग भिन्न थे। दोनों ने अपने अपने रास्ते पर चलकर इस महान उद्देश्य की ओर जाने की हर तरह की कोशिश की। आखिर मैं डॉ. आम्बेडकर को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि उन्होंने इस समाज के अन्दर जागृति निर्माण की है। जो समाज अपने पैर पर खड़ा होने के लिए हिचकता था अन्याय को सहते जा रहा था, उस समाज में उन्होंने काफी जागृति निर्माण की, उनको स्वाभिमान का रस्ता बतलाया। उस हद तक मैं कहूँगा कि डॉ. आम्बेडकर का रस्ता ठीक था, अच्छा था, वह गलत नहीं था। महात्मा गांधीजीने सवर्ण भाइयों में इसी तरह का काम किया और उनको बतलाया कि उन्होंने अपने हृदय को साफ करना चाहिए। उन्होंने उनका हृदयपरिवर्तन करने की हर तरह की कोशिश की है यह भी उतना ही आवश्यक था क्योंकि उनका दृष्टिकोण बदलने की भी बहुत जरूरी है लेकिन ये दोनों रास्ते यदि कभी एक दूसरे के साथ मिलेंगे ही नहीं तो फिर यह समस्या हल नहीं होगी, और तबतक अस्पृश्यता निवारण का काम और उनके उन्नति के उद्देश्य की प्राप्ति नहीं हो सकती और हिंदु समाज का यह कलंक दूर भी नहीं हो सकता। यह बात बिल्कुल सत्य है, स्पष्ट है। ये दोनों रास्ते मिलने चाहिए। कुछ लोग अस्पृश्यता निवारण और उनमें स्वाभिमान की भावना बढ़ाने के लिए कार्य कर आगे बढ़े और सवर्ण हिन्दुओं में से ऐसे लोग आगे आने चाहिए जो हिन्दुओं में हृदयपरिवर्तन करने में कामयाब हो सकें। मतपरिवर्तन का एक दूसरा रास्ता है। फिर ये दोनों रास्ते जब एक साथ मिलेंगे और काम करने लग जायेंगे तो ही यह समस्या हल हो सकती है। मगर आखिर आज हम कौन सा चित्र देख रहे हैं? आज जो रिपब्लिकन पार्टी है वह क्या कर रही है। शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट फेडरेशन तो सहकार्य की भूमिका लेता है लेकिन हरिजन सप्ताह में जब सरकार ने यह सप्ताह चलाया तब इन सब लोगों से यह अपेक्षा थी कि उसको वे सब मिलकर यशस्वी बनावेंगे इन लोगों की उन्नति करने के लिए कुछ सामुदायिक कार्यक्रम हम सब मिलकर करें, ग्रामों में भी इस तरह के सामुदायिक कार्यक्रम हम एक साथ करें लेकिन अनुभव यह आया कि इस पार्टी के लोगों ने एक फतवा निकाला कि यह जो हरिजन सप्ताह है वह हरिजनों के लिए है। अब हम लोग बुद्धधर्म में चले गए हैं इसलिए जो हरिजन के लिए हप्ताह है उसमें उन्हें शामिल होने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। इस तरह से जब वे काम कर रहे हैं तो उनसे अब हम क्या कहें। मैं उनसे यह प्रश्न पूछना

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चाहता हूँ कि यदि उनको हिन्दुओं के देवालयों में नहीं जाना हो तो न जाय। लेकिन आपको तो आदर्श ग्राम रचना करनी है जिसकी की आपने तारीफ की है। आप तो ऐसे ग्रामों का निर्माण करना चाहते हैं कि जिसमें इस तरह का कोई भेदभाव न रहे फिर अब आप ही उन हिंदू भाइयों से मिलना नहीं चाहते। उनके कार्यक्रम में उनको हिन्दुधर्म के कहकर शामिल नहीं होना चाहते हैं। ग्रामों की उन्नति इस तरह हिंदु धर्म के लोगों को गाली देने से हो सकेगी क्या? आपने उनको अब गाली देना शुरू कर दिया है। हिंदु धर्म के लोग जिन्हें देवता मानते हैं ऐसे राम, लक्ष्मण जिस धर्म में पैदा हुए उसी हिंदु धर्म में कंस जैसे लोग भी पैदा हुए हैं इसका जिक्र करते हुए सामाजिक बहिष्कार की आप बात करते हैं। इस तरह प्रचार को प्रोत्साहन भी दिया गया और आज भी दिया जा रहा है। हिंदु धर्म के विरुद्ध जितना गन्दा प्रचार करना था उतना सब किया गया इतना ही नहीं लेकिन हिंदू देवताओं के बारे में भी अनादर के उद्गार निकाले गये। जिन लोगों ने ऐसी हरकतों की उनमें से कुछ लोगों पर शासन की ओर से मुकदमों भी चलाये गये। मैं नहीं समझता कि इस तरह से आप कोई आदर्श ग्राम राज्य निर्माण कर सकेंगे। एक सदस्य ने अपने भाषण में पूज्य विनोबाजी का भी जिक्र किया, और पूछा की हमारे मुख्य मंत्री उनके स्वागत के लिये क्यों जा रहे हैं। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम उनके काम को मानते हैं और वे जिस प्रकार की ग्राम-रचना करना चाहते हैं उसमें कोई आदमी किसी का द्वेष नहीं करेगा। जैसा कि आप आज लोगों को सीखा रहे हैं। आप धर्म धर्म में द्वेष फैलाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। हिन्दु धर्म, उनके आचार, विचार, संस्कृति आदि सभी बातों में लोगों में घृणा पैदा करने की कोशिश की जा रही है। इस तरह के भाषण या तकरीरे करते से जिस पार्टी के लोग आदर्श ग्राम रचना लाना चाहते हैं वे नहीं ला सकेंगे इस बात को उन्हें समझना चाहिये। यदि किसी समाज पर कुछ अन्याय होता है तो उसको कानून बनाकर रोकने की कोशिश की जा सकती है लेकिन एक समाज पर सामाजिक बहिष्कार की जो बात कही जाती है उसका समर्थन नहीं किया जा सकता। हिंदू लोगों के दुकान से माल न लिया जाय, उनके दूकानों में न जाया जाय। तथा उनसे किसी भी तरह का व्यवहार न रखा जाय इस तरह यदि कोई पार्टी या दल प्रचार करने लगे तो सरकार या शासन इस बात को बरदाश्त नहीं कर सकता। सामाजिक बहिष्कार का रास्ता आदर्श ग्राम रचना निर्माण करने का रास्ता नहीं हो सकता। जो आदर्श ग्राम रचना की बात करते हैं उनका रास्ता भी साफ और अच्छा होना चाहिये। इस तरह से आपस में कटुता बढ़ाने से तथा दुश्मनी बढ़ाने से आप आदर्श ग्राम रचना कभी नहीं कर सकेंगे।

सिर्फ सत्य और अहिंसा का नाम लेने से काम नहीं चल सकेगा। गौतम बुद्ध ने जो बात कही वही बात सभी धर्मों में कही गई है। सिर्फ बातें नहीं लेकिन उसपर अमल करना ज्यादा महत्व का माना जाना चाहिये। सभी बड़े बड़े लोगों ने यही संदेश दिया है। महात्मा गांधीजी ने भी हमारे सामने यही बात रखी है। लेकिन आज समाज में जातीयता का विष फैलाने की कोशिश की जा रही है। मैं मानता हूँ कि नवयुद्धों को तो अहिंसा और सत्य का ज्यादा से ज्यादा प्रचार करना चाहिये तथा उसपर अमल भी करना चाहिये। और इस बात को भी समझना चाहिये की सभी धर्मों में अच्छे तत्व समान ही होते हैं। एक धर्म में जो तत्व अच्छा बताया है वह दूसरे धर्म में भी अच्छा ही बताया गया है। हमें समझना चाहिये की सभी धर्म समान हैं। और उनके तत्व तथा उद्देश भी आखीर में समान ही हैं। आज धर्म के नाम पर बहुत लोग

[श्री एन्. के. तिरपुडे]

काफी फनेटिक बनते जा रहे हैं लेकिन हमें धर्म के नाम पर फनेटिक नहीं बनना चाहिये। हमारे यहाँ इस तरह का फनेटिज्म पहले भी था और आज भी नजर आ रहा है लेकिन हमें इस फनेटिज्म से सावधान रहना चाहिये।

हिन्दू धर्म के लोग, सनातनी लोग जो फेनाटिस्ट बने तो उसका पाप अभी तक हमें धोना पड़ रहा है। अपनी गलतियों से हमने इस देश के अन्दर कटुता निर्माण की। इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमें किसी धर्म के नाम पर, संस्थाओं के नाम पर आपस में कटुता या दुश्मनी बढ़ाने की कोशिश नहीं करनी चाहिए। सब को मानव धर्म के उपर चलना चाहिए। मैं हिन्दू हूँ तो हिन्दू रह सकता हूँ लेकिन हमारा जो धर्म पालन है वह वही होना चाहिए जो बेसिक रेलिजन है। उसका तत्व वही होना चाहिए जिसे मानव धर्म या इन्सानियत कहते हैं। वह इन्सानियत हिन्दू धर्म में कम नहीं है। वह इन्सानियत मुसलमान या बौद्ध धर्म में भी कम नहीं है। सब धर्मों से इन्सानियत का जो धर्म है वह ऊंचा धर्म है। उससे ऊंचा कोई धर्म नहीं है। यह जो इन्सानियत है मानव धर्म है वह सब धर्मों में समान है, उसके तत्व सब धर्मों में समान हैं केवल प्रश्न है विचारों का।

जो लोग कहते हैं कि अस्पृश्यता दूर होनी चाहिए लेकिन उसे करते नहीं हैं और अमल में लात नहीं हैं वह हिपोक्रैट हैं। जो दूसरों को इसके लिए काम करने को कहते हैं लेकिन खुद करते नहीं हैं वह आदमी उतने ही खतरनाक हैं जितने कि मैं उनके लिए वह लफ्ज मुँह पर लाना नहीं चाहता। मेरी निगाह में जैसा हिन्दू धर्म है, वैसा लिए वह लफ्ज मुँह पर लाना नहीं चाहता। मैं उनमें भेद भाव नहीं करता। बूढ़ भी होगा और वैसा ही इस्लाम धर्म भी होगा। मैं उनमें भेद भाव नहीं करता। हमें उनके विस्तृत मानवतावाद को अपनाना चाहिए और उसको बढ़ाना हम सब का कर्तव्य है। मैं कहूँगा कि यह मामला इतना सरल नहीं है जितना लोग समझते हैं। अस्पृश्यता को नष्ट करने के लिए क्या करना चाहिए उसके लिए शासन ने दो रास्ते मुकर्रर कर दिए हैं। आपस में भेद भाव मिटाने का एक तरीका शादी का है इसके लिए सरकार ने कहा है कि जो सवर्ण-भाई हरिजन लड़कें लड़कियों से शादी करेगा उसको प्रोत्साहन देंगे। उसका जाहिर सम्मान करेंगे और उसको जो खर्चा आएगा शादी के लिए, उसका थोड़ा भार सरकार भी बरदाश्त करेगी। इस बात के लिए हम प्रोपोजल रख सकते हैं और प्रोत्साहन दे सकते हैं। इसके लिए कायदा नहीं बना सकते। अभी तक जो जातीयता विद्यमान है उसे नष्ट और निर्मूल करना आसान नहीं है। उसके लिए कुछ रास्ता सोचना ही होगा। हमने बहुत सोचने के बाद यह एक रास्ता निकाला कि इन्टरकास्ट मॅरेज की व्यवस्था की जाए और हमने यह व्यवस्था की। लेकिन जैसा मैंने कहा इसके लिए कानून नहीं बना सकते। सिर्फ कानून बनाने से भी कुछ नहीं होगा। यह कर्तव्य आप लोगों का है कि इन्टरकास्ट मॅरेज कराएँ। ऐसे लोगों को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए शासन तैयार है लोकमत तैयार करने का काम शासन का है जरूर लेकिन उससे भी ज्यादा आपका है।

दूसरा रास्ता यह है कि मिक्स्ड कॉलोनी होनी चाहिए। जब तक लोग एक दूसरे के साथ नहीं रहते तब तक उनमें सहानुभूति और हमदर्दी नहीं होती। इसलिए सवर्ण और अस्पृश्य कहे जानेवाले लोगों को एक साथ रहने के लिए प्रोत्साहन दिया जाएगा। उसके लिए भी हमने कुछ शर्तें और कन्डीशन्स रखी हैं। जो मकान बन रहे हैं खास तौर से देहातों में, उनके लिए हमने यह रखा है कि जो सवर्ण भाई किसी हरिजन भाई को अपने मकान में रखेंगे या किसी हरिजन को किराये पर देंगे उसका ५० प्रतिशत किराया हम देंगे यानी सरकार देगी। यह काम गवर्नमेंट कर रही है। हम योजना बना सकते हैं।

[श्री एन्. के. तिरपुडे]

शासन पैसे का प्रबन्ध कर कसता है लेकिन जो वातावरण तैयार करना है या लोकमत तैयार करना है वह आपको और हमको ही मुख्यतः करना होगा। सामाजिक कार्यकर्ताओं को करना होगा। जब तक वह इसकी जिम्मेदारी नहीं लेंगे तब तक हम इस प्रश्न को हल नहीं कर सकेंगे। शासन इसके लिए बराबर प्रयत्न करता रहा है लेकिन वह पूरा सफल नहीं हुआ। हम कुछ हद तक सफल हुए हैं लेकिन अभी बहुत काम बाकी है। जो कार्य अभी बाकी रहा है उसको भी हम पूरा करेंगे और सफलता हासिल करेंगे। ऐसा हमने तय कर लिया है। यह हमारा निश्चय है कि सन् १९६०-६१ तक हम अस्पृश्यता की जड़ों को नष्ट कर देंगे। यह निश्चय करते हुए हमने कालवधि भी निश्चित की है और इसे खास जोर देकर कहा है। तीन साल में हम इस काम को पूरा करना है। समय कमती है। समस्या गहन है। जो लोग हैं उनमें काफी बुराईयाँ हैं। इन बातों को ख्याल में रखते हुए बड़ी जिम्मेदारी हमारे और आपके सर पर आ जाती है कि तीन साल के अन्दर यह अस्पृश्यता का खतरनाक भूत कैसे दूर किया जाय।

फिर से मैं आपको धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ और बता देना चाहता हूँ कि जो कुछ भी सुझाव आपने रखे हैं उनपर शासन जरूर विचार करेगा। इस सम्बन्ध की शासन की जो नीति है वह अच्छी नीति है यह आप भी मान लेंगे और उस नीति को अमल में लाने में आप हर तरह से सहयोग दोगे ऐसी अपेक्षा करते हुवे मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ।

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1955 is considered.

The House will now rise and meet again tomorrow at 2-00 p.m.

(The House was adjourned at 7-20 p.m. till 2-00 p.m. on Thursday, the 27th February 1958.)

Thursday, the 27th February 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m. on Thursday, the 27th February 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published.)

NON-OFFICIAL BILLS [L. C. BILL No. I OF 1958 (A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE POONA UNIVERSITY ACT, 1948)].

Shri S. L. OGALE (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra-Teachers) : Sir, I beg to move that L. C. Bill No. I of 1958 (A Bill further to amend the Poona University Act, 1948) be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri S. L. OGALE : Sir, the intention in moving this Bill is to rectify a mistake that had, unfortunately, occurred when the Poona University Bill was passed by the Legislature. It was in 1947 that the original Bill was moved before the Bombay Legislature and in clause 16 of the Poona University Bill seven seats for the secondary teachers were allotted on the Poona University Court. In the original clause there was no distinction made among the Headmasters and Assistant Teachers as such, but the said Bill was referred to a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses and that Joint Committee amended the Bill. In its Report the Joint Committee says :—

“As the number of Assistant Teachers is invariably larger than the number of Headmasters, we think that out of those seven seats 4 should be allotted to the Assistant Teachers and 3 to Headmasters. We amend the clause accordingly.”

This is what the Joint Committee said ; but, unfortunately, when the Bill was actually placed before the House for consideration and passing, there was a mistake in printing and the Headmasters were allotted 4 seats and the Assistant Teachers were allotted 3 seats instead of the Assistant Teachers being allotted 4 seats and the Headmaster, 3 seats. It seems that that mistake passed unnoticed and the Bill was passed and, subsequently, it became an Act. After that, during the period of about 8 years, the Poona University has held two general elections and the Assistant Teachers have been electing only 3 seats each time instead of 4 as it was originally meant by the Joint Select Committee. When I noticed this mistake, I thought that it was my duty as a representative of the teachers from the Poona City that this mistake should be rectified, if possible, and with that intention I have come before this House with this amending Bill.

Sir, I may point out for the information of the Hon. Members of this Honourable House that the Gujarat University has allotted 4 seats to the Assistant Teachers on its Court and 2 seats to the Head Masters. Similarly, the Baroda University has allotted 2 seats to the Assistant Teachers and 1 seat only to the Head Masters. It will thus be seen that the argument put forth by the Joint Select Committee was followed when the Acts of these two Universities were framed.

[S. L. Ogale]

My intention in moving this amending Bill is to rectify the mistake as early as possible.

I must also take this opportunity to point out that the General Elections of the Poona University will take place in December this year. That means that the notification etc. will be made in October this year or thereafter. So, if this Bill is not passed in this House in this session, then the Assistant Teachers will fail to get the advantage of this amending Bill for a further period of five years. Therefore, I commend this amending Bill for favourable consideration and acceptance of this House.

At the same time, I take this opportunity to say that if Government intends to move an amending Bill like this Bill in this Session, then I am ready to withdraw my amending Bill, because I do not want to insist that my own Bill should be passed.

With these remarks I resume my seat.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI (Minister for Education) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, even at the time of the introduction of this Bill I said that Government is not opposed to the principles contained in this Bill. However, it is necessary that a savings clause will have to be incorporated in the Bill to the effect that this amendment will come into effect after the present term expires. Therefore, it is proposed to move an official Bill in this respect with the necessary savings clause. I may further assure the hon. Member that it is proposed to introduce that Bill in this very Session. I, therefore, think the hon. Member will have no objection to withdraw the Bill.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ : I am very much grateful to the Hon. Minister for giving this assurance on the floor of this House and I seek permission of this House to withdraw the Bill.

Bill, by leave, withdrawn.

DISCUSSION ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

The CHAIRMAN : The first Resolution on the Agenda for the day stands in the name of the hon. Member Shri T. S. Thakora. He is absent. The next Resolution stands in the name of the hon. Member Shri Chhabildas P. Mehta. He may move it.

EXECUTION OF MUNICIPAL DRAINAGE AND WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES IN SAURASHTRA REGION.

Shri CHHABILDAS P. MEHTA (Saurashtra-Local Authorities) : Sir, I beg to move—

“Th's Council recommends to Government to take immediate steps for implementing the drainage and water supply schemes of all the Municipalities in Saurashtra region of the State.”

Resolution proposed.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI (Minister for Education) : Sir, I take it that the first Resolution is not moved.

The CHAIRMAN : Yes, the first Resolution is not moved.

શ્રી. છાબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા : માનનીય સભાપતિજી, આ રેઝોલ્યુશન હું એટલા માટે લાવ્યો છું કે જૂના સૌરાષ્ટ્ર રાજ્યની અંદર ૧૯૫૬-૫૭ ની અંદર સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સરકારે સૌરાષ્ટ્રના મુખ્ય શહેરોની ૩૨ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓવાળા શહેરોની અંદર વોટર વર્ક્સ અને ડ્રેનેજની યોજના કરવા માટે સરકારી કાઢીને તમામ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને ખબર આપેલ તે અનુસાર સૌરાષ્ટ્રની ૩૨ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓએ ૧૯૫૬-૫૭ની અંદર વોટર વર્ક્સ અને ડ્રેનેજની સ્કીમ તૈયાર કરેલી. આ બંનેના ખર્ચનો કુલ અંદાજ ૧૦ કરોડ રૂપિયા આ ૩૨ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓ માટે થવા જાય છે. આ અંગે ૧૯૫૬-૫૭માં સૌરાષ્ટ્ર રાજ્યના તે વખતના માનનીય નાણાં પ્રધાન શ્રી મનુભાઈ શાહે બજેટ રજૂ કરતાં કહેલું કે :—

“સાંપ્રતિ પાણી પુરવઠા અને ગટર યોજના હેઠળ, ૩૨ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓ માટે ઘડી કાઢવામાં આવેલ પાણી પુરવઠા અને ગટરના વિગતવાર કાર્યક્રમથી સત્વરે સૌરાષ્ટ્રના મુખ્ય શહેરોની ૩૨ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓ માટે રૂ. ૫૨.૭૬૫ લાખનું ખર્ચ અંદાજવામાં આવ્યું છે. જ્યારે ભૂગર્ભ ગટરની યોજનાઓ ઉપર રૂ. ૫૦.૫૫૪ લાખનું ખર્ચ થશે. ચાલુ નાણાંકીય વર્ષમાં જ પાણી પુરવઠા અને ગટર યોજનાના કાર્યક્રમનો અમલ થઈ ગયો છે. રૂ. ૧૦૨.૭ લાખની કિંમતની પાઈપો અને સાધનસામગ્રી માટેનો ઓર્ડર મૂકી દેવામાં આવ્યો છે અને ચાલુ નાણાંકીય વર્ષના અંત પહેલાં આસરે રૂ. ૫૦ લાખનો વધુ ઓર્ડર મૂકવામાં આવશે. આ કાર્યક્રમનો સંપૂર્ણ અમલ થતાં આસરે ત્રણ ચાર વર્ષ થશે.”

આ રીતે ૩૨ શહેરોની મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને માટે પાણી પુરવઠાની યોજના અને ડ્રેનેજની યોજના તૈયાર કરવામાં આવેલી. આ યોજનાનો અમલ થાય તે પહેલાં સૌરાષ્ટ્ર રાજ્યનું વિભિન્ન-કરણ થયું અને તે મુંબઈ રાજ્યમાં ભળ્યું. એ સમયે અમને એવી ખાતરી આપવામાં આવી હતી કે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર રાજ્યની કોઈ યોજનાનો અમલ નહિ થાય એમ નહિ બને. સાહેબ, સૌરાષ્ટ્રના લોકોના આરોગ્ય માટેની આ મૂળભૂત અને મહત્વની યોજના હતી. સૌરાષ્ટ્રના લોકોનો મોટો ભાગ એટલે કે ૩૪ ટકા જેટલી વસતી શહેરોની અંદર વસે છે. સૌરાષ્ટ્ર જ એક એવો પ્રદેશ છે જેની મોટા ભાગની વસતી શહેરોમાં વસે છે. લોકોની મૂળભૂત જરૂરિયાતની—પીવાના યોજના પાણીની યોજના અને ડ્રેનેજની યોજનાનો અમલ આ મુંબઈ રાજ્ય મોટું થતાં થતો નથી. એ કારણે હું આ રેઝોલ્યુશન લાવ્યો છું. ૩૨ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓમાંથી ૧૯ શહેરોની મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને વોટર વર્ક્સ કરવા માટે હમણાં જ મંજૂરી આપવામાં આવી છે. આ માટે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર રાજ્યની અંદર એક પબ્લિક હેલ્થ એન્જિનિયરીંગ નામનું ખાનું ખોલવામાં આવ્યું હતું. અને એના નીચે ચાર વિભાગ ખોલવામાં આવ્યા હતા. આ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓએ યોજના તૈયાર કરેલી. પાણી યોજના માટે એ વખતની સરકારે લાખો રૂપિયા આપેલા. કેટલીયે મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને ભાવનગર, મહુવા, બોટાદ અને બગસરા અને એવી મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને પૈસા આપેલ. પરંતુ, સાહેબ, આજે વસ્તુસ્થિતિ એ છે કે આ યોજનાનો આજે અમલ થતો નથી. આજે જ આ પૈસા આપવામાં આવ્યા છે તે વપરાયા વગર પડ્યા છે. આજે આ મુંબઈમાં ઉપર આ પૈસાનું વ્યાજ ચડે છે. ભાવનગર મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીનો દાખલો આપું. ભાવનગર મ્યુનિસિપાલિટી ઉપર દર વર્ષે ૮૦ હજાર રૂપિયા વિનાકારણ વ્યાજના ચડે છે. ૧૯૫૬-૫૭ના બજેટ પ્રવચનમાં તે વખતના સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સરકારના નાણા પ્રધાનશ્રીએ જ ૧ કરોડ અને પાંચ લાખના

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

પાઈપ લેવામાં આવ્યા છે તે અંગે કહ્યું હતું તે પાઈપ આજે ભાવનગરની અંદર પડ્યા છે. ભાવનગર શહેર મ્યુનિસિપાલિટી તેમજ બીજી મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓ ઉપર આજે આપેલા પૈસાનું વ્યાજ ચડે છે. સરકારને હું પૂછવા માગું છું કે આ વ્યાજ કેટલા વર્ષો સુધી ચડાવવા માગીએ છીએ. એક તરફથી સ્થાનિક સ્વરાજ્યની સંસ્થાઓને નભાવવા માટે, એના ઉપર વધારે મોટો બોજે આવી ન પડે તે માટે જે ગ્રાન્ટ આપીએ છીએ, ત્યાં વર્ષના બજેટની અંદર એને વધારેમાં વધારે પ્રમાણમાં સબસીડી આપવાની જે જોગવાઈ કરીએ છીએ એ એટલા માટે કે નાની નાની સ્થાનિક સ્વરાજ્યની સંસ્થાઓનું બજેટ ખર્ચભળી ન જાય તે માટે મદદ કરીએ છીએ. બીજી તરફથી મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓના મહત્વના પ્રશ્નો માટેની જે યોજના કરીએ છીએ તે યોજનાઓનો ૩-૩ વર્ષથી અમલ થતો નથી. આને માટેના ૨-૩ દાખલા આપું. મહુવા મ્યુનિસિપાલિટી પાસે વોટર વર્ક્સની યોજના તૈયાર હતી. આ યોજનાનો અમલ કરવા માટે, જેમ મેં આ પહેલાં કહ્યું તેમ, સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સરકારે પબ્લિક હેલ્થ એન્જિનિયરીંગ નામનું નવું ખાતું ખોલ્યું. નવું ખાતું એટલા માટે ઉભું કર્યું કે વોટર વર્ક્સ અને ડ્રેનેજ જેવી યોજના મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓ જેવી સ્થાનિક સ્વરાજ્યની નાની નાની સંસ્થાઓને અમલમાં મૂકવા માટે એની પાસે ટેકનીકલ માણસો ન હોય.

એટલે એ સંસ્થાઓ આ યોજનાને એકઝીક્યુટ ન કરી શકે. એટલા માટે આ નવું ખાતું ખોલવામાં આવ્યું. તો માફ કરવાનું એ છે કે અત્યારસુધીમાં આ ખાતા પાછળ સરકારે કેટલું ખર્ચ કર્યું અને આ ખાતાએ અત્યારસુધીમાં શું કામ કર્યું? અમે વારંવાર પૂછીએ છીએ કે આ વોટર વર્ક્સ અને ડ્રેનેજની યોજનાનો ક્યારે અમલ થશે? એન્જિનિયરો એમ કહે છે કે ઉપરથી મંજૂરી આવતી નથી. મહુવા મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીની ગટર યોજના તૈયાર હતી અને એની પાસે એને માટેના પૈસા પણ તૈયાર પડ્યા છે અને તે સરકારે જ આપ્યા છે. આ ડિપાર્ટમેન્ટ તરફથી આને માટેના ટેન્ડર ઈન્વાઈટ કરવા માટે કહેવામાં આવ્યું. ટેન્ડર ઈન્વાઈટ કરવામાં આવ્યા અને ટેન્ડરો આવ્યા તે સ્પેસીફિકેશન પ્રમાણેના જે ભાવ હતા તેના કરતાં થોડા વધારે હતા. એન્જિનિયરો એ કાગળિયા રાજકોટ મોકલ્યા. સુધારાના તાત્કાલિક સવાલો ઉકેલવા માટે ડિસ્ટ્રિક્ટમાં કલેક્ટર હોય છે. જે કલેક્ટર આવા કોઈ સવાલ ન ઉકેલી શકે તો એને માટે ડીવીઝનલ ઓફિસર પણ નીમવામાં આવ્યા છે. એમણે કહ્યું કે ટેન્ડરના ભાવ થોડા વધારે છે. ટેન્ડર ભરનારની સાથે વાટાઘાટ કરીને ભાવ થોડા ઓછા કરાવો. એન્જિનીયરે ભાવ ઓછા કરાવવા માટે વાટાઘાટ કરી અને ટેન્ડરના ભાવ ઓછા થયા. ફરીથી એ આખું પ્રકરણ રાજકોટ આવ્યું. અને રાજકોટથી એ મુંબઈ આવ્યું. સાહેબ એનં પરિણામ શું આવ્યું? આ ગૃહને એની વાત કરું તો કદાચ આશ્ચર્ય થશે. બાર મહિના પછી કહેવામાં આવે છે કે ટેન્ડર રીઈન્વાઈટ કરો. સૌરાષ્ટ્રની સ્થાનિક સ્વરાજ્યની સંસ્થાઓના મહત્વના કામ માટે ટેન્ડર ઈન્વાઈટ કરવામાં આવે છે, ટેન્ડરો ભરાય છે, એ ટેન્ડરના ભાવ ઓછા કરવા માટે કન્સલ્ટેશન કરવામાં આવ્યું અને પછી મુંબઈ સેક્ટરીને મોકલવામાં આવે છે તો એનો જવાબ બરાબર બાર મહિને આપવામાં આવે છે કે ટેન્ડર રીઈન્વાઈટ કરો. તો પછી આ એન્જિનિયરોએ ૧૨-૧૨ મહિના શું કર્યું? પબ્લિક હેલ્થ એન્જિનિયરીંગ ખાતાએ આ બાર મહિના શું કર્યું? અમે વારંવાર ડીવીઝનલ ઓફિસરને પૂછીએ છીએ, કલેક્ટરને પૂછીએ છીએ કે અમારી યોજનાનું શું થયું? તો એ લોકો જવાબ આપે છે કે મુંબઈ સેક્ટરીને ગયું છે. અમે કેટલાયે કાગળો લખી લખીને થાક્યા પણ કોઈ કાગળનો જવાબ પણ દેતું નથી. વોટર વર્ક્સ અને ડ્રેનેજના યોજના માટે સરકાર લોન ફ્લોટ કરે છે અને એ લોનની અંદર ૨ કરોડ અને ૪૬ લાખ રૂપિયા ભરાયા અને એ લોનમાંથી મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને પૈસા પણ આપવામાં આવ્યા. આજે એ આપેલા પૈસાનું વ્યાજ ચડે છે. હું સરકાર પાસેથી એ જાણવા માગું છું કે આ જે નાની નાની મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓ કે જેની આવક ટૂંકી છે એના ઉપર જે આ વ્યાજ ચડ્યું છે એ માફ કરવા સરકાર તૈયાર છે કે નહિ? કારણ કે જે આ વ્યાજ ચડ્યું છે તે સરકારની ભૂલને કારણે ચડ્યું છે. એના માટે ઉપાય કરવાની જરૂર છે.

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

સૌરાષ્ટ્રની આ ૩૨ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓની વોટર વર્ક્સ અને ડ્રેનેજની યોજના માટે અમે જ્યારે જ્યારે આ ખાતાના માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રીને અને આ ખાતાના અધિકારીઓને મળતા હતા ત્યારે અમને એમ કહેવામાં આવતું હતું કે આ યોજનાનો બીજી પંચવર્ષીય યોજનામાં સમાવેશ નથી થયો. ૧૦ કરોડ રૂપિયા જેવી મોટી યોજનાને કારણે મુશ્કેલી ઉભી થઈ છે. કારણ કે ફાઈનાન્સીયલ ડીફીકલ્ટીઝ છે. સાહેબ, આ તકે હું એક રેફરન્સ આપવા માગું છું. અમને એમ કહેવામાં આવે છે કે આ યોજનાનો બીજી પંચવર્ષીય યોજનામાં સમાવેશ કરવામાં આવ્યો નથી તો મુંબઈ ગવર્નમેન્ટે “આઉટલાઈન ઓફ એક્ટીવીટીઝ ૧૯૫૬-૫૭ અને ૧૯૫૭-૫૮” નામની જ રૂપરેખા પબ્લીશ કરી છે એના પાના ૧૧૬ ઉપર લખવામાં આવ્યું છે—એની હેડ લાઈનમાં લખવામાં આવ્યું છે કે Schemes included in the Second Five-Year Plan. આ પુસ્તક કહે છે કે :

“In respect of Saurashtra area, the former Government of Saurashtra had undertaken a programme of 32 water supply and drainage schemes costing more than Rs. 5 crores. The first phase of the programme was estimated to cost Rs. 4.3 crores, out of which Rs. 1.8 crores were raised as loan. The Government of India paid a loan of Rs. 50 lakhs only and the Saurashtra Government raised an open market loan and disbursed Rs. 2,40.75 lakhs. In the budget estimates for 1956-57, the ex-Saurashtra.....”

એક તરફથી અમને એમ કહેવામાં આવે છે કે બીજી પંચવર્ષીય યોજનાની અંદર આ યોજના માટે પૈસાનું પ્રોવીઝન કરવામાં નથી આવ્યું, પ્લાનીંગ કમિશને પણ મંજૂર કરેલ નથી ત્યારે બીજી તરફથી આ પુસ્તકની અંદર એમ બતાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે આ યોજનાનો બીજી પંચવર્ષીય યોજનામાં સમાવેશ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે. હવે સવાલ એ છે, સાહેબ, કે આને અંગેની યોજના પૂરી થઈ ગઈ છે. સૌરાષ્ટ્રની અંદર આને અંગેનું પબ્લિક હેલ્થ એન્જિનિયરીંગ નામનું ખાતું છે, હું માનું છું કે મુંબઈ સરકાર પણ સૌરાષ્ટ્રની અંદર આ યોજનાનો તાત્કાલિક અમલ થાય એ માટે આતુર છે, સૌરાષ્ટ્રના મંત્રીઓ જ મુંબઈ સરકારની કેબીનેટમાં બેઠા છે એમને પણ આ અંગે ઘણી વાર મળતા તેઓ કહે છે કે અમારે ઘણી મુશ્કેલી છે. છ દિવસ પહેલાં રાજકોટની અંદર રાજકોટ ડીવીઝનની તમામ સુધારાઓના પ્રમુખોની એક મીટીંગ મળી હતી. એ મીટીંગના પ્રમુખસ્થાને એ વખતની સરકારના સ્થાનિક સ્વરાજ્યના પ્રધાન હતા. એમણે પણ ચિન્તા વ્યક્ત કરી હતી કે આ ૩૨ શહેરની મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓની વોટર વર્ક્સની જ યોજના છે તેનું શું થવાનું છે? આ યોજનાનો અમલ કરવા માટે હું માનું છું કે સૌ ઈંતેજાર છે. મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને પૈસા આપ્યા છે, આને માટેનો સ્ટાફ પણ છે. પણ આજે જે કોઈ મહત્વનો સવાલ હોય તો એડમિનિસ્ટ્રેટીવ એપ્રુવલ અંગેનો છે. આજે એડમિનિસ્ટ્રેટીવ એપ્રુવલ જે વખતસર મળવી જોઈએ તે મળતી નથી. ૧૮ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને વોટર વર્ક્સની યોજનાને માટેના ખર્ચ અપાઈ ગયા છે. આને માટેના જે કાગળો અહીં લખવામાં આવે છે તેનો જવાબ ૧૨-૧૨ મહિના સુધી મળતો નથી. મને લાગે છે કે આ યોજનાની અંદર પણ પ્રોવીનશિયલીઝમ તો દાખલ નથી થયું ને? પ્રાંતીયતા તો દાખલ નથી થઈ ને? નહિ તો સૌરાષ્ટ્રની આ યોજનાના કાગળો અહીંના સેક્ટરીયેટમાં ૧૨-૧૨ મહિના કેમ પડ્યા રહે છે? ફક્ત મંજૂરી મળવી બાકી છે. યોજના તૈયાર થયેલી છે, એને માટેના પૈસા પડ્યા છે, એને માટેનું ડિપાર્ટમેન્ટ પણ છે. બધું છે પણ માત્ર એડમિનિસ્ટ્રેટીવ એપ્રુવલમાં સમય જાય છે. આ તો, સાહેબ, મેં ૧૮ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓની વાત કરી. પણ જે મૂળ સવાલ છે તે ૩૨ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓના વોટર વર્ક્સ અને ડ્રેનેજની યોજનાનો તાત્કાલિક અમલ થાય એનો સવાલ છે. હું માનું છું કે સરકાર પણ આ યોજનાનો અમલ થાય એ માટે આતુર છે. તો મારી વિનંતી છે કે આ યોજના માટે તાત્કાલિક મંજૂરી આપે.

આજે આપણે વૈદકીય સારવાર માટે કરોડો રૂપિયા ખર્ચીએ છીએ. ત્યારે એના પ્રીવેન્ટીવ મેઝર્સ માટેની આ અમારી યોજના છે. આ લોકોના સુખાકારી માટેની યોજના છે, લોકોના સુખાકારીનો આ સવાલ છે. વોટર વર્ક્સ અને ડ્રેનેજની યોજનાનો વહેલી તકે અમલ થાય અમ અમે ઈચ્છીએ છીએ અને એટલા માટે સરકારનું ધ્યાન આ પ્રશ્ન પર દોરવા માટે હું આ રેઝોલ્યુશન લાવ્યો છું. અમારા

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

વિસ્તારના છાપાઓ પણ, સાહેબ, અમારી આ ૩૨ શહેરોની મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓની વોટર વર્ક્સ અને ડ્રેનેજની યોજનાને નજર સામે રાખીને વાત કરે છે. હમણાં જ એના તંત્રી લેખમાં લખવામાં આવ્યું છે કે :—

“ પાણી પુરવઠા અને મેલા પાણીના નિકાસ માટેની યોજનાઓ ખોરંભે પડી છે. રાજકોટ પાસે તળાવ હિલોલાં લે છે. ઈન્નેરો તેની મુલાકાત લે છે, મહેમાનો આજીર્જા જોવા જાય છે, ખાસ મોટરગાડીઓ સહેલગાડ માટે દોડવાય છે. પણ જાહેર નળમાં કસારીના દિલમાંથી ટપકતી દયા જેવી ધાર જોઈ છે? જાહેર ચોકમાં સુધરાઈ પાટીયાં મારે છે કે પાણીનો વપરાશ ઓછો કરજે. કારણ? પાઈપ લાઈનનો પ્રશ્ન પત્યો નથી.”

The CHAIRMAN : What is it that the hon. Member is reading ?

Shri CHHABILDAS P. MEHTA : The Editorial of a newspaper.

The CHAIRMAN : Of which paper ?

Shri CHHABILDAS P. MEHTA : The Editorial of “Nutan Saurashtra” daily.

Dr. N. N. KAILAS : What is the date and the name of the paper ?

Shri CHHABILDAS P. MEHTA : “Nutan Saurashtra” of 12th February 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member need not read the whole of the editorial.

શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા : આજે આ મુખ્ય સવાલ છે. આવી રીતનો ભાવનગરનો પણ સવાલ છે. ભાવનગરની મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીના એક સભાસદ મને મળેલા ત્યારે તેમણે મને કહ્યું કે અમને પંદર લાખ રૂપિયા ગ્રાન્ટના અને બીજી રીતે આપેલા છે પરંતુ સરકારે અમારી પાસેથી સાડાચાર લાખ રૂપિયા પાઈપના અને આજે ચાર ચાર વરસથી જે ખર્ચ ચડે છે તે પેટે લઈ લીધા છે. આમ બન્ને પેટે સાડાચાર લાખ રૂપિયા લઈ લીધા છે. જેનો હિસાબ પણ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીને આપવામાં આવ્યો નથી. એ બધો હિસાબ યોજના પછી આપવામાં આવે તો જુદી વાત છે. પણ જે મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીને નામે પૈસા મૂકવામાં આવ્યા હોય, જે યોજના માટે પાઈપ આપવામાં આવે અને તે યોજનાનો અમલ થતો ન હોય અને જે પૈસા છે તે પણ લઈ લેવામાં આવે તો સાહેબ, અમારો સવાલ એટલો જ છે કે બન્નીસ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓ માટે વોટર વર્ક્સ અને ડ્રેનેજની જે યોજના તૈયાર પડી છે તે યોજના તાત્કાલિક પૂરી કરવા વિનંતી કરું છું. સરકાર કદાચ એમ કહેશે કે ફાઈનન્સને કારણે અમે એ યોજના તાત્કાલિક અમલમાં મૂકી શકીએ તેમ નથી, કદાચ સરકાર એમ પણ કહેશે કે પાઈપ કે બીજી મુશ્કેલીને કારણે આ કરી શકાય તેમ નથી. પરંતુ જો આવી કોઈ મુશ્કેલી ખરેખર આવતી હોય તો તો ઠીક છે પરંતુ અહિં તો એ બધું પાઈપ, પૈસા અને યોજના તૈયાર પડેલાં છે. છતાં પણ અમારી યોજનાનો સમાવેશ થતો નથી. અલબત્ત, મેં કહ્યું તેમ ૧૯ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને હુકમ કરવામાં આવ્યો, અહિંના સેક્ટેરિયેટમાં રાજકોટથી મોકલેલા કાગળો બાર બાર મહિના સુધી પાછા આવતા નથી અને તેને પરિણામે ફરીથી ટેન્ડરો રી-ઈન્વાઈટ કરવા પડે છે. અને તેથી મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને ખર્ચ બહુ જ વધી જાય છે. અને આટલેથી પણ કામ પૂરું થતું નથી કારણ કે ફરીને બધી વાતની મંજૂરી મંગાવવી પડે છે, ફરીને પ્લાન મોકલવા પડે છે, ફરીને ડિઝાઈનની મંજૂરી માગવી પડે છે ત્યારે એને રી-ઈન્સ્ટીટ કરવામાં આવે અને તે પછી ફરીને સ્પેસીફિકેશન થાય એટલે રાજકોટની જનતાનો—સૌરાષ્ટ્રની જનતાનો—આ જે મુખ્ય પ્રશ્ન છે તે સરકારની પૂરતી કાળજીને અભાવે અટવાઈ જાય છે. અને આ જે રીઝોલ્યુશન હું અહિં લાવ્યો છું તેમાં મારો આશય એવો છે કે સૌરાષ્ટ્રની મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને જે યોજના છે તેને અમલી બનાવવા માટે અને તાત્કાલિક

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

પૂરી કરવા માટે સરકાર તુરત પગલાં ભરે. અને મેં જેમ અહિં દાખલો આપ્યો તેમ બાર બાર મહિના સુધી અમારા કાગળો અહિંના સેક્ટેરિયેટમાં ન અટવાઈ જાય તેટલા માટે મારું એક સૂચન છે કે સુપ્રિન્ટેન્ડેન્ટ ઓફ એન્જીનિયરને ત્યાં મોકલે અને તપાસ કરીને તુરત કામ શરૂ કરાવે. અને ત્રણ વરસનું જે વ્યાજ થયું છે તે સરકાર માફ કરી શકે તો માફ કરવાની હું વિનંતી કરું છું. મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓને આપણે આગળ લાવવા માગીએ છીએ તો મારા આ ઠરાવને લક્ષમાં લઈ સ્વીકારવામાં આવશે.

ડૉ. એન. એન. કૈલાસ (જન-સ્વાસ્થ્ય ઉપમંત્રી) : માનનીય સભાપતિ જી, સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સે આજે દુનિયા માનનીય સદસ્ય શ્રી. છબીલદાસ મહેતા ને અમી જો સંકલ્પ સભાગૃહ કે સામને સૌરાષ્ટ્ર મેં વાટરવર્ક્સ ઓર ડ્રેનેજ કે બારે મેં રખા ઉસકે વિષય મેં મેં કુછ કહના યાહતા હૂં. ઉન્હોને અપન ભાષણ મેં કુછ એસી બાતેં બતલાઈ કે ૩-૩૦ p.m. અગર વાકઈ વે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર કી મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીયોં કે લિએ ઓર વહાં કી જનતા કે લાભ કે લિએ કુછ કરના યાહતે ઓર ઉનકે દિલ મેં ઉનકે પ્રતી પ્રેમ હોતા તો વે યહ સંકલ્પ યહાં ન લાકર સરકારી ઓફિસ સે માલમાત ઇકઠ્ઠી કર સકતે થે ઓર સરકાર પર ઉસકે લિએ જોર ડાલ સકતે થે, જો ઉનકે યહાં પર ભાષણ દેને સે જ્યાદા પુરઅસર હો સકતા થા.

આપને કુછ બાતેં દ્વિભાષી રાજ્ય કે વિરોધ મેં કહ ડાલીં. બાત યહ હૈ કે ઉનકો સારે રાજ્ય સે કોઈ પ્રેમ નહીં હૈ સિર્ફ સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સે હૈ, યહ ઉનકી મનોવૃત્તિ હૈ જિસસે ઉન્હેં દ્વિભાષી રાજ્ય પસન્દ નહીં. ઇસીલિએ ઉન્હોને ઇસ પ્રકાર કા પ્રસ્તાવ લાયા જો સિર્ફ સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સે સમ્બન્ધ રખતા હૈ. અગર આપકી પૂરે રાજ્ય કે પ્રતિ સદ્ભાવના હોતી તો એસા પ્રશ્ન ડાયા હોતા કે સારે રાજ્ય મેં યહ તક્લીફ હૈ ઓર ઇસે દૂર કરના યાહિએ. તો મેં માનતા ઓર યહ સમજ પાતા કે આપમેં રાજ્ય કે પ્રતિ સદ્ભાવનાએ હૈ. ઉન્હોને અપની લખ કી જો ભાવનાએ હૈ પૂરે રાજ્ય પર ડાલકર યહ કહા કે રાજ્ય કે એક ટુકડે કી તરફ સરકારને ધ્યાન નહીં દિયા. ઇસ પ્રકાર કહકર ઉન્હોને રાજ્ય ઓર સરકાર દોનો પર અન્યાય કિયા હ.

ઉન્હોને બતલાયા કે પિછલી સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સરકારન ૩૨ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીયોં કો પાની દેને કે લિએ ઓર ડ્રેનેજ કી વ્યવસ્થા કરને કે લિએ ૧૦ કરોડ રૂપયોં કા બન્દોબસ્ત કિયા થા. લેકિન વે ઇસ બાત કો મૂલ ગએ કે ઇસમેં સે ૫ કરોડ રૂપયા કેન્દ્રીય સરકાર કી તરફ સે આને વાલા થા ઓર ૫ કરોડ રૂપયા માર્કેટ સે લોન કે તૌર પર હાસિલ કિયા જાના થા. જબ તક કેન્દ્રીય સરકાર સે ૫ કરોડ રૂપયા નહીં આતા તબ તક ઓર લોન નિકાલને ઓર ઇન્ટરેસ્ટ દેને સે ક્યા ફાયદા. ૫ કરોડ મેં સે ઢાઈ કરોડ રૂપયા તો માર્કેટ સે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સરકારન નિકાલે લિયા થા જિસકા ઇન્ટરેસ્ટ દેના પડ રહા હૈ. જબ હમ ઢાઈ કરોડ રૂપયા લોન માર્કેટ સે નિકાલે ઓર ૫ કરોડ રૂપયા કેન્દ્રીય સરકાર સે મિલે તબ હમ ઠીક તરહ સે અન્દાજા લગા સકતે હૈ કે યહ સ્કીમેં કિસ તરહ સે પૂરી કી જા સકતી હૈ. પૂરી કરના તો દૂર લેકિન કિસ તરહ ઉનકો છુઆ જા સકતા હૈ યહ સોચના હોગા વયોંકિ લખા ઇસસે કઈ અધિક હોનેવાલા હૈ. યહ મેં આગે આંકડે દેકર આપકો બતલાઉંગા.

દુસરી બાત ઉન્હોને યહ બતલાયી કે ઉનકે યહાં સે જો કાગજજાત આતે હૈ ઉનકાં જવાબ જલ્દી સે નહીં મિલતા જિસકી વજહ ઘરૂર મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીયોં કે ઊપર ઇન્ટરેસ્ટ બઢતા જાતા હૈ. ઓર ઉનકા લખ બઢતા જા રહા હૈ. મેં સભાગૃહ કે સામને રખના યાહતા હૈ કે જિતની ભાવના હમારે માનનીય મહેતા જી કી હૈ, અપને સૌરાષ્ટ્ર કે પ્રતિ

[डॉ. एन. एन. कैलास]

भलाई करने की और जिसे वह सभागृह में बोलकर सौराष्ट्र की जनता के सामने रखना चाहते हैं, उससे कम भावना सरकार की नहीं है। माननीय मेहता जी से ज्यादा भावना हमारी है और हम कोशिश में लगे हुए हैं कि हम जो कुछ भी उनके साथ कर सकें वह करें। लेकिन उसमें जो कुछ भी देर लग रही है वह हमारे हाथ की बात नहीं है हमारा काम कोशिश करना है और कोशिश करने में कोई देर लगी हो तो उनका हमारे ऊपर लान्छन लगाना ठीक हो सकता है।

जब से सौराष्ट्र हमारे प्रान्त में मिला उस दिन से हमारी सरकार के दिल में बड़ा दुख हो रहा था कि वह उस बात को पूरा नहीं कर पा रही है। कितना अच्छा होता कि इन ३२ म्युनिसिपालिटियों को जिनसे सौराष्ट्र गवर्नमेंट ने वादा किया था पानी और ड्रेनेज की तकलीफ को दूर करने के लिये, उनका समावेश सेक्रेन्ड फाइव ईयर प्लान में कर सकते। उनसे केन्द्रीय सरकारने ५ करोड़ रुपये देने का वादा किया था और ५ करोड़ वह लोन लेने वाले थे जिसमें से ढाई करोड़ लोन वह हासिल कर चुके थे और ढाई करोड़ वह केन्द्रीय सरकार से ५ करोड़ मिलने के बाद लेने वाले थे। अब वह ढाई करोड़ और लोन हम लेना नहीं चाहते क्योंकि वह बेकार हम क्यों लें जब कि हम जानते हैं कि १० करोड़ से कहीं ज्यादा रुपया उसमें लग सकता है। वह स्कीम इसी विश्वास पर बनाई गयी थी कि ५ करोड़ केन्द्रीय सरकार से मिल जायगा और ५ करोड़ का लोन निकाल लेंगे। जब इस सरकार को मालूम हुआ कि केन्द्रीय सरकारने ५ करोड़ रुपया देने का वादा किया था तब से हमारे चीफ मिनिस्टर साहब और सौराष्ट्र के भूतपूर्व चीफ मिनिस्टर श्री. रसिकभाई दोनों ने केन्द्रीय सरकार के हेल्थ मिनिस्टर को लिखा कि आपने ५ करोड़ का वादा किया था वह ५ करोड़ रुपया दिलाने की व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिये। हमारे मुख्य मंत्रीजीने जब कभी प्लानिंग कमिशन के पास इसकी चर्चा भी की है तथा पत्रों से उनको याद भी दिलाते रहते हैं और उन्होंने यह भी कहा है कि अगर ५ करोड़ नहीं दे सकते तो १०४ लाख रुपया दे दीजिए जिसमें हम कुछ काम तो कर सकें।

३२ म्युनिसिपालिटियोंसे जब यह वादा किया गया था कि पानी और ड्रेनेज का इंतजाम किया जाएगा तब सौराष्ट्र की गवर्नमेंट ने बिना प्लेन्स और एस्टिमेट्स तैयार किए ही १० करोड़ का अन्दाज कर के वादा किया था लेकिन जब हमने ३२ म्युनिसिपालिटियों का हिसाब और एस्टिमेट्स लगवाया तो मालूम हुआ कि इस काम के लिये १५-१६ करोड़ रुपये की जरूरत है। उसका खर्चा यहां तक पहुंच सकता है। १० करोड़ से उसमें क्या होगा। हमारी काम की यह पद्धति रही है कि किसी चीज को चलाने के पहले हम उसके प्लेन्स और एस्टिमेट्स बनवाते हैं और वह पास हो जाने के बाद तब ही हम योजना को पब्लिश करते हैं या उसका एलान करते हैं। जब हमने ३२ म्युनिसिपालिटियों के काम को देखा और एस्टिमेट कराया तो मालूम हुआ कि इसमें तो इनका बहुत ज्यादा खर्चा आता है। तब हमने ऐसे शहरो को चुना जिनको पानी और ड्रेनेज की बहुत जरूरत है। हमने बहुत विचार विनिमय के बाद यह तय किया कि सौराष्ट्र में १९ वाटर वर्क्स और ४ ड्रेनेज की स्कीमें हाथ में ली जा सकती है, जिन पर १० करोड़ के आसपास या थोड़े बहुत फर्क से खर्चा आएगा। तब हमने निम्नव्य किया कि अगर केन्द्रीय सरकार से सहायता मिल जाय तो हम १९ वाटर वर्क्स और ४ ड्रेनेज की स्कीमों को हाथ में ले लें। हमने केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास स्कीम भेजी और खुशी की बात है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उसे पास कर दिया है। १९ वाटर वर्क्स और ४ ड्रेनेज की स्कीम को कार्यान्वित करने के लिए जब रुपये की जरूरत होगी। हमने रुपया निकालने की कोशिश की लेकिन हमारी मंशा होते हुए भी हमारे पास रुपये की काफी कमी है। हम कोशिश कर के उसको आगे चलाना चाहते हैं, तथा यह काम शुरू करना

[डॉ. एन. एन. कैलास]

चाहत है लेकिन सभागृह को मालूम होना चाहिये कि इसमें काफी खर्चा आता है। २०६४ लाख रुपया वाटर वर्क्स के खर्चे के लिए आ जाता है क्योंकि १९ म्युनिसिपालिटियों में वाटर वर्क्स कायम करना है। इसलिये हमने केन्द्रीय सरकार से कहा कि इस वाटर वर्क्स और ड्रेनेज के काम के लिए करीब ४६१.६ लाख का घाटा रहता है उसे केन्द्र पूरा करे। हमें जो ५० लाख रुपये केन्द्रीय सरकार से मिले हैं उसके बाद भी ४६१.६ लाख रुपये की जरूरत रहती है। इन १९ वाटर वर्क्स और ४ ड्रेनेज के काम को कार्यान्वित करने के लिए मैं तो ऐसा मानता हूँ कि जो कुछ भी हम कर सकते हैं वह केन्द्रीय सरकार और प्लानिंग कमिशन से सहायता मिलने के बाद ही कर सकते हैं। जितना भी रुपया हम वाटर वर्क्स तथा ड्रेनेज के मोहकमे से ले सकते थे वह हमने लेने की पूरी कोशिश की लेकिन इससे ज्यादा हम कुछ न कर सकते।

राजकोट के मामले में यह कहा गया कि डैम्स तैयार हैं, पानी तैयार है, पाइप मौजूद है लेकिन मेहता जी ने पूछा कि फिर सरकार पानी क्यों नहीं देती है। मैं उन्हें कहना चाहता हूँ कि तालाब से पानी शहर तक लाने के लिए पाइप लाइन डालनी पडती है और उसमें कुछ बीचमें ऐसी जमीन का टुकड़ा आ जाता है जो सरकारी नहीं है। वह दूसरे आदमी का है, उसका एक्वीजीशन करना पड़ेगा। एक्वीजीशन की हमने कोशिश की और जिसकी जमीन है उसको कहा कि वह दे दे लेकिन मुझे दुख के कहना पडता है कि कुछ साथी जो यहां पर बोलते हैं, मैंने अपने राजकोट के दौरे में सुना, उन्होंने उस आदमी को बहकाया और कहा कि उस जमीन को वह न दे और वह इसलिये कि वे शायद यहां सभागृह में इसके बारे में सरकार की टीका कर सकें। यह बात १६ आने गलत भी हो सकती है लेकिन यह बात सुनने में आई। जिन बातों का जिक्र मेहता साहबने किया उससे पता चलता है कि वह स्वयं प्रान्तीयता में विश्वास करते हैं और इसीलिये उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार कठियावाड और कच्छ की तरफ ध्यान नहीं देती। जो कुछ बातें हमारे सामने आई हैं वह मैंने यहां कहीं ताकि हाउस को सब मालूम हो जाए। शहर को पानी देने के मामले में पार्टी पॉलिटिक्स लाया जाता है यह बड़े दुख की बात है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि पानी और ड्रेनेज के मामले में जो कुछ भी करना आवश्यक हो वह किया जाना चाहिये। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जमीन जल्दी से मिल जाए। हम को एमर्जेंसी क्लॉज भी लगाना पडा लेकिन हम वहां अबतक तालाब से शहर तक पाइप डालने के इंतजाम अभितक नहीं कर पाए।

मैं ज्यादा कुछ बोलना नहीं चाहता हूँ लेकिन मैंने यह समझाने की कोशिश की है कि हमारा इस प्रकार की प्रान्तीयता में जरा भी विश्वास नहीं है। और जो सौराष्ट्र गवर्नमेंट की जिम्मेदारी है उसके बारे में १९ वाटर वर्क्स और ४ ड्रेनेज की स्कीम को पूरा करने के लिए जो कुछ भी किया जा सकता था वह किया गया है और उसे जितनी तेजी से संभव है, पूरा करने की कोशिश की जा रही है।

सेक्रेट्रिएट से पत्र व्यवहार में देर लगती है या कुछ उत्तर आने में देर होती है तो उसका मुझे दुख है। लेकिन अगर वह ऐसी कोई इन्स्टेंसेस देंगे कि किस किस अर्जेंट पेपर का जवाब देर से मिला हो तो जिस ऑफिसर ने देरी की होगी उसके खिलाफ कारवाई की जायगी। जो आश्वासन मैंने सभागृह के सामने दिया है उससे माननीय मेहता साहब संतुष्ट हुए होंगे और अपना प्रस्ताव वापिस लेंगे, ऐसी मैं आशा करता हूँ।

શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા : માનનીય સભાપતિજી, આ ઠરાવ જે હું લાગ્યો છું તે એટલા માટે કે રાજકોટ વિભાગની ૩૨ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓની વોટર વર્ક્સ અને ડ્રેનેજની યોજના ન અટકે અને એ યોજનાનો તાત્કાલિક અમલ થાય તે અંગે સરકારનું લક્ષ્ય દોરવા માટે આ ઠરાવ લાગ્યો છે. મને સરકાર તરફથી જે જવાબ આપવામાં આવ્યો છે તેમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે ૧૯ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓનું વોટર વર્ક્સ અંગેનું અને ચાર મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓનું ડ્રેનેજ અંગેનું કામ શરૂ કરવામાં આવ્યું છે. સાહેબ, આ પહેલાં આ ઠરાવ ઉપર બોલતાં મેં કહેલું કે ૧૯ મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીઓના વોટર વર્ક્સ માટેની મંજૂરી અપાઈ ગઈ છે અને આ કામ શરૂ કરવા માટે કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે.

સાહેબ, જવાબની અંદર આ અંગે બે વાત કહેવામાં આવી છે કે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સરકારે જ્યારે આ યોજના કરી ત્યારે બરાબર પ્લાનીંગ કર્યા વગર દસ કરોડ રૂપિયાનો ખર્ચનો અંદાજ કાઢવામાં આવ્યો અને અત્યારે ખરેખર જ્યારે આ યોજનાનો અમલ થઈ રહ્યો છે ત્યારે આ યોજનાના ખર્ચનો કુલ અંદાજ પંદર કરોડ રૂપિયા થવા જાય છે. સાહેબ, કદાચ આ વાત સારી હશે, જે એ વખતે પ્લાનીંગ કર્યા વગર જે દસ કરોડ રૂપિયાનો અંદાજ બનાવવામાં આવ્યો હોત તો સાહેબ, હું એ જાણુવા માગું છું કે આ લોન કઈ રીતે આપવામાં આવી છે ?

Shri C. C. MEHTA : May I, Sir, with your permission, submit that the hon. Mover has no right of reply after Government has replied to the debate ?

Shri CHHABILDAS P. MEHTA : Sir, I think I have got a right of reply, as I believe that the Hon. Deputy Minister merely intervened in the debate.

Shri C. C. MEHTA : It was Government's reply to the debate on the Resolution.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, what the Hon. Deputy Minister said just now was a reply on behalf of Government to the debate on the Resolution and therefore, the hon. Member has now no right of reply.

The CHAIRMAN : I thought that the Hon. Deputy Minister when he took part in the discussion only intervened. I was under the impression that Government's reply would come later on.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, as no hon. Member spoke on the Resolution, the Hon. Deputy Minister gave a reply on behalf of Government.

Shri RASIKLAL S. BHATT : I also thought that the Hon. Deputy Minister was intervening in the debate on the Resolution.

Dr. N. N. KAILAS : I waited if any hon. Member wanted to speak on the Resolution. As no hon. Member rose to speak on the Resolution, I gave a reply on behalf of Government to the debate on the Resolution. I am sorry I did not take your permission before giving the reply.

શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા : સાહેબ, એ પણ વાત કરવામાં આવી છે કે રાજકોટની અંદર પાઈપ લાઈન નાખવા અંગે જે કોઈની જમીન જાય છે એ જમીનવાળાને સમજાવવામાં આવતા નથી અને ઉલટાના એ જમીન ન આપવા માટે એને બહેકાવવામાં આવે છે. સાહેબ, આ વાત સાંભળીને મને જરા આશ્ચર્ય થાય છે. કારણ કે આ વાત અહીં કોઈ

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

જાણું પણ નથી. મેં પહેલાં કહ્યું તેમ માનનીય નાયબ મંત્રીશ્રીને કદાચ એમ લાગ્યું હશે કે આ પ્રશ્ન લાવવાની અંદર રાજકારણ ઘૂસી જશે તો હું કહેવા માગું છું કે આ પ્રશ્ન લાવવાની અંદર નથી કોઈ રાજકારણ કે નથી કોઈ રાજકારણની વાત. પણ આ રાજકારણની વાત જવાબ આપતી વખતે ક્યાંથી લાવવામાં આવે છે તેની મને ખબર નથી પડતી. અમે તો એટલું જ ઈચ્છીએ છીએ કે અમારા સૌરાષ્ટ્રની વોટર વર્ક્સ અને ડ્રેનેજની યોજનાનો અમલ થાય અને એટલા માટે સરકારનું લક્ષ્ય દોરવા માટે આ ઠરાવ હું લાગ્યો છું. માનનીય નાયબ મંત્રીશ્રીએ વાત કરા કે ખાનગી માલિકોને વિરોધ પણ તરફથી જમીન ન આપવા માટે બહેકાવવામાં આવે છે. મારા ધ્યાન પર આ વાત લાવવામાં આવશે તો હું ખાતરીથી કહું છું—અમારા તરફથી બહેકાવવામાં નથી આવ્યા તેની તો ખાતરી આપું છું અને જે કોઈ માલિક પર અમારી લાગવગ ચાલતી હશે ત્યાં તેને આ યોજનાનો અમલ થાય તે માટે એની જમીન આપવા માટે સમજાવવા પ્રયત્ન કરવામાં આવશે.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, Government can only promise to look into the matter. As the Hon. Deputy Minister has just now explained, everything will depend on the amounts that we get from the Government of India. Unless we get sufficient funds, it will not be possible to undertake the schemes. Anyhow we will make every effort to see that the schemes are completed as early as possible.

The CHAIRMAN : The point is about 19 municipalities and 4 water works Schemes.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Everything depends on the grants that we get from the Central Government.

Shri CHHABILDAS P. MEHTA : The Hon. Deputy Minister has said that the grants have been received.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Only a small amount has been received.

Shri CHHABILDAS P. MEHTA : If the Government promises to complete the schemes, I will have no objection to withdraw the Resolution.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Government cannot give promises. Government can give an assurance that steps will be taken to implement the schemes if sufficient funds are available.

Shri CHHABILDAS P. MEHTA : In view of the assurance given in this House that steps will be taken to see that the schemes are implemented, if sufficient funds are available, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

Resolution, by leave, withdrawn.

The CHAIRMAN : The next Resolution stands in the name of the hon. Member Shri Sukhadeo Agarwal. He is absent.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : The hon. Member Shri Sukhdeo Agarwal was absent last time. I do not know how it is shown on the Agenda for today.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member was not present last time, but he was informed that the Resolution has been placed on the Agenda for today.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : In that case I take it that it would not be again placed on the Agenda in future.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member was absent last time. This time also he is absent. He is at least consistent in his absence.

The house now adjourns and will meet tomorrow at 2-00 p.m.

(The House was adjourned at 2-45 p.m., till 2-00 p.m. on Friday, the 28th February 1958.)

Friday, the 28th February, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m. on Friday, the 28th February, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published.)

RECONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE.

The CHAIRMAN : Under the amended rules, the Committees of this House which were formed last time are to be reconstituted. In the case of two of the Committees, namely, the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee Members thereto have been elected already, and their names have been announced before. In the case of the Business Advisory Committee, the same Members will continue. Is it necessary that I should read out the names of Members of the Committee ?

Hon. MEMBERS : Not necessary.

The CHAIRMAN : Then, in the case of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions and the Subordinate Legislation Committee, the same Members will continue.

The Rules Committee consists of the following Members :—

1. The Chairman,
2. The Deputy Chairman,
3. Shri R. N. Balbudhe,
4. Shri S. L. Benadikar,
5. Shri V. S. Dongre,
6. Shri S. M. Thorat,
7. Shri S. L. Ogale,
8. Shri H. B. Bhide,
9. Shri R. S. Bhatt,

The Committee of Privileges consists of the following Members :—

1. Shri L. D. Acharya,
2. Shri M. S. Alshi,
3. Shri V. S. Page (Chairman),
4. Shri P. B. Patwari,
5. Shri J. H. Girme,
6. Dr. D. D. Karve,
7. Shri S. L. Ogale,
8. Shrimati M. A. Nagori,
9. Shri G. D. Mali,
10. Shri I. B. Deshmukh.

(a.c.p.) MO-B Hb 632—1

Shri T. S. BHARDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. IV of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 1 and 2, and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri T. S. BHARDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. IV of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. IV of 1958 is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL NO. LIV OF 1957 (A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR UNIFORMITY IN THE PROVISIONS OF THE INDIAN REGISTRATION ACT, 1908, IN ITS APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF BOMBAY, AND FURTHER TO AMEND THE SAID ACT).

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. LIV of 1957 (A Bill to provide for uniformity in the provisions of the Indian Registration Act, 1908, in its application to the State of Bombay, and further to amend the said Act) as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 18th February 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. LIV of 1957 is introduced.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LIV of 1957 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, as is now known this Government is going ahead with the work of unifying the laws which are in force in the different constituent parts of the new State. This is one of such measures. The Indian Registration Act, 1908, is in force in all the constituent parts of the State. In some parts, there are some modifications. In some other parts there are some other modifications. The amendments which were in operation in the old Bombay State are unobjectionable and, therefore, are sought to be retained in the law and extended to the other areas. In Hyderabad and Kutch no amendments were made and the Indian Registration Act was applied to them as it was passed by the Parliament. In Saurashtra there were a few modifications made to the Act but they were very inconsequential, or of minor nature. One of the modifications was as regards the use of the Gujarati language. But according to the main provisions of the Indian Registration Act, the English language or such other language as may be prescribed for a particular region can be used and it may thus be possible to prescribe the use of either the Gujarati or the Marathi language in one or the other area concerned. But two of the amendments of the Madhya Pradesh Act are being incorporated in this new Bill. The Registration Act in operation in all the component parts of the State being a Central Act is more or less similar, and whatever deviation is there in any area is not of any importance. The deviations are very small. I, therefore, hope that this House will pass the Bill for the first time.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have to bring to the notice of this House the language used in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. The language, to my mind, is rather incorrect, circuitous and involved. In some respects it is defective and it does not give in clear terms what are the objects and reasons of the Bill. I would, therefore, request Government to go into the language used in the Statement of Objects and Reasons and rectify it wherever it is necessary.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : I hope the hon. Member will just give me the defects in the language used in the Statement of Objects and Reasons which he thinks need rectification.

The CHAIRMAN : The mistakes can be rectified afterwards.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PAREKH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LIV of 1957 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 1 to 7, both inclusive, the Schedule and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LIV of 1957 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. LIV of 1957 is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL NO. LV OF 1957 (A BILL TO EXTEND THE LAND IMPROVEMENT LOANS ACT, 1883, AND THE AGRICULTURISTS' LOANS ACT, 1884, TO THE HYDERABAD AND SAURASHTRA AREAS OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY AND TO AMEND THE SAID ACTS FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES).

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. LV of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883, and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884, to the Hyderabad and Saurashtra areas of the State of Bombay and to amend the said Acts for certain purposes), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 18th February 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. LV of 1957 is introduced.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LV of 1957 be read a first time. While doing so, I may add that in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Land Improvement Loans and Agriculturists' Loans (Extension and Amendment) Bill of 1957.

[श्री. के. आर. पाटील]

आणलें असतें तर मी सरकारला धन्यवाद दिले असते, परंतु तें समाधान मला मिळू शकत नाही. कारण दोन वर्षांची मुदत संपल्यानंतर आणखी ती मुदत एक वर्षांनी वाढविण्यापुरतें तात्पुरत्या स्वरूपाचें बिल सभागृहापुढें मांडलें आहे. अशा रीतीने प्रत्येक वेळीं अेकेक वर्षांनी मुदतवाढ करून हा प्रश्न सुटणार नाही, ही गोष्ट मी नामदार मंत्र्यांच्या निदर्शनास आणू इच्छितों.

या नंतर, ह्या बाबतीत आणखी एक अडचण आहे, तिच्याबाबत नामदार मंत्र्यांनी आपल्या भाषणांत खुलासा केला असता तर कदाचित मी ह्या बिलावर बोलण्यासहि उठलों नसतो परिस्थिति अशी आहे की, काहीं सावकारांनी शेतकऱ्यांविरुद्ध डिक्रीज काढल्या आहेत व त्या डिक्रीजचे हप्तेहि पडलेले आहेत. ह्या हप्त्याची वसुली ह्या कायद्याप्रमाणें स्थगित होणार आहे. १९५६ साली जे हप्ते पडले ते ह्या कायद्यामुळें स्थगित झाले १९५७ सालचे हप्ते स्थगित झाले त्याच प्रमाणें १९५८ सालचेहि हप्ते स्थगित झाले, आणि आतां या पुढें या वर्षाचे आणि पुढच्या वर्षाचे हप्ते ह्या बिलान्वये स्थगित केले जाणार आहेत. पण ह्या कायद्याची मुदत संपल्यानंतर सावकार शेतकऱ्यांकडे थकलेले तीन हप्ते वसूल करतील. तेव्हां ह्या बिलावरून जर हाच निष्कर्ष निघणार असेल तर हें बिल शेतकऱ्यांना पोषक होण्याऐवजी त्यांना मारक होऊन हे तीन हप्ते देणें शेतकऱ्याला अशक्य होईल, व ज्या मूळ उद्देशानें सरकारने हें बिल आणलें आहे तो उद्देश साध्य होणार नाही. सावकाराच्या घरांत शेतकऱ्याच्या जमिनी जाऊ नयेत हा हेतु ह्या बिलानें साध्य होणार नाही. तेव्हां मला सरकारला अशी सूचना करावयाची आहे की, ह्या तीन हप्त्यांची जेव्हां वसुली सुरू होईल तेव्हां ती एकेक हप्त्याने वसूल केली जावी. अशा प्रकारची तरतूद ह्या बिलांत असणें अत्यंत आवश्यक आहे, आणि अशी तरतूद जर ह्या बिलांत असती तर मला बोलण्याची जरूरीहि वाटली नसती. अशी तरतूद ह्या बिलांत घालण्यांत आली तर ती शेतकऱ्यांना पोषक अशी होईल, आणि शेतकऱ्यांची कुचंबणा होणार नाही. तेव्हां या बाबतीत शेतकऱ्यांना रिलीफ अशी एखादी तरतूद नामदार मंत्र्यांनी करण्याची व्यवस्था करावी अशी विनंति करून मी रजा घेतो.

डॉ. जी. एस्. खैर : माहिती मिळविण्याच्या दृष्टीने ह्या बिलाबाबत मला नामदार मंत्र्यांना एक प्रश्न विचारावयाचा आहे. अशा डिक्रीज किती आहेत व त्यामुळें वसूल होणारी रकम किती आहे याची सर्वसाधारण कल्पना ह्या सभागृहाला मिळाली तर बरे होईल.

श्री. टी. एस. भारदे : अध्यक्ष महाराज, ह्या बिलाबाबत बोलतांना सन्माननीय सभासदांकडून जे मुद्दे उपस्थित करण्यांत आले त्यांपैकी पहिला मुद्दा असा होता की, शेतकऱ्याची एकंदर आर्थिक परिस्थिति लक्षांत घेतां ह्या बिलान्वये शेतकऱ्याला संरक्षण

[श्री. टी. एस. भारदे]

देण्यांत येत आहे हें तात्कालिक स्वरूपाचें असल्यामुळें एवढ्याने त्याचें समाधान होणार नाही. ज्या कायद्याचा उल्लेख मी येथें केला आणि ज्यांत सरकार मुदतवाढ करूं इच्छितें त्या कायद्याची कक्षा मर्यादित आहे. शेतकऱ्यांच्या दृष्टीने बाकीचे जे आर्थिक प्रश्न असतील ते ज्या वेळीं स्वतंत्रपणें या ठिकाणीं चर्चेला येतील त्या वेळीं त्यांचा विचार करण्यांत येईल. आतां आणलेल्या बिलाचा उद्देश एवढाच आहे की, आतां जर मुदत वाढवून दिली नाही तर सावकार शेतकऱ्यांच्या विरुद्ध हुकूमनामे बजावतील व त्यामुळें शेतकऱ्यांची कुचंबणा होईल. तेव्हां या दृष्टीने शेतकऱ्यांना तात्पुरतें संरक्षण देणें हाच ह्या बिलाचा हेतु आहे. बाकीचे प्रश्न योग्य वेळीं विचारांत घेतले जातील.

यानंतर हस्तेबंदी संबंधी एक मुद्दा उपस्थित करण्यांत आला होता. ह्या बिलाप्रमाणें जरी दरम्यानच्या कालामध्ये हस्ते एकदम वसूल झाले नाहीत तरी त्या डिक्रीज ऑपरेट होणार नाहीत. हे हस्ते एकदम द्यावे लागणार नाहीत अशी तरतूद ह्या बिलांत आहे. अर्थात्, या ठिकाणीं ज्या इतर सूचना करण्यांत आल्या आहेत त्यांचा विचार करण्यांत येईल एवढेंच मी सांगूं इच्छितों. मी सुरुवातीलाच सांगितल्याप्रमाणें हुकूमनाम्यांच्या बजावण्यापुरतें मर्यादित असें ह्या बिलाचें स्वरूप आहे. बाकी जनरल स्वरूपाच्या ज्या गोष्टी आहेत त्या ह्या बिलाच्या कक्षेत येत नसल्यामुळें यथावकाश त्यांचा विचार करण्यांत येईल एवढे सांगून सभागृहानें ह्या बिलाच्या पहिल्या वाचनाला संमति द्यावी अशी मी विनंति करतो.

डॉ. जी. एस. खैर : अध्यक्ष महाराज, मी विचारलेल्या मुद्याबाबत नामदार मंत्रांनी खुलासा केलेला नाही. ह्या बिलाचे परिणाम अेकंदर समाजावर होणार असल्यामुळें ह्या बिलाची फायनान्शियल कॉन्सिडरेशन्स काय आहेत हे ह्या सभागृहाला समजलें पाहिजे.

श्री. टी. एस. भारदे : अध्यक्ष महाराज, मी सुरुवातीलाच सांगितल्याप्रमाणें ह्या कायद्याची मुदत दोन वर्षांऐवजीं तीन वर्षांची करण्यासाठीं हें बिल प्रामुख्याने आणण्यांत आलें आहे. अशा वेळीं अेकंदर डिक्रीज किती आहेत व त्यांच्या रकमा किती आहेत याचा हिशोब सरकारकडे नसतो. अर्थात्, ज्या अर्थी सन्माननीय सभासदांनीं ही माहिती विचारली आहे त्या अर्थी ती मागावून सन्माननीय सभागृहाला पुरविण्यांत येईल. ह्या कायद्याची मुदत वेळींच वाढवून दिली नाही तर सावकार शेतकऱ्यांविरुद्ध डिक्रीज बजावतील व त्यांना दिवाणी तुरुंगांत जाउन बसावे लागेल. ही आपत्ति टाळण्यासाठीं हें बिल आणलें आहे. तेव्हां सन्माननीय सभासदांनीं जी माहिती विचारली आहे तिच्या अभावीं ह्या बिलाच्या स्वरूपांत फरक होत नाही. तरीहि सन्माननीय सभासदांना हवी असेल तर ही माहिती मागविण्यांत येईल.

Question put, and agreed to.

The Committee of Petitions consists of the following Members :—

1. The Deputy Chairman,
2. Shri S. M. Dahanukar,
3. Shri M. B. Patel,
4. Shri M. B. Gaikwad,
5. Shri B. D. Shukla.

L. A. BILL No. II OF 1958 [A BILL TO AMEND THE LAND ACQUISITION (BOMBAY AMENDMENT) ACT, 1958].

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH (Minister for Revenue) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. II of 1958 [A Bill to amend the Land Acquisition (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1958], as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 18th February 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. II of 1958 is introduced.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. II of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say a few words as to why it has been necessary to introduce and pass this Bill as the law of the State.

The Bombay Land Acquisition Act of 1948 provided for fixing the ceiling prices of land and also for removal of the provision to pay, what is called, the solatium of 15 per cent. to the land-owners whose lands were acquired for house building, either by Government or by other public bodies. This limit expired in 1953. It was extended by another five years. It is now expiring on 17th March 1958, and, therefore, requires to be extended, as the housing programme of Government and also of other public bodies has become a lasting feature of economic planning and policies of Government, local bodies and other large-scale employing authorities. The original Bill was meant to make the amendment a permanent one but now it has been amended in the Lower House and it seeks to extend the life of the Act for a period of ten years.

I hope, Sir, that the House will pass this Bill unanimously.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. II of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 1 and 2, the title and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. II of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. II of 1958, as amended by the Legislative Assembly, is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. IV OF 1958 (A BILL TO AMEND THE MADHYA PRADESH TEMPORARY POSTPONEMENT OF EXECUTION OF DECREES ACT, 1956).

Shri T. S. BHARDE (Minister for Co-operation) : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. IV of 1958 (A Bill to amend the Madhya Pradesh Temporary Postponement of Execution of Decrees Act, 1956), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 18th February 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. IV of 1958 is introduced.

Shri T. S. BHARDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. IV of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

श्री. टी. अ. भारदे (सहकार मंत्री) : हे जे विधेयक या सभागृहापुढे मांडण्यांत आले आहे ते अगदीं साधे आहे. मध्यप्रदेशमध्ये पिकांची परिस्थिति थोडीशी असमाधानकारक असल्यामुळे सावकारांनी पैशांच्या व्यवहाराबद्दल जे काही हुकूमनामे शेतकऱ्यांविरुद्ध मिळविलेले होते त्यांच्या बाबतीत शेतकऱ्यांना संरक्षण देण्यासाठी मध्यप्रदेशमध्ये १९५६ साली हा कायदा करण्यांत आला होता, आणि त्या कायद्यातील तरतुदीप्रमाणे ज्या ज्या बजावण्या शेतकऱ्यांविरुद्ध होत्या त्या तहकूब करण्यांत आल्या होत्या. त्या कायद्याप्रमाणे दोन वर्षांची मुदत ठरविण्यांत आली होती. ही मुदत २७ मार्च १९५८ रोजी संपत असल्यामुळे हे दुरुस्ती विधेयक सरकारने आणले आहे. सरकारकडे जी माहिती आली आहे तिच्यावरून असे दिसून येते की यंदाहि मध्यप्रदेशातील पिकांची परिस्थिति समाधानकारक नाही. तेव्हा या नंतरहि तेथील शेतकऱ्यांना संरक्षण देण्याची जरूरी सरकारला वाटल्यामुळे पूर्वीची या कायद्याची मुदत साणखी अेका वर्षाने वाढविण्यांत येत आहे. हे सभागृह हा बिलाच्या पहिल्या वाचनाला संमति देतील अशी आशा करून मी रजा घेतो.

श्री. के. आर्. पाटील (विदर्भ—लोकल अर्थोरीटरीज) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज मध्यंतरी मध्यप्रदेशमध्ये पिकांची परिस्थिति समाधानकारक नसल्यामुळे सविकारांनी शेतकऱ्यांविरुद्ध हुकूमनाम्यांच्या ज्या बजावण्या लावल्या होत्या त्यापासून शेतकऱ्यांना संरक्षण देण्यासाठी हा कायदा केला होता. हा कायद्याप्रमाणे शेतकऱ्यांना दोन वर्षेपर्यंत संरक्षण मिळावयाचे होते. वास्तविक पाहता, पोस्टपोनमेंट ऑफ डिन्नीज अक्ट हे मेझर टेंपररी स्वरूपाचे आहे. आज शेतकरी कर्जाच्या बोजाखाली दबून गेलेला आहे. तेव्हा त्यांचा हा प्रश्न कायमच्या सोडविण्याचा दृष्टीने जर सरकारने अेकादि बिल

Question proposed.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883, and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884, extend to the whole of India except the territories which formed parts of 'B' States. These Acts, being on the concurrent list, have been amended in their application to the old State of Bombay and the State of Madhya Pradesh. They have been applied to the Kutch area also and in Saurashtra these Acts, as modified and adopted by that State, are in operation. Hyderabad State had corresponding Acts, viz., Hyderabad Land Improvement Loans Act, 1950, and Hyderabad Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1950. It is proposed, as a measure of integration of Laws, to apply the Acts, as in force in the pre-reorganized State of Bombay, to the whole of the State.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LV of 1957 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 1 to 6, both inclusive, and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LVI of 1957 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. LV of 1957 is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL NO. LVI OF 1957 (A BILL TO EXTEND THE BOMBAY NON-AGRICULTURISTS' LOANS ACT, 1928, TO THE REST OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY).

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, I beg to move L. A. Bill No. LVI of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Non-Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1928, to the rest of the State of Bombay), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 18th February 1958.

The CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. LVI of 1957 is introduced.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LVI of 1957 be read a first time. While doing so, I would like to add that in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Non-Agriculturists' Loans (Extension) Bill.

Question proposed.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, as has been explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the Bombay Non-Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1928, extends only to the former Bombay State. In the Kutch area of the State, the said Act has been extended under the Part C States (Laws) Act, 1950, with certain modifications and adaptations. In the Saurashtra area of the State, the Saurashtra Non-Agriculturists' Loans Ordinance, 1949, is in force. As a measure of unification of the law relating to loans to non-agriculturists, it is proposed to extend the Bombay Non-Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1928, to the rest of the State of Bombay and to bring the Act into force therein and to repeal the corresponding provisions in force in the Saurashtra and Kutch areas of the State. The Bill seeks to achieve these objects. This is a very simple Bill and, therefore, I commend it for the acceptance of the House.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LVI of 1957 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 1 to 3, both inclusive, and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LVI of 1957 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. LVI of 1957 is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL No. LVII OF 1957 (A BILL TO EXTEND THE INDIAN TREASURE-TROVE ACT, 1878, TO THE HYDERABAD AND SAURASHTRA AREAS OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY).

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. LVII of 1957 (a Bill to extend the Indian Treasure-trove Act, 1878, to the Hyderabad and Saurashtra areas of the State of Bombay), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 18th February, 1958.

The CHAIRMAN: The Bill is introduced.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LVII of 1957 be read a first time.

I would bring it to the notice of the House that the Governor of Bombay, 2.30 p. m. in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (3) of article 207 of the Constitution of India, is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council, the consideration of the Indian Treasure-trove (Extension to the Hyderabad and Saurashtra areas of Bombay State) Bill, 1957.

Question proposed.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, as stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, in the new Bombay State the Indian Treasure-trove Act, 1878, is in force in the pre-Reorganisation State of Bombay (excluding the transferred territories), the Vidarbha Region and the Kutch area. In the Saurashtra area, the Indian Treasure-trove Act, 1878, as modified and adapted by the State of Saurashtra (Application of Central and Bombay Acts) Ordinance, 1948, is in force and in the Hyderabad area, the Hyderabad Treasure-trove Act, 1322 Fasli, is in force. As a measure of unification of the law relating to treasure-trove in the State of Bombay, it is proposed to extend the Indian Treasure-trove Act, 1878, to the Saurashtra and Hyderabad areas and to repeal the corresponding law in force therein. It is only a simple measure of unification of laws, and I commend it for the acceptance of the House.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LVII of 1957 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 1 to 3, both inclusive, the preamble and the title ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LVII of 1957 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. LVII is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL No. LXX OF 1957 (A BILL TO EXTEND THE BOMBAY LIFTS ACT, 1939, TO THE REST OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY).

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE (Minister for Planning, Development, Electricity and Industries) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. LXX of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Lifts Act, 1939, to the rest of the State of Bombay), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 18th February, 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : The Bill is introduced.

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Sir I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LXX of 1957 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Sir, this is a very simple Bill. It has been brought before the House with the idea of having unification of the laws in the State. Section 39 of the Act is applicable only to the pre-reorganised State of Bombay. It is not applicable to the areas which have now come into, and form part of, the State of Bombay. To extend it to these areas, the Bill has been brought before the House. I commend it for the acceptance of the House.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LXX of 1957 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 1 to 3, both inclusive, and the preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LXX of 1957 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. LXX of 1957 is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL No. I OF 1958 (A BILL TO EXTEND THE BOMBAY LAND IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES ACT, 1952, TO THE REST OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY AND TO AMEND IT FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES).

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK (Minister for Agriculture) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. I of 1958 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Land Improvement Schemes Act, 1942, to the rest of the State of Bombay and to amend it for certain purposes), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 19th February, 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : The Bill is introduced.

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. I of 1958 be read a first time.

While doing so, I may read out the recommendation of the Governor :—

" [In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clauses (1) and (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay Land Improvement Schemes (Extension and Amendment) Bill, 1958.]"

Question proposed.

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK : Sir, the Bill is a very simple one. The Bombay Land Improvement Schemes Act, as it stands today, is applicable to the old i.e., the pre-reorganisation State of Bombay only. There is another Act of a similar nature which is applicable to the Saurashtra area and another similar Act which is applicable to the Marathwada area. The latter two Acts are based practically on the old Bombay Act. So we thought it proper to extend the old Bombay Act with certain modifications and to repeal the Saurashtra and Marathwada Acts.

Then, Sir, there was no such Act for the district of Kutch and the eight districts of Vidarbha. It is proposed to extend the present Act to these areas also.

[Shri Vasant Rao P. Naik]

Further, Sir, Government is taking this opportunity to amend the present Act in order to make it more effective. With that end in view, two amendments are proposed: One is the insertion of a new section, section 13A, which will expedite the submission of recovery statements to the Revenue Department. Hitherto there was difficulty in doing so. Even supporting a scheme was in respect of an area covering 300 or 400 acres, if a small patch of waste weir was incomplete, the recovery statements could not be submitted, as that could be done only after the waste weir was completed. Now this new section 13A will enable the sending of the recovery statements to the Revenue Department in time.

Then, Sir, the other amendment that is proposed is to section 25A of the Bombay Land Improvement Schemes Act. Under the old section, a speedier procedure than the normal procedure could be availed of only at the time of famine or scarcity, but unemployment among the rural population can be there without there actually being any famine or scarcity. So a new provision has been made to the effect that, even if there is no famine or scarcity, if there is rural unemployment, this speedier procedure could be availed of.

Then, Sir, consequent upon the proposed extension of the Bombay Land Improvement Schemes Act, 1942, to the new areas, it is necessary to save the existing orders, notifications, etc. or the action taken in accordance with the provisions of the Hyderabad Land Improvement Act, 1953, and the Saurashtra Land Improvement Schemes Act, 1954. With this end in view, it is proposed to insert a new repealing and saving section 28A in the Bombay Land Improvement Schemes Act, 1942.

The other amendments that are proposed are merely of a consequential nature.

At present, Sir, I do not think it is necessary for me to add anything more to what I have already said.

Shri K. R. PATIL: मला सरकारला असे विचारावयाचे आहे की, स्कीम्स अपूर्ण राहिल्यामुळे रिकवरी करण्यांत जो ढिले होत आहे तो साधारण किती अवधीचा होत आहे.

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK: In some cases the delay was up to three years, and that too for a small reason that the waste weir was not built and technically it was not complete. Even if the earth work was of Rs. 20 or Rs. 25, the statements could not be sent because there was no such provision under section 13 of the Act.

श्री के. आर्. पाटील (विदर्भ-लोकल एथारिटीज): माननीय सभापति महोदय, लॅंड इम्प्रूव्हमेंट स्कीम्स एक्ट, १९४२, हा कायदा नवीन मुंबई राज्यांत सामील झालेल्या प्रदेशांना कांही थोड्या दुरुस्ती करून लागू करण्यासंबंधाने जे विधेयक

[श्री. के. आर्. पाटील]

या सभागृहासमोर प्रस्तुत केले गेले आहे त्यावर माझे विचार मांडण्यासाठी मी उभा आहे. हा कायदा विदर्भाला लागू केला जात आहे आणि कांही एका मर्यादेपर्यंत विदर्भातील शेतकरी त्याचे जरूर स्वागत करील. सततच्या पावसामुळे शेतकऱ्यांच्या जमिनीचा कस हळूहळू वाहून जात असतो आणि जमिनीची ही धूप थांबविण्याकरिता मानवाने जर कांही इफेक्टिव्ह मेझर्स घेतले नाहीत तर काळांतराने त्या सुपीक जमिनीचे ओसाड वाळवंट झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, जुन्या हैद्राबाद आणि सौराष्ट्र राज्यांमध्ये अशा तऱ्हेचा कायदा अस्तित्वांत होता, परंतु विदर्भ ज्या जुन्या मध्यप्रदेश राज्यांत पूर्वी सामील होता त्या राज्यांत असा कायदा नव्हता. त्या राज्यांत तो कायदा कां नव्हता या संबंधीचे विश्लेषण मी आता करून सभागृहाचा वेळ घेत नाही, परंतु इतके खास की विदर्भातील शेतकरी बंडिंगच्या योजना तिकडे चार्ज करण्यासंबंधीच्या या विधेयकाचे जरूर स्वागत करतील. माझ्या स्वतः पुढे मोठा पेचप्रसंग उभा राहिला आहे. विल निस्संशय स्वागतार्ह आहे परंतु सरकारने त्यांत अशी अेक मेख मारून ठेविली आहे की जर मी ब्लाईंडली या बिलाचे स्वागत केले तर धोका झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. विदर्भ मध्यप्रदेशाचा भाग असताना सन १९५१-५२ साली तेथे मोठा दुष्काळ पडला होता आणि शेतकऱ्यांना खायची भ्रांत पडू लागल्यामुळे आम्हाला काम द्या अशी त्यांनी सरकारकडे मागणी केली. दुष्काळासाठी राखून ठेविलेले काम म्हणजे मेटल ब्रेकिंगचे काम असे त्या वेळच्या सरकारचे समीकरणच ठरवून गेल्यासारखे होते आणि त्यानुसार तत्कालीन मध्यप्रदेश सरकारने शेतकऱ्यांनी कामाची मागणी केल्याबरोबर दुष्काळी प्रदेशांत ठिकठिकाणी मेटल ब्रेकिंगचे काम सुरू केले. विदर्भातील शेतमजुरांना त्या कामाची मुळीच संवय नव्हती आणि त्यांनी त्या प्रकारचे काम कधीहि केले नव्हते यामुळे असे व्हावयाला लागले की संवय नसल्यामुळे काम कमी होऊ लागले आणि शेतकऱ्यांची आणि त्यांच्या बायकांमुलांची रोजची जीविका चालेल इतकेसुद्धा उत्पन्न त्यांना होत नसे. त्यामुळे ते काम करणे त्यांना मुळीच परवडत नसे आणि दुष्काळांत शेतकऱ्यांना काम देऊन त्यांच्या मजुरीच्या रूपाने त्यांना आर्थिक सहाय्य करावे आणि उपाशी राहण्यापासून वाचवावे हा सरकारचा उद्देश साध्य होत नसे; तेव्हां शेतकऱ्यांनी सरकारकडे पुन्हा अशी मागणी केली की, हे काम आमच्याने होत नाही तेव्हां आम्हाला अर्थ वर्क, खोद काम अशा स्वरूपाचे कांही काम द्या तेव्हां त्यांचे हे म्हणणे मध्यप्रदेश सरकारने मान्य केले आणि प्रथम पंचवार्षिक योजनेच्या अंतर्गत ज्या कांही दुष्काळी कामांचे आणि त्यांच्यासाठी रकमेचे प्रोव्हीजन केले होते, ती कामे तेथे सुरू केली. त्याच समयास कांही कामाच्या निमित्ताने मला सांगडी आदि विभागांत जाण्याचा

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प्रसंग आला होता आणि प्रवासांत असतांना ज्यावेळेस त्या भागांतून आमची आगगाडी जाऊ लागली तेव्हां मी पाहिले की रुळवाटेच्या दोन्ही बाजूंना असलेल्या प्रत्येक शेतांत बंडिंगची कामे सुरू आहेत. तेव्हां माझ्या मनांत अशी कल्पना आली की विदर्भात सुद्धा दुष्काळाच्या काळांतच नव्हे तर इतर वेळी सुद्धा जेव्हां तेथील शेतकरी कामाच्या अभावी रिकामा असतो तेव्हां त्याच्या मदतीकरिता अशी बंडिंगची कामे सुरू करण्यास काय हरकत आहे आणि तेव्हाच्या मध्यप्रदेश असेंब्लीमध्ये आम्ही सरकारपुढे या स्वरूपाचे प्रपोजल सुद्धा मांडले होते की विदर्भातील शेतकरी वर्षातून काही ठराविक महिने कामाच्या अभावी रिकामा असतो तेव्हां त्या वेळेस त्याच्या मदतीसाठी बंडिंगची कामे सुरू करावयास हवीत.

The CHAIRMAN: I would like to know whether the hon. Member is supporting the Bill or opposing it.

Shri M. V. DONDE: Between the two!

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK: Perhaps he is giving a conditional support.

Shri K. R. PATIL: Sir, I will explain the position.

The CHAIRMAN: If the hon. Member wants to explain the position, let him do so briefly, instead of going into the history of Vidarbha.

Shri K. R. PATIL: I am speaking on the principle of this legislation.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member may speak on the principle of the Bill before the House. It is not necessary to go into the history of Vidarbha.

Shri K. R. PATIL: I want to show to this House that this is based on a good principle.

The CHAIRMAN: I would not like to interrupt the hon. Member, but I would request him to be brief and to the point.

श्री. के. आर्. पाटील: अध्यक्ष महाराज, मी म्हणत होतो की, दुष्काळी कामांत बंडिंगच्या कामाचा अंतर्भाव केल्याने शेतकऱ्याचा फार फायदा होणार आहे. कारण एकतर दुष्काळांत त्याला कामही मिळेल आणि त्याच्या शेताची नित्य होणारी धूपहि थांबेल. महाराष्ट्रातील मजुरांत आणि विदर्भातील शेतमजुरांत फार फरक आहे. जर मुंबईत काम मिळत असेल तर महाराष्ट्रातील कोल्हापूर, सोलापूर आदि दूर दूरच्या ठिकाणांहून महाराष्ट्रीय मजूर येथे गोळा होईल पण विदर्भातील मजूर १० मैलांवर काम चालले असेल तरीहि तेथे जावयास आळसच करील. विदर्भातील शेतकऱ्यांच्या वृत्तीच्या दृष्टीने सोयीचे पडेल असे हे बंडिंगचे काम आहे. कारण ते प्रत्येक गांवांत सुरू करता येते आणि दुष्काळांत आणि रिकाम्यावेळी शेतकऱ्याला आपापल्या गांवांतच काम मिळू शकते आणि म्हणून मी या दुरुस्ती विधेयकाचे त्या दृष्टीने स्वागत करतो.

[श्री. के. आर्. पाटील]

परंतु माननीय मंत्र्यांनी या विधेयकांत अशी एक मेख मारून ठेविली आहे की जीमुळे या विधेयकाचे निःसंकोचपणे स्वागत आम्हांला करता येत नाही. ही मेख कोणाला विशेष बोटू नये म्हणून कदाचित् मंत्र्यांनी आपल्या भाषणांत हे विधेयक अगदी सिंपल आहे असे सांगितले असेल. विदर्भात बंडिंगच्या स्कीम्स आतांपर्यंत नव्हत्या त्या सुरू होत आहेत ही चांगली गोष्ट आहे, परंतु शेतकऱ्याच्या दृष्टीने अत्यंत अडचणीची प्रोव्हिजन या कायद्यांत आहे आणि ती अशी की, बंडिंगचे काम पूर्ण होत नाही तोंच सरकार त्या कामाकरिता आलेल्या खर्चाची वसूली त्यांच्या-कडून करण्यास सुरवात करणार आहे. पहिल्या कायद्याप्रमाणे योजना अपूर्ण राहिली तर सरकारची रिकव्हरी अडून राहत असे आणि माझ्या प्रश्नावर मंत्र्यांनी केलेल्या खुलाशाप्रमाणे रिकव्हरीला फक्त तीन वर्षांचा ढिले होत असे म्हणून सरकारने १३-ए हा नवीन क्लॉज या कायद्यांत घातून स्पॅडी रिकव्हरी करण्याचे प्रोव्हिजन केले. हे प्रोव्हिजन सरकारच्या हिताचे असेल परंतु शेतकऱ्याच्या मात्र खासच अनहिताचे आहे. आतां स्कीम अिक्वॅप्लिट राहिली तरी रिकव्हरी अडून राहणार नाही हे आहे. आतां स्कीम अिक्वॅप्लिट राहिली तरी बंडिंगमुळे शेतकऱ्याचा जर तात्काळ काहीच फायदा होत नाही आणि त्याच्या उत्पन्नांत भर पडत नाही तर तो ही रिकव्हरी देणार कुठून याचा काही विचार केला आहे काय? बंडिंग केल्याने शेतकऱ्याच्या शेताची धूप होणे थांबते ही गोष्ट खरी आहे, परंतु त्यामुळे शेताचे उत्पादन वाढून त्याच्या हातांत प्रत्यक्ष फायदा पडण्यास कितीतरी काळ उलटावा लागतो आणि येथे तर सरकार काम पूर्ण हेत आले नाही तोंच वसूली चालू करणार आहे हे कसे जमावयाचे? अध्यक्ष महाराज, भारतातील नागरिक आपल्या उपजीविकेसाठी जे जे धंदे करितो त्या सर्व धंद्यांत शेतीचा धंदा हा आज अत्यंत आंतबड्याचा झालेला आहे आणि केवळ निरुपाय म्हणून शेतकरी शेती करित असतो. आधीच महागाई अत्यंत वाढलेली आहे आणि दर वर्षी तीन तीन कोटींच्या टेक्सचा बोजा त्याच्या मस्तकावर चढतोच आहे अशा परिस्थितीत त्यांचा निभाव तरी कसा लागणार? बंडिंगमुळे आपल्या शेताची सुधारणा होईल म्हणून शेतकरी या विधेयकाचे स्वागत तर करीलच परंतु ताबडतोब रिकव्हरी करणाचे जे कलम सरकारने यात घातले आहे त्यामुळे स्वागत करतांना सुद्धा त्यांच्या मनांत धाकडुकच असणार. म्हणून माझी या संबंधांत सरकारला अशी सूचना आहे की ज्याप्रमाणे इरीगेशनसाठी धरणे बांधतांना आलेला खर्च सरकार केपीटल अक्सेप्टीवर म्हणून ट्रीट करते, धरण पूर्ण झाल्यावर काही वर्षे शेतकऱ्याला त्याचे पाणि फुकट देते आणि त्या पाण्याचा शेतकऱ्याला पूर्ण फायदा मिळू लागल्यावर मग त्याचावर वाटार टेक्स बसविते, त्याचप्रमाणे याहि बाबतीत करावयास हवे. शेतकऱ्याच्या जमिनी

[श्री. के. आर्. पाटील]

सावकाराच्या घशांत जाऊं नयेत हा सरकारचा मूळ उद्देश आहे. परंतु जर बंडिंगच्या रिकव्हरीच्या वसुलीचा हप्ता, शेतसाऱ्याचा हप्ता आणि इतर कांहीं तत्कावी वगैरे घेतली असेल तिचा हप्ता देण्याची वेळ जर एकच आली तर नाइलाजांने शेतकऱ्याला सावकाराचें तोंड पहवें लागेल आणि सरकारचा उद्देश असफल होईल. हें सर्व भावी परिणाम मला दिसत आहेत आणि म्हणूनच मी या १३ (ए) कलमाला विरोध करीत आहे, व म्हणून १३ (ए) ह्या कलमाला माझे ऑब्जेक्शन आहे. शेतकऱ्यांचा भारत देश आहे, हें राज्य शेतकऱ्यांचें आहे असें आम्हांला नेहमीं सांगितलें जातें. पण आज शेतकऱ्याच्या गरजांकडे सरकार पूर्णपणें दुर्लक्ष करीत आहे. स्टेट फायनान्शियल कॉपोरेशनमार्फत मोठ्या व छोट्या उद्योगधंद्यांना कांही वेळां बिनव्याजी व कांही वेळां सवलतीच्या दरानें कर्ज दिलें जातें. पण शेतकऱ्याला तगाई देताना सरकार जे व्याज लावतें तें कमी करण्यास सरकार तयार नाहीं. असें असूनहि हें राज्य शेतकऱ्यांचें आहे असें सरकार म्हणतें याचें मला आश्चर्य वाटते. खरोखरी हें राज्य शेतकऱ्यांचें असतें तर त्यांना सरकारनें सवलतीच्या दरानें किंवा बिनव्याजी कर्ज दिलें असतें. पण आज तसें होत नाहीं, याचें मला दुःख होत आहे.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member is quite right so far as his observations regarding Section 13-A are concerned. But now the hon. Member is speaking on something else. He can bring in a Resolution to put all these grievances before the House.

Shri K. R. PATIL : Even if by way of an instance I referred to one small thing, it is immediately taken that I am diverting from the subject.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member can put forth his views as regards Section 13-A of the Act.

Shri K. R. PAFIL : But, Sir, the only thing that I was saying is that these concessions are given to others but not to the agriculturists and I quoted only one single instance of it and it is taken that I am going away from the subject. I am simply opposing the speedy measure introduced in the Bill by the amendment of Section 13-A.

ह्या बिलांमुळे शेतकऱ्यांच्या जमिनी सावकारांच्या घरांत जाण्याला मदत होणार आहे. यासाठी पुन्हा पुन्हा डिक्रीजिचें पोस्टपोनमेंट करावें लागेल. ब्रेक वर्षांत स्कीम पुरी झाली तरी पहिली तीन वर्षे सरकारने रिकव्हरी करूं नये. मागाहून वाटल्यास रिकव्हरी जरी मांठी पडली तरी ती शेतकरी देऊ शकेल. तेव्हां ह्या दृष्टीने सरकारने ह्या प्रश्नाकडे पाहिलें पाहिजे. रिकव्हरी करण्याकारितां सरकारने ही जी स्कीम काढली आहे ती शेतकऱ्याला पोषक होण्याऐवजी विघातक होण्याचीच भीति आहे. सुरुवातीलाच मी म्हटलें की ह्या बिलाला संपूर्णपणें पाठिंबा देणेंहि चुकाचें होईल, आणि

संपूर्णपणे विरोध करणेंहि चुकिचें होईल. तेव्हां ह्या बिलांतील तरतुदीचें दुष्परिणाम मी सरकारच्या नजरेस आणून दिले आहेत, त्यांचा सरकारनें विचार करावा असें सांगून मी ह्या बिलाला विरोध करतो.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ (વિધાનસભા તરફથી ચૂંટાયેલ) : સાહેબ, આ બિલનો આશય અછત અને દુષ્કાળ સિવાયના બીજા કારણોએ જે વિસ્તારોમાં ગ્રામજનોમાં બેકારી પ્રવર્તે છે તે લોકોને કામ મળે તે છે. આ પહેલાંની જે કલમ ૧૩ છે તેની અંદર એવું પ્રોવીઝન છે કે આ અંગેનું બધું જ કામ પરીપૂર્ણ થઈ ગયા પછી, એટલે કે એ કામનું ફળ મળ્યા પછી ખેડૂત ઉપર એની રીકવરી કરવામાં આવતી. અને તેમાં પણ ૨૫ ટકા સબસીડી સરકાર આપતી હતી. નવી કલમ ૧૩-અ દાખલ કર્યા પછી એ કલમથી કામ ચાલુ હોય તે સમયે પણ રીકવરી થઈ શકે એવો પ્રબંધ કરવામાં આવ્યો હોય તેમ જણાય છે. આ યોજનાથી ખેડૂતને એનું પૂરું ફળ મળે, જમીન ઉપર બર્ડીંગ સીસ્ટમ ઉભી કરવાને તેમ જણાય છે. આ યોજનાથી ખેડૂતને એનું પૂરું ફળ મળે, એટલે કે એનું પરિણામ આવતાં પહેલાં—રીકવરીનો એક ભાગ કે આમુક ભાગ આપવો પડે તેમ છે. મારો જ મુખ્ય વાંધો છે તે આ કલમ સામે છે. ખેડૂતોની સ્થિતિ ફેમીન કે દુષ્કાળને કારણે સારી નથી. એ ઉપરાંત આજે નાણાની તંગી છે. અનાજનો સ્થિતિ ફેમીન કે દુષ્કાળને કારણે સારી નથી. એ ઉપરાંત આજે નાણાની તંગી છે. અનાજનો પાક પણ બહુ ઓછો પાકે છે. કારણ કે નાની નાની જમીનોનું હોલડીંગ છે. ત્યારે જે કામ ચાલુ હોય તે સમયે રીકવરી થઈ શકે એવો પ્રબંધ કરવામાં આવશે તો તેથી ખેડૂતોને મોટી મુશ્કેલી ઉભી થશે. મને લાગે છે કે આથી કરીને ખેડૂતો ઉપર મોટો બોજો પડશે. તાત્કાલિક રીકવરી કરવાનો જ પ્રબંધ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે તેને બદલે જ ખેડૂતો પાસે પાંચ એકર કરતાં ઓછી જમીન હોય તેવા ખેડૂતને આવી રીકવરીમાંથી બિલકુલ બાકાત રાખવા જેઈએ તેમ મારું સૂચન છે. કારણ કે પાંચ એકરથી ઓછી જમીનવાળીની સ્થિતિ આ બોજે સહન કરી શકે તેવી નથી. આ બર્ડીંગ સિસ્ટમ છે તે કેલેન્ડર અંશે કેટલાક વિભાગમાં કમ્પલસરી થવાની છે. અને આ બિલનો હેતુ છે કે બેકાર અને દુષ્કાળગ્રસ્ત વિસ્તારના લોકોને મદદ કરવી. પણ એ મદદ કરવાને બદલે ગરીબ ખેડૂતો ઉપર આનાથી બોજે વિસ્તારના લોકોને મદદ કરવી. આ ઉપરાંત જ ગણોત્તિયા છે, જે ટેનન્ટ છે તેના ઉપર પણ આ બોજે આડકતરી રીતે પડવાનો છે. કારણ કે જેમના હાથમાં જમીન છે એ જમીનના માલિકો ફરીથી આ ખેડૂતો પાસેથી એના ટેનન્ટ પાસેથી આ ખર્ચ વસૂલ કરવાના છે. એટલે આ ગણોત્તિયાઓની કફોડી દશા થવાનો સંભવ છે. બેકાર અને દુષ્કાળગ્રસ્ત લોકોને મદદ કરવાનો આશય છે પણ આનાથી આપણે આ લોકો ઉપર વધારે બોજે નાખીએ છીએ. એટલે મારું સૂચન એ છે કે જેમની પાસે પાંચ એકરથી ઓછી જમીન છે તેમને આ રીકવરીમાંથી બિલકુલ મુકત કરવા જેઈએ.

બીજું મારું સૂચન એ છે કે પચીસ ટકા જે સબસીડી આપવામાં આવે છે તેને બદલે ઓછામાં ઓછી પચાસ ટકા સબસીડી મળવી જોઈએ. જે લોકો પાસે વધુ જમીન હોય અથવા તો પાંચ એકરથી પચાસ એકર જમીનવાળા હોય અને બન્ડીંગ સીસ્ટમનો લાભ મળે, બન્ડીંગ સિસ્ટમ પૂરી થાય અને જે પાક થાય તે પાક થતાં સુધી—એટલે કે એમાં ૩-૪ વર્ષ નીકળી જાય છે અને ચાર વર્ષ સુધી એની પાસેથી રીકવરી લેવામાં આવે તો એના ઉપર એક જાતનો ટેક્સ પડ્યા જવું થશે. એટલે આવવા લોકો માટે સંભવ વધારવો જોઈએ અને રીકવરીના હપ્તા થાય એ જાતની જગવાઈ કરવી જોઈએ. આટલું સૂચન મારે કરવાનું હતું.

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK (Minister for Agriculture, including Aarey Milk Colony) : Chairman, Sir, the opposition is to the proposed section 13-A only and that too because of some misunderstanding of the principles underlying this Bill. The idea is not to recover the amount at once, even if the work is not completed. That is not the point at all. The money is to be recovered in 15 annual instalments.

[Shri V. P. Naik]

Much has been said about the interest charged. But I want to point out to the hon. Members that the interest charged is only 4½ per cent. the rate at which even Government cannot get money in the open market in these days.

The idea is not to recover the money advanced after every patch of work is completed. That is not the idea behind the amended section. I would like to point out that steps to recover the amount would be taken only when a major part of the work is completed and only a small patch of work has remained to be completed. I may assure the House that the idea is not immediately to recover the money even if a small part of work is done. Sometimes even though the work is small, it takes some time to complete it. It so happens that some times the people who do a particular type of work are not available in that particular area. It may take sometimes 1 year or 2 years or even 3 years. That is why I say that on the completion of part of any work the recovery statements should be submitted. Even by that time the agriculturist starts getting the benefit of the improvements made in the land. It is said that after this work is completed people will have to take money from the moneylenders and eventually the land will go to the moneylenders. That idea is also not acceptable to me at least. Our experience and experiments in thousands of places in the State have shown that after the work is completed, the increase in agricultural yield is at least 25 per cent. and the charges for bunding come to nearabout, after deducting the 25 per cent. subsidy, Rs. 40. That means that an agriculturist has to pay Rs. 3 per year per acre and in return he gets much more by way of additional yield as compared to the amount spent by him. So, that fear is also, according to me, without any substance.

We must note that the principle underlying this Bill is to make rapid progress in the development programmes. In this State there are about 4,44,00,000 acres of land in which this work can be undertaken. So far we have completed bunding work in about 10 lacs of acres of land. If we start giving more concessions to agriculturists, naturally our progress will be slow, because there are some limitations in finding out finances. If we want to cover more area, then we have to see that the agriculturist is at the same time benefited and he should also be prepared to pay back for the advantages he gets out of this scheme.

My hon. Friend Shri Rasiklal Bhatt suggested that the subsidy which is given to the agriculturists should be 50 per cent. instead of 25 per cent. One hon. Member suggested that the charge should not be levied.

Shri RASIKLAL S. BHATT : I suggested that there should be no charge for five acres or less.

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK : The hon. Member also suggested that 50 per cent. of the charge should be given as subsidy. When the work is executed, immediately the land improves and the benefit accrues to the persons concerned. Therefore, it is not fair to suggest that subsidy should be given

[Shri V. P. Naik]

for a work which results in immediate benefit to the land concerned. We cannot be liberal at the cost of the public exchequer. As regards the hon. Member's suggestion that those owning five acres or less should not be charged at all, I may ask him, why restrict the figure to five acres only. One could as well say that it should be ten acres. There is nothing sacrosanct about the figure five. One could, then, as well extend the analogy to land revenue.

The CHAIRMAN : In Kaira district, five acres are enough to maintain an average family. The land is fertile.

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK : Five acres may bring in an income of Rs. 500 per annum, or even more. I am not talking of the land which is not so fertile. When Government is carrying out a scheme which brings immediate benefit to land, I am sorry, Government cannot accept the proposition that either some subsidy should be given for the work, or some land should be exempted from the charge. It is not good to attribute motive to Government by saying something which does not accord with facts or reason. It is not that Government, by carrying out the scheme, is doing something against the interest of agriculturists. So, let not hon. Members opposite impute motives to Government in this matter. They may, if they so feel, say that the scheme is not in the interest of the agriculturist.

Hitherto the speed with which the scheme is being carried out has not been fast enough. We have got to go faster. We have formed some new schemes under which we want to cover 11½ lakhs acres of land in the Ahmednagar district this year and some area in the Sangli district and also some area in the West Khandesh district. We hope to double or triple our target this year. Looking to the vast area that is to be covered under the scheme, I have spoken to hundreds of agriculturists and they are quite satisfied with the scheme. In fact, many want that more and more area should be covered by the scheme. There was no suggestion that this concession or that should be given to them. They said that it is a very good scheme. Let my hon. Friends go to any area they like and see what is the reaction of the agriculturists there to the scheme. Moreover, the charge or the contribution by the agriculturists is to be paid back in fifteen years. I do not think, Sir, that there is any force in the criticism made by some hon. Members opposite. I hope that the House will unanimously pass the measure before the House.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. I of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 1 to 18, both inclusive, and the preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. I of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. I of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. LXXI OF 1957 (A BILL TO EXTEND THE BOMBAY DEVADASIS PROTECTION ACT, 1934, TO THE REST OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY).

Shri N. K. TIRPUDE (Minister for Social Welfare and Rehabilitation) : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. LXXI of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Devadasis Protection Act, 1934, to the rest of the State of Bombay), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 18th February 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : The Bill is introduced.

Shri N. K. TIRPUDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LXXI of 1957 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

श्री. एन. के. तिरपुडे (समाज कल्याण मंत्री) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, देवदासियों के सम्बन्ध में मैं जो विधेयक प्रस्तुत कर रहा हूँ, वह इस सदन की जानकारी होगी कि पुराने बम्बई राज्य में कानून के तौर पर था। लेकिन कुछ दूसरे भाग इस राज्य में मिल जाने के पश्चात् अब जो बम्बई राज्य बना है, उस पूरे राज्य में समान रूप से यह कानून अमल में आया इस उद्देश्य से यह विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया जा रहा है। मैं नहीं समझता कि इसके सम्बन्ध में कोई वाद-विवाद होगा क्योंकि देवदासियों की जो प्रथा बम्बई राज्य में है उस पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाना इसका उद्देश्य है। इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए अगर विचार करें तो मादम होगा कि यह जो कानून है वह स्त्रियों के सम्बन्ध में अत्यन्त भलाई का है। इसलिए मैं सदन से प्रार्थना करूंगा, आपके द्वारा, कि वह इस कानून को सर्वसम्मति से पास करे।

श्रीमती सुभगाबाई अस्. काशीकर (मुंबई विधान सभे में निवडलेल्या) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, स्त्रियांच्या दृष्टीने अत्यन्त उपयुक्त असे बिल सभागृहापुढे मांडल्या-बद्दल सरकारचे मी अभिनन्दन करते. स्त्रियांचे जीवन हे अतिशय हाल अपेष्टांचे असते, आणि त्यांतल्या त्यांत देवदासी आणि वेश्यांचे जीवन तर त्याहूनही हाल अपेष्टांचे असते. या गोष्टींचा विचार करून सरकारने जे पाऊल ऊचलले आहे ते अत्यन्त समर्पक आणि योग्य असे आहे, आणि मी नामदार मंत्र्यांना असा विश्वास देऊं अिच्छिते की, ज्या ज्या वेळी अशा बाबतीत सरकारला आमची मदत लागेल त्या त्या वेळी आम्ही मदत द्यायला तयार आहोत. स्त्री समाजाच्या हितसंबंधाच्या बाबतीत विशेषतः पुरुष मंत्र्यांनी विशेष लक्ष घातले आहे याबद्दल मी त्यांचे मनःपूर्वक अभिनन्दन करते.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri N. K. TIRPUDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LXXI of 1957 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 1 to 3, both inclusive, the Preamble and the Title ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri N. K. TIRPUDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LXXI of 1957 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. LXXI of 1957 is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL NO. LXXII OF 1957 [A BILL TO EXTEND THE BOMBAY HINDU PLACES OF PUBLIC WORSHIP (ENTRY AUTHORIZATION) ACT, 1956, TO THE REST OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY].

Shri N. K. TIRPUDE : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. LXXII of 1957 [A Bill to extend the Bombay Hindu Places of Public Worship (Entry Authorization) Act, 1956, to the rest of the State of Bombay], as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 18th February 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. LXXII of 1957 is introduced.

Shri N. K. TIRPUDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LXXII of 1957 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

श्री एन. के. तिरपुडे : सभापति महोदय, यह विधेयक जो मैंने सदन के सामने प्रस्तुत किया है उसका उद्देश्य यह है कि हिंदू धर्म में जो विभिन्न जातियां हैं या हिंदू धर्म के अन्तर्गत जो अनेक वर्ग हैं और अनेक सेक्शंस हैं उनके जो सार्वजनिक धर्मस्थान हैं उनमें किसी को प्रवेश करने का निर्वन्ध न हो इसके लिए केन्द्रीय शासन ने कानून पास किया है जिसके अन्तर्गत जो अछूत कहे जाते हैं या जो हरिजन हैं जिन्हें अस्पृश्य कहा जाता है, उन्हें उन सार्वजनिक धर्मस्थानों में जाने के लिए कोई निर्वन्ध न हो ऐसा प्रबन्ध किया गया है। अछूत या अस्पृश्य को छोड़कर और जो अन्य जमातें और सेक्शंस हिन्दू धर्म में हैं उन्हें भी किसी सार्वजनिक पूजा के स्थान में जाने के लिये कोई निर्वन्ध न हो इस उद्देश्य से यह विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया गया है। यह कानून पुराने बम्बई राज्य में था और वही कानून अब समूचे बम्बई राज्य पर लागू करना है। इसी उद्देश्य से यह विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया है।

Shri C. P. MEHTA : Does it include Jains or not ?

श्री. एन. के. तिरपुडे : माननीय सदस्य यदि इस कानून को पढ़ें तो माहूम होगा कि हिन्दू के अन्तर्गत जैन, बुद्ध और सिख सब धर्मों के पूजा के स्थान अ जाते हैं।

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri N. K. TIRPUDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LXXII of 1957 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 1 to 3, both inclusive, the Preamble and the Title ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri N. K. TIRPUDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. LXXII of 1957, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. LXXII of 1957 is read a third time and passed.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

The CHAIRMAN : The business before the House is over. Now, Saturday, the 1st March, is an off day and Sunday, the 2nd March, is a holiday. On 3rd March, the day allotted for Government Bills, there will be very little work. So we shall have an off day on the 3rd and we shall meet now on the 4th March, at 2-00 p.m.

[The House was adjourned at 3-35 p.m. till 2-00 p.m. on Tuesday, the 4th March, 1958.]

Tuesday, the 4th March, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m. on Tuesday, the 4th March, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published.)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE —SHRI KARSONDAS H. THACKER.

The CHAIRMAN : I have received a telegram from the hon. Member Shri Karsondas H. Thacker which reads thus :—

“ Due to District Local Board Election and subsequent sickness unable to attend session”.

So he wants leave of absence. Has any hon. Member any objection to the leave being granted ? *(After a pause).* The leave is granted.

DISCUSSION ON SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1957-58.

The CHAIRMAN : We will now take up for discussion the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the year 1957-58. As usual, we will take up the supplementary demands Ministerwise. In this connection, I would invite the attention of hon. Members to Rule 139 (3). The hon. Members will please mention the item and the sub-item and the number of the supplementary demand they wish to speak on, and the page number of the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure on which it appears. That would greatly facilitate our discussion.

Hon. Members will also note that the various original demands are not before the House for discussion, but only the items covered by the supplementary demands which are placed before the House. So, the principles underlying the original demands are not for discussion today. They can be discussed at the time of the general discussion of the Budget. Hon. Members will, therefore, confine their remarks to the items covered by the supplementary demands.

I think that there is no need now for putting a time limit on speeches. I shall do it later on, if found necessary.

We will first take up the supplementary demands standing in the name of the Hon. Minister for Finance. They are demands Nos. 6, 8, 9, 10, 29, 40, 41, 42, and 43 and the relevant pages of the explanatory memorandum are 43-45, 48-49, 50, 51-60, 146, 168, 169, 170, and 171-177 respectively.

DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE (Maharashtra Graduates): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to refer to Demands Nos. 10 and 43. In the first instance I would refer to page 54, Supplementary Demand No. 10, item K-4, where a supplementary demand for a sum of Rs. 10 is made in connection with staff for expediting disposal of pension claims and audit objections. There are already many complaints that pension claims are not attended to in proper time. In some cases even 2 or 3 years have elapsed before the persons concerned got the pension. I, therefore, congratulate Government on its making some arrangement to expedite the claims and including this amount in the supplementary demands.

Then, I refer to page 175, Supplementary Demand No. 43, item (i) viz. loans to the Ballarpur Paper and Straw Board Mills. In this connection, I might mention that when we discussed the report of the Public Accounts Committee, this item had come before the House. It appears from the report that the ex-Madhya Pradesh Government had purchased preference shares worth Rs. 15 lakhs and ordinary shares worth Rs. 35 lakhs and more. In addition, Government has given a loan of Rs. 90 lakhs to the concern, repayable over a period of 17 years, at the rate of interest at 3½ per cent. per annum. Then we further find from the report of the Public Accounts Committee that, in the first year in which the Company went into operation, it sustained a loss of Rs. 17 lakhs. But in subsequent years it gradually began to earn profit and in one year the profit was Rs. 5 lakhs, in another year it was Rs. 11 lakhs. Now it appears from the explanatory notes that a further loan of Rs. 25 lakhs is to be granted. So I would like to know what the present position of the company is whether it is satisfactory and whether it is an expansion scheme as a result of which it has become necessary to advance a further loan of Rs. 25 lakhs. From the Report of the Public Accounts Committee it appears that the position of the company was not satisfactory. So I would like to know whether it has improved now.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL (Maharashtra South—Local Authorities): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I refer to Supplementary Demand No. 10, pages 53 and 55, where a demand for additional staff is made. After the reorganisation of the States, more or less three States have been merged into our State and, therefore, the staff of so many areas has been integrated in our State. The result is that we find over-crowding of staff in the Secretariat. I would, therefore, like to know as to why still additional staff is being required. Moreover the work is also not being expedited. If, in the old Bombay State, a case used to be disposed of within a couple of days, it now takes a week to be disposed of. So I would like to know as to how this demand is justified.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH (Maharashtra South—Local Authorities): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I refer to Supplementary Demand No. 8, page 49. It is stated that an amount of Rs. 1 lakh and odd is payable to the National Co-operative Development and Warehousing Board by way of interest on account of the loans availed of by Government from the Board and that no provision is available in the Budget Estimates for the current year for the payment of interest. I would like to know as to how no provision was made in this connection in the Budget itself.

[Shri V. B. Deshmukh]

Then, Sir, I refer to Supplementary Demand No. 9 at page 50, item (ii), which relates to the repayment of loan taken for subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme. I find from the details given here that the scheme for the construction of tenements at Jalgaon was dropped and, therefore, the loan from the Central Government had to be refunded. I should think that there must have been some sort of planning for the construction of these tenements at Jalgaon and I would like to know why this item was dropped. There might have been certain difficulties in this respect which compelled Government to drop this scheme. I would like to know why this scheme was dropped.

I would then refer to page 59 where a supplementary demand has been made for the creation of staff for the enforcement of the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Loans Act. It appears that certain additional posts of Mamlatdars, Mahalkaris, etc. had to be created in places where Tribunals have not been constituted. I would like to know whether Government feels that, for the implementation of the important sections of the Tenancy Act, viz. sections 32 to 32-R, the appointment of Mamlatdars or Mahalkaris would be advisable. I may mention here that, when the Tenancy Bill was under discussion on the floor of this House, we said that these Tribunals were important and they would have to deal with questions relating to compensation, etc. which are bound to arise, and, therefore, such powers should not be handed over to Mamlatdars or Avalkarkuns. Not only that, the difficulty is that lawyers are also not allowed to assist the Mamlatdars or Avalkarkuns. Government appears to be scared of lawyers; I do not know the reason for it. Any way, Sir, the position is this. These Tribunals are important. Questions relating to compensation, etc. have to be decided and I do not think it is advisable to entrust these important matters to Mamlatdars or Avalkarkuns without the assistance of a lawyer. I would, therefore, suggest to Government that, instead of creating these new posts, it would be better to stop where we are and to appoint a few lawyers as members of the Tribunal; anybody with the requisite qualifications may be appointed.

Cursorily I may mention about the Vigilance Section. The hon. Member Dr. Sathaye has already congratulated Government on its establishing the Vigilance Section. I also feel that, in the matter of settlement of pension claims, there was really a very great grievance about it, particularly from the middle class people. It was really a sorry state of affairs that those who retired from Government service would not get their pensions when they needed it most and their claims were settled practically when they were about to go to the grave. Therefore, Government must be congratulated on their establishing the Vigilance Section. In fact, this ought to have been done long ago, but all that I would say is 'better late than never'.

There is also another piece of work which this Vigilance Section is doing, and that is this: They are trying to dig out audit objections raised by the Auditor General and trying to explain them. The objections that are

[Shri V. B. Deshmukh]

raised and not being replied to are practically of the same type. I really wonder how, notwithstanding the repeated irregularities that are pointed out by the Auditor General, they still persist and they are not regularised. Is not anybody punished? Secondly I do not know whether I should make a sort of a suggestion with the starting of the bilingual State, is it necessary to reply to the old objections? Will it not be advisable to scrap them and to start anew, because, after all, these old objections are not going to do any good? Any way, all that I wanted to point out is this, that these irregularities are being repeated times without number. Is anybody taken to task for committing these irregularities?

These are some of the clarifications which I would like to have from the Hon. Minister.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra Teachers): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would refer to Supplementary Demand No. 43 at page 171. Under the head "Advances under Special Laws", there is a reference to loans to the Bombay Housing Board under Low Income Group Housing Scheme. It has been mentioned that Government had appointed a Cabinet Sub-Committee to go into the problem of housing and to suggest immediate measures to be taken in order to relieve the situation. We expected that some kind of report would be submitted to this House in this connection but nothing has come forward. We should, therefore, like to have a general idea about the suggestions made by the Sub-Committee.

Secondly, the Housing Board has been entrusted with the work of building houses in Bombay, Ahmedabad and Poona. Experience in certain cases is that the location of the places for building the houses is sometimes such that people are not in a position to go and occupy these buildings. In places like Ahmedabad and Sholapur similar instances have occurred. This House should have an opportunity to know what these places are and what the plans of the Housing Board are. It may be possible for Members here to make some constructive suggestions, both to the Housing Board and to Government. So, if a detailed idea is given to us about the recommendations of the Sub-Committee and the Housing Board, it will be very helpful.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra Teachers): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am referring to pages 54 and 55 of the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure. So far as the demand at page 54 in connection with the new Vigilance Section is concerned, I join my hon. Friends Dr. Sathaye and Shri Deshmukh in complimenting Government for appointing staff on the Vigilance Section which deals with pension cases, but I will not hurry to congratulate Government unless we know how many cases were disposed of for justifying the appointment of staff for this special work, because we have been hearing all the while harrowing cases of retired persons with their pension claims not being settled for years together after their retirement. I will, therefore, be in a mood to congratulate Government when it supplies us with the figures of cases which have been decided and in which persons who have retired were immediately in a position to get their pension claim settled.

[Shri S. L. Ogale]

Then, Sir, the figure of nearly Rs. 1 lakh at page 53 gives us an idea about the cost that this State is incurring on account of the bilingual set-up of the State. Then, as much as Rs. 90,750 have been spent in translating the Budget in Gujarati and marathi, and perhaps also in Hindi, but that is not my main point. In both the cases the appointments seem to be made up to the 28th of February 1958. So far as the translation of the Budget is concerned, I can understand the appointments being made up to the 28th of February, because, by that time, the work of translation is supposed to be over, but so far as the Vigilance Section is concerned I could not quite follow why those appointments were made up to the 28th of February 1958, instead of they being made up to the end of the year. The pension staff is not going to be there only for a particular period; that problem will be there throughout the year. In fact, this will be a sort of a permanent set-up, and, therefore, while supporting this demand I would like to know why these appointments are only up to the end of February.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ (વિધાનસભા તરફથી ચૂંટાયેલ): માનનીય સભાપતિજી, સર્વમિત્રો રીમાન્ડમાં પાના ૫૧ ઉપર "creation of additional staff for Governor's Secretariat and furnishing of official residence of Governor" ને માટે રૂ. ૪૫,૭૦૦ની જે માગણી કરવામાં આવી છે તે અંગે હું બોલવા માગું છું. ૧૫,૭૦૦ રૂપિયાનાં ખર્ચ માટે કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે સ્ટેટસ રીઓર્ગેનીઝેશનના કારણે ગવર્નર સાહેબના સેક્રેટરીએટ માટે નવી જગ્યાઓ રચવામાં આવી છે. આ ઉપરાંત ૩૦,૦૦૦ રૂપિયા ગવર્નર સાહેબના હાઉસને ફર્નીશ કરવા માટે ખર્ચવામાં આવ્યા છે. આ ઓફિસિયલ રેસીડન્સ માટે દર વર્ષે આટલું જ ખર્ચ થયા કરે છે. ગયા વખતે પણ ૪૪ હજાર રૂપિયા આ હાઉસને ફર્નીશ કરવા પાછળ ખર્ચવામાં આવ્યા હતા. દર વર્ષે ફર્નીચીંગ માટે આટલું આટલું ખર્ચ થયા કરે છે તો કેટલા રેસીડન્સ રાખવામાં આવે છે? આ વર્ષે ૩૦ હજાર રૂપિયાનું જે ખર્ચ કરવામાં આવેલ છે તેનો કોઈ સ્પષ્ટ ખુલાસો થાય તો એ અંગે કાંઈ માહિતી મળે. આ ઉપરાંત નવો નવો સ્ટાફ રાખીને પુષ્કળ ખર્ચ કરવામાં આવે છે. અને આ રીતે લગભગ ૧૫,૭૦૦ રૂપિયાનું ખર્ચ કરવામાં આવે છે.

એ જ પાના ઉપર રૂ. ૧,૩૫,૦૦૦ ની બીજી માગણી કરવામાં આવી છે. એના કારણમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે:—

"The increase is due to increase in number of posts of Deputy Ministers from 8 to 12 and also due to change in the personnel of the Secretary to the Chief Minister."

નીચેના હાઉસમાં લગભગ નવ કોંગ્રેસમેનો દીઠ એક મિનિસ્ટરની પોસ્ટ ઉભી થઈ છે. મને લાગે છે કે મિનિસ્ટરો અને ડેપ્યુટી મિનિસ્ટરોની એક બાજુ આટલી બધી સંખ્યા જે ઉભી કરવામાં આવી છે અને બીજી બાજુ ટેકરેશનનું પ્રમાણ દિવસે દિવસે વધતું જાય છે. આ ખર્ચ ઓછું કરવા માટે ગવર્નમેન્ટે કાંઈ પ્રયાસ કર્યો છે કે કેમ? અને જો આ ખર્ચ ઓછું કરવા માટે કોઈ પ્રયાસ કરવામાં નહિ આવે તો હજુ પણ આ ખર્ચ વધે જ જવાનું છે.

આ ઉપરાંત પાના ૧૭૬ ઉપર "loan to the Administrator, Narsinggirjee Mills Sholapur" એ માટે માગણી કરવામાં આવી છે. આ મિલ લીકવીઝેશનમાં ગઈ છે અને એ લીકવીઝેશનમાં ગયા પછી એ મિલને ચલાવવા માટેની જવાબદારી સરકારે લીધી છે. આ મિલના કામદારો બેકાર ન બને એ માટે મિલ ચલાવવી એમ

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

આ સરકારનો દાવો છે. પણ વસ્તુ એ છે કે સરકાર જ્યારે આ મિલ ચલાવવાની જવાબદારી લે છે ત્યારે એની સાથોસાથ એમ પણ આશા રાખે છે કે આ મિલ ચલાવવાથી ખોટ જવાની છે. હમણાં જ મિલ ઓનર્સ એસોસિએશન, મુંબઈનો રિપોર્ટ બહાર પડ્યો છે. એમાં જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે ૩૨ જેટલી નવી મિલો ઉભી થઈ છે. જે આ રીતે આટલી સંખ્યામાં નવી મિલો ઉભી થતી હોય તો આજે મિલો ને ખોટમાં જાય છે તે શા માટે જાય છે એનાં કારણો જોવાં જોઈએ. આજે આપણે જોઈએ છીએ કે ટેક્સટાઈલ ઈન્ડસ્ટ્રીઝની અંદર ને મોટા મોટા મિલ માલિકો છે તેનાં યુપીંગ હોય છે અને પાછળથી આવી મિલોને ફર્યામાં મૂકી દિયે છે. એટલે આ મિલ પહેલાં ને રીતે ચાલતી હતી તે રીતે જ સરકાર ચલાવવા માગે છે કે કોઈ નવી પદ્ધતિથી ચલાવવા માગે છે તે સ્પષ્ટ કરવું જોઈએ. બીજા મિલ માલિકો મિલો ચલાવે છે એના કરતાં કોઈ જુદી રીત હોવી જોઈએ. પણ આની અંદરથી એક વસ્તુ સ્પષ્ટ જણાઈ આવે છે કે સરકાર આ મિલને થોડો વખત ચલાવવા માગે છે અને પછી વેચી દેવા માગે છે. વચગાળાના સમય દરમ્યાન આ મિલ ખોટમાં ચાલવાની છે એ વસ્તુ ધ્યાનમાં લઈને ૭૫ લાખ રૂપિયાની રકમ બેન્કમાં ભરવા માટે માગણી કરી છે. એટલે આ મિલ ખોટમાં જાય એમ છે એને એક કારણ મળશે અને એ સાબિત કરી શકવાના કે સરકાર પોતે મિલ ચલાવે છે છતાં મિલ ખોટમાં જાય છે. એટલે કે આ ધંધો છે એ ખોટનો ધંધો છે. જે મિલોને ચલાવવી હોય તો મજૂરોએ પગાર કાપ સ્વીકારવો જોઈએ. અમારો માલ બજારમાં વેચાતો નથી, આમ પ્રયાસ તીવ્ર કરશે. સરકાર જ્યારે આ મિલને ચલાવવાની જવાબદારી લે છે ત્યારે મજૂરો ઉપર આવો કોઈ બોજો નહિ આવે તેની સ્પષ્ટ ખાતરી આપવી જોઈએ. સરકારે એની સ્પષ્ટ ખાતરી આપવી જોઈએ કે તેમના પગારોમાં એક પણ પાઈ ઓછી નહિ થાય.

આ ઉપરાંત જે મજૂરોના જે ચૂંટાયેલ પ્રતિનિધિ હોય તેને જ મેનેજમેન્ટમાં નીમવામાં આવશે તેવી કોઈ ખાતરી સરકાર આપે છે? આમાં ઉપરથી નીમણૂક કરવાને મજૂરોના પ્રતિનિધીના નામે લેવાનો પ્રયાસ ન થવો જોઈએ. થોડા વખતને માટે આ મિલ ચલાવીને સરકાર એમ કારણ આપવા માગે છે કે આ ધંધો ખોટનો ધંધો છે? અને પરિણામે મજૂરોના પગાર કપાસ અને પછી બિરલા યુપ કે બીજા કોઈ યુપને આ મિલ વેચી દેવી, સરકારનો શું એ ઈરાદો છે? આ વાત સ્પષ્ટ કરવી જોઈએ. આથી વિશેષ મારે કહેવાનું નથી.

Shri A. R. BHAT (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I refer to item (ii), Loan to the Administrator, Narsinggirjee Mills, Sholapur, appearing on page 176 of the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the year 1957-58, to which my hon. Friend who preceded me has just made a reference. Sir, the circumstances in which Government had to take over the Mills are indeed special. An experiment is being made for the first time in this country which, if it succeeds, would lead to different conclusions than what my hon. Friend had drawn. For instance, if it is proved, as it is hoped to prove, that the management which has taken over the Mills for conducting the same, could run it and pay the workers wages at the reduced rate, then

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it can be said to be a success. But if it is proved in the conduct of the said Mills that the new management could pay full wages, it will be a proof positive to show that if other mills are being run at a loss, if anybody is to be blamed, it is the mill owners themselves. I should say that the present experiment is necessary in the larger context of relieving labour unemployment in Sholapur. That fact has been known to those who are conversant with the criticisms and new items that have been appearing in the Marathi newspapers. There is great unrest among the unemployed labour in Sholapur. People coming from that area very well know the seriousness of the situation that has developed in Sholapur. The very fact that all the parties have agreed to this experiment being conducted shows that there is no difference of opinion on the approach to the problem. The experiment has been rightly described as an unemployment relief scheme. There is a great potential in this experiment. Those who are in charge of this experiment and going to conduct the mills feel that, if a majority of the upcountry mills could succeed, there is no reason why this experiment should not also succeed. Government, Sir, is really prudent in making it clear that this is an experimental measure in which Government may perhaps be put to a considerable loss; but it would be for reasons which are beyond its control. This experiment is an epoch-making experiment, inasmuch as this is going to prove two things. Firstly, whether a mill, which has an old machinery and which has not been kept in a good condition, could be conducted with success without incurring heavy capital expenditure. Secondly, this mill is at present producing medium cloth. If the experiment of producing the medium cloth from its own yarn succeeds, it will be a proof again to show that the complaint made by the mill owners against the excise duty, which it is claimed is very burdensome on medium cloth, is not correct. Therefore, this experiment which is being made is a welcome experiment, although it may mean,—We, however, hope that it will not be so—some loss to the Exchequer of the State. But this experiment should be conducted and let us all bless it and hope that it is made a great success. There is a sacrifice on the part of the workers. There is also a sacrifice on the part of the person who has agreed to look after the management without charging anything for his services to the mills. He is prepared to do the work in the interests of the workers concerned, and, therefore, if this experiment succeeds, then it will certainly give us a ground to explore ways and means to find out whether other mills which are similarly situated could be made a success if

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conducted on the same basis. After all, it is problematical but we have to make such experiments if the kind of unemployment as in Sholapur is to be relieved. (Interruption) It is possible that some unforeseen problem may present itself while making the experiment. I do not deny that. But one aspect should be considered. What happens when the mill is sold out in auction? If the management under this scheme could make it a success, and if the new person who takes possession of the mills does not make it a success, then there will be ground for making further inquiries into the matter. It must be realised that there

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is a private sector, and we have to make such experiments when necessary. We have in this country about 25 per cent. submarginal mills. As many of them as possible have to be run. We have to see that, as far as possible, they do not close, as otherwise there would be unemployment. If we were in a position to offer alternative employment to the people, then this question would not have arisen. But it is known that there are not sufficient employment avenues and we have to see that as far as possible every machine is worked with the maximum efficiency. If there was not this aspect of unemployment, Government would not have touched the mills under reference with a pair of tongs. Sir, I support the supplementary demand that has been made.

Dr. D. D. KARVE (Maharashtra Graduate): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I refer to page 54, item K-4 Finance Department, (i) K-4-Staff for expediting disposal of pension claims and audit objections. I am afraid the hon. Member who spoke before me was rather hasty in congratulating Government on its appointing the staff under reference, without finding out what that staff does, what the arrears are and how they are disposed of. I am afraid this is not the correct way of tackling the situation. If, after all, Government thinks that the number of persons due to retire from Government service is so high that the present staff in the Accountant General's office is inadequate to deal with the pension cases, then, naturally, they should appoint some permanent staff. But to create a section specially to deal with this matter is, I am afraid, a wrong way of doing the thing. It is going to condone the lapses of the permanent staff which is responsible for the work. -I would, therefore, like to suggest that, although this proposed staff may temporarily be in charge of the arrears, the normal work of calculating pensions and seeing that no arrears remain must be dealt with by the department concerned and by the particular staff that is in charge of the work in the Accountant General's office. I, therefore, suggest that every effort should be made to make this section deal with the pension cases and the temporary staff, as far as possible, should deal with only arrears, but not with the normal routine matters; otherwise, the regular staff would feel that pension matters are being dealt with by the temporary section and would not bother about them. It was, therefore, that I said in the beginning of my remarks that the hon. member who spoke just before me was a little premature in congratulating Government. I would, therefore, postpone my congratulations until I see what this section actually achieves.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH (Minister for Law and Labour): Sir, I shall refer to two of the points mentioned in the course of the debate. The first was with regard to the Housing Board and the Cabinet Sub-Committee appointed in regard to housing. I am a member of the Sub-Committee. The Committee will make its report to the Cabinet, and the matter will come before the House either in the form of financial sanctions or in the form of legislation, if necessary. The Committee deals with ways and means of acquisition of the required land, with removing legal and procedural difficulties and delays, with finding out

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the necessary material like bricks, cement, iron and steel, timber etc. Therefore, it is not a question of merely money. It is a question of also finding out the necessary material and land. The Committee deals with all these aspects of the problem, so that building activity is encouraged. What are the difficulties of the cooperative societies? What are their difficulties in getting loans from the agencies concerned? Why is it that advantage is not being taken of the housing schemes sponsored by the Central Government? All these are questions which touch the various aspects of the problem at various levels, and, it is, therefore, that the Sub-Committee has taken, and will take, some time in making its final report. In the meantime, as I said earlier, Government has sanctioned the construction of certain tenements in Bombay, Ahmedabad and Poona. My only request to the House is that it may make such suggestion or suggestions as it thinks fit which will help the Committee's work.

Then, Sir, a reference was made to the running of the Narsinggirjee Mill. As the hon. Member Shri Bhat said, there is a committee to look after the running of the mill. In the committee there is a person who is an office bearer of the representative union of labour at Sholapur. I am glad to mention here that the hon. Member Shri S. M. Joshi has also agreed to work on this committee. Therefore, we have tried to make the committee as representative as possible, and to obtain as General Manager a person who has good experience of running textile mills in Bombay. He is working without any remuneration.

One hon. Member expressed a doubt that the concern might be purchased by some industrialist. But I cannot stop anybody working from purchasing the concern when put up for sale. It is open to the hon. member to go and invite anybody he chooses to bid for the property and see that he gets it. (Interruption) It is open to everybody to bid in the auction if the mill is put up for sale in an auction. There is nothing to stop any person from buying the mill.

It was asked as to why certain mills make a profit and certain others, a loss. Sir, that question involves several questions. Losses may result due to mismanagement or to inefficiency of machinery. If, as a result of financial mismanagement, there are losses, then some creditor applies to the High Court for liquidation. The liquidator will investigate into the matter and see whether the losses were due to mismanagement. If the machinery requires renovation, it is a matter for experts to go into. As far as we are concerned, we follow a certain wage pattern, as is done in the case of famine relief works. In times of famine, relief works are started by Government, even though there is no regular construction work in that area, but Government does not pay the same wage as it does in the case of its other works. In this case, therefore, Government has announced that it will pay, in any event, two-thirds of the wages. It is not done to set any pattern of wages, but as a sort of a solution for a temporary difficulty. If as a result of

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payment of two-thirds wages, there be any loss, Government will bear it. If there is profit, Government will pay to the workers the whole amount of their wages in full.

Now, Sir, a reference was made to the statement made in the note that this is an experimental measure in which Government might be required to suffer considerable loss. In this connection I might state that, when we start a concern, in the first few months the production is not full but full expenditure has to be incurred. Therefore, it is quite possible that, in the first few months, we might be required to suffer some loss. Government took possession of the mill on 1st of February and on 1st of March it started the mill with a small compliment as against the normal compliment of 4000 persons. But all the time full expenditure will have to be incurred. The municipal taxes, insurance premia, wages to be paid to the technical staff which has been employed for the purposes of preparing the spinning programme, etc. have to be paid in full. Therefore, Government is bound to incur some loss in these months. Similarly if, at the end of six or 8 months, Government has to wind up the concern to be handed over to somebody, then at that time also there would be a loss. So it is quite possible that we might incur some loss. Of course, what we hope is another thing. We hope that we would be able to run the mill efficiently and earn a profit and that is why Government has asked only for a token grant of Rs. 10 only. But, at the same time, Government wish to bring it to the notice of the House that it may happen that there may be some loss. In order that later on this House should not blame Government that it had not taken the House into confidence and had not brought to its specific notice that there might be a loss in this affair, this supplementary demand has been made. But inspite of the various handicaps which have been mentioned here if this Government is in a position to run the mill efficiently, nobody in the private sector would be able to say that they should be allowed to close the concern because they are running it at a loss. If they incur any loss, we can say definitely that it must be due to some other reasons. Therefore, the employers would not be able to threaten the workers that if they do not accept lower wages, in view of the losses being incurred by the employers, they would liquidate the mill or the concern. If they raise such a plea, to that the answer of Government would be that unless the whole of the capital of the Mill is wiped out, they would not be justified in liquidating the mill. Now some workers might be required to suffer for some time but the sufferings of the workers would be temporary. Government would do its best to run the mill efficiently and as soon as any new employer comes forward, they would be prepared to hand over the mill to him. Some sort of legislation is also necessary and the necessary Bill will come before the House in due course. But I want to assure the House that there is no desire on the part of Government to encourage any capitalist or employer to liquidate his mill on such grounds. Now, if the hon. Member offers any suggestions about the purchase of cotton, sale of cloth, its processing from the mixing room up to packing, etc. they would certainly be taken into consideration. My knowledge in that field is very limited. I know only the balance sheets. Therefore, we have got a man who knows these things. That is all I wish to place before this House so far as this experiment is concerned.

Shri P. B. PATWARI (Gujarat North—Local Authorities) : Sir, I refer to supplementary demand No. 43, page 17, Loans to the Bombay Housing Board under Low Income Group Housing Scheme. No doubt, Government ought to be congratulated on its starting the work of construction of tenements to be given on a rental basis with no profit no loss. There was a great clamour from the people for such tenements. It seems that the work has now been started within right earnest and we hope that it would not be in any halting manner or that the number of tenements would not be reduced.

Sir, in this connection, I would like to put forth one suggestion for a very serious consideration of Government, and that is in regard to the cost of construction of this housing. As we are aware, in Bombay the cost of construction of housing has gone so high that ultimately the rent fixed on the basis of this cost has turned out to be prohibitive and beyond the paying capacity of the people. Similarly, in the case of new construction, if proper and strict vigilance is not exercised in seeing that the cost of construction of tenements remains adequate and reasonable and does not mount up to a very high level, I feel that the tenants would not get any relief. It is a great anomaly we find that in most of the construction works carried out by the P. W. D., the cost of construction is very high as compared to the cost of construction of works carried out by others. When particularly, this is a welfare measure for the low income group people, I feel that supreme vigilance is necessary to be exercised to see that the cost of construction is brought to a very reasonable level in this connection I might cite one example. Very recently, in Ahmedabad, a dozen or 20 chambers for Advocates were under construction in the District Court Compound. The P. W. D. had given its estimate and the Bar Association was approached to pay the amount for the Advocates' chambers. Hon. Members would be surprised to know that the Bar Association submitted that the estimated cost of construction by the P. W. D. for a single room was very high. The Association offered to carry out the work within 60 per cent. of the estimated cost of construction by the P. W. D. and the hon. Members would be further glad to note that the work was actually carried out in less than 60 per cent. of the Government estimate. As a matter of fact the P. W. D. should have been in a position to carry out the work in less than even this amount. I would, therefore, suggest that the Government should appoint some Advisory Committees at district levels to supervise or to check the construction work and to see that the minimum expenditure is incurred in this account. There are many Associations like the Architects' Association, the Engineers' Association, the social workers' institutions etc. who would be ready to help such causes. There are also the Tenants' Associations. If a selection is made of a Committee out of them and a small Committee is appointed to advise in this matter, the rising cost of construction could be checked. I hope that Government will see their way in this connection.

श्री. शंकरराव चव्हाण (रेव्हिन्यू अणुमंत्रि) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, माझ्या क्षेत्रातील पुरवणी मागण्यांवरील वर्चस्वपूर्ण भाग घेत असताना काही सन्माननीय सभासदांनी जे काही मुद्दे उपस्थित केले आहेत त्यांपैकीं एक मुद्दा सरकारचे टेनन्सी कायद्याची अंमलबजावणी करण्यासाठी जो स्टाफ नेमला आहे त्यासंबंधी होता. हा स्कीमप्रमाणे २११ नवीन मामलेदार आणि ४३ महालकरी आणि अतिर स्टाफ नेमण्यांत आला आहे त्यासंबंधी खुलासा करणे हे मी माझे कर्तव्य समजतो.

[श्री. शंकरराव चव्हाण]

ह्या संवत्सात असा एक आक्षेप घेण्यांत आला की, सरकार वकिलांच्या बाबतीत नेहमीच वेगळ्या पद्धतीने विचार करतं. मी ह्या बाबतीत असे स्पष्टीकरण करू जिच्छितो की, सरकारच्या मनांत वकिलांच्याबद्दल कोणत्याही प्रकारचा प्रेज्युडिस नाही. ह्या ठिकाणी हा जो स्टाफ नेमण्यांत आलेला आहे त्याचा अर्थ असा आहे की, ह्या कायद्याची अंमलबजावणी जितक्या गतीने आणि जितक्या लोकर होओल तेवढी व्हावी, ह्यासाठी ज्या गोष्टी करणे सरकारला आवश्यक वाटेल त्या गोष्टी करण्याचें सरकारने ठरविले आहे.

याच संबंधी असे प्रश्न उपस्थित करण्यांत आले आहेत की, हा जो वेवढा मोठा स्टाफ नेमण्यांत आला आहे त्याच्याकडून ह्या कायद्याची अंमलबजावणी योग्य प्रकारे होऊ शकेल किंवा नाही आणि ह्या क्षेत्रात वास्तविक ट्रायब्यूनलकडे सोपवावयाच्या त्यावेळी सरकारने हा नवीन स्टाफ नेमण्याचें कारण काय. ह्या स्टाफच्या कार्यक्षमतेसंबंधी आणि त्याच्या क्वालिफिकेशन्ससंबंधी जो शंका व्यक्त करण्यांत आली आहे ती कोणत्या आधारावर व्यक्त करण्यांत आली आहे मला माहीत नाही, पण सन्माननीय सभासदांच्या माहितीसाठी मी अजब सांगू जिच्छितो की, हा जो स्टाफ नेमण्यांत आला आहे त्यातील लोक रेव्हिन्यू कॉलेक्शन्स पॅरीश पास आउटविषय कोणाची नेमणूक करण्यांत येत नाही. त्याचप्रमाणे ह्या कायद्याच्या अंमलबजावणीच्या दृष्टीने आवश्यक असेल ते सर्व माहिती असलेल्या दोन पुस्तिका सरकारने तयार केलेल्या असून त्या सर्व अधिकाऱ्यांना दिलेल्या आहेत. याशिवाय, सेक्रेटरीजेटमध्ये अंडरसेक्रेटरीच्या दर्जाचा एक अधिकारी असून ह्या कायद्याची अंमलबजावणी योग्य प्रकारे चालू आहे की नाही याची पाहणी करण्याचें काम आहे. ह्या कामासाठी ह्या अधिकाऱ्याची नेमणूक करण्यांत आली आहे. हा अधिकारी वारंवार निरनिराळ्या जिल्ह्यांत जाऊन ह्या कायद्याच्या अंमलबजावणीच्या कामाचें रँडम चेकिंग करीत असतो आणि अंमलबजावणीच्या कामांत काही चुकत आहे किंवा काय याची पाहणी करतो. तेव्हा हा जो स्टाफ नेमण्यांत आला आहे त्याच्याकडून ह्या कायद्याच्या अंमलबजावणीचें काम योग्य प्रकारे होऊ शकणार नाही ही जो शंका व्यक्त करण्यांत आली आहे ती साधार आणि योग्य आहे असें मला वाटतं.

यानंतर तिसरा मुद्दा असा उपस्थित करण्यांत आला आहे की ह्या कामासाठी अतिका मोठा स्टाफ नेमण्याची आवश्यकता काय आहे. सभागृहाच्या माहितीसाठी मी सांगू जिच्छितो की, ह्या कायद्याची अंमलबजावणी १ ऑगस्ट १९५६ पासून सुरू झालेली आहे, आणि हे काम अतिका मोठ्या स्वरूपाचें आहे की हजारोनी नव्हे तर लाखोनी जमीनदार नोटिसा देत आहेत व कुठे अर्ज करीत आहेत. ह्या कायद्याच्या अंमलबजावणी अतिका जमीनदारांचा आणि कुळांचा संबंध असल्यामुळे सरकारने ह्या कायद्याच्या अंमलबजावणीचा असून ज्याला आपण टिलर्स डे म्हणतो त्या १ एप्रिल १९५७ पासून सुरू झालेली कायद्याच्या १४ व २९ ह्या कलमांमध्ये मामलेदारांकडे जे अर्ज आले त्यांचे निकाल त्वरित करण्याचे काम पहिल्या फेझमध्ये झालेलें आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे कलम ३१ प्रमाणे वहितीसाठी रेकॉर्ड ऑफ राइट्ससंबंधीची माहिती उपलब्ध व्हावी म्हणून सर्व गांवांमध्ये असे रेकॉर्ड्स तयार करण्याचेहि काम पहिल्या फेझमध्ये जवळ जवळ पूर्ण झालेलें आहे. पूर्वीच्या मुंबई राज्यातील २४ जिल्ह्यांमधील २७,७३८ गांवांमध्ये ह्या रजिस्टरचें काम पूर्ण करण्यांत आलें आहे आणि होल्डिंग रजिस्टरचें काम १०,६३० गांवांमध्ये पूर्ण करण्यांत आलें आहे. आतापर्यंत ३,२५,७५२ जमीनमालकांनी नोटिसे दिलेल्या आहेत आणि त्यांपैकी १,२६,२७८ अर्जांचा निवाडा ३१ ऑक्टोबर १९५७ पर्यंत करण्यांत आलेला आहे. ह्या सर्व माहितीवरून मी सभागृहाला अजब सांगू जिच्छितो की हा जो स्टाफ नेमण्यांत आलेला आहे तो आवश्यक असल्यामुळे नेमण्यांत आलेला आहे. हा स्टाफ जर नेमला नसता तर अजब प्रचंड स्वरूपाचें जें काम सरकार करू जिच्छित आहे तें करणें सरकारला शक्य झालें नसतें.

[श्री. शंकरराव चव्हाण]

यानंतर, ट्रायब्यूनलची नेमणूक न करतां मामलेदारांमार्फत हे जें काम करण्यांत येणार आहे तें अयोग्य आहे असा जो मुद्दा ह्या ठिकाणी उपस्थित करण्यांत आला त्यासंबंधी मला असें म्हणावयाचें आहे की हा मुद्दा योग्य असून ट्रायब्यूनलमार्फत हे काम करतां आलें असते तर ती गोष्ट फार चांगली झाली असती परंतु भ्रष्टाचाराची सांगितल्याप्रमाणे, ह्यानंतरची जी फेज आहे ती अत्यंत महत्वाची असल्यामुळे हे काम मामलेदारांवरच सुपूर्त करणें कमप्राप्त झालें. एक एप्रिलनंतरच कुळांना मालकीचे हक्क प्राप्त झाले आहेत व ते मालक झाले असें गृहीत धरण्यांत आलें आहे. परंतु जोपर्यंत जमिनीची किंमत फिक्स होऊन त्या किंमतीचा पहिला हप्ता कुळांमार्फत देण्यांत येत नाही तोपर्यंत कुळांना मालकीचा दर्जा अंशतः प्राप्त झाला आहे असें म्हणता येणार नाही अशी ह्या मालकी हक्काच्या बाबतीत तरतूद आहे. किंमतीचा हा पहिला हप्ता लोकर दिला जावा व त्या दृष्टीने काम द्रुतगतीने व्हावें म्हणून हा स्टाफ नेमण्यांत आलेला आहे. काम द्रुतगतीने होऊन निवाड्यांचाही निकाल लोकर लागावा म्हणून ही योजना आखण्यांत आली आहे. जर ट्रायब्यूनल नेमले असते तर मोठ्या प्रमाणांत क्वालिफिकेशन्स असलेले नॉन-ऑफिसियल मॅम्बर्स किती ठिकाणी उपलब्ध होऊ शकले असते असा प्रश्न निर्माण झाला असता. दुसरा महत्वाचा मुद्दा असा की, ट्रायब्यूनलच्या पुढें खटले गेले असते तर निवाड्यांच्या बाबतीत ट्रायब्यूनलची गती काय राहिल हाविषयी सरकारच्या मनांत थोडीशी शंका निर्माण झाली होती म्हणूनच वॅडिशनल स्टाफ निर्माण करून एक एक तालुक्यामध्ये एक मामलेदार, एक वॅडिशनल मामलेदार असे दोन दोन अधिकारी ह्यांच्या मार्फत निवाड्यांचा निकाल देण्याचें काम पूर्ण केले जाणार आहे. हे काम दुपटी तिपटीने जलद गतीने होऊन म्हणूनच ट्रायब्यूनल न नेमतां हा अधिक स्टाफ निर्माण करण्याचें ठरविण्यांत आलें आहे. काम जलद गतीने व्हावें, जमिनीच्या किंमती लोकरांत लोकर ठरविल्या जाव्या, कुळांनी हप्ता लोकर द्यावा व त्यांना मालकीचा जो दर्जा देण्यांत आला आहे त्यासंबंधीचे हक्क प्राप्त व्हावेत ह्या अर्धानेच ही योजना आखण्यांत आलेली आहे. सध्या मालक कुठे ह्यांचे जे संबंध आहेत त्यामध्ये एकप्रकारची तेढ निर्माण झाल्यामुळे कूळ कायद्याच्या अंमलबजावणीचें काम रेंगाळले जावून अशांतता निर्माण होण्याची शक्यता आहे. ही परिस्थिती जास्त दिवस ठेवणे योग्य होणार नाही म्हणून अधिक नोकरवाढीची ही योजना करण्यांत आलेली आहे.

एक सन्माननीय सभासद : आतापर्यंत निवाड्यांचा निकाल कसा लागला आहे?

श्री. शंकरराव चव्हाण : अंकर १ लक्ष २६ हजार निवाडे झाले आहेत. त्यांपैकी ६ हजार ३२६ निवाडे मालकांच्या बाजूचे आहेत व १ लक्ष २० हजार निवाडे कुळांच्या बाजूने लागले आहेत. अतकें स्पष्टीकरण केल्यानंतर ह्या मागणीला मान्यता मिळेल अशी मी आशा करतो.

DR. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Hon. Deputy Minister for Revenue has replied to the points raised by the hon. Members with which he is concerned. I shall reply to other points raised during the course of discussion.

Sir, as many as six hon. Members have referred to the information contained on page 54 regarding the arrangements made for the disposal of pension claims and audit objections. I am glad that most of the hon. Members have approved of the arrangements made for expediting disposal of pension claims and audit objections. I quite agree with Prof. Karve when he said that he would postpone congratulating Government

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on its appointing additional staff for the expeditious disposal of the pension claims and audit objections, until he saw the results actually achieved by this arrangement. It is no doubt true that the proof of the pudding lies in the eating and I do hope that eating would take place very soon. I hope that, when the next Public Accounts Committee's report is published, we may be able to have more information in this connection. Although the Public Accounts Committee's report relates to a previous year, the Accountant General gives the Committee, during the course of the discussion, the latest figures of arrears etc. noticed by audit in subsequent years, so that the members of the Committee come to know to what extent improvement has taken place in these respects. I can assure the House that this particular organization has been very helpful in the matter of expediting disposal of pension claims and in attending to the various audit objections. The hon. Member Prof. Karve said that it was entirely the fault of the department concerned in not having these pension claims disposed of quickly. Sir, this very morning a question was asked in the other House regarding the pension cases enquiring why these cases are pending for such a long time and the information contained in the reply which was given, I think, would be very material information for the hon. Members of this House to know. I stated in the other House that the following were the main reasons for the pension cases remaining pending. The first reason is the non-appearance of the applicant himself for preparation of pension papers in spite of notice to attend. It sometimes happens that the pensioners themselves do not take the trouble to attend for the preparation of pension papers, in spite of notice to attend. Secondly, there is delay due to the verification of pay fixation. The correct pay after fixation is not given in the pension papers. The pay has got to be verified. That requires some time. Then, the delay is also due to want of adequate service records. Sometimes the record of service is not properly maintained. In fact, instructions have been issued to all the departments that the pension papers of the non-gazetted staff should be prepared one year before the due date of retirement of the person concerned. Even then trouble is not taken by the staff concerned to see that the service record is properly kept. Then, there is some delay in the verification of service record. It is necessary to verify the service record in order to be quite sure that the entries made in the service book are correctly made and a proper record is maintained. Another reason for delay in the disposal of pension cases is want of recovery of overpayments. Sometimes it happens that the officer has been paid more than what he should have in fact been paid and the overpayment made to him has to be refunded by him. This recovery takes time. Then there is the question of recovery of leave salary and pension contribution. Sometimes pension contribution and leave salary have to be recovered and that takes time. Then, delay also takes place for want of consent from the pensioner for recovery of overpayments made to him. Even though the overpayments made to the pensioner are agreed to, still he has to give his consent before recovery of overpayments can actually be made. Delay also takes place because sometimes medical certificates for invalidation are awaited. Sometimes it happens that the pensioner, after retirement, goes to his village. So,

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it takes some time for obtaining the invalidation certificate from him. Then delay takes place also because of non-production of legal heir certificates or indemnity bonds. In some cases the pensioner may have expired not necessarily years after the person retires but within a few weeks of his retirement. In such cases legal heir certificate has to be obtained for making payment of the amount to the heirs of the deceased pensioner. Further, delay also takes place in sanctioning the final pension as the table of commutation of pension was revised. The commutation of pension was revised under the new rules under which a pension as well as a gratuity is now given and on that account also some delay takes place. Lastly, the reason for delay is in cases where the persons retired under the premature retirement scheme and new pension papers have to be made out in their case. Certain Government servants retired prematurely by taking advantage of the premature retirement scheme. This also entails in delay in the preparation of pension papers. These are some of the various reasons for delay in the disposal of pension cases. When I say this, I do not want to justify the delay. I only want to bring to the notice of this House how the various factors combine for delay in the disposal of pension claims. So far as the Audit Department is concerned, action is being taken to rectify the audit objections. I may mention in this connection that we have taken steps to see that a clerk is trained in attending to the pension work attached to the Collector's office. That training is being given so that the movement of the papers could be expedited. The Special Committee which has been appointed tries to find out as to from each area why the pension papers are delayed and what steps needed to be taken in that area. I am glad to inform this House that that Committee is rendering a very helpful service and, as I said, a little while ago, the number of pending cases will be reduced in course of time.

Then, a question was raised with regard to the sanction of staff for translation work appearing on the same page. My hon. Friend Shri Ogale does not like to waste so much money as Rs. 90,750 on account of the bilingual State. Sir, if the hon. Members desire all kinds of information to be supplied to them whether it is bilingual or tri-lingual or unilingual, it makes no difference. These things had to be provided for so long as the conditions remain the same and naturally the necessary expenditure has to be incurred. The hon. Member does not mind the salary of a particular staff being fixed up to 28th February 1958, but he sees no reason why the salary of the staff sanctioned for expediting disposal of pension claims and audit objections should have been fixed up to 28th February 1958. He says so because he thinks that this particular staff should be a permanent arrangement. The rule of Government in this regard provides that no post is to be made permanent unless it exists in a temporary fashion for at least 3 to 4 or 5 years, because Government does not want a permanent commitment to be done unless found absolutely necessary. My hon. Friend Shri Ogale is very familiar with Budget things and I do not know how he missed this particular point. I may bring to his notice that all temporary appointments are made up to 28th

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February each year. If they are to be revived, then they are continued for some time more. But no temporary appointment is made beyond 28th February for budget purposes unless it be otherwise for any particular reason.

Then, one of the hon. Members referred to the creation of additional staff in the Political and Services Department of the Secretariat mentioned on page 53. He seems to think that the Secretariat is flooded with people and there is no moving space. That was so even in the earlier years also. But the fact is that—and I wish to make it perfectly clear to this House—so far as the additional posts are concerned, in spite of the fact that area of the State having almost doubled and the population having increased by more than half, we have generally limited the additional staff in the Secretariat to 25 per cent only above the strength of the staff in Bombay Secretariat prior to the re-organisation of the State. These new posts are within that limit.

Dr. D. D. KARVE: Over and above the Secretariat staff of all the ex-States concerned?

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA: No. of the Old Bombay State only. It is some per cent. less than the Secretariat staff in the other regions. I hope it will be realised that we have been as economical as possible. Till various things are settled, the staff has naturally to be continued.

My hon. Friend opposite said something about item (v) on page 51 of the Statement regarding additional staff for Governor's secretariat etc. He does not seem to appreciate the idea of the Governor being given the particular facility. He seemed to think that a certain supplementary demand was made on the last occasion for the purpose, and there should have been no supplementary demand for the purpose on this occasion. But the whole thing would be clear to him if he read paragraph 2 of the note on that page. It reads:

"The supplementary grant of Rs. 30,000 under 'C-4 Furnishing of official residences is required in view of the Statutory sanction accorded under the States Reorganisation (Governor's Allowances and Privileges) Order, 1957. As the entire amount remained to be indicated in the demand put upon the previous session, the same is now asked for."

As has been mentioned in the note, it was up to December only and after reorganisation of States a new order was issued by the Government of India in the matter. Therefore, this amount forms a part and parcel of the grant. Then he remarked, after making some mathematical calculation, that there was an increase in the number of posts of Ministers and Deputy Ministers. If the hon. Member compared the ratio in the House of Commons in England, he would find that the number of posts of Ministers and Deputy Ministers here is not large. There is a Deputy Minister and a Parliamentary Secretary for every Minister, though I am not sure about the figure. Before reorganisation, if I remember right, we had 9 Ministers and 9 Deputy Ministers, and looking to the considerable increase in the size of the State now, I think the present number is not relatively much more. However, there is the consideration that in the Ministry there should be representatives from various areas, not necessarily from the point of view of considerations of

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

region or community, but from the point of view that the representatives should be able to bring to bear on the work of the Ministry their information and knowledge etc.

Then, Sir, a reference was made to item (vi) on page 50 of the Statement, and the point was made as to why the loan was taken when the scheme was not executed. I think my hon. Friend Shri Deshmukh referred to it. The fact of the matter is that we did construct a hundred tenements there. It is not that there was a lack of planning. Everything was planned. A hundred tenements were constructed, but there was no demand for these 100 tenements. Though it is an industrial town, we found that there was no demand for more tenements. Therefore, we decided not to construct more tenements. Even now, I believe two tenements are vacant. So, it was on economic considerations that the construction work was stopped. It is not that Government did not want to spend anything more on that account there, nor would it be correct to say that there was no prior planning in this regard.

Then, Sir, a reference was made to the amount of Rs. 1,55,000 and odd referred to on page 49 of the Statement. The hon. Member Shri Deshmukh commented on the statement in the note on that page, viz., "No provision is available in the Budget Estimates for the current year for payment of the interest....." He wondered as to how such things could happen because, if a loan was taken, then interest has to be paid therefor. Negotiations for the loan began in January and the loan was not taken up till 29th March 1957. Therefore, it was not possible to arrive at the exact amount of interest on the loan. It was, therefore, that the amount could not be included in the budget estimates.

Then, a reference was made to the work of the Housing Board. In that connection, a reference was also made to the Cabinet Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose of solving the housing problem. I congratulate my hon. Friend Shri Patwari on being able to score over Government by quoting how some agencies could effect a reduction in the cost of construction of buildings. I am sure both this hon. House and Government would be thankful to the agency. If the information is made available to us, it will be passed on to the House Board for its benefit. (*Interruption*). Yes, it was his society!

As regards the advisory committee, to which the hon. Member referred, I shall pass on the suggestion to the Housing Board which has to deal with such matters.

Then, a reference was made to loans to the Ballarpur Paper and Straw Board Mills, Ltd., referred to on page 175. There was a reference to the loans in the report of the Public Accounts Committee as it wanted to know the exact position of the concern. As far as the loans are concerned, the then M. P. Government had entered into an agreement with the concern in the matter and nothing could therefore, be done by this Government in the matter. However, I may mention that the concern has been doing well.

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

Sir, these were all the points that my hon. Friends opposite raised during the course of the discussion on various items, and I hope they would be satisfied with the explanations that have been given by my colleagues and myself.

DEMANDS IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTER FOR REVENUE.

The CHAIRMAN : We will now take up the demands in charge of the Hon. Minister for Revenue. They are demands Nos. 1, 4, 15 and 27 and appear on pages 33-37, 41, 77-78 and 144, respectively.

Shri D. C. SHUKLA (Gujarat—Graduates) : Sir, I refer to demand No. 1, on page 33. As so many decrees have been passed against Government, it is required to pay to the parties concerned the decretal amounts. At least from two instance Government would see that the advice given to it by the Legal Department was not correct and that the parties were justified in going to a court of law. Now, as against one rich man who could go to a court of law, there might be so many other poor parties similarly situated who could not go to a court of law for want of funds. I should like to be enlightened by Government as to how many such decrees have been passed against Government and what is the total decretal amount that Government has to pay.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL : Sir, I would refer to page 36 of the statement, and to items (9), (10) and (11), which relate to some decretal amounts. No explanation has been given in the notes as to why the decrees were passed against Government. In the previous Statements of Expenditure for Supplementary Demands, in such matters we used to find the facts of the case and why the decree came to be passed against Government, so that we could comment on the details therein given. We find no such details in the Statement of Expenditure before us.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I refer to page 37, item (12), Decretal payment in Land acquisition case at Poona. The land was acquired for Shri Shivaji Cooperative Society, Ltd., Poona. First, an amount of Rs. 16,360 was awarded, but when the party went to court, Rs. 63,537 and odd were ordered to be paid. I would like to know whether ultimately the whole money will be recovered from the society concerned, or whether Government will bear the expenditure.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH : Sir, I refer to Demand No. 1, page 34, item (4), Decretal payment to Shri Shrivivas Hanmantram Rathi and others. I find from the information given to us on page 34 of the Statement that Government is required to pay about Rs. 5,000 and odd because the Collector of Ahmednagar made some illegal payment. It appears from the information given therein that the Collector of Ahmednagar sold certain mortgaged property in 1940. Thereafter there was some litigation going on. The parties approached the court and that is why the Collector could not confirm the sale. It was confirmed after 5 years. It is quite obvious to a legal mind that, during

[Shri V. B. Deshmukh]

this period, the monies would be lying in the Collector's Office and no payment out of them could have been made to anybody. Ever then we find that the Collector's Office made payments to some claimants other than those who had filed the suit against Government to the extent of Rs. 5,000 and that is why Government has now to pay this amount again to those who had filed the suit. I would like to know whether the District Government pleader was consulted in the matter or not before making payments to those persons during the pendency of this suit. It is no use saying that this is a small amount. There are many instances of this type and the total amount may go into lakhs of rupees. So I would like to know as to how this happened and who was responsible for it. Was there an injunction order from the Court or not preventing the Collector's Office from paying the amount to anybody unless the suit is decided, and if there was such an order, how was the amount paid? I would request Government to make an inquiry into this whole clandestine affair. I am not quarrelling with the demand as such, but any way I would like to have this clarification from Government.

Then, I refer to page 37. There we are told that the amount awarded by the Special Land Acquisition Officer was about Rs. 1 lakh but it was reduced in the course of a reference made by the claimants to Rs. 63,000 and still Government is contemplating to go in appeal. As a matter of fact, we find that there is a substantial reduction in the amount. From Rs. 1 lakh the amount has been reduced to Rs. 63,000. So the question is whether it is necessary to go in appeal. Does Government think that the amount would be still reduced? But the officer of the Government itself had fixed the amount at Rs. 1 lakh. Now the amount has been reduced 50 per cent. So I would like to know as to why Government is contemplating to go in appeal.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR : Sir, I am referring to an item on page 78, supplementary demand No. 50, transfer to the Dangs Districts Reserve Fund (Rs. 9 lakhs). The last paragraph on this page runs thus :

"Since the gross estimated expenditure stands at Rs. 50,10,000 against the sanctioned provision of Rs. 65,34,410 inclusive of supplementary grant of Rs. 4,79,410 obtained in June 1957 Session of the Legislative Assembly, an amount of Rs. 15,24,410 required for "Transfer to the Dangs District Reserve Fund" is available from the sanctioned grant."

This shows that this amount was sanctioned by the House but it has not been spent. The administration has not been able to spend the amount which was sanctioned by the House. Last year also a similar instance had occurred with regard to the administration of the Dangs that the sums which were sanctioned by the legislature were not spent. At that time I had criticised the administration that the necessity of the Dangs people was not met in spite of their needs. I would like to know as to why repeatedly large demands are made and the administration is not able to spend those sums. Not that I want that the sums should be spent any how but I would like to know as to why it is that when the administration comes forth with a particular demand and why it has not been able to spend that sum on a number of occasions. What are the difficulties in the way of the administration? To that extent the Dangs people are not provided with the amenities which are expected to be provided (G.O.P.) MO-3 Hb 8:0-2a

[Dr. G. S. Khair]

for them. There are some Departments which have no funds. On the other hand, this is a Department which has sufficient funds at its disposal but it is not able to spend them. I feel that Government owes some explanation on this account.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ: I am referring to the supplementary demand made on page 37, which has already been referred to by the hon. Members Dr. Sathaye and Shri Deshmukh. When I read that note, I could not follow anything out of it. But I thought that it might be because of my lack of knowledge, but from what the hon. Members Dr. Sathaye and Shri Deshmukh have said, it is clear that there is something which is not clear. I would, therefore, request the Hon. Minister to make the whole position clear to the House. It seems that 3 or 4 pieces of lands were acquired for Shri Shivaji Co-operative Society, Ltd., Poona, and the award was declared for an amount of Rs. 1,16,360. Then it was not that Government was dissatisfied with the award but the owners of the lands were dissatisfied with it and they went in appeal and then the Court decided that an amount of Rs. 63,000 and odd should be paid. This decretal amount is in favour of Government, and still, how is it that Government is thinking of going in appeal against this award? It would be better if the Hon. Minister explains this point.

श्री. शंकरराव चव्हाण (राजस्व उप-मंत्री): सभापति महोदय, डिस्ट्रिक्ट एमाउंट के विषय में जो अनुपूरक माँग पेश की गई उसके बारे में चन्द माननीय सदस्यों ने जो महत्त्व की शंका व्यक्त की है वह यह है कि शायद बहुत से केसेज इनमें ऐसे हैं जिनमें गवर्नमेंट प्लीडर या लीगल डिपार्टमेंट को रेफर नहीं किया गया, और अगर ऐसा नहीं है तो इतन बड़े और बहुत सारे केसेज में डेक्री कैसे हो गई, जिनके लिए अब सप्लीमेंटरी डिमांड माँगी जा रही है। ऐसा सब क्यों हुआ ऐसी शंका चन्द माननीय सदस्यों ने व्यक्त की है। मैं सोचता हूँ कि लीगल डिपार्टमेंट के लिए कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब गवर्नमेंट के खिलाफ कोई केस को कन्सल्ट करती है और अगर जरूरत होती है तो लीगल डिपार्टमेंट की भी ओपी-नियन ली जाती है। लेकिन हो सकता है कि उसके खिलाफ भी कोर्ट का फैसला हो की ओपीनियन के खिलाफ कोई दावा या डेक्री न हो। ऐसे हजारों केसेज हो सकते हैं जिनमें गवर्नमेंट प्लीडर या लीगल डिपार्टमेंट कोई ओपीनियन दे मगर कोर्ट का फैसला या दावा गवर्नमेंट के खिलाफ जाए। जब कोर्ट का दावा गवर्नमेंट के खिलाफ जाता है तब वह सारी ओपीनियन उस केस में अपील फाइल करने के काम आती है। लेकिन उस फौसले के बाद गवर्नमेंट को जो रकम डेक्री की दृष्टि से दाखिल करनी पड़ती है उसमें गवर्नमेंट देर नहीं कर सकती। इसलिए वह फौरी रकम कंटिनजेंसी फंड से लेकर तुरंत जमा करने की जरूरत होती है। इसलिए यह अनुपूरक माँग यहां पर पेश की गई।

चन्द भाइयों ने सवाल उठाया है कि लैंड एक्वीजिशन का एक केस जो इस किताब के 37 पेज पर है उसके बारे में और पूछा कि क्या यह रकम गवर्नमेंट देगी या वह सोसायटी देगी जिसके लिए एक्वीजिशन किया गया है। मैं इस हद तक इसका जवाब दे सकूंगा कि लैंड एक्वीजिशन का सारा केस जब इस सोसायटी के लिए है तब रकम में जो कमी या ज्यादाती होगी उसकी जिम्मेदारी उस सोसायटी पर ही होगी

[श्री शंकरराव चव्हाण]

जिसके खातिर यह एक्वीजिशन की कार्रवाई की गई है। उस सोसायटी के लिए गवर्नमेंट एक एजेंसी के तौर पर है जिसने लैंड एक्वीजिशन किया है। इसलिए अगर कोई कमी या ज्यादाती होती है तो वह सोसायटी से ली जा सकती है। उसमें गवर्नमेंट के देने का कोई सवाल ही पंदा नहीं होता।

चन्द माननीय सदस्यों ने अहमदनगर का जो एक केस है और जिसके लिए यहां एमाउंट मांगा गया है उसके बारे में सवाल उठाए और एक भाई ने तो यहां तक कहा कि इसके बारे में कुछ शंका मालूम होती है। उन्होंने कहा कि वहां के जो आफिसर हैं उनका कसूर होगा जिसकी वजह से यह सारी बात हुई है और यह भी कहा कि उसकी सारी मालमात उनके पास है। उन्होंने बहुत गम्भीर स्वरूम का आरोप लगाया है। पता नहीं उनके पास क्या मालमात है। मैं उसके बारे में अभी कोई जवाब नहीं दे सकूंगा क्योंकि मुझे उसके बारे में मालमात हासिल करनी होगी। यहां पर मेरे पास कोई इन्फर्मेशन नहीं है कि उसका डिस्ट्रिक्ट एमाउंट क्यों इतना ज्यादा है। यह भी सवाल उठाया गया कि डिस्ट्रिक्ट एमाउंट की संख्या बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर आ रही है तो क्या इनके बारे में लीगल डिपार्टमेंट ठीक से ओपीनियन देता नहीं है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर संख्या की दृष्टि से देखा जाए तो मालूम होगा कि अधिकतर केसेज जो डेक्री के हैं और गवर्नमेंट के खिलाफ आए हैं वह बहुत कम रकम के हैं। जैसा मैंने पहले कहा, हो सकता है कि बावजूद लीगल डिपार्टमेंट और डिस्ट्रिक्ट गवर्नमेंट प्लीडर की ओपीनियन के अदालत की राय उसके खिलाफ हो। इन सब बातों को दृष्टि में रखते हुए डिस्ट्रिक्ट एमाउंट की संख्या कुछ बढ़ती हुई मालूम होती है लेकिन उसमें लीगल डिपार्टमेंट या डिस्ट्रिक्ट गवर्नमेंट प्लीडर का कोई दोष नहीं है। उन्होंने अपनी राय ठीक से दे दी थी। लेकिन अब आप दिनों दिन हालत बदतर होते हुए नहीं बल्कि सुधरते हुए देखेंगे। इतने खुलासा करने और मालमात देने के बाद मैं माननीय समासदों से बिन्ती करूंगा कि वे अनुपूरक माँगों को मंजूर करें। जो डिटेल्स बताए गए हैं उनसे अगर ज्यादा डिटेल्स सम्माननीय भाइयों को चाहिए तो वे मुझ से मिलें तब मैं उनके सामने ज्यादा तफसील दे सकूंगा। इतना मैं अभी कह सकता हूँ कि यह डिस्ट्रिक्ट एमाउंट होने से इसमें गवर्नमेंट कम ज्यादा नहीं कर सकती। कोर्ट ने जो रकम मांगी है वह तो देना ही पड़ेगी। उसमें कम ज्यादा नहीं कर सकते।

Shri D. B. AGARWAL: In some cases details have been given. In these particular cases, details have not been given at all.

श्री शंकरराव चव्हाण: इसकी तफसील अगर आप चाहते हैं तो आप मुझसे मिलिए मैं सारी फाइल आपको बतला दूंगा जिसकी वजह से डेक्री गवर्नमेंट के खिलाफ हुई है। इतने स्पष्टीकरण के बाद मैं यह प्रार्थना करूंगा कि आप सप्लीमेंटरी डिमांड्स मंजूर फरमावें।

DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE OF MINISTER FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

The CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up supplementary demands Nos. 7, 14, 26, 34, 36 and 37 in charge of the Minister for Public Works. The relevant pages are 46-47, 76, 140-43, 154-57 and 159-65, respectively.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, at page 140, under supplementary demand No. 26, there is an item relating to illumination of public buildings on 26th January. As this is an annual feature occurring every year, I do not know why this amount should not be included in the regular Budget and why there should be a supple-

3-30 p.m.

[Shri D. B. Agarwal]

mentary demand for this purpose. Also, considering the amount that is being spent every year on this account, can Government not make some permanent arrangement for such electrification, so that the recurring expenditure can be avoided? We find that in some of the buildings the electric points can be so put that such repeated expenditure can be avoided.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ : માનનીય સભાપતિજી, પાના ૧૪૪ ઉપર ફેમીન અંડેરૂ પાંચ લાખની માગણી કરવામાં આવી છે. આપણે જોઈએ છીએ કે મહારાષ્ટ્રના ઘણા મોટા વિસ્તારમાં દુષ્કાળની પરિસ્થિતિ અવારનવાર વ્યાપક બને છે. એક બાજુ એક લાખ રૂપિયા જેવી રકમ આપણે માત્ર ૨-૩ દિવસની રોશની કરવા પાછળ ખર્ચી નાખીએ છીએ ત્યારે બીજી બાજુ ફેમીન એરીયામાં સપડાયેલા લોકોને મદદ આપવા માટે માત્ર પાંચ લાખ રૂપિયા જેવી રકમ ખર્ચવામાં આવે છે. આ જે મોટો તફાવત છે તે સરકારની કઈ જાતની પોલીસી છે તે સ્પષ્ટ કરે છે. હું સરકારને એ કહેવા માગું છું કે શા માટે ફેમીનમાં સપડાયેલા લોકોને યોગ્ય મદદ કરવા માટે વધારે રકમ ખર્ચવામાં આવતી નથી અને રોશની જેવા કાર્ય પાછળ શા માટે ખર્ચ ઘટાડતી નથી? આટલું કહીને હું બેસી જાઉં છું.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I find from page 46 that the net estimated expenditure during the current financial year, under the head "XVII-etc." and "18—Irrigation etc" was Rs. 87 lacs and odd. It appears that a supplementary demand for Rs. 23 lacs and odd is now made. I would like to know why such a big demand is made over and above the sanctioned budget grants. As a matter of principle, I would like to have some sort of clarification as to why this demand has jumped up by Rs. 23 lacs. Some reasons are however given. One of them is that every year some irrigation works are being completed, and, as such, more funds are required for their maintenance. If more funds are required for maintenance, ordinarily I should think that estimates for maintenance can easily be made. That would not be a good reason for such a large provision.

Then, there is a mention that monies were required for survey for water power projects which is being conducted by the Government of India. That also is given as one of the reasons for the extra amount asked for. That want any explanation with regard to the provision for survey for water power projects but I would like to know one thing, and that is : Is not the Central Government going to spend moneys over the survey for water power projects? Are we supposed to spend money over that survey?

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Although they are spending the money, we have to pay back the amount.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH : What I want to know is that, if this survey had been started long ago, how is it that that amount was not included in the budget estimates?

These are the two clarifications which I want, one is in respect of the supplementary demand for Rs. 23 lacs and the other is in connection with survey for water power projects. The Hon. Minister for Finance has stated that, although the amount is spent by the Central Government for the survey for water power projects, we have to refund it.

Shri D. S. DESAI (Minister for Public Works) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as a matter of fact, a reply has already been given by the Hon. Minister for Finance Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta, to the points raised by the hon. Member. Although the amount for the survey for water power projects is spent by the Government of India, we have to pay back that money. As regards the additional amount of Rs. 23 lacs and odd asked for, necessary reasons for asking the additional amount are given.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as regards the point raised by the hon. Member with regard to the additional amount of Rs. 23 lacs and odd, the reasons given are that it is not possible to meet the excess from the sanctioned grants and that every year some irrigation works are being completed, and, as such, more funds are required for their maintenance. Apart from that, I have nothing more to say.

With regard to the expenditure incurred on the illumination of public buildings in connection with the Republic Day Celebrations, a suggestion was made by my hon. Friend that this item should be made a permanent feature. I may frankly say that, after some time, Government may consider the suggestion of making this item or expenditure a permanent feature. At the present moment, Government does not consider it desirable to make it a permanent feature.

A reference has been made to the cost of illumination of public buildings and famine works. So far as the scarcity or famine works are concerned, Government does make necessary arrangements and provides sufficient funds. Wherever scarcity is declared, Government sanctions necessary funds whether Rs. 5 lacs or Rs. 10 lacs or even more, as may be necessary for the works taken up. So far as the expenditure on illumination of public buildings is concerned, the illuminations are done in accordance with the general wishes of the public. If my hon. Friend had been in Bombay at that time, he would have seen the extraordinary enthusiasm that was exhibited by the people to see the illumination of buildings. If not for anything else, the illumination as such has got a great psychological effect on the minds of the public and that is why it is necessary as well as advisable. Let the public have at least such occasional pleasures as we can possibly give. This is the reason why the hon. Member should not grumble.

So far as irrigation works are concerned, there are more irrigation works, we are spending more money and providing more staff also in connection with the survey work and that is why, as a matter of fact, demands for additional grants are coming to the Finance Department from the Public Works Department every now and then. That department is asking for sanction for starting additional divisions or circles and also for overseers. During the course of the year we want to see that estimates of works which are to be undertaken during the next year are also worked out in time, so that there would be no difficulty afterwards. That is the reason why additional grants are asked for.

With these words I hope the House will agree to the demand.

DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTER FOR
PUBLIC HEALTH.

The CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up the demands in charge of the Minister for Public Health, namely, demands Nos. 18 and 19. The relevant pages of the explanatory memorandum are 95-99, respectively.

(No Comments).

DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTER FOR
AGRICULTURE.

The CHAIRMAN: We may now take up for consideration the Supplementary Demands standing in the name of the Hon. Minister for Agriculture. They are Demands Nos. 20 and 21 and the relevant pages are 100-121, respectively.

(No Comments).

DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTER FOR PROHIBITION,
VILLAGE PANCHAYATS AND COTTAGE INDUSTRIES.

The CHAIRMAN: Then, we shall take up the demands standing in the name of the Hon. Minister for Prohibition, Village Panchayats and Cottage Industries.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA: The Hon. Minister for Prohibition is not now present in the House. In the meanwhile, the demands standing in the name of the Hon. Chief Minister may be taken up.

DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE OF HON. THE CHIEF MINISTER.

The CHAIRMAN: We may now take up consideration of the demands standing in the name of the Hon. the Chief Minister. They are demands Nos. 5, 11, 12, 13, 28, 31, 32, 33 and 38 and the relevant pages are 42, 61-62, 63, 64-75, 145, 150, 151-152, 153 and 166 respectively.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to refer to demand No. 13, page 69. This is a case relating to one Sub-Inspector of Police, Mr. Nande. This case started somewhere in the year 1943, that is, on the 12th November, 1943. Ultimately the said Mr. Nande succeeded in a Court of law and Government is required to pay all the arrears of salary because it is stated on page 70 "the plaintiff must be deemed to be still in service without any break". This is a period of about 15 years. Although the person did not serve, Government is required to pay salary to this person. Considering the average salary of the person to be about Rs. 3,000 a year, the amount would come to about Rs. 45,000 which Government had to pay. I would, therefore, suggest that some legislation should be passed so that such cases should be disposed of within a short time, otherwise public money and public taxes that are collected are wasted. That is one of the suggestions which I want to make.

[Shri D. B. Agarwal]

Then, Sir, I refer to demand No. 33, page 153. It is regarding Civil Defence. Here is a case of red-tapism. The case started somewhere in the year 1946. The building was derequisitioned in 1946. The dispute between the Corporation and Government was going on till 1957, say, nearly 11 years. Why does Government require so much time to decide the case? What I want to say is that this red-tapism is going on even in matters concerning Government. I hope that Government will, in future, see that such cases are speedily disposed of.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, on pages 66 and 69 to 71 we find certain cases similar to the one to which the hon. Member Shri Agarwal referred. He referred to the case from Poona. But we find that there are many cases where Government is required to pay on account of the decrees as a result of suits filed by Government servants who are wrongfully and illegally dismissed. As a matter of fact, in cases of this type, very few go to a Court of law. But I find that, in such cases, no legal aid is given to them. Usually, departmental proceedings are held against small officials like a constable, or a head constable or a Sub-Inspector. Higher officers are not touched. Such departmental proceedings are held by the Head of the Department, and the persons against whom they are held are not given any legal assistance. The result often is that, in such proceedings, all sorts of irregularities and even illegalities creep in. The persons proceeded against are not given an opportunity to lead evidence and argue their case. The result of such proceedings generally is that the incumbents concerned are dismissed. To a poor person like a constable or a head constable, or even a Sub-Inspector, dismissal from service is a very serious matter. I can hardly imagine a person being dismissed from service without giving legal assistance to him. It is true that we have a few cases before us where some persons have approached a court of law, but such cases are few and far between. Lower employees can hardly afford to fight out their cases in a court of law. In a case from Poona, which was referred to by my hon. Friend just now, all sorts of irregularities and illegalities were committed and fundamental principles of equity and justice were not adhered to. This was the criticism in the Court when the matter went before it. The person had to struggle hard for ten years to get justice. But, Sir, there are many against this one individual who could go to a Court of law, who cannot afford the luxury of litigation. The result is that they are dismissed and sent home. On page 71 of the Statement, we have an instance of a constable who was dismissed, but whose reinstatement was ordered by the High Court of Nagpur. I would, therefore, request Government to make some arrangement whereby some sort of legal aid is made available against whom departmental proceedings are held. This is particularly necessary where the charges are of a serious nature, and likely to result in dismissal. In the case of such poor servants, dismissal virtually means death to them. I do not deny that the Anti-Corruption Branch is doing good work. As a matter of fact, such cases can be better judged departmentally than by Courts. Sometimes the degree of proof by a Court of law to substantiate such charges is not forthcoming. Since we are interested in putting down corruption, the work of the Branch is

[Shri V. B. Deshmukh]

commendable. But I would make one suggestion and that is that, more often than not, small people, and not big officers, are involved in such cases, and the proceedings are held by the head of the department. Take, for example, the Police Department. The District Superintendent of Police holds the proceedings. One can very well imagine the plight of the poor small employees evidence against legally scrutinised. Many of such poor employees cannot afford the expense of litigation, because it means so much expenditure. I do concede that every attempt should be made to put down corruption, but at the same time, some arrangement should be made whereby some sort of legal assistance is given to the persons against whom departmental proceedings are held. In the case of military cases, there is a provision that some military officer can defend the victims of such inquiries. When I say all this I do not at all mean to suggest that Government should not have been burdened with these decretal amount. I am not quarrelling against payment of these decretal amounts. After all, the decrees have been passed after going through the merits of the cases. My only suggestion is that some arrangement should be made whereby such persons are given some legal assistance.

Then, I refer to page 70, item "Training of Police Sub-Inspectors of Hyderabad State transferred to the Bombay State". A supplementary demand for Rs. 17,000 and odd has been made for the purpose. It is stated in the note that the Sub-Inspectors from the ex-Hyderabad State have not got sufficient experience to be effective Sub-Inspectors and that their knowledge of law and procedure is not complete and that they are not conversant with the procedure and method of working of the Police in Bombay. If this be so, how is it that they were doing their duty as Sub-Inspectors in the Hyderabad State? How were they carrying on with their duties without adequate knowledge of law and procedure? Now, what are they going to learn within a period of five months? Does not Government feel that giving such training to such people only for a period of five months means waste of money? I feel that these 211 Sub-Inspectors, who lack knowledge of law and procedure, may be suitably distributed amongst the various police stations in our State as junior Sub-Inspectors. They would be able to gain better knowledge this way than they would within a period of five months of such training. I recollect that, on a previous occasion, there was a supplementary demand for a refresher course to our Sub-Inspectors. I do not know whether it was intended that our police officers should feel refreshed, or refreshed for better work. I do not know what happened to that scheme. Are there still refresher courses for our Police Officers? However, I would like to know whether Government does feel very seriously that, within a period of five months, these Sub-Inspectors would acquire the requisite knowledge of law and procedure. Is it really that these Sub-Inspectors lack knowledge of law and procedure. Is it that we feel dogmatically that we are a better administered State and, therefore, these police officers from another ex-State are not quite up to the mark? Be that as it may, my fear is that, within a short period of five months, they would not be able to acquire any appreciable knowledge of law and procedure. The period is not enough.

[Shri V. B. Deshmukh]

Then I go to page 75. The item refers to the C. I. D. The anti-corruption branch is a limb of the Inspector General of Police. From my own experience, I would say that this branch is doing really very well in Poona. There is no doubt about it. At least, the people in this Branch are struggling hard to do their work honestly. It has been stated in the note that it has been decided to utilise the services of officers of other departments for the Bureau as Deputy Directors. It is proposed to have an Executive Engineer as a Deputy Director, a Divisional Forest Officer, as another Deputy Director, and a Deputy Collector and a Sales Tax Officer, as a Deputy Director and an Assistant Director, respectively. They would be members of the Directorate. Are they going to be full time officers? What is going to happen? This Bureau will have one of the biggest Police Officers, viz. the Deputy Inspector General of

Police as its Director and we can understand and appreciate that because he would have some experience of investigation. But what kind of investigation are these other officers, viz. the Executive Engineer, the Deputy Director of the rank of the Divisional Forest Officer, the Deputy Collector and the Sales Tax Officer, going to do? Is it the idea that there is corruption on a bigger scale in these Departments in particular and, therefore, they would be able to give some advice in the matter? In that case, is it that, whenever a case from any of these Departments comes up, then only the officer concerned would be asked to investigate the matter or is it that his advice only will be taken? In that case it would not be necessary to have all these officers working as whole-time officers in the Bureau. As a matter of fact the work of investigation is always done by the Police and an officer like the Executive Engineer would at best be able to enlighten the Police with other information relating to his Department. So the question is whether a bureau consisting of all these officers would be necessary. I think that it would be a waste of time. But unless and until further a clarification is made, I would not be able to say anything more in this connection. So I would like to have a clarification from the Government on these points.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to refer to pages 74 and 75 relating to the supplementary demand which has been just referred to by my hon. Friend Shri Deshmukh. We find that an Anti-Corruption Bureau has been formed and there these four Departments are represented. Probably, we can take it that these are the four main Departments where corruption is rampant. I would like to bring to the notice of Government one more Department where there is corruption and that is the Medical Department. Wherever anybody is taken up in Government service, he is asked to produce a fitness certificate and there are a number of complaints that the Medical Officers do not give this certificate easily.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : They can appeal to the Medical Board in Bombay.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : It is not possible for the people living far away from Bombay to make an appeal to the Medical Board in Bombay, and even after making an appeal, they are not confident that they would succeed. I would, therefore, request Government to make an inquiry into this matter.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR : Sir, I am referring to the item on page 145, Supplementary Demand No. 28, Privy Purses and Allowances of Indian Rulers. It is stated there that payments to most of the relatives of the Rulers were discontinued under the Bombay Merged Territories Miscellaneous Alienation Abolition Act, but in view of the amendment to the Act, many allowances have been revived with retrospective effect and the excess is estimated at Rs. 2 lakhs but no further details of such a large amount are given. Generally, when large demands are made, such details are given. So if there is no objection, the details may be given.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I did not quite follow the point raised by my hon. Friend Dr. Khair. I would request him to repeat it.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR : My submission is that this is a large demand of more than Rs. 2 lakhs. Whereas in the case of other demands the details are given, said that, if there is no objection, they may be given. I, therefore, simply

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance) : Sir, there is no objection in giving out the details. The position is that a large number of relatives of the Rulers were granted some grants and later on they were discontinued. But as a result of the discussions which we had with the Government of India, it has been decided to renew these grants. The same amount which used to be granted to them previously and about which fullest details have been given in the past, would now be paid to the members of the former princely families. But this time the amount appears to be pretty large because it also includes the arrears of previous years to be paid to them.

Then, Sir, a reference was made to the cases appearing on page 69 in which the various persons who were dismissed by Government went in appeal to the Court. Now naturally we have to abide by the decision of the Court. Unfortunately it takes a very long time before a case is decided by a Court of law. Sometimes a number of years elapse before the case comes before the High Court. A suggestion was made that, instead of allowing these persons to go to a Court of law, a Departmental inquiry may be conducted against them and a decision should be taken in the Departmental inquiry. I might tell the hon. House that we usually do hold a Departmental inquiry. I might tell the taken thereafter. But there are two kinds of cases which take resort to the Court of law. If the officer concerned is not satisfied with the decision taken in the Departmental inquiry and the punishment meted out, he goes to the court of law and justice and equity demand that there should be no prohibition to his approaching even the highest Court of Judicature in the State. After all, Government may also make a mistake in taking a decision in an occasional case. Therefore, everybody is given a right and privilege to go to a Court of law. So, if he goes there, whatever the Court orders we have to obey. The nature has been committed and, therefore, Government goes to the Court of law in order that proper punishment is meted out to the officer concerned. But once the Court decides in a particular way, we have to carry out the decision of the Court.

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

Then, a reference was made to the item of training of Police Sub-Inspectors of Hyderabad State transferred to the Bombay State, appearing on pages 70 and 71. It seems that an impression has been carried by some hon. Members that these Officers are good for nothing and, therefore, they are to be given some special training. But that is not so. The only thing is that they are not quite conversant with the procedure followed in this State. After all they are also trained officers and they have done work for a certain number of years. So it would be possible for them to pick up a lot of knowledge during the course of their training. After their training is over, they would not necessarily be kept in Marathwada areas but they might ever be sent to other areas where they would also get practical training. So what the hon. Members had in mind would be done.

So far as the training of the officers is concerned, it is done whenever it is necessary.

Then, Sir, a reference was made to pages 74-75 which relates to the Director of the Anti-Corruption Bureau. I am glad that the establishment of this Bureau has met with the approval of the hon. Members opposite. After all, if it is to be a success, we should have officers with experience. An Engineer, for example, knows exactly where corruption is likely to take place in the Engineering Department, or a Sales Tax Officer is likely to know and find out ways and means for prohibiting or avoiding corruption in the areas concerned. So it is the practical experience of trained men that has to be pooled together. They are all full-time officers. As a matter of fact, in one or two cases already the appointment of these officers has enabled us to take action against individual officers of that particular Department. I would not mention that Department. So this is a very desirable thing. After all, so far as corruption is concerned, there are various factors involved. We also know that, when we make any rules or laws, there are intelligent people who equally try to find out ways and means to evade them. This is a sort of a constant feature which is to be found all over the world and we have to evolved a more practical method to root it out that what we had done in the past.

Then a reference was made to the delay in the disposal of one of the cases. After all, if there is any difference of opinion between Government and another party, if it is possible to settle the matter by negotiation it is done, but if it not possible to settle it by negotiations and one has to go to a court of law, then unfortunately it does take some time.

I think, Sir, I have answered all the points raised during the course of the debate and I hope the House will approve of the grant that is asked for.

DEPARTMENT IN CHARGE OF MINISTER FOR PROHIBITION, VILLAGE PANCHAYATS AND COTTAGE INDUSTRIES.

The CHAIRMAN : We shall now take up supplementary demands Nos. 2 and 35 in charge of the Minister for Prohibition, Village Panchayats and Cottage Industries. The relevant pages are 38 and 155, respectively.

Shri A. R. BHAT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, supplementary demand No. 35 at page 158 relates to the contribution to the share capital of Industrial Co-operative Societies, etc. and we find that such a contribution has already been made to the share capital of the Saurashtra Co-operative Spinning Mills, Ltd., Limbdi. This is a very important experiment that is being made in the field of the cotton textile industry. We have already made such an experiment in the field of the sugar industry. So far as my knowledge goes, there is one important spinning mill run on a co-operative basis working in Andhra, which is situated at Guntakal. I find from the explanatory note that the contribution towards the share capital in this case is small. I should, therefore, like to know what the size of the mill is, how many spindles it has, what is the capital structure as a whole and what counts it is going to spin. This is an experiment of far reaching significance in which this House is interested. It is only as a matter of query that I have asked for this information. This is a step in the right direction.

श्री रतुभाई एम्. अदानी (ग्रामोद्योग मंत्री) : सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने सौराष्ट्र कोऑपरेटिव स्पिनिंग मिल्स के बारे में विशेष जानकारी प्राप्त करने की दृष्टि से सवाल रखा है। उसके बारे में मैं सिर्फ इतना ही बतला सकता हूँ कि दो लाख रुपए की रकम कम दिखाई देती है यह बात सही है। लेकिन जो इनवेस्टमेंट के नियम हैं उनके अनुसार ही कोऑपरेटिव सोसायटीज में शेयर कैपिटल रखा जाता है। हैडलूम बोर्ड की ओर से और शासन की ओर से इस सोसायटी को कहा गया था कि वे शेयर कैपिटल के रूप में जितनी रकम एकत्रित करेंगे उतनी ही रकम का, किन्तु १० लाख से अधिक नहीं, शेयर शासन की ओर से खरीद लिए जाएंगे। यहाँ सही है कि ५-६ लाख के शेयर कैपिटल से मिल का काम नहीं हो सकता। इस साल के लिए ५० लाख रुपए की आवश्यकता का अंदाज़ है। इसलिए हमने १० लाख रुपए शेयर कैपिटल में इनवेस्ट करने को सोचा है। लेकिन उसके लिए उसको १० लाख का शेयर कैपिटल बाहर से जमा करना होगा। परन्तु यहाँ पर जो दो लाख रुपए का प्रोविजन है उसके पूर्व भी इस साल के शेयर शासन की ओर से खरीद लिए गए हैं।

मैं माननीय सदस्य की जानकारी के लिए कहना चाहता हूँ कि मिल का कंस्ट्रक्शन हो चुका है, मशीनरी भी उसकी आ चुकी है और उसका काम ठीक से चल रहा है। सौराष्ट्र में जो बुनकर लोग हैं उनकी आवश्यकता को ध्यान में रखकर इस मिल का प्रारंभ हो रहा है। सूत के काउंट के बारे में मैं केवल इतना ही बता सकता हूँ कि सौराष्ट्र में बुनकर लोगों को करघे चलाने के लिए जिस सूत की जरूरत होती है वैसे सूत उसमें बनाया जायगा।

Shri A. R. BHAT: How many spindles has it got?

Shri RATUBHAI M. ADANI: I cannot give the exact figure now.

DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTER FOR FORESTS.

The CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up the demands in charge of the Minister for Forests.

(No comments.)

DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTER FOR CO-OPERATION.

The CHAIRMAN: The demands in charge of the Minister for Co-operation are before the House.

(No comments.)

DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTER FOR PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, ELECTRICITY AND INDUSTRIES.

The CHAIRMAN: We take up now supplementary demands Nos. 23 and 24 in charge of the Minister for Planning, Development, Electricity and Industries. The relevant pages are 127-35 and 136, respectively.

Dr. G. S. KHATR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would refer to demand No. 23 at page 127 where there is a reference to the scheme for decentralisation of certain processes in medium and large scale factories and for establishment of work centres to provide gainful employment and part-time occupation to the villagers. I should say that Government is experimenting in the right direction. The idea is that a particular industry has to give a part of its work to the nearby villagers, so that they may get part-time employment. I am glad that Government has accepted the principle of decentralisation of industries and I hope that it will be carried on further during the course of the next few years. I just wanted to bring to the notice of this House this experiment which Government has undertaken.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not think any reply is at all necessary. I am glad that the hon. Member has appreciated the scheme of decentralisation of industries undertaken by Government.

DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE OF MINISTER FOR EDUCATION.

The CHAIRMAN: We shall now go to Supplementary demands Nos. 16 and 17 in charge of the Minister for Education. The relevant pages are 79-94, respectively.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would refer to the supplementary demand No. 16 at page 79, where there is a reference to the Museum at Baroda. It has been mentioned here that the deterioration of oil paintings worth crores of rupees in the Baroda Picture Gallery had assumed serious proportions and later on it has been pointed out that an expert is necessary for renovating these pictures and keeping them in a good condition. I would like to know as to when Government noticed the deterioration of the pictures worth several crores of rupees. That information may kindly be furnished.

Then, Sir, at page 81 there is a demand for a grant of Rs. 29,731 for the Sardar Vallabhbhai Vidyapeeth. I would like to know whether it is for the first time that such a grant is given, because the figure of grant here is only Rs. 29,000, while in the Budget the grant shown is Rs. 1 lakh. I would like to have some explanation in this matter.

On the same page there is reference to a grant of Rs. 1 lakh to Dr. Karve Centenary Celebration Fund, and I congratulate Government on its giving its contribution to that Fund.

[Dr. V. D. Sathaye]

Then, Sir, at page 82, a reference is made to a non-recurring grant to the Phaltan Education Society for the development of the Mudhoji Arts College, Phaltan. We would like to know whether there is any special consideration shown to such societies. What is the consideration shown in giving such grants? Are such grants given to all such societies or are there any special reasons for giving such a grant to this society?

Shri S. L. OGALÉ: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am referring to page 79. It is about the National Parks and Gardens. The demand is made in respect of expenditure over the additional staff sanctioned for this department. The reasons given are:—

"The work is peculiar and complicated in nature. Besides, it involves survey work, land acquisition, preservation of existing trees, land scaping, etc."

I am stressing the last two reasons, namely, preservation of existing trees, land scaping, etc. But the staff that is appointed consists of Senior Accounts clerk, Divisional Accountant, Junior Clerks, Senior Clerks, Overseers and Computers. I would like to know which particular of these employees is going to look after the peculiar and complicated work of preservation of existing trees and land scaping. There is no particular person who seems to have been appointed for that particular work. The staff that is appointed consists of Senior Accounts Clerk, Divisional Account, Junior Clerks, etc. who are not expected to do this complicated work as it is stated.

Then, Sir, I congratulate Government on its having given a grant of Rs. 1 lac to the S. N. D. T. Women's University towards Dr. Karve Centenary Celebration Fund. I also congratulate Government on its giving two separate grants of Rs. 1 lac each to the educational institutions that are carrying on educational activities at Delhi, the Delhi Maharashtra Education Society and the Gujarat Education Society. What I want to know, is, what is the principle underlying the giving of grants. Is it that grants are given to those institutions because they are not getting any grants from the Delhi Corporation or the Central Government or is it because that the grants that they are receiving are inadequate or is it because that these grants are given to these institutions in special appreciation of the work that they are doing at far away places like Delhi? There are similar institutions like these doing good work in the field of education in Madras, Bangalore and Calcutta. I want to know whether Government will give grants to these institutions also. Is that the principle behind it?

Then, Sir, I would like to refer to page 88. It is about the Milk Commissioner who has been allowed by Government to incur expenditure on account of supply of tins and repacking thereof and on transportation in respect of the scheme of UNICEF Skim Milk Powder to children in primary schools in Bombay. I have nothing to say against that. But it seems that this adjustment is now being made in respect of the expenditure incurred during the last three years. It is for the years 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58. This adjustment is being made during this year. I want to know why such

[Shri S. L. Ogale]

adjustments are not made year by year. Why such adjustment was not made immediately in the next year? So far as the adjustment in respect of the year 1957-58 is concerned, I have nothing to say. Why were adjustments in respect of the years 1955-56 and 1956-57 not made during the previous two years? I would like to know that. That is all that I have to say.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am referring to page 79 which relates to the expenditure incurred in connection with the restoration of internationally famous paintings in the museum of Baroda. What I want to say is that similar occasions may arise in future and, therefore, it would be better if Government would make some arrangement of having our painters as assistants to the experts that have come here, so that these painters would be trained in that type of work. It is a question of national honour and pride that we should have our own experts to take care of our own treasures. We have a tradition in the past of art, painting, and frescoes and it is not in keeping with the respect that our painters are not able to renovate and do painting work.

Then, there is another demand with regard to the Sardar Vallabhbhai Vidyapeeth to which some grant has been given by Government. On a point of information, I would like to know from Government whether, as was originally planned in the Act, Hindi has been introduced as a medium of instruction in that Vidyapeeth. This is just by way of information.

श्री. अ. अ. शिंदे (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असंब्लीने निवडलेले): पुरवणी मागणी पुस्तकाच्या ७९ व्या पानावर १६ वी जी मागणी आहे तिच्या संबंधी मला काही सूचना करावयाच्या आहेत. ह्या मागणीप्रमाणे अलिफंटा, सिहगड ह्या ठिकाणी नॅशनल पार्क तयार करण्यासाठी ही मागणी करण्यात आली आहे. ह्याच धर्तीची आणखी एक बाग तयार करणे अचित्त होऊन, आणि ती महाबळेश्वरजवळ प्रतापगड येथे करता येण्यासारखी आहे. प्रतापगडावर श्री शिवाजी महाराजांच्या पुतळ्याचे अनावरण नुकतेच करण्यात आले आहे, आणि त्याच ठिकाणी जर अशी एक नॅशनल पार्क तयार करण्यात आली तर ती जास्त सोयीची होऊन असे मला वाटते. तेव्हा या दृष्टीने सरकारने विचार करावा असे मला सुचवावयाचे आहे.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI (Minister for Education): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very glad that certain items have been welcomed by the hon. Members of this House.

With regard to the question of European Oil paintings in the Baroda Picture Gallery at Baroda, as a matter of fact, when the expert came here, I personally had a talk with him in the matter as suggested by the hon. Member Dr. Khair and I told him "Please see that our men are also trained". It is really our anxiety to see that our men are trained. This defect was noticed about 2 years ago and ultimately we thought it would be better if we remedy it. We shall certainly see that, in future, adequate facilities are given to our men.

[Shri Hitendra Desai]

As regards the National Parks and Gardens, the hon. Member wanted to know how the staff actually sanctioned could do anything for the preservation of existing trees and land scapings. In this connection, I would like to draw the hon. Member's attention to the next sentence "The existing establishment of the office of the Superintendent, Parks and Gardens, Bombay, being inadequate to deal with the technical, clerical and accounting work, involved for the implementation of the programme for the three schemes, the following additional staff has been sanctioned....." It is very clear from this that the additional staff that was required for the clerical and accounting work was involved in the implementation of the programme.

A point was raised with regard to the grant-in-aid to the Sardar Vallabhbhai Vidyapeeth. In this connection I may point out that Government has decided that a grant-in-aid of Rs. 29,731, equal to the actual deficit in the accounts of the Vidyapeeth for the period from 15th December 1956 to 30th June 1957, should be paid during the current financial year. So, this amount is for the actual deficit between the period 15th December 1956, to 30th June 1957, and that was decided to be paid during the current financial year. Henceforth, as the hon. Member rightly pointed out, different provisions exist in the budget for the year 1958-59. But it is proposed to give a grant-in-aid to this University on the same basis on which grants are paid to the other Universities. As a matter of fact the House may be aware that it was decided that grants will not be paid to this University for the first two years. After the completion of 2 years on 15th December 1956, this grant has been paid and, therefore, a supplementary demand for Rs. 29,731 has been asked for.

Then a reference was made to the non-recurring grants given to M. S. University of Baroda and Phaltan Education Society. I might tell the hon. Members that no special favour is being shown to these institutions, and, as a matter of fact, they actually come from the ex-States. So far as the other institutions are concerned, their financial condition is sound and so the question of sanctioning non-recurring grants to them does not arise at all. That is all that I have to say.

DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL SUPPLIES, HOUSING, PRINTING PRESS AND FISHERIES.

The CHAIRMAN: Now we take up the supplementary demands in charge of the Hon. Minister for Civil Supplies, Housing, Printing Press and Fisheries. They are supplementary demands Nos. 25, 30 and 39 and the relevant pages are 137-139, 147-149 and 167 respectively.

Shri P. B. PATWARI: Sir, it is no doubt true that the work of the printing presses has increased tremendously but it seems that there are two things which have not been adequately dealt with by Government. Whenever we go to the Government Printing Press or a Book Depot for any Government publication,

[Shri P. B. Patwari]

we have to face the two stock phrases: "out of stock" and "out of Print". It has become practically impossible to overcome these two hurdles. Whenever an important publication is out, we rush to the Printing Press or a Depot and the reply which we invariably get is either it is out of print or it is out of stock. I think that the enthusiastic Hon. Minister like Shri Kazi, who is in charge of this Department, would readily agree that wider the publicity of Government publications, the better is for the progress of the State. I, therefore, need not dilate more on this point. The complaint of the public is that there is not adequate co-ordination between the demand of the public and the supply of the Government publications at the right time and, therefore, many people are disappointed. I hope that the Hon. Minister will see that this grievance of the public is redressed as early as possible.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I refer to page 147 where a special demand is made for the increased load of work put on the Government presses. I am not opposing the demand at all but I am repeating one demand that I made during the last session and which has not been heeded by Government in spite of an assurance given on the floor of this House by the Hon. Minister in charge of this Department. It is that the pages of the Gazette are not cut at all. I have brought here one specimen to show how difficult and inconvenient it becomes for us to read even a few pages of it. Last year also I had made this very request and then the Hon. Minister had stated in his reply as follows:—

"A third hon. Member made a very good suggestion to avoid inconvenience to hon. Members of cutting the pages of the Gazette. I hope that in future there will be no room for such a complaint."

This was the reply given in July 1957 and thereafter so many months have elapsed. I was waiting every day to see that the day will come when I will receive the Gazette properly cut. But that day has not yet dawned. I can, therefore, do no better than repeat the same request in the hope that at least this time the Hon. Minister will issue the necessary orders and see that they are properly implemented. That is all I have to say.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ : માનનીય સભાપતિજી, પાના ૧૬૭ ઉપર પચાસ લાખ રૂપિયાની જે માગણી કરવામાં આવી છે તે અંગે હું બોલવા ઉભો થયો છું. રૂ. ૫૦ લાખની કિંમતનું ૨૦ હજાર ૨૮૦ અનાજ-બાજરી અને જાવાર-મરાઠવાડા અને વિદર્ભ જેવા છત્તવાળા વિસ્તારોમાંથી ખરીદીને અછતવાળા વિસ્તારોમાં કામ કરતા મજૂરોને પૂરું પાડવા સરકાર માગે છે. સરકાર આ અનાજ સહકારી સોસાયટીઓ મારફત તથા ઓપન મારકેટમાંથી ખરીદવા માગે છે. સરકાર વધારે અનાજ નથી ખરીદવા માગતી એનું મુખ્ય કારણ એજ આપવામાં આવે છે કે જે સરકાર અનાજ વધુ ખરીદશે તો મારકેટ અપસેટ થઈ જશે, ભાવ વધી જશે. સવાલ એ છે કે સરકાર આજે જ્યારે આ અનાજ ખરીદવા નીકળી છે તે અનાજ મોટા ભાગે વચલો વેપારી વર્ગ અને જથ્થાબંધ વેપારીઓ પાસેથી ખરીદવાની છે. જ્યારે જ્યારે અનાજની સ્કેસીટી ઉભી થતી હોય છે ત્યારે આ જ વેપારીઓ અનાજનું હોડીંગ કરતા હોય છે અને કટોકટીનો લાભ લેતા હોય છે. જે વખતે અનાજ ખેડૂતના ઘસમાં આવે છે, એટલે કે જ્યારે અનાજનો પાક થાય છે ત્યારે અનાજના ભાવો ઊંચી જાય છે અને જે લોકોની આર્થિક સ્થિતિ સધર છે અથવા તો જમને સરકારી લોન મળી શકે છે એવો વર્ગ

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

આ અનાજ ખરીદવા લાગે છે. અને ત્યાર પછી આ અનાજના ભાવ વધારવામાં આવે છે. અત્યારે તો એવી સ્થિતિ છે કે કોઈપણ ઠેકાણે—પછી તે વિદેશ લોય કે મરાઠવાડા લોય તો પણ—અનાજનું હોર્ડિંગ સ્વાભાવિક બન્યું છે, કારણકે બીજા વિભાગો અને પ્રદેશોમાં તો અછત છે જ. સરકાર કોઈપણ જાતના પ્રાઈસ કન્ટ્રોલ માટે કે અનાજના થતા હોર્ડિંગ સામે કોઈ પગલાં લેતી નથી એટલે આ રીતે સરકાર મોટા ધંધાધારીઓ માટે ખુલ્લું મેદાન રાખે છે. સરકાર જ્યારે વીસ હજાર ટન અનાજ ખરીદવા માગે છે ત્યારે એને આ જ હોર્ડિંગ પાસે ખરીદવા જવું પડે છે, મોઘા ભાવે અનાજ ખરીદવું પડે છે. મુખ્ય સવાલ તો એ છે કે સરકારે પોતે અનાજનો સ્ટોક રાખવાની વ્યવસ્થા કરવી જોઈએ. આજે આપણે સૌ જાણીએ છીએ કે આપણા રાજ્યને દર વરસે દસ લાખ ટન અનાજ જરૂરી પાડે છે. આ ઇતિહાસ આપણી નજર સમક્ષ હોવા છતાં સરકાર બીજા વરસને માટે અનાજ પૂરું પાડી શકે એ માટે સ્ટોક રાખવા માટે લક્ષ રાખતી નથી. આજે ખેડૂતોની દુર્દશા થઈ રહી છે. આજે એ લોકો અનાજનું જે ઉત્પાદન કરે છે એના પૂરતા ભાવો પણ એને મળતા નથી. આ જે જથ્થાબંધ વેપારીઓ છે, જે આ હોર્ડિંગ છે તે આ ગરીબ ખેડૂતોનો લાભ લે છે. હકીકતે સરકારે અનાજના ભાવ ફીક્સ કરવા જોઈએ અને ખેડૂતને એના ઉત્પાદનના ભાવ વ્યાજબી મળી રહે અને એનો કોઈ ખોટો લાભ ન ઉઠાવે એવી વ્યવસ્થા કરવી જોઈએ. સરકારે સૌથી પહેલાં આ પગલું લેવું જોઈએ અને બીજા વરસને માટે સ્ટોક પણ રાખવો જોઈએ. સાથોસાથ ફેમીન કન્ડીશન ઉભી ન થાય એ માટેનાં પગલાં પણ લેવાં જોઈએ.

સરકાર આજે જે ભાવે અનાજ ખરીદવા માગે છે તે ભાવ ઉંચા છે, કારણકે આજે જુવાર અને બાજરાના ભાવ વધેલા છે. એટલે આર્થિક રીતે મોટું નુકશાન સરકાર વેપારીઓના ક્ષયમાં સહન કરી રહી છે. અને એ નુકશાનના પૈસાનો બોજો પ્રજા ઉપર જ પડવાનો છે. સરકારની આજની જે નીતિ છે એમાં કોઈ વ્યવસ્થા નથી. ખેડૂતોને એના ઉત્પાદનની વસ્તુના પૂરા ભાવ મળી રહે એ માટેનો કોઈ બંદોબસ્ત નથી. ભાવો પર કંટ્રોલ કે આવી પડનારી મુશીબત માટે કોઈપણ વ્યવસ્થા નથી. પચાસ લાખ રૂપિયાનું અનાજ ટ્રેડર્સ મારફત ખરીદવાની સરકારની જે આ નીતિ છે તે નીતિ આ ટ્રેડર્સને ઉંચે રાખવાની સરકારની જે પોલીસી છે એનું પ્રતિબિંબ છે. એટલે આ ૫૦ લાખ રૂપિયાની જે ડીમાન્ડ કરવામાં આવી છે તે વ્યાજબી નથી.

શ્રી. એમ. બી. ગાયકવાડ : અધ્યક્ષ મહારાજ, પુરવણી માગણીઓના પુસ્તકાચ્યા ૧૬૭૪ પાનાવર ગ્રેન સપ્લાય સ્કીમ્સ હા સદરાસાલી નં. ૩૧ થી જી માગણી કરણ્યાંત આલી આહે ત્યાબાવત માણે વિચાર માંડણ્યાસાઠીં મી અમા આહે.

દુષ્કાળગ્રસ્ત ભાગાંતીલ મજુરાંના ધાન્ય પુરવિણ્યાસાઠીં ૨૦ હજાર ટન જ્વારી અષાઢધા બાજારાંત ખરેદી કરણ્યાંત સરકારને ઠરવિલેં આહે. હ્યાસાઠીં ૫૦ લક્ષ રૂપયે સર્વ કરણ્યાંત યેનાર આહેત. દુષ્કાળગ્રસ્તાંના ધાન્ય પુરવિણ્યાબાવત આમચા વિરોધ નાહીં, પળ ધાન્ય પુરવઠાચાચા બાબતીંત સરકારને નેહમીં જ અલટે સુલટે ધોરણ દિસૂત યેતેં ત્યામુલેં એક પ્રકારચી મીતિં વાટતે. ધાન્ય પુરવિણ્યાચા પ્રશ્ન મુખ્યતઃ કોળત્યા લોકાંચા બાબતીંત યેતો ? જ્યા લોકાંના મોકલધા બાજારાંત ધાન્ય વિકત ઘેળેં પરવડત નાહીં, અશા ગોરગરીબ શેતકચાંના આણિ મજુરાંના સ્વસ્ત ધાન્ય પુરવિણ્યાચી પ્રામુખ્યાનેં આવશ્યકતા અસતે. તેવ્હાં હા સર્વસાધારણ ગરીબ લોકાંચા ગરજેચા પ્રશ્ન આહે. ત્યાંતલ્યા ત્યાંત દુષ્કાળગ્રસ્તાંચી ગરજ નિકડીચી અસતે વ ત્યાંના ધાન્યપુરવઠાચી જેવ્હાં ખરોચરી ગરજ અસતે ત્યાવેઢીં હોણ્યાચી

[શ્રી. એમ. બી. ગાયકવાડ]

જરૂરી અસતે. પળ હ્યાહિં બાબતીંત સરકારચા હલગર્જીપણા દિસૂત યેતો. ઑક્ટોબર મહિન્યાંત આમચા ભાગાંત દુષ્કાળ પડલા હોતા તેવ્હાં સરકારનેં હા ભાગ દુષ્કાળી ભાગ મ્હળૂત જાહીર કરાવા અસા લોકાંનીં અર્જ કેલા આણિ સરકારનેં માર્ચ મહિન્યાંત તો ભાગ દુષ્કાળી ભાગ મ્હળૂત જાહીર કેલા. મ્હળજે પહિલે પાંચ મહિને તર નુસતે અર્જાચા વિચાર કરણ્યાં-તચ ગેલે. અતલકયા વેઢપર્યંત ત્યા લોકાંના ધાન્ય પુરવિણ્યાચી કાંહીં એક વ્યવસ્થા કેલેલી નવ્હતી. ત્યાંતર જૂનલા પગસ પડેપર્યંતચા કાળ હોતા. તોંપર્યંત સરકાર ધાન્ય ખરેદી કરણાર કેવ્હાં આણિ લોકાંના મિઝણાર કેવ્હાં તેવ્હાં ધાન્ય પુરવઠાચાચા બાબતીંત સરકારચા કારભાર આહે. તેવ્હાં એવઢા મોઢા ખર્ચ કરૂન ખરેદી કેલેલી જ્વારી દુષ્કાળગ્રસ્તાંચા પદરાંત કેવ્હાં પડેલ યાચી મલા શંકા વાટતે.

દુષ્કાળ ગ્રસ્તાંના પ્રશ્ન સોઢલા તર શહરાંતીલ ગોરગરિબાંના સરકાર જે ધાન્ય પુરવિણેં તે નેમકે ત્યાંચા ગરજેપેશાં નિરાલેચ અસતે. ગોરગરીબ એરવ્હીંહિ સળાવારાચેરીજ તાંદૂલ આણિ ગૂંદાં સાત નાહીંત, કારણ ત્યાંના તો પરવડત નાહીં. ત્યાંનેં નેહમીંચેં અન્ન જ્વારી આણિ બાજરી હેં અસતે. પળ ત્યાંના જ્વારીચી જરૂરી અસતાંના સરકારી ધાન્યાચા દુકાનાંત સરકાર તાંદૂલ આણિ ગૂંદાં ઠેવતે. બરેં, તાંદૂલ આણિ ગૂંદાં તરી નેહમી મિઝતાત અસેં મ્હળાવેં તર તસેંહિ હોત નાહીં. તાંદૂલ આહે તર ગૂંદાં નાહીં આણિ ગૂંદાં આહે તર તાંદૂલ નાહીં અશી. નેહમીં સ્થિતિ દિસૂત યેતે. મોઢાલ્યા શહરાંચી મોષ્ટ વેગઢી આહે, લહાન શહરેં આણિ ગ્રામીણ વિભાગાંતીલ લોકાંચી ફાર પંચાબીત હોતે. સરકારી દુકાનેં ચાલવાત્રયાલા ઘેતલીં તર વેઢેવર ધાન્ય પુરવઠા હોત નસલ્યામુલેં લોક હીં દુકાનેં ચાલવિણ્યાસ ઘેણ્યાસ તયાર હોત નાહીંત.

તેવ્હાં હ્યા માગણીચા બાબતીંત મલા હીંચ મીતિ વાટત આહે. કીં જ્યા વેઢીં દુષ્કાળી કામાવર મજૂર નસતીલ અગા વેઢીં જર સરકારનેં હેં ધાન્ય મ્હળજે જ્વારી ખરેદી કેલી તર તિચા કાય અપયોગ હોણાર આહે. શિવાય, ધાન્ય પુરવઠાચા હા પ્રશ્ન સધ્યાં દુષ્કાળ-ગ્રસ્તાંપુરતાચ મર્યાદિત નાહીં. ધાન્યાચા ટંચાબીમુલેં સગઢીકડેચ ગોરગરિબાંના ધાન્ય મિઝળેં મુશ્કિલીચેં હોજૂન બસલેં આહે. અશા પરિસ્થિતીંત સર્વાનાચ લોક જે અન્ન રોજ સાતાત તે પુરવિણ્યાસાઠીં સરકારનેં માગણી કેલી અસતી તર તેં મી સમજૂં શકલોં અસતોં. પળ જ્યા અર્થી સરકારનેં દુષ્કાળગ્રસ્ત ભાગાકરતા હીં માગણી કેલી આહે ત્યા અર્થી હ્યા જ્વારીચા દુષ્કાળી મજુરાંના ખરોચરી કસા વ કિતપત અપયોગ હોણાર આહે. યાબાવત નામવાર મંચ્યાંનીં ખુલાસા કરાવા અશી વિનંતિ કરૂન મી રજા ઘેતોં.

શ્રી. એચ. બી. મિઝે (મુંબઈ લેજિસ્લેટિવ્હ અસેમ્બલીનેં નિવડલેલે) : માનનીય અધ્યક્ષ મહારાજ, ૧૬૭ વ્યા પાનાવર જી ૩૧ થી માગણી કરણ્યાંત આલી આહે તિચ્યાસંબંધીં મલા સરકારલા કાંહીં સૂચના કરાવયાચા આહેત. હ્યા માગણીમધ્યે ૨૦ હજાર ટન જ્વારી ખરેદી કરણ્યાસાઠીં ૫૦ લક્ષ રૂપયે ખર્ચ કરણ્યાંત સરકારનેં ઠરવિલેં આહે. લેડધાપાડધ્યાં-તીલ લોક જ્વારી વ બાજરીવર જીવન જગત અસલ્યામુલેં મલા સરકારલા અસેં સુચવા-વયાચેં આહે કીં, સરકારનેં નુસતી જ્વારી ખરેદી ન કરતાં બાજરીહિ ખરેદી કરાવી.

યાસંબંધાનેં દુસરી એક સૂચના કરાવયાચી આહે કીં, સરકારનેં જ્વારી કિવા બાજરી અશા તન્હેનેં ખરેદી કરણ્યાઅંબજીં સરકાર શેતકચાંના જે બીબિયાળેં પુરવિણેં ત્યાચી પરતફેડ કરૂન ઘેતાંના તી યા પેશાચા રૂપાનેં ન ઘેતાં ધાન્યાચા રૂપાનેં કરૂન ધ્યાવી. અસેં કેલેં મ્હળજે નિરાલધા રીતીનેં જ્વારી, બાજરી કિવા તાંદૂલ ખરેદી કરાવી ન લાગતાં આપોં-આપ સરકારલા હેં ધાન્ય મિઝૂં શકેલ. સરકારનેં મી કેલેલ્યા સૂચનેચા વિચાર કરાવા અશી વિનંતિ કરૂન મી રજા ઘેતોં.

Shri LALLUBHAI K. MANTAR (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would refer to page 167 where a supplementary demand is made for a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs for the purpose of purchasing coarse grains for feeding labour engaged on scarcity works and their families. The labour engaged on scarcity works must be about 4 to 5 lakhs. I may mention that about five to six months of the agricultural year have already passed. Now Government proposes to purchase about 20,000 tons of jowar, which means that it will be able to feed for four months about 5 lakhs of people. I do not think that the people engaged on scarcity works have been benefited by this and I feel that the amount asked for is excessive.

Then, Sir, I would refer to supplementary demand No. 25. I would particularly refer to the item of Fair Price Shops Scheme in Bombay City. It will be seen that the expenditure shown on card writing is Rs. 44,000 the number of cards being 6 lakhs. Over and above that, a huge expenditure is incurred on officers and other staff engaged for the purpose. The staff involved is 116 clerks, 50 peons, 22 watchmen, etc. In my opinion this expenditure is also excessive.

Shri S. G. KAZI (Minister for Civil Supplies, Housing, Printing Press and Fisheries): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will first of all dispose of the two points regarding the press and printing and sort of cutting remarks regarding the cutting gazette itself. It is quite correct that some of the publications of this Department are out of stock and also out of print, and that relates mostly to the various Acts and rules and some of the reports themselves. Now, Sir a sort of a distinction is drawn here. In the case of the laws which are now to be finalised and which are being integrated, those reports are not likely to be printed, the laws and the rules as well. For the rest of it, care is being taken to see that this complaint, which appears to a certain extent to be a genuine one, does not arise again. The matter is not only being examined but instructions are also in the stage of execution.

As far as the gazette is concerned, we first thought that it was a very easy affair because, after all, we could get a machine, get the gazette cut and send it over, but sometimes even for a small thing foreign exchange always comes in our way. So, the question was whether to wait for foreign exchange or to have the gazette cut by our own press. Any way, as I said, there will be no cause for such a complaint in future.

Shri H. B. BHIDE: Last time the Hon. Minister was different. Such an undertaking was given at that time.

Shri S. G. KAZI: An assurance was given that such a complaint would not arise in future. However, a realistic view of the matter should be taken. The hon. Member has not taken any realistic view (interruption). Therefore, should I also withdraw my assurance? Any way, we are just making an attempt to purchase a machine, and if the Government of India facilitates our purchase of such a machinery, we will certainly buy it. We want to avoid any trouble or inconvenience that is caused.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ: The Aurangabad Division has made it a success.

An Hon. MEMBER: I think such machines are available in India.

Shri S. G. KAZI: I have yet heard of that. I have heard that they are trying to manufacture.

The next question is regarding the purchase of jowar and we have made a demand for Rs. 50 lacs for that purpose. The criticism that has been levelled here appears to be entirely unwarranted. This jowar is purchased for the workers in the scarcity areas. There is no question of a price support. There is no such thing as a drage on the market and it is not that Government is purchasing this jowar to avoid a depression in the market. When there is a depression in the market, cultivators have to sell their goods at a lower rate and hence all the traders purchase the goods, and when the prices go up they come in the market and make a big profit. This is an altogether different question. The point which we are considering now is whether the workers who are working in the scarcity areas should be provided with foodgrains at a reasonable prices. They have got to be provided with foodgrains, because the workers who are working in the scarcity areas have not got that purchasing power to purchase their foodgrains when the price of jowar is high as others have. Therefore, today when the price of jowar is not so high, Government is purchasing this jowar for those workers. On the other hand, we are receiving complaints that the prices are going down. My hon. Friend who is sitting opposite to me stated that the prices are very high today and since Government is entering the market to purchase 20,000 tons of jowar, the prices of jowar will go up. He further suggested that this action on the part of Government is not proper. I am sorry to say, Sir, that my hon. Friend never tried to know or ascertain from anybody or read those comments in the papers which are appearing every day that the prices of jowar are going down in Vidarbha area Marathawada, Ahmedabad and Sholapur. Therefore, this is a proper time when we should enter the market with the sole object of purchasing jowar, so that it will be within the means of the workers in the scarcity areas to avail themselves of the foodgrains. Secondly, there is another advantage and that advantage is that, when Government enters into the market, the prices are to some extent stabilized. That is our experience. When we are actually purchasing jowar, the prices of jowar are not very low they are not very high also. We see that it is a downward trend. Therefore, indirectly it may be a sort of price support. But it is not with that view that we have entered in the market. Therefore I will not enter into those questions as to what Government should do as far as prices are concerned and when Government should purchase.

There is another point that was raised in this connection. It has been stated that Government moves very slowly and wakes up after the event itself. It is also said "You have come before us to ask for Rs. 50 lacs now, it will take 4 or 5 months more and then you will go in the market to purchase jowar by which time the prices will go up". Sir, I would request the hon. Member to read the explanatory note which is given on page 167, where

Wednesday, the 5th March, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 5th March, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published)

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET.

The CHAIRMAN : We shall take up the general discussion of the Budget. Three days have been assigned for the general discussion of the Budget, namely, 5th, 7th and 8th March. On the 8th, that is Saturday, we shall meet in the morning and sit for about three hours. So we will have for the discussion about 12 hours. Out of these, two hours will be set apart for the final reply, which means that we will have about 10 hours for general discussion for hon. Members. I do not want to put any time limit on the speeches, but I would request hon. Members to adjust their speeches bearing in mind that many hon. Members will be anxious to take part in the discussion.

Dr. D. D. KARVE (Maharashtra-Graduates) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will start with some general remarks on the Budget and then proceed to the special remarks which I wish to offer on the Budget, especially of the Education Department.

Sir, a tax on motor transport and a tax on passengers and goods has been proposed and I am afraid it is going to hit the poor man very hard. I quite realise that States must not have large deficits in their budgets and that the whole economy of the country will be affected if the States begin to have very large deficits. It is, therefore, necessary for the States either to cut down their expenditure within the limits of their income or, as the Hon. Minister for Finance has done, to levy new taxes to raise the income.

In the first place, unless the income that is available is properly utilised and you can show that the administration of Government is being carried on efficiently, I do not think that you have the moral right to levy any tax. Yesterday we had a discussion about the inordinate delay in pension payments, but my charge of inefficiency applies to almost every single Government body. The reason for that, as far as I can see, is that the heads of offices and the heads of Departments are not careful enough to keep a track on the matters that come before the head concerned. They usually make a remark calling for papers or asking for a draft reply and then the file leaves. They do not have any record of the numbers of files that are expected on a particular day. Let us say, about three days are taken for collection of information or for putting up the papers, or for putting up drafts of replies, but they do not have any record so as to be able to check up on this, and unless and until that file automatically comes to them or the person who has put up that particular case sends a reminder, the matter just remains unattended. That is my experience,

[Dr. D. D. Karve]

and that is the experience of almost everybody who has to deal with a Government office, and, therefore, I say that, unless you can lay your hand on your heart and say that you have speeded up the efficiency in administration to the extent that you are utilising every pie given by the taxpayer in the best possible manner, then and then only you will be able to justify the levy of additional tax. I am afraid, therefore, I shall not be able to agree to this tax. However, as I see, the tax is coming, and, therefore, I am making one suggestion.

When a similar tax was levied on railway transport last year, the short distance travellers were exempted and there was a gradation in such a way that the season ticket holders, for instance, got some advantage. Similarly, travellers from the suburbs who travel by State Transport buses should be exempted and only long distance travellers may be made to bear the additional tax. That, as I say, would be the lesser of the two evils.

Having made these general remarks, I now come to the particular field to which I wish to devote a little more attention, and that is the budget of the Education Department. For the convenience of hon. Members, I might say that I shall devote more attention to pages 312 onwards of the White Book and also to the corresponding pages in the Blue Book which, unfortunately, I have not got here. These books are so bulky that, to carry them, if I may say so, is really a muscular feat.

The first thing, Sir, that I may say, on a point of information, is that it is unfortunate that the Hon. Minister for Education is not here, but the Hon. Finance Minister, I hope, will communicate my points to his Cabinet Colleague.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : He is in the lower House ; he will shortly be in attendance here.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : I am referring now to sub-item C under IA "Grants to non-Government Arts Colleges". The Budget estimate for 1957-58 is Rs. 15,42,000 and the revised estimate is given as Rs. 26,53,000. I think there is some mistake here because, if you will refer to the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure at page 82, under the same head "Grants-in-aid to non-Government Arts Colleges", it is stated—

"The provision of Rs. 15,42,000 available in the current year's budget for grants to non-Government Colleges, including grants to the Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute, Poona, is inadequate for grants to all the non-Government Colleges in all the areas forming part of the new State of Bombay....."

Therefore, a supplementary demand for Rs. 13,16,000 is voted. Now, the total of these together is given rightly here as Rs. 28,58,000, but in this column, under revised estimates, only Rs. 26,53,000 is given. It may be a misprint or it may be that I am making a mistake. I will assume that it is Rs. 28,58,000 and renew my argument.

Having cleared this minor point, I shall divide my remarks about expenditure on education into two parts — the grant for high schools and grant for colleges. I have here the Grant-in-aid Code for schools and colleges issued by

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Government, according to which the grants to non-Government schools and non-Government colleges are regulated. Now, Sir, it is well known that the Grant-in-Aid Code puts down restrictions on schools on almost every matter conceivable; hours, time-table, teacher's salary, number of periods the teachers should work, how many teachers and how many classes there should be — all these are included, which means that both the income and expenditure of the schools is fixed by rules. Then the percentage of grant is also fixed. It is 33½ per cent. in rural areas and 30 per cent. in urban areas. Now, Sir, simple arithmetic will show that with an income which is limited by rules, for the fees are regulated and no school can go beyond the maximum without forgoing the whole of the grant. But, at the same time it must pay salary to the teachers in a certain scale of pay and also give them Provident Fund and this and that. So, as far as the schools are concerned the position has become impossible. We have a saying in Marathi "आई जेऊ घालीना अन्, बाप भीक मागू देईना" (i.e. the mother does not give you food and the father prevents you from begging). So, starving is the only alternative left. In the lower House, some two days back, I understand that the Hon. Minister for Education explained that Government cannot pay any extra money to the non-Government high schools and the schools must find on their own funds. I do not agree with that position. But even granting that position, if the schools are to find out moneys to meet their expenditure, then Government must remove the restriction on the maximum fees to be charged, if Government cannot pay any extra money by way of grants-in-aid. The only source of income for the schools other than Government Grant is the fees. It is a fundamental fact which must be realised that no school has moneys other than fees and grants-in-aid for meeting its recurring expenditure. Some schools may have capital funds for construction of buildings for schools. That also is practically rare, because of the gift tax and income-tax restrictions. Certain schools may have funds by way of building funds. Some schools may be having some endowment funds for giving scholarships to students. But for meeting the recurring expenditure, fees and Government grants are the only two sources. This fundamental position must now be clearly recognised by Government and if that is recognised and if Government is not in a position to increase the grants-in-aid for want of funds, then the schools must be free to raise their fees without forgoing the grants-in-aid. That is at least a logical conclusion. The Scheduled Castes children are getting scholarships. Then there are freeships for good students and for the backward class students. Then, there is a provision that every school must grant five per cent. of free studentships out of its own reserves. So, poor and deserving students are being taken care of by Government and the only class that is left is of those who can afford to pay. But, then, you put restrictions on the schools and say "You shall not raise the fee beyond a particular limit otherwise grants will not be paid to you". Therefore, I submit that Government must loosen the restrictions regarding the fees or increase the grants. These are the only two alternatives before Government. If Government cannot increase the grants, Government should not say "We shall not give you grants, and we shall compel you to charge only those fees."

Now, I come to the Colleges. Here the position is still more peculiar. I crave the indulgence of the House for going into some more details in the case of Colleges, because the position has been made so intricate that even I,

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who was a College Principal for several years, took some time to understand the implications of the rules and actually put my finger on how these rules, which I call cat and mouse rules work. They are so framed as to reduce the grant to a minimum and also to make it impossible for the College to get even the full benefit of the grant given to it. I shall explain myself a little more in detail. First, let me make a comparison.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member may not take more time. There are other several hon. Members who want to speak.

Dr. D. D. KARVE: I shall finish within 10 minutes, Sir.

In the Bombay State, there are about 20 Government Arts and Science Colleges and nearly 75 non-Government Arts and Science Colleges which are run by private Organisations. Now, the budget provision for Government Colleges is Rs. 61 lacs and deducting about Rs. 22 lacs, which is on the receipt side for fees, etc. the net expenditure from the public funds comes to Rs. 39 lacs. The provision made in the Budget for 1958-59 for non-Government colleges of Arts is Rs. 20 lacs! Now, Sir, for 75 non-Government Arts Colleges the grants-in-aid proposed is Rs. 20 lacs. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the figures which I coated just now. In the revised estimates the figure is Rs. 28 lacs and the reason given is that Government found it impossible to give grants to all the non-Government colleges which are deserving and increased the last year's Budget provision of Rs. 15 lacs by asking for extra provision of Rs. 13 lacs to Rs. 28 lacs. But this year Government is coming before this House for a sanction of Rs. 20 lacs only. I do not know whether the so many colleges have disappeared or what has happened to them. In the meanwhile, I for one do not know how, if in the last year Government required Rs. 28 lacs, during this year the figure can be reduced by over 25 per cent. and go down to Rs. 20 lacs. Rs. 20 lacs is most inadequate. And what is the reason? The reason is that the scales of salaries in Government colleges are double and in some cases even more than the scales of salaries in non-Government colleges. Why should there be disparity? The senior typists and clerks in non-Government institutions and Government offices are getting the same salary. The same would apply to Engineers, Doctors, etc. But, apparently, the teachers in non-Government institutions alone have to make the sacrifice and, therefore, a sum of Rs. 20 lacs is offered to non-Government colleges as grant-in-aid. Here, again, I would like to draw the attention of Government to this fundamental position that I have mentioned in the case of schools and even colleges, namely, they have to depend upon the fee receipts and Government grants for their recurring expenditure. No donor has yet come forward to say "Well, here is some money for your recurring expenditure and you can meet your deficit". So, that is the position.

Then, I come to the rules framed in this regard. Those are most funny rules. In the first place, the only expenditure that is admitted for the purpose of giving grants is the expenditure on the academic side. We talk about the need for hostels, and need for providing amenities to students. None of that is an admissible item of expenditure. The admissible expenditure is that

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which is incurred on the academic side, that is, teachers' salaries, library and so on. Even the expenditure incurred on the cycle stands for the students is not an admissible expenditure for the purpose of getting grants.

Then, I come to the other funny thing. If the Colleges rent a building, then the rent is an admissible item of expenditure; but if a college borrows money and builds a structure, then neither the loan repayment nor even the interest payment on that loan is considered as an admissible expenditure. I can understand if a limit on expenditure of this type is placed, say upto the limit of reasonable rent that would be paid for a rented building. That I can understand. But if you say "If you rent a building belonging to somebody else we can allow that expenditure as an admissible item of expenditure; but if you borrow money and then ask for grants, then we shall not come to your help; you manage your own affairs". That kind of attitude, I consider, is most unreasonable and most illogical, to put it very mildly. I shall now explain the way in which grant is calculated for non-Government colleges. This is a funny instance of how these rules work. The colleges are divided into three groups: those colleges that are older and are in cities get 10 per cent; intermediate colleges get 15 per cent and those which are new or are in rural areas get 20 per cent. This differentiation is, I think, not justified because ultimately, the colleges have, as I said, only these two sources of income, fee receipts and Government grant to meet their recurring expenditure. Government is not giving any non-recurring grants. I can understand that in the case of old colleges they need not be given more liberal non-recurring grants; but I cannot understand any distinction being made as regards the recurring grants. It appears at first sight from the way in which calculations are made that the colleges which have deficits are being helped. But that is not actually so. I shall not bore the House with the actual calculations. But I can only bring to the notice of the hon. Members that if the deficit is of, say, Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 thousand Government will give you grants to meet that deficit; but all this must be shown on the receipt side. Now on the basis of the deficit, the Government proceeds to pay a grant, but they say that the deficit payment is not admissible expenditure. So what is the result of calling a particular item as an inadmissible expenditure? It means that they assume that we have got that money with us. If we pay Rs. 75,000 as deficit, then they assume that we have got Rs. 75,000 as surplus with us. Now, suppose a college has a deficit of Rs. 25,000. So, if it cuts down its expenditure and brings down the deficit from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 10,000, then the result is that the Government grant is reduced by that amount. Instead of receiving the grant on Rs. 25,000 plus 10 per cent. we get on Rs. 10,000 plus 10 per cent. or 15 per cent. or whatever it might be. So, unless the College can wipe out all the old deficit, reduction of deficit would mean reduction of Government grant. That is why I say that these are cat and mouse rules. They are not rules framed with a real desire to help the colleges. If Government cannot give any more financial help, then they should at least allow the colleges to increase their rates of fees or reduce their expenditure, without at the same time losing an equivalent amount of grant. Of course, I would not agree with the statement that Government has no sufficient funds to give for the higher and.

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technical education. But even assuming that Government is not in a position to give more grants, they can say that grants to a particular limit would definitely be given, but the colleges would be at liberty to raise their receipts in a manner they think proper in order to be able to meet the rest of the expenditure. That would be a reasonable position to take. But Government has not taken that stand. They have laid down that the grants would be reduced if the deficit is reduced. This is certainly not a reasonable way. In my opinion it is not encouraging to education at all. On the other hand, such a policy discourages the people from conducting educational institutions and this has been my experience for a very long time.

As regards the non-recurrent expenditure, the Government say that they have no funds to give grants for that purpose. Except one or two colleges, no college is given such a grant. These one or two colleges which receive such a grant are supposed to be working in areas which want some special help. But normally colleges do not receive any non-recurring grant.

Then, I come to the last point which I want to make out. The recent proposals of the University Grants Commission regarding raising the salaries of the College teachers have not been accepted by this State as yet. From the newspapers we find that it is only West Bengal which has decided to implement this recommendation. No other State has come forward to accept the recommendation. Of course, I agree that the pay scales in the Colleges in Bombay City have been revised to a certain extent. But the teachers or professors serving in colleges situated outside Bombay City get very low salaries. So the Government must do something radical in this connection. In the case of those colleges there are not able to meet their expenditure from the fees of their students, Government should give substantial help in order to enable those colleges to raise the salary scales. In the area of the Poona University there are 13 Districts. In all these 13 districts there are only two Government Arts and Science Colleges, in Kolhapur, viz., Rajaram College and one other college and both of them were run by the Kolhapur State and are now taken over by the Government of Bombay. But nowhere in that area is there any other Arts college run by Government. Except this area there are Arts Colleges in every other area such as Saurashtra, Kutch, Gujarat, Marathwada etc. which are run by Government. Therefore, the Poona non-Government Arts and Science Colleges are doing the work which normally Government is expected to do and, therefore, adequate grants to supplement their funds should be given to carry on the educational activities efficiently.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra-Teachers) : Sir, I take this opportunity of expressing my views on the Budget before the House. As usual, the Finance Minister's speech is balanced in spirit and persuasive in tone. However, there are certain handicaps from which we suffer in offering our remarks. One is that the booklet, "Outline of the activities for the next year" was given to us only yesterday. Secondly, the integrated Five Year Plan for the new State has not been yet handed over to us. Probably it is in the stage of preparation. Similarly, the Industrial Plan has yet to be prepared. It is

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with these handicaps that we have to offer our remarks. So far as I am concerned, I think that probably this would be the last occasion to speak on the Budget in this House because this year I am retiring with one-third of the members of this House.

The CHAIRMAN : Let us hope that the hon. Member would be re-elected to this House.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR : Thank you, Sir, for your good wishes, but I might, most humbly state that I am intending to devote my life to educational activities.

Coming back to the Budget before the House, I think that the Hon. Finance Minister has given us a rather rosy picture of the present economic situation. He says :

"It appears that the monetary and economic climate is gradually turning towards more stable conditions."

I think that this is rather a more complacent view of the situation and, therefore, the Hon. Minister has not done justice to the facts. If we look to the various problems that we are facing, we will find that the climate is far from what may be called 'stable'. If I may venture to pass a remark, I may say that the climate seems to be potentially full of tempestuous materials rather than stable conditions.

There are certain things which the budget speech has referred to, and the conclusions therefrom are quite different. The Hon. Finance Minister says that Government has been able to raise a loan of Rs. 6 crores and that it was oversubscribed overnight. We find that the income tax returns have been rising, and have gone up from Rs. 50 crores to Rs. 66 crores as our share of the same within the last five years. Then we find that our industrial production has increased from 20 to about 25 per cent. As far as agricultural sector is concerned, cash crop production, viz., of cotton, sugar cane and tobacco, has increased from 35 to a very much higher figure. All these facts are in favour of the State, no doubt. But they only show that only a certain class of people, namely, the rich and the well-to-do, those who have resources, are benefiting from the present policies of Government. We have the other side of the picture also. For instance, Government says that the small savings have declined since recently, and that there has not been sufficient response to it. Of course, there has been some attempt to whip up enthusiasm, and if some other strata of society is tackled, probably it may yield some results. But it shows that the ordinary middle class is being paralysed so to day, not only it has no savings, but it is running into debts. There is another class also, namely, the class of agricultural workers. The industrial worker is benefiting from the present regulations and the present care that Government is bestowing upon it in order to preserve urban peace. But the middle class and the class of agricultural workers are being paralysed and are being hit hard by the present policies of Government. Government should consider, while laying their next financial policy, as to what should be done for these two classes.

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Then, we find that although the food production has gone up, the food is becoming dearer, the consumable articles are becoming dearer, and unemployment instead of showing signs of decreasing, shows potentialities of increasing. So, in the context of these facts, I think we cannot say that the economic climate is tending towards stable conditions. In fact, we are far away from stable conditions, and great care has to be bestowed upon the economic factors.

The budget speech makes reference to the integration plans and the cost of integration. The speech says that about Rs. 3 crores have been spent as additional expenditure for integration of services and other things. There is another thing about the linguistic pattern of the State. The developmental expenditure has been in arrears, or has been lagging behind by about Rs. 8 1/2 crores. We have the picture of Government having money, but not being able to spend it for various reasons. I do not want to harp on the same tune of the bilingual State, but I want to make reference to the present pattern as far as it affects the finances of the State. For every State, for the sake of developmental expenditure it has to go to the people and ask money in the form of taxes, in the form of work, in the form of other things, but as far as the present State is concerned, the moral and the enthusiasm of the people is at a low ebb. People are generally willing to sacrifice for the development of their State, but the present condition, the present mentality of the people is not such as would make them willingly ready for sacrifice. If the proper climate is there, then alone people will be willing to sacrifice and give sufficient money to Government for developmental expenditure.

I turn now to the Government's taxation policy, and the new taxation proposals of Government. In this connection, I would like to make one important observation, namely, that the Government's estimates of revenues are generally lower and the actual collections are generally higher. In other words, the budget suffers from under-estimate of revenues and there is over-collection. We generally find that at the end of a year the actual collections of revenue are much higher than the revenue estimated under different heads. The actual collections are much more than the anticipated revenues. For example, at the time of the Sales Tax Bill, Government said that the object of the Bill was not to collect more money, but to provide more facilities for collection. But we find that in 1951-52 the collection was about Rs. 12 crores, and in a period of five years it jumped up to Rs. 30 crores, and last year it Rs. 2 crores more.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : The expenditure has also gone up because of the increase in the size and the population of the State.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR : I had once made the same remark in the case of the former Bombay State, and I am repeating the remark now. The remark held true in the case of the Budgets of the former Bombay State also. I think that if the same efficiency which Government says it has introduced in the collection of the sales tax is enforced in the collection of the other taxes, Government

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will have sufficient resources at its disposal, so that it may not be necessary for it to introduce any new taxes. In fact, our State suffers from over-enthusiasm to collect taxes and to collect more and more money. That may perhaps be one reason why the Central Government is unwilling to give us our share of the income tax and other taxes. If the Central Government finds that Bombay State has a slight deficit Budget, that it is also in want of funds, probably, the Central Government will be in a more favourable state of mind for providing finances to the Bombay State. What is happening at present is that Bombay State is paying to the Central Government in the form of income tax and other taxes and the return from it to the State is small, about 15 per cent. or less. Therefore, in order to cover its deficit, the State Government has to tax the ordinary people. Therefore, the general taxation on the citizens of the Bombay State is higher than in any other State in the country. Therefore, my general conclusion is that there is generally under-estimation of the revenue and over-collection of taxes. If proper efficiency is introduced in other directions also, it may not be necessary to raise any new taxes. The collection of other taxes also should be made much more efficiently.

Coming to the new taxes that have been levied, namely, the tax on motor vehicles, on diesel oil and the road passenger traffic, the revenue expected from them is about Rs. 2 crores. As far as taxation on passenger traffic is concerned, the State Road Transport are the main target of the new taxation. Actually, the condition is that, at the present time, the State Transport passenger is paying a fare that is equivalent to the ordinary second class of the railway and he compares the railway fare with the State Transport fare and generally he complains, of course to himself, that he is paying more than the third class fare. If the State Transport fare is equivalent to the third class fare, it may be considered as a fair fare, but, at the present moment, he is feeling that he is paying more than the third class railway fare. An ordinary man does not take into account the other expenditure, the other facilities that you provide for him. Now, in addition, he has to pay 10 per cent. of the fare. That will create, and that will lead to, a sort of dissatisfaction and unrest and give rise to a dangerous situation because it is a sort of a direct tax. Every time a passenger travels he will be made conscious of the hand of Government that forces him to pay 10 per cent. extra. This, as I said, will lead to a sort of unrest and dissatisfaction and probably an agitation which will hit hard the State Transport Corporation, the personnel of the State Transport and even the buses of the State Transport. Our people have been trained in the technique of resistance, in the technique of defence—I shall not say 'non-violent defence' or 'non-violent resistance'. If people take to that, it will be very difficult for the State Transport Corporation, or, for the matter of that, for Government to deface that movement and, therefore I think that this policy of Government in levying this tax is most deplorable, most undiplomatic, shortsighted and full of dangerous potentialities. I would suggest that, if at all this tax is to be levied, the people have to be convinced that it is to be utilised for their good. If you earmark this tax for the local developmental projects or for local irrigation works, that may

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probably satisfy the people that they are deriving some advantage from the additional money that they are paying. That may be a sort of constructive turn or change that may be given to this tax.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA: Sir, I want to make it clear that the scheme of this tax is such that it will not impose any particular burden on the passengers as such.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR: Last time, when making a speech on the Budget, I had said that the city population, the urban population, had reached their full stage of taxation and Government should now divert their attention to other directions, the rural direction, so to say, the mofussil places. Government has done that; the direction is right but the spot is mistaken. If, instead of this passenger taxation, the other tax which was proposed by the Taxation Enquiry Committee and which has been followed by the Madras Government, namely, tax on agricultural income, had been resorted to, it would have been to my mind, better.

Then, Sir, there is a proposal to give additional grant to village panchayats and local boards, and about a crore of rupees would be spent in this direction. I am glad that these local bodies and local self-Government institutions are getting some additional resources for carrying on their work, but when money has to be given, we have to take care to see that it is properly utilised. Our people have to take some more training in the matter of governing themselves and carrying on these institutions. So, side by side, if Government creates some new instruments for educating the members of these different bodies in the form of literature, in the form of magazines, in the form of conferences and seminars, so that these people who are members of the panchayats and local boards are made conscious of their responsibilities, then they will make a proper use of the amount of Rs. 1 crore and more which will be handed over to them.

Then, Sir, there is one suggestion that the Hon. Finance Minister has made with regard to the ear-marking of funds. As I said, people are willing to pay the taxes if they know for what particular purpose they are meant and if they are convinced that that purpose is beneficial to them. From that point of view, if there are certain ear-marked funds and people are consciously made to subscribe to those funds, so that they get direct advantage from those funds and from those taxes, then probably the people will be willing to sacrifice and to pay these taxes. I will make one proposal in this respect. At the present moment, whenever any educational proposals are forwarded to Government, the excuse given is that Government does not have funds. On the one hand, there is a demand from the people for primary education, secondary and higher education and, on the other hand, Government has no funds. If there is a specific ear-marked fund or taxation for the purpose of education and if people are convinced that it is in the interest of their children, then people would be prepared to pay for that particular fund which will be in the interest of education and which is earmarked for education.

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Coming to the provision for education, I want to offer a few remarks with regard to Government's policy with regard to the educational Budget. My observation is with regard to the educational finance generally. In the socialistic countries, there is sufficient and ample finance for education. There is no economy as far as education is concerned, I may say in any aspect of education—it may be teacher's salaries, it may be research institutions, it may be primary education or vocational education, art education or any other education, but in a capitalistic economy, generally, education is under an economic disadvantage. Generally, there is an economic crisis in education. Even in a rich country like America, which spends lots of money on education, after the second world war there was an economic and a financial crisis as far as education was concerned. The people had to spend more money for getting better education. Then, recently there has been a sort of an awakening amongst the western nations, and in countries like Japan, etc., after they seeing the dramatic progress that Russia has made in the field of sciences. These countries are now realising that they are lagging behind in the pattern of their education, in the pattern of science teaching, in the pattern of language teaching, etc. and they have to spend more money in order to attract the best type of students and the best type of teachers. We have to do the same thing if we want to bring our education in line with the education of some of the foremost nations of the world. Our Government, on the other hand, seems to indulge in the old statements of British bureaucracy, that its concern is not in the field of secondary and higher education, but its concern is only in the field of primary education, and that, so far as secondary and higher education is concerned, that is the job of voluntary and private agencies and that they should take care of them. Now, the position in this regard is this. The private institutions and voluntary organisations have to depend upon the fees of students and the grants of Government, and to make up the deficit, on the donations of private philanthropists. But the present economic condition of the people is such that it is not possible for them to give donations. So the only source of income is from fees and grants from Government, and if Government does not come forward to fill up the difference between the expenditure and the income from the fees by paying grants liberally, then education is going to suffer and we are not going to have a better type of education. The best type of student will not get the best type of education and we will not be attracting the best type of teachers. I, therefore, want to make a plea to Government to revise its whole attitude towards the educational budget.

That brings me to the next point, and that is, how far our Budget and our financial policy leads us to the socialistic pattern of society because ultimately that is the Criterion for judging our Budget and our financial policy, as to how far we are administering to the welfare of the people and to what extent the whole economy is leading to a socialistic pattern of society. And what is the role of the Bombay State in leading towards the socialistic pattern? I am aware that as far as heavy industries are concerned, it is the responsibility of the Central Government and the field of the State, especially in industry and business, is very much limited. But the most important question is how far we have gone in creating a socialistic pattern of economy. After all, the

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it is stated that the amount of Rs. 50,00,000 has already been drawn from the Contingency Fund to facilitate purchase of grain as soon as it comes in the market and that this supplementary demand of Rs. 50,00,000 is presented to recoup that advance. Instead of levelling a charge against Government for sleeping over the matter or waking up after the event itself, may I request the hon. Member to read the explanatory note which is given on page 167 more carefully, so that I may not be required to defend myself and the hon. Member may not be required to expose himself to such an extent that he has not read the explanatory note?

The next point that was raised was whether Government should purchase Bajari also. The prices of Bajari are not low. The problem of purchasing these articles from the point of view of meeting the demand in the State which, according to my hon. Friend, is to the extent of 10 lacs only, is altogether a different problem and since it does not fall within the purview of the policy of Government, I do not think that the suggestion made could be accepted.

Then, most of the hon. Members who talked about the Fair Price Shops Scheme and the amount required to be spent in connection therewith, thought that that amount was being spent over writing 5 lacs of ration cards. That is not so. Sir, that amount is asked for in order to meet the expenditure required to be made on the additional staff sanctioned by Government as well. Sir, the whole staff is to exist for a longer time than expected it has been drawn from various offices. Therefore the amount that has been spent over this establishment is not an amount which could be considered exorbitant.

Sir, after these clarifications, I feel that there is hardly anything more that needs any reply.

The CHAIRMAN: We have completed the discussion on the supplementary statement of Expenditure for the year 1957-58. We may now take up for consideration the Appropriation (Supplementary) Bill, namely, L. A. Bill No. XIX of 1958, as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 4th March 1958.

L. A. BILL No. XIX OF 1958 (A BILL TO AUTHORISE PAYMENT AND APPROPRIATION OF CERTAIN FURTHER SUMS FROM AND OUT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FUND OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY TO THE SERVICE OF THE YEAR ENDING OF THE THIRTY-FIRST DAY OF MARCH 1958).

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance): Mr, Chairman, Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XIX of 1958 (A Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the consolidated fund of the State of Bombay to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March 1958,) as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 4th

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March 1958, be taken into consideration, and, while doing so, I beg to state that in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (1) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay (Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 1958.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any recommendations from any hon. Member of this House? (*Finding that nobody was rising*) It seems that there are no recommendations to make with respect to this Bill. So, this Bill will be returned to the Assembly with a message that this House has no recommendations to make.

The House will now adjourn and meet again on Wednesday, the 5th of March, 1958, at 2.00 p. m.

(The House was adjourned at 5-00 p.m. till 2-00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 5th March 1958.)

[Dr. G. S. Khair]

element of the ideal of socialistic pattern of society is to administer to the welfare of the people and to provide adequately for social services like education, medicine and such other things. Now, that requires money. But in a socialistic order of society the profits that accrue from industries, business and agriculture go to the treasury of the State. In our country, we are following a mixed economy as far as State enterprises are concerned. The profits accruing from such enterprises are very small. We have to depend on income from other sources, such as, sales tax and other things. Under such circumstances, it would not be possible for us to provide adequately for all the social services. Therefore, some way has to be found out of this. Either we have to starve or Government should itself start more industries, so that profits from these industries could be utilised to provide for our social services. Our field at present is very much limited. The State Transport Corporation has a short life and it is not possible for that Corporation to remit substantial sums to the treasury of the State for devoting them for welfare purposes. We have not made any other additions to our national enterprises. That is one thing. Therefore, in the field of industry the majority of major concerns are private enterprises and the profits go to the private enterprises. The State, however, has to share the burden of education, medicine and other things. The only way of getting out of this difficulty is to transfer some of the burden of education, medicine and other things on to the private enterprises themselves. In America, for example, the industrialists have become conscious of this fact and they themselves have come forward to give scholarships to Universities and Colleges. They are also earmarking scholarships for the best students and some of them are even paying the teachers in the best possible manner. Similarly, if our industrialists are persuaded to start technical schools or if they are persuaded to give scholarships to students having technical, industrial and engineering education, then the burden of the State will be lessened to that extent. This is one of the ways in which it is possible for the State to reduce some of its burden on education. I am only suggesting that as long as the private concerns are getting the profits from the industries they are running, they must be willing to shoulder the burden of some of the social services like education. This is one of the ways in which Government can lighten its burden on educational expenditure so that sufficient funds may be available and can be spared for giving grants to secondary schools and colleges and for raising the salaries of teachers.

These are some of the observations which I wanted to make on the Budget speech and I thank the Chairman for having given me this opportunity of making my observations.

Shri P. B. PATWARI (Ahmedabad District—Local Authorities) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I must congratulate the Hon. Minister for Finance for presenting a Budget which indicates a steady but firm and progressive achievements towards the welfare State. On that point, I think, there can be no two opinions. No doubt, my hon. Friend Dr. Khair pointed out that the picture of the present conditions of the State cannot be said to be as rosy as apparently one finds from the speech of the Hon. Finance Minister; but if my hon. Friend takes into consideration the present impact of things, the financial limitations

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the high strain on the economy and numerous trying circumstances through which not merely in this State, not merely in this country but every where and if proper consideration is given to all these circumstances, then there is not much to say and it must be admitted on the contrary that in this State, in this bigger State that we are having now, the Budget does strengthen the big edifice in a very able manner and we find from the manner in which all the activities in all directions and in all the boundaries of the State have been developing it shows a very judicious and bold financial endeavour behind it with no injustice to any sector or section. We feel that the Budget is really making a very good stride in the progress of the State in all directions.

Sir, I would also at this juncture beg to put some suggestions for the consideration of Government in connection with some important questions for the programme for this year. If we refer to some items—it is an item about roads—no doubt the road programme is satisfactorily carried out; but I think, that some priority ought to be given to some roads which were unfortunately shelved in the past. As an example, I may refer to the most important road connecting the two industrial cities of Bombay and Ahmedabad. I have been putting before this hon. House every year the importance of this road as it connects two very big industrial and commercial centres of the State. But this road will bring great relief to the large traffic, commerce, trade and various other things. This road programme deserves to be given some more attention and phillip.

Secondly, Sir, I am referring to one question about an item in the Department of Administration of Justice where a provision of Rs. 50,000 has been made for the Libraries of the Nagpur and Rajkot High Courts. At this juncture, I am reminded to place for the consideration of Government the great importance of at least having a Circuit High Court at Ahmedabad, because next to Bombay, Ahmedabad Division has offered the highest number of cases so far as the Bombay High Court is concerned. In the proximity of Ahmedabad also there are various important places like Baroda, Nadiad, Kaira, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha and Ahmedabad is the central place and

3-00 p.m.

I think that if a Circuit High Court goes to Ahmedabad at least for 2 weeks in every alternate month and goes for one week to Saurashtra, then much local work would be done quickly, expeditiously and cheaply. At present, the cost to litigants for coming over to Bombay is tremendous. The delay in disposal of cases is also very much. The hon. Members are aware of the often quoted maxim 'Justice delayed is justice denied' and if we want to see that justice is done quickly, cheaply and expeditiously in our progressive State then this is one of the solutions. I think that it is now very high time that this arrangement is commenced.

Another important item to which I would like to draw the attention of the House is about the excavations of archaeological importance. Recently about 45 miles away from Ahmedabad, at Lothal, in the excavations, the relics similar to Harappa and Mohen-je-daro culture have been discovered. It is a very big site—rather the biggest site—of this type in the Indian borders.

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The importance of this centre can be judged from the fact that the greatest authority in the world on archaeology Prof. James has paid a very great tribute to the work done there. We find today a stream of visitors from Europe, America and various other countries going to see the place. It has attracted numerous visitors from all over the world and this country also. Unfortunately, it is very surprising to find that there is no good road leading to that place. Not only that, but there is neither a rest house there, nor even a single tree to give shelter to travellers. I would, therefore, urge that a good road from Dingad to Lothal should be constructed as early as possible. Similarly, there should be a rest house at Lothal for the convenience of numerous visitors who come there. There should also be a museum on the spot so that all the rare things that are being unearthed there can be placed in it and may be available to students, research workers and visitors.

Another thing to which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. House is the Beggars' Act. In the Budget speech an indication has been given that the Act is to be implemented and enforced in Poona and Ahmedabad at an early date. I hope that at both those places the Government will see that adequate and equal financial aid is given to the Corporation for the successful enforcement of the Act without any distinction.

Then, there is another item of importance so far as the rural areas are concerned to which I would like to draw the attention of the Government. I am referring to a large number of tracts on our side where water in the rainy season comes in plenty but as there are no sufficient funds, no adequate storage is done and no *palas* are constructed with the result that the good effect of moisture on the soil is lost. One can easily understand that the poor peasants and farmers cannot afford to have *palas* on all the sides of their fields. Just as the Government is giving subsidy and loans for digging wells and constructing tanks in order to help irrigation, similarly, I would submit that as the construction of *palas* play an equally important role in the Grow More Food Campaign and the development of agriculture, Government should grant proper loans and subsidy for constructing them immediately. The people from the Dhanduka Taluka in the Ahmedabad District are suffering in the absence of *palas* and this part, which is the best wheat supplying area, is unnecessarily deprived of giving the best contribution to the Grow More Food Campaign. I hope that the Hon. Minister will consider this aspect of the question immediately and find out the ways and means to help the agriculturists in order to enable them to preserve the benefits that the rains give them.

Another difficulty which the rural areas are facing is about proper and timely medical relief. We find that in the interior villages for miles and mile away there is no medical practitioner or a medical centre. There are so many villages in my Dhanduka Taluka which have not even an Ayurvedic dispensary round about them for 10 to 20 miles. When large amounts are being provided for the medical relief in big cities, an attempt should be made to see that no village is left out at least within a limited area without medical relief.

Then I will go to the item about the national parks. It is very good that the Government is moving in the right direction of having national parks at different places. I would also emphasise that there should be national

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parks at three places of great importance. As I submitted last year a national park at Girnar—Home of Lions—would be very important from all aspects. Thousands of Tourists would come there if hotels or rest houses, transport facilities are provided. This will bring profit to the Government which may be utilised towards the maintenance and development of the national park at Girnar. Similarly, national parks can well be constructed at Pavagarh near Baroda and Balaram near Palanpur. These are unique places of beauty. The visitors traffic would really make them profit making places.

Sir, last year I had submitted that though there are numerous colleges at Ahmedabad the centre of the Gujarat University and the Gujarat Vidyapith, unfortunately, there is no hostel for lady students at all. Many girl students from the mofussil are deprived of the advantage of the college education in absence of the hostel. When we find that in all big cities of the State—Bombay, Poona, Baroda, etc.—there are hostel facilities for lady students, I fail to understand why this amenity is denied to a large number of lady students of the Gujarat, Saurashtra and Kutch. I submit that there is a very strong case for the immediate establishment of a hostel for lady students at Ahmedabad without any delay.

Coming to the question of housing, I submit that I am a bit surprised to see the figures in the Budget Memorandum. I refer to page 583 of the white book—Loans and advances by State Government, for construction of tenements. Provision is made for 500 tenements for Bombay City and the amount provided for is Rs. 36 lakhs and for 200 tenements in Ahmedabad City the amount provided for is Rs. 22.50 lakhs. If we refer to the relevant figures in the supplementary statement of expenditure which we discussed here the other day, it will be found that for the construction of 100 tenements in Ahmedabad a provision of Rs. 7.50 lakhs had been made. So, for the proposed 200 tenements in Ahmedabad, a provision of Rs. 15 lakhs should have been made. I do not quite see why only a sum of Rs. 22.50 lakhs should have been provided for.

Then, on the same page, a provision has been made for Rs. 66 lakhs for the construction of some tenements in Bombay City, Poona and Ahmedabad during the year 1958-59. They would be constructed by the Housing Board and given on rent. Looking to the poor progress made so far, I wonder when the 200 tenements each in Poona and Ahmedabad, would be completed. Now, so far as the low income group housing is concerned, Poona and Ahmedabad had been completely ignored in the past. The scheme is started there for the first time, and as this is a welfare activity, I should think that Government should not start its work in so halting a manner about this scheme. I feel that adequate provision must be made to see that more than 200 tenements are completed in the coming financial year so far as Ahmedabad and Poona are concerned.

Another item to which I would like to draw the attention of the House is the Dholera port. Though under the Second Plan, a sum of Rs. 50,000 have been provided for the preliminary survey work, nothing has been done so far

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in this direction. Though it is a minor port, it would be very useful to the industrial town of Ahmedabad for transport of cotton and cloth bales. If this port is developed, it would provide the much needed relief to the railway congestion also. I think no further argument is necessary in favour of this minor but very important port.

Lastly, I would refer to the small point about a bridge near Ahmedabad. Thousands of people from numerous villages from the Mehsana District have to come to Ahmedabad, including agriculturists. On the Kalol side there is no bridge connecting the city with the villages. Therefore, they have at present to take a circuitous route. The proposal to have this bridge was under consideration of the Government three years ago, but nothing has been done so far. The bridge will be on the national highway and would connect numerous villages on the Kalol side with the industrial town of Ahmedabad. If I am not mistaken, other agencies offered to contribute some money towards the construction cost of the bridge. The village panchayat of Sabarmati passed a resolution offering a contribution of Rs. 2 lakhs for the purpose. The Ahmedabad Electricity Co. can also be approached to pay some contribution. I am sure the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation will also offer some contribution. As the bridge will provide approach to the industrial city to number of villagers round about, I hope and trust that Government will realise the importance of the immediate construction of bridge and do the needful very soon.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH (Maharashtra South—Local Authorities): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to offer a few observations on the Budget proposals before the House. Before I begin my remarks, I would say that the big white and blue Budget books that were handed over to us, had to be carried by us on our heads, though I am not sure that the contact of this white book with the head means that the contents of the book have gone into the head! However, what I find is that, in fact, the speech of the Hon. Finance Minister itself gives us sufficient material to offer our criticism.

Before proceeding with my remarks, I should like to say whether it is at all necessary to translate the contents of this big white volume in all the regional languages of the State. I think we can be spared that much expenditure, because I feel that even for a student of finance, who is interested in making a speech on the Budget proposals, there is enough material in the Budget speech of the Finance Minister. I, therefore, think that it is hardly necessary to translate these heavy and awe-inspiring white books. It is for Government to consider the proposition.

The CHAIRMAN: No; it is for hon. Members to consider that.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH: That is true, Sir. If we were put on oath, I think we could hardly say that we have gone through the big book. That does not mean, however, that there is not sufficient material for us to offer our criticism in the other books. At any rate, this Budget speech of the Hon. Finance Minister is sufficient for me to offer my comments, whatever I have to make, on the Budget proposals before the House.

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Sir, when I just saw these books and the information contained therein, the realisation came to me as to how difficult is the task of the Finance Minister. Therefore, so far as individual compliments are concerned, I think compliments are really due to our Finance Minister, who has been working hard for the last six years. When I say that the Finance Minister has a very difficult task to perform, I do not mean to suggest that the other Ministers have an easy job, or that I underrate their work. What I mean to say is that the task of the Finance Minister is not a simple one. From that point of view, I think he does deserve our compliments in the real sense of the term.

Coming to the Budget proper, this is the first Budget of a bilingual State, and, as such, it has got tremendous importance. I feel that not only this Budget but also all the Budgets for the coming five years will be very critically studied by the component parts of the bilingual State; not only that, but the administration of this State for the five years to come will be very critically studied, not only by all of us, the citizens of this big State, but also by the whole nation. Even though it has always been repeatedly said by those people who believe in the bilingual State that this bilingual State of Bombay has come to stay, I for one do not for a moment believe it to be so. I feel that nothing under the sun is permanent in this world. A time may perhaps come when this whole issue may have to be reconsidered. I do not think that there can be any bar to our considering this whole issue afresh. When that time comes, the administration of this State for these five years will be very useful to those who have raised a controversy on this point, because by then we will have known definitely as to whether we have gained by this experiment or whether it is the other way about. One could say definitely at that time whether this has been a good experiment or whether Government has found it impossible to fondle it, just like the parents fondling a sick child. To my mind, this bilingual State was born on an inauspicious day. Look at its very first big Budget! This is alarmingly a big and ugly child. It is just possible that, after a certain time, the parents themselves may get tired of such a child. Whatever that may be, the point that I was trying to make out was that all these five years are critical, and it is from that point of view that we shall have to view the Budgets.

To start with, the very first Budget is unfortunately a deficit Budget, under which taxes have to be levied on the people of this State. A remarkable statement was made by Hon. the Finance Minister when he said that, so far as the tax on passengers is concerned, it will not be a burden on the passengers. That was really a surprising statement. Obviously the impression that has been carried is that the people in this State will be taxed heavily and that the passengers will have to pay more fare. He said that rules will have to be framed, but ultimately, according to him, the people will not have to pay more taxes. I will be really happy if that is so. All that I can say is that I do not understand the jugglery of finance and, therefore, I do not wish to say anything more on this point.

Another aspect of the Budget is this. We find that, in the name of uniformity of taxes, taxes in the component units of this State have been raised. Now, Sir, all these days we have been hearing of uniformity of taxes and uniformity of taxes.

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mity of laws. Much can be said in favour of uniformity of laws. So far as uniformity of taxes is concerned, two reasons have been given : One is that it is convenient to recover the taxes and the second reason that is given is that it is equitable. Now, the same is said about uniformity of laws. Pausing here for a moment, sometimes I think what is the other side to that. When we are talking of uniformity of taxes, it is not that we are trying to bring down the taxes to the level of taxes of the other units. Whenever we are talking about unification of laws, I have hardly come across a case where we have thought of the laws existing either in Vidarbha or Marathwada and we trying to amend our laws on the basis of those laws. Now, what is actually happening ? I am of the opinion that we are actually suffering from a superiority complex. We always say that we are the best administered State. In a sense it may be true, and that too comparatively. In the bilingual state, we feel as if we are conquerors of other units. A conqueror always tries to show that his laws are good and that his administration is good. After all, the people from Marathwada or Vidarbha, and especially from Vidarbha, were legislating for their State for so many years. It may be that these States may not perhaps have been well advanced ; the people of these States may not be well advanced, but does it mean that those people who had been legislating for their own people and for their own State had no wisdom at all ? I refuse to believe that. Therefore, whenever we are talking about unification of taxes or unification of laws, we have also to consider the laws or taxes existing in the other units and find out, whether it is at all necessary to amend them. We should also consider whether we should amend our laws, gaining wisdom from the experience of other units. If we want to have unification of taxes, why not we find out in which of the units the taxes are low ? Why do we say that the taxes in Vidarbha should be raised to the level of our own taxes ? If we do that, it may so happen that the separatist tendency might grow. The tendency to consider ourselves for superior to Vidarbha is not at all a healthy tendency. Therefore, pausing here for a moment, I would say that we must consider over the whole problem. It is not merely like the proverb that, when you are in Rome, you should act as a Roman ; nothing like that. Now, therefore, this is a type of Budget where the taxes in Vidarbha have been raised, but I do not know whether we shall be able to give those people benefits to that extent. It is, of course, true that, in a big State, the minority should not override the majority because they have come and joined a big unit, but that does not mean that the minority should suffer in any way. After all, there must be some sort of improvement all round.

Now, Sir, I come to the second point. If we look to the speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister, we find that very great injustice has been done to Bombay State by the second Finance Commission. I do not want to go over everything here, but I may say that the grievance of Bombay State is being made for many years, right from 1947. It will be somewhat surprising if I quote here what was said in 1957 by the then Finance Minister, Shri Vaikunth L. Mehta. What he said then was :—

“ This matter was brought to the notice of the Centre, but I regret to observe that neither for the current year nor the next have any steps been taken to rectify the obvious injustice of the arrangement.”

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Further on what he said in 1949 is very interesting:—

“ An interesting analysis of the manner in which funds have been raised for financing the development programme shows that among all the States of India, Bombay has derived the least proportion of assistance from the Centre.”

The House will be surprised to hear that, at that time, Bombay got 12 per cent. for developmental expenditure, while Uttar Pradesh got 51.1 per cent. I may mention that now also the same injustice is being continued.

Then, Sir, I am reminded of a separate note that was struck by Shri K. M. Pannikar when he wrote the report of the States Reorganisation Commission. Referring to U. P. he said at page 245 of that report :—

“ Not only in Southern States but also in Punjab, Bengal and elsewhere the view was generally expressed before the Commission that the present structure of Government of U. P. had led to the dominance of U. P. in all India matter. The existence of this feeling will hardly be denied by anybody. It will be a danger to our unity.”

What I would like to ask here is, why this preferential treatment ? Such an attempt is really dangerous. Not only that, the second Finance Commission says that our quota in the divisible pool will be distributed according to population. Uttar Pradesh has got a greater population. I cannot help criticising that this domination, in the striking words of Shri Pannikar, is going to ruin India. I wonder whether, if at all Samyukta Maharashtra is created, further step-motherly treatment will be meted out. I must congratulate Hon. the Finance Minister on his having fought bravely all these years. He has tried to make out a good case for Bombay, but because of the above factor nothing could be done and that is why all these worries.

The wonderful part of it is this. I can only read one sentence. Hon. the Finance Minister has said on page 5 of his Budget Speech as follows :—

“ benefited the finances of all States to the singular exclusion of the Bombay Government.”

This has happened in spite of the fact that the Bombay Government alone 3-30 p.m. was the State which had not only fulfilled but actually exceeded the target of additional taxation during the First Five Year Plan period. Hon. the Finance Minister further says :—

“ I am mentioning this because in the terms of reference of the Finance Commission it was specifically asked to take into account ‘ the efforts made by the States to raise additional revenue from the resources available to them ’ for assessing the States which are in need of assistance by way of grants-in-aid under the substantive proviso of Article 275.”

We are told that we should tap all our resources and then we would be entitled to our proper quota. But you will be surprised to see that there is one more remarkable statement to the effect that, of the 17 various measures of taxation open to the State Government, the Government of Bombay has rightly claimed to have fully exploited 15 taxes. We have already exploited 15 sources of taxes. What remains to be taxed is this : This tax on agricultural income which is levied in Marathwada and one more tax. Sir, what actually worries me is that the Second Finance Commission specifically told us that we should tap all our resources. We have already tapped 15 out of the 17 sources. What is the reward given to us for this ? It is something like this : You

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tell a student like this : " If you pass your examination in the first class, we will give you more help." And after he passes in first class his examination he is told " No, you will not get anything ". This great injustice has been done to us from 1949. I should think that the only remedy for this is for Hon. the Finance Minister to resign. I know that it will be a great sacrifice to Government and to the State. I have got the highest regard for our Finance Minister. After all we are fighting against injustice done to the State of Bombay. Curiously enough what has been stated by Hon. the Finance Minister is that the Centre and the Finance Commission were fully aware of all this. They also knew that, on account of the existence of the bilingual State, the initial expenditure has grown tremendously. Having realised this and having brought into existence the bilingual State of Bombay, proper justice has not been done to this State. It is a matter of profound regret. Therefore, a shock will have to be given to the Central Government. We have to sacrifice for our State. If Hon. the Finance Minister resigns, then that will be another example for this State in which we have got great interest. Our State has been very heavily taxed. This is exactly the reason why the Finance Minister was inclined not to levy further additional taxes.

If we refer to page 14 of the speech, we will find that it is stated that the expenditure has increased by Rs. 10 crores. Now, it is true that on account of the bigger size of the bilingual State the expenditure has certainly increased, but there is good scope for decreasing the expenditure. As I have stated above, the expenditure has increased by Rs. 10 crores. The details of the increase in expenditure are given on page 14. The details consist of various items with which we are not very much concerned. I am particularly attracted by the fact that Rs. 12.71 crores are spent on the police and Rs. 8.60 crores on General Administration. Talking about the police, in season and out of season, in the lower House or in this House, hon. Members have been clamouring that the expenditure on police is increasing day by day. The expenditure should have been kept at its former level or it should have been cut down. On the contrary, we find that the expenditure is increasing. Now, we are told that because of the bigger bilingual State this expenditure is required and that expenditure is required. We cannot but feel that a lot of money is being spent on police in the City of Bombay than in any other part of the State. There is a great increase in the number of guests from countries who visit Bombay for some time. Arrangements for their visits here and at other places are to be made. If we compare the expenditure incurred on the police in the Bombay City and in the other parts of the State, we will find that the City of Bombay is eating more than any other part of the State. I would, therefore, suggest that a particular kind of tax only so far as the Bombay City is concerned should be levied, because a lot of money is spent over the police in Bombay City. There is nothing wrong in that. There is at present no tax on profession and trade. Why not levy it on Bombay City? Instead of taxing the people in general in all the three component units, it would better if the rich people in the City of Bombay are taxed. That is one of my suggestions to Government which may be considered.

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While we are dealing with the expenditure on police, I may state that the other day there were many supplementary demands for this Department. It was stated that, in certain parts of the Marathwada districts, police stations are not properly manned. Whether the police stations should be properly manned or not has to be considered in the light of the incidence of crime. It may be that, in the Marathwada districts, the incidence of crime is not so much and that is why the police stations are not sufficiently manned. In other words, there is to my mind a lot of scope for cutting down the expenditure on police. If that is done, it will be better.

I will now come to the important subject that has been much talked about. On page 16 of the Budget speech it is stated that Government is thinking of constructing about 35,000 new wells. That is certainly a good thing. There cannot be any doubt about it. But here, Sir, I may pause for a moment and just invite the attention of Government to a certain part appearing in the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1955 which was discussed in this House the other day. In that report there are certain very striking observations made in connection with wells and drinking water. I would like to ask Government " What is the remedy for all this? " The relevant portion is on page 7, which is as follows :—

" There are 313 villages in the whole of the Dangs District. I was given a list of 78 villages with a population of 100 and above, out of which six villages have a rivulet or a river to fall back upon for drinking water and there are 36 pucca wells, while the remaining villages are without wells. At some places in these villages there are kuchha wells which dry up during the summer months. In the reports of the Geological Surveys made by Shri Cyril Fox, a foreign Geologist and by Shri B. F. Mehta it has been opined that ' the wells are no solution for the drinking water facilities in Dangs District '. This opinion seems to have been confirmed by the experience of the officers who have been planning for the digging of new wells for the last three years but without any satisfactory results. I was also informed by the Collector that the bandaras which they have been undertaking were not proving successful as the soil of the Dangs District was not retentive and the water percolates or flows down and is not stored up even in the catchment areas."

Now, what are we going to do in respect of such other parts of the State? It is obvious that the problem of drinking water for the poor people in the Dangs District will never be solved by merely just having wells. It is a spectacular thing to have all that. It is not only the Dangs district, but there are many other parts of the State which have no pucca wells which can supply drinking water. There are certain villages which have no wells. It is difficult even to have approach roads for such villages. I would suggest that there should be some sort of village planning if the problem of drinking water is to be solved. What I feel is that these villages, where it is impossible to have water, should be bodily removed from their original places and housed at some convenient places where all the facilities could be made available. It is not such a ridiculous thing as might appear outwardly. Sir, it will be seen that it is very difficult to have approach roads to villages with a population of 100. It is also difficult to have wells for villages the population of which is 100 or so. So, if these villages are bodily removed and housed at some convenient places where water would be available, then there will much relief for those people. This is not a problem for us to solve only during the 5 years planning; Government must see that steps are taken to solve this problem once and for all.

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At present there is no village planning. It is worth considering whether, from the geological survey or any other survey, it will be useful, wholesome and essential to spend more money on a particular village or whether it is better to lift it to another place and house it at some other place. That is one of my suggestions which I wanted to make from the most startling part of the report. This is a miserable condition of the people in the Dangs District.

Now I turn to irrigation. It is no use simply saying that we must improve our irrigational facilities. We must see that these facilities are availed of by the people. We have received several complaints from the people in Gujarat that they are not getting the benefit of water though the irrigation project has been completed. Many times it is said that the people of our State and country are not irrigation-minded and, therefore, even if some irrigational projects are completed, people do not take advantage of that water. But it would be absurd to say that the people in Gujarat are not irrigation-minded. Merely carrying out the irrigation projects would not improve our food situation. We are spending a colossal amount of money on such projects. But if irrigation water is not made available to the public for several months, such projects would be of no real use to us. If a man is thirstily and if he does not get water even though water is there, then he will die. It is no use merely saying that water is there. It must be made available to the man. That is the complaint of the people from Gujarat.

Then, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the work of the Dharamtar Bridge. This is a Bridge which connects Alibag and I would like to know as to when it is likely to be completed. A huge amount is being spent on the construction of this bridge, but it was hardly necessary. Alibag is a God forsaken place. In ancient times the Britishers might have attached some value to this place as it has a sea-shore. Therefore, Alibag had some importance at that time. But now the situation is quite different. Merely because some persons in the last Ministry thought that there should be a bridge at Dharamtar connecting Alibag, monies are being spent on this bridge. As a matter of fact Alibag is not a central place so far as Kolaba District is concerned. So would this bridge be of much use in future? I would, therefore, urge that unless and until there is some utility of a particular work in future, the plan should not be carried out merely to satisfy the whims of any particular person in the Ministry, as has happened in the case of Alibag.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member has already taken about 30 minutes. I hope he will try to bring his remarks to a close.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH: I shall try to be as brief as I can. I shall touch only a couple of points.

The first point which I want to touch is about the grants to local bodies and village panchayats. It is gratifying to note that the Secretaries of the Gram Panchayats would now be appointed by Government. It is alright to say that village panchayats and municipalities are schools of democracy,

[Shri V. B. Deshmukh]

but it must also be remembered that in many cases they are schools of scandals. It is, therefore, absolutely necessary that at least for the working of the village panchayats there should be secretaries appointed by Government. I would go a step further and say that even the Chief Officers of the Municipalities should be appointed by Government and there should be one cadre for all the Chief Officers and another cadre for all the Secretaries of the village panchayats so that they can be transferred from one place to another. Why should one Secretary or one Chief Officer draw one scale of pay and another some different scale of pay? If these officers are not made independent, they have to depend upon the wish of the members of the municipalities or the village panchayats. Now we know that all is not O. K. in these municipalities and the village panchayats. After all it is infant democracy. I would, therefore, suggest that the Chief Officers also should be appointed by Government and that there should be one common cadre for the Chief Officers and another for the Secretaries of the village panchayats.

Then, Sir, on page 30 of the Budget speech some of the steps which Government is taking to ameliorate the conditions of the backward classes are enumerated and it is stated there that Government is going to encourage the inter-caste marriages between caste Hindus and Harijans. I think that all this would be just on paper. Beyond that nothing practically is going to be done. There would hardly be one or two such marriages and the encouragement that might be given to them is not going to solve the real problem. What I am saying are all practical things. I do not believe in such marriages on a large scale and encouragement being given to them. I am, therefore, inclined to say that these are all spectacular things but not practical.

Then, Sir, it appears that some subsidy would be given in the form of additional rent to caste Hindu landlords for taking Harijans as their tenants. In this connection, my suggestion is that this subsidy should not be given merely relying upon the Record of Rights but that it should be given if the institutions working for the amelioration of the backward classes certify that particular Harijans are actually working as tenants of the particular Hindu landlord. Otherwise, the landlords, with the help of the Talatis, will create Harijan tenants on paper only and the real benefit would not be reaped by the backward classes.

Then I come to the Tenancy Act. Yesterday, I said something about the Tenancy Act and today also I am emphasising one point in respect of that Act. Government is expecting the Mamlatdars and the Aval Karkuns to dispose of and deal with all these tenancy cases, and that too without the aid of the lawyers. But the Tenancy Act itself is a very complicated one and even the lawyers and Judges of long standing find it very difficult to interpret the various provisions of the Act. In this connection I would read only one observation made by the learned Hon. Chief Justice of our High Court. He has observed as follows:—

“We had occasions frequently to observe with regard to Tenancy Act that every section of it presents difficulties. So far as construction is concerned and the Tenancy Act will certainly not be looked upon, by future legislators, as a model of drafting.”

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This is what is said by the Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court. But when the High Court finds it difficult to interpret the various provisions of the Tenancy Act, it is expected by Government that Mamlatdars and Avallarkams, without the aid of the lawyers, should be able to implement it. The Hon. Minister had said that we want speedy work. But we know what is meant by speedy work. ! If we lubricate the machinery, we get speedy work. Therefore, so far as the first stage of completing the Record of Rights is concerned, it is alright. But when the second stage of giving compensation to the people comes, then serious thought must be given to its implementation. All these things have to be understood. My point is that persons who have a legal knowledge should be put on the job. This is a very serious matter. It is no use saying that so many applications of landlords were rejected and, therefore, the Act is being implemented properly. A landlord does not always mean a big landlord. There are numerous small landlords. Therefore, Government should not be satisfied if only applications of landlords are dismissed or rejected. I request Government to reconsider the position.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member will soon bring his remarks to a close.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH: I abide by your decision, Sir.

It is true that we are trying to make progress in our State, and I wish well to Government's efforts in that direction. But the important question is of bread and butter. When I say bread and butter, I mean butter as a means of food and not as a means of getting bread. That is also one use of butter. When we want to get bread, we use butter ! But I refer to butter as a food. It is an economic problem. I know there are so many difficulties and that the co-operation of the people is necessary. There is no doubt that, in Maharashtra, people are at present frustrated. They are keenly disappointed and not in a mood to cooperate. There is no doubt about that.

Without forgetting your direction, Sir, I would refer to my last point. I think the hon. Member from Ahmedabad made a very good point when he said that there should be a Circuit Court of the High Court in Ahmedabad. (Interruption) Yes, if Ahmedabad gets a Circuit Court, Poona also will get it. However, what I say is that I share the view of the hon. Member that, just as there is a Circuit Court at Nagpur, there should be a Circuit Court at Ahmedabad and also at Poona, and there should be no difficulty in doing it as indeed there is so much of work in Bombay.

As I have no more time at my disposal, I conclude. Thank you, Sir.

श्री. के. आर. पाटील (विदर्भ—लोकल अँपॉरिटीज) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज, १९५८-५९ सालाचें जें अंदाज पत्रक नामदार अर्थ मंत्र्यांनीं सादर केलें आहे त्यावर माझे विचार मांडण्यासाठीं मी उभा आहे. बजेट म्हणजे काय? बजेट म्हणजे राज्याचें आर्थिक परिस्थितीचें चित्र किंवा आराखडा. एकाद्याच्या हातांत देशाचें अंदाजपत्रक दिलें आणि त्या गृहस्थानें त्या बजेटचा अभ्यास केला तर त्या देशाचें सरकार सोशालिस्टिक पॅटर्नचें आहे कीं कॅपिटॅलिस्टिक सरकार आहे हें तो गृहस्थ सांगू शकेल. आपल्या त्या

[श्री के. आर. पाटील]

मुंबई राज्याचे सरकार गेलीं आठ दहा वर्षे बजेट सादर करीत आहे. प्रत्येक वेळी आमचे राज्य वेलफेअर स्टेट आहे, समाजवादी समाज रचना करण्याचा सरकारचा विचार आहे असे सरकारतर्फे सांगितले जाते पण प्रत्यक्ष आपल्याला पाहावयास काय मिळते? गेल्या नोव्हेंबरमध्ये राज्यपुनर्रचना झाल्यानंतर चार महिन्यांसाठी एक छोटेंसे बजेट ह्या राज्याच्या सरकारने सादर केले होते त्या वेळी ते बजेट कॅपिटलिस्टिक बजेट आहे असा शेर। आम्ही मारला होता. त्यावर उत्तर देतांना नामदार अर्थ मंत्री असे म्हणाले होते की. तुमचा हा शेर बरोबर नाही, हे वेलफेअर बजेट आहे. त्यांच्या म्हणण्याच्या पुढील आम्हांला अनेक गोष्टी सांगण्यांत आल्या होत्या. आम्ही इतके दबाखाने उघडले आहेत, शिक्षणावर इतका खर्च केला आहे, खेड्यांत इतक्या इतक्या विहिरी खोदल्या आहेत, वगैरे अनेक गोष्टी सांगून हे वेलफेअर बजेट आहे असे सिद्ध करण्याचा प्रयत्न त्या वेळी करण्यांत आला होता. आजच्या ह्या बजेटच्या बाबतीत सरकार तेंच म्हणत आहे. पण, अध्यक्ष महाराज आजपर्यंत ह्या राज्य सरकारने जी बजेट्स सादर केली त्यांमुळे समाजातील गरीब वर्गांना असा कोणता फायदा झालेला आहे, असे मी विचारू इच्छितों. गरीब जनतेकडून जास्तीत जास्त कर वसूल करून त्यांना त्यांचा मोबदला मात्र कमीत कमी मिळालेला आहे. म्हणूनच मी म्हणतो की, हे कॅपिटलिस्टिक बजेट आहे. ह्या बजेटमध्ये एम्प्लॉयमेंट सेक्टर काराचा बोजा कमीत कमी असून जास्तीत जास्त फायदा आहे, आणि गरिबांवर मात्र करांचा बोजा जास्त असून त्या भानाने त्यांना मिळणारा फायदा निमित्तिलब्ध आहे. असे ज्या बजेटचे कॅरेक्टरिस्टिक असते त्याला कॅपिटलिस्टिक बजेट म्हणतात. आमच्या नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांनी जरी याला वेलफेअर बजेट म्हटलं असलं तरी त्यांनी एक मोठ्ठा आपल्या अर्थमंत्र्यांनी जरी याला वेलफेअर बजेट म्हटलं असलं तरी त्यांनी एक मोठ्ठा आपल्या “Time has come when we should change over from orthodox finance to welfare finance.” म्हणजे याचा अर्थ असा होतो की, अजून ह्या दृष्टीने आमच्या अर्थ मंत्र्यांनी सुधारित केलेली नाही. तेव्हा आमचे राज्य वेलफेअर स्टेट आहे असे एकीकडे म्हणत असतांना नामदार मंत्र्यांनी चुकून कां होईना, पण सत्य कबूल केले आहे. म्हणून अजून त्याचे इम्प्लिमेंटेशन केलेले नाही. आपल्या राज्यांत जी कॅपिटलिस्टिक म्हणजेच राँटन सोसायटी आहे ती वास्तविक आतां यापुढे फार काल टिकाव धरू शकणार नाही. असे असतांना आमचे सरकार त्यांच्या कलाकलाने चालत आहे. आमच्या येथे गाडगे महाराज या नांवाचे एक संत होऊन गेले. कित्येकांना त्यांच्या दर्शनाचा लाभ मिळालेला असेल असे मी समजतो. त्यांचे एक असे वैशिष्ट्य होते की, त्यांच्या अंगावरील वस्त्र कधीहि एकसंध कपड्यांचे बनविलेले नसे. एक तुकडा एका कापडाचा तर दुसरा तुकडा दुसऱ्या कापडाचा असे अनेक पंचेस असत. तेव्हा गाडगे महाराजांच्या बस्त्रप्रधाने मुंबई राज्याचे हे ठिगळी बजेट आहे. पण अशी ठिगळ लावून यापुढे चालावयाचे नाही. सोलापूरची नरसिंग गिरजी मिल बंद पडली व अनेक लोक नोकरीतून बाहेर फेकले गेले, त्यांना काम मिळावे म्हणून एक प्रयोग म्हणून सरकारने ती गिरणी आपल्याकडे चालवावयास घेतली आहे. पण एक ठिगळ भरून काढण्याचा सरकार प्रयत्न करते न करते तोच मुंबई मधल्या आणखी तीन गिरण्या बंद पडण्याच्या मार्गावर आहेत असे समजते. तेव्हा यावरून अगदी उघड होत आहे की, सरकारपुढे बजेट बनवितांना सोशलिस्टिक एम नाही. चायना, रशिया ह्या देशांनी खऱ्या अर्थाने सोशलिस्टिक अप्रोच घेऊन प्रयत्न केल्यामुळे ती राष्ट्रे खऱ्या अर्थाने सोशलिस्टिक बनू शकली व त्यांच्यापुढे जे अनेक प्रश्न उभे होते त्यांची ते सोडवणूक करू शकले. आमच्या सरकारला ह्या बाबतीत यश न येण्याचे कारण असे आहे की, आमचे सरकार तारेवरची कसरत करीत असते. सोशलिस्टिक पॅटर्नची स्लोमन्स धावयाची आणि दुसऱ्या बाजूला प्रत्यक्षांत गरिबांना जितके मिळतां येईल तितके पिळावयाचे आणि श्रीमंतांना जास्तीत जास्त फायदा धावयाचा ही जी तारेवरची कसरत आमचे सरकार करीत आहे ही कसरत फार दिवस टिकणारी नाही. आमच्या राज्यांतले बहुजन लोक इग्नरंट आहेत ह्या गोष्टीचा फायदा हे सरकार कांहीं काल बेळू शकेल. जनतेला जितके दिवस इग्नरंट ठेवतां येईल तितके दिवस ठेवण्याचा सरकारचा प्रयत्न आहे, पण ही परिस्थिति

[श्री के. आर. पाटील]

फार काल टिकणार नाही. सरकारची ही तारेवरची कसरत आतां समजू लागली आहे. केरळ राज्यामध्ये शिक्षणाचे प्रमाण जास्त असल्यामुळे तेथे कम्युनिस्ट सरकार प्रस्थापित होऊ शकले. केरळमधील जनतेप्रमाणे आमच्या येथील जनतेलाहि शिक्षण द्या, त्यांना त्यांच्या कोणत्या प्रकारचे कर लादले जात आहेत हे समजू द्या, अमक्यासाठी सरकारजवळ पैसा नाहीत तमक्यासाठी पैसा नाहीत अशी सबब सांगून जनतेला अंधारांत ठेवण्याचा प्रयत्न करू नका, म्हणजे आपल्यावर कराचे प्रमाण किती आहे आणि त्या मानाने आपल्याला फायदा किती मिळतो हे जनतेला कळू लागेल आणि मग ती सरकारला वाटेल तसे वागू देणार नाही. कोणतीहि गोष्ट तलवारीच्या किंवा वंदुकीच्या जोरावर लादणे ह्या पृथ्वीतलावर कोणाला फार काल शक्य होणार नाही. जर असा प्रयत्न सरकारने केला तर त्याला प्रतिकार करण्याची शक्ति जनतेमध्ये असते. तेव्हा मला असे सांगावयाचे आहे की, एका ठिकाणी बसव फाटले म्हणून तेथे ठिगळ लावतो इतक्यांत दुसऱ्या ठिकाणी ठिगळ पडायचे आणि ते बुजविण्यासाठी पुन्हा ठिगळ लावावे अशी सरकारच्या ह्या अंदाजपत्रकाची झालेली आहे. मी पुन्हा एकदां निखून सांगू इच्छितो की, ही जी राँटन सोसायटी आहे, ती मरणार आहे, सरकारने ते मरण टाळण्याचा कितीहि प्रयत्न केला तरी सरकारला त्यांत यश येणार नाही.

माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज, यानंतर मी सरकारच्या बजेटच्या रिसीटसंबंधी बोलणार आहे. आमच्या राज्याचे ध्येय सोशॅलिस्टिक पॅटर्न ऑफ सोसायटी हे आहे असे जाहीर केल्यानंतर त्या दृष्टीने सरकारने आपल्या धोरणांत काही फरक केला आहे काय? तसे मला तरी काही दिसत नाही. पूर्वी पिळवणुकीवर आधारलेली जी सोसायटी आपल्या राज्यांत होती ती आजहि तशीच चालू आहे. इंग्रजी राज्याच्या वेळी सरकारच्या उत्पन्नाचे मुख्य साधन लँड रेव्हिन्यू हे होते, पण आमच्या सरकारने इंग्रज सरकारच्याहि पुढे एक पाऊल जाऊन लँड रेव्हिन्यूपासून मिळणाऱ्या इनकमच्या दुपटीएवढा सेल्स टॅक्स जनतेवर बसविला आहे. १९५८-५९ सालाची बजेट एस्टिमेटस पाहिली तर असे दिसून येते की, लँड रेव्हिन्यू १३ कोटी २६ लक्ष आणि ३२ हजार आहे तर सेल्स टॅक्सपासून मिळणारे उत्पन्न २४ कोटी ३७ लक्ष ९६ हजार इतके आहे. १९४७ सालपासून गेल्या दहा वर्षांत कोणता फरक झाला असेल तर तो हा की या अप्रत्यक्ष करांत पुष्कळ वाढ झाली. या अप्रत्यक्ष करांचा पाठपुरावा करतांना भांडवलदार लोक "मोअर इक्विटेबल टॅक्स" असे त्याचे वर्णन करतात. याच्यासारखा दुसरा कर असूच शकत नाही असे त्याचे म्हणणे आहे. परंतु मी तर असे म्हणून की

4-00 p.m.

अप्रत्यक्ष करापेक्षा प्रत्यक्ष कर पुरवला. कारण ही अप्रत्यक्ष करपद्धति ही एक अत्यंत क्रूर अशी करपद्धति आहे. त्यांतल्या त्यांत अशिक्षित, अडाणी लोकांकडून हा कर जेव्हा वसूल केला जातो तेव्हा आपण सरकारला किती कर दिला याची त्यांना जाणीव सुद्धा होऊ शकत नाही. त्यांचा अडाणीपणाचा गैरफायदा घेऊन हा कर वसूल करण्यांत येतो. तेव्हा, अध्यक्ष महाराज, आमच्यावर सरकारने दोन प्रकारचे कर बसविले आहेत. एक प्रत्यक्ष कर आणि दुसरे अप्रत्यक्ष कर. इंग्लंडमध्ये प्रत्यक्ष करांचे प्रमाण ५२ टक्के आहे आणि अप्रत्यक्ष करांचे प्रमाण ४८ टक्के आहे. म्हणजे तेथे प्रत्यक्ष करांच्या मानाने अप्रत्यक्ष करांचे प्रमाण कमी आहे, आणि ते केव्हाहि कमीत कमी असले पाहिजे अशा मताचा मी आहे. परंतु आपल्या ह्या स्वतंत्र भारतांत आणि मुंबई राज्यांत हे प्रमाण पहिले तर काय दिसून येते? येथे प्रत्यक्ष करांचे प्रमाण ३५ टक्के आहे तर अप्रत्यक्ष करांचे प्रमाण ६५ टक्के आहे. म्हणजे येथे प्रत्यक्ष करांपेक्षा अप्रत्यक्ष करांचे प्रमाण जास्त आहे एवढेच नव्हे तर त्या दोन्हीमध्ये फार मोठी तफावत आहे. आमच्यावर अप्रत्यक्ष करांचा बोजा फार मोठा पडतो. अप्रत्यक्ष करांचे समर्थन करतांना पुष्कळ लोक असा युक्तिवाद करतात की अप्रत्यक्ष कर हा व्यक्तीच्या पेइंग कॅपॅसिटीच्या प्रमाणांत म्हणजे तिच्या हॅसियतीच्या

[श्री. के. आर. पाटील]

प्रमाणांत बसतो, हा अप्रत्यक्ष कर बसविण्यांत मोठा फायदा आहे. उदाहरण म्हणून ते सांगतात की साखर विकत घेतांना गरीब मनुष्य एकच शेर साखर विकत घेऊ शकेल, तर श्रीमंत मनुष्य पांच शेर किंवा स्याहंपेक्षा जास्त साखर विकत घेऊ शकेल. याचा अर्थ गरीब माणसाला जो विक्रीकर द्यावा लागेल तो एकच आणा द्यावा लागेल आणि श्रीमंत माणसाला पांच आणे किंवा त्यापेक्षा जास्त विक्रीकर द्यावा लागेल. परंतु ही एक फॅलसी आहे. हा एक दिशाभूल करणारा युक्तिवाद आहे. सोतांत मजुरी करणाऱ्या एखाद्या विधवा बाईला दिवसाला आठ आणे मजुरी मिळते आणि एखाद्या अधिकाऱ्याला एखाद्या विधवा बाईला दिवसाला आठ आणे मजुरी मिळते आणि एखाद्या अधिकाऱ्याला २० रु. रोज मिळतात. याचा अर्थ असा नव्हे की ती बाई फक्त अर्धा शेर साखर कच्कूम करीत असेल आणि तो दिवसाला २० रु. मिळविणारा अधिकारी त्याच मुदतीत २० शेर साखर कच्कूम करीत असेल. तेव्हा पेइंग कॅपॅसिटीच्या मानाने किंवा हॅसियतीच्या मानाने या अप्रत्यक्ष करांचा बोजा पडतो हे म्हणणे तर्कसंगत नाही. ती एक फॅलसी आहे.

तेव्हा, अध्यक्ष महाराज, मला हे सांगावयाचे आहे की आमच्यावर अप्रत्यक्ष करांचा बोजा जास्त आहे आणि या वर्षीच्या अंदाजपत्रकांत जी नवीन करवाढ करण्यांत आली आहे तीमध्ये देखील या अप्रत्यक्ष करांचा बोजा जास्त वाढला आहे. सरकारने ही करवाढ कशाकरिता केली? त्याची कारणे येथे दिली आहेत. मी त्यांच्या तपशिलांत जाऊ इच्छित नाही, कारण तपशिलांत गेलों तर वेळ पुरणार नाही. परंतु स्थूल मानाने मी असे सांगतो की द्वितीय पंचवार्षिक योजना पार पाडण्याकरिता, अन्नधान्याच्या बाबतीत देश स्वयंपूर्ण करण्याकरिता, बेकारीनिवारणाकरिता, आमचे राष्ट्रीय उत्पन्न वाढविण्याकरिता सरकारला पैसा पाहिजे आणि त्याकरिता ही करवाढ करण्यांत आली आहे. पहिली पंचवार्षिक योजना पार पाडण्याकरिता केंद्रिय सरकारने निरनिराळ्या राज्यांना करवाढ करून पैसा गोळा करा असे आदेश दिले होते आणि प्रत्येक राज्याला याचा करवाढीचा कोटाहि निश्चित करून दिला होता. रिपोर्ट ऑफ दी फायनान्स कमिशन, १९५७, पृष्ठ २८ वर वेगवेगळ्या राज्यांना केंद्र सरकारने किती कोटा निश्चित करून दिला होता आणि त्यांपैकी प्रत्येक राज्याने आपला किती कोटा पुरा केला याचे आंकडे दिले आहेत. मुंबई राज्याला २३.५ कोटी रु. चे लक्ष्य निश्चित करून दिले होते. मुंबई राज्याने आपले लक्ष्य पुरे केले एवढेच नव्हे तर त्यांपेक्षाहि जास्त करवसुली केली. म्हणजे मुंबई राज्याकरिता २३.५ चे लक्ष्य निश्चित करून दिलेले असतांना सुद्धा त्याने पहिल्या पंचवार्षिक योजनेच्या काळांत २८ कोटी रु. पर्यंत जादा करवसुली केली. म्हणजे ठरलेल्या करवाढीच्या १०० टक्केच नव्हे तर १०२ टक्के कर मुंबई राज्याने वसूल केले. इतर राज्यांच्या बाबतीतील हे प्रमाण पाहिले तर असे दिसून येईल की पेप्सूच्या बाबतीत ते अवघे ९.७६ आहे, पश्चिम बंगालच्या बाबतीत ते १२.२० आहे, मद्रासच्या बाबतीत ते २०.३६ आहे आणि सर्व राज्यांची सरासरी करवाढ काढली तर ती फक्त ३४.९१ येईल. परंतु आम्ही मात्र आमच्यासाठी निश्चित करून दिलेल्या लक्ष्याच्या पलीकडे गेलो आहोत. हे जादा कर वसूल करतांना आम्ही सामान्य माणसाच्या हॅसियतीची पर्वा केली नाही, तर उपराष्ट्र किंवा अर्धपोटी राहणाऱ्या, शेतकऱ्याच्या आणि शेतमजुराच्या अन्नातील दोन घांस काढून घेऊन हे जादा कर आम्ही वसूल केले. या आमच्या कामगिरीबद्दल केंद्रीय सरकारने आमची पाठ तर थोपटली नाहीच, पण निरनिराळ्या केंद्रीय करांतील आमचा जो न्याय्य हिस्सा आम्हांला मिळावयाला पाहिजे होता तो देखील त्यांनी आम्हांला दिला नाही. या सरकारची आर्थिक स्थिति चांगली आहे या सबबीवर त्यांनी आम्हांला कमी हिस्सा दिला आहे.

The CHAIRMAN : That point has already been covered. There is no use repeating the same argument.

Shri K. R. PATIL : I am not repeating it. I am dealing with that point exhaustively.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member must remember that the time at his disposal is limited. So, he may try to be brief and not repeat the arguments.

श्री. के. आर. पाटील : नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांनी आपल्या भाषणांत बरीचशीं पानें खर्ची घालून आम्हांला सेकंड फायनान्स कमिशनने जो जस्टिस द्यावयाला पाहिजे होता तो दिला नाही असें जे नकाशे ठाळले आहेत त्याचा मला खरोखरच अर्थच समजत नाही. फायनान्स कमिशनने जो निर्णय दिला तो एक अवॉर्ड होतो. त्यावर आपल्या भाषणांत नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांनी टीका करणे योग्य नव्हते. It was not proper to criticise the award in the Budget speech. तो एक अवॉर्ड असतांना त्याच्याविषय नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांना रडण्याची काय गरज होती? परंतु या रडण्याच्या पाठीमागे नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांचा धूर्तपणा दडला आहे ही गोष्ट मी सभागृहाच्या निदर्शनास आणू इच्छितो. आमच्या सरकारला नवीन कर बसवावयाचे होते. त्या नवीन कराविषय अन्याय केला, केंद्रीय करांतील आमचा न्याय्य हिस्सा आम्हांला दिला नाही असें रडणां नामदार अर्थमंत्री गात आहेत. आम्हीं नवीन कर बसविले नसते, परंतु केंद्र सरकारने आमच्यावर अन्याय केला म्हणून हे नवीन कर आम्हांला बसवावे लागत आहेत, ते बसविले अपरिहार्य होते म्हणून आम्हीं ते बसविले असें अप्रत्यक्षरीत्या सरकारला जनतेला सुचवावयाचे आहे. म्हणजे प्रत्यक्ष युद्ध सुरू करण्यापूर्वी शीतयुद्धाचे वातावरण निर्माण करावे, त्याप्रमाणे नवीन करवाढ जस्टिफाय करण्याकरिता फायनान्स कमिशनसंबंधीचे हे रडणां नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांनी आपल्या भाषणांत गायिले आहे.

माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज, ही नवीन करवाढ केली नसती तर अंदाजपत्रकांत २.९५ कोटी रु. ची तूट आली असती असे नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांचे म्हणणे आहे. या कर वाढीचे स्वरूप तरी काय आहे? माझी अशी तक्रार आहे ही जी कर वाढ होणार आहे ती ज्या सेक्शनची कर देण्याची ताकत आहे त्यांच्यावर पडणार नसून, ज्यांची कर देण्याची ताकत नाही त्यांच्यावर त्या करवाढीचा बोजा पडणार आहे. म्हणजे ताकतीच्या मानाने कर न बसवितां ज्यांचा खिसा फाटला आहे त्यांच्यावर कर बसविण्याचे या सरकारचे धोरण आहे. ही करवाढ कोणकोणत्या बाबींवर होणार आहे? बजेट स्पीच, पृष्ठ ३९ वर याचे स्पष्टीकरण दिले आहे, ते असे :—

	Rs.
Tax on Passenger fares	180 lakhs.
Tax on Motor Vehicles	15 lakhs.
Tax on motor spirit and diesel oil used as fuel ...	30 lakhs.
Stamp duty on instruments used for non-judicial purposes.	25 lakhs.
Duty of entertainment tax	25 lakhs.
Tax on consumption of electrical energy ...	25 lakhs.
Total	300 lakhs.

[श्री. के. आर. पाटील]

अध्यक्ष महाराज, माझ्या एका सन्माननीय मित्रांनी मला म्हटले, ही करवाढ करण्यामध्ये सरकारचा काय दोष आहे? आधी लोअर एस्टिमेट्स करावयाची आणि अॅक्सेसिव्ह एक्स्पेंडिचर दाखवावयाचा आणि यदाकदाचित् कधी बरोबर एस्टिमेट्स केलीच आणि खर्च बरोबर दाखविला तर डेफिसिट दिसणार नाही, व ह्या वर्षी ३ कोटीचे कर बसवावे लागले तसे बसवावे लागणार नाहीत. फायनान्सअल स्टेटमेंट ऑफ बजेट ह्या पुस्तकाच्या १ व्या पानावर ह्यासंबंधी कांहीं आंकडे दिले आहेत. त्यावरून असे दिसते की, १९५६-५७ सालीं रिसीट्स २७,२५.३४ आणि एक्स्पेंडिचर ४५,७२.२७ लक्ष दाखविलेला आहे व सप्लस १,५३.०७ लक्ष रुपये दाखविण्यांत आला आहे. असे बजेटचे आंकडे दाखविले आहेत, पण प्रत्यक्ष सप्लस ११,४०.८६ लक्षांचा दाखविला आहे. याच्याखाली खुलासा म्हणून असा दिला आहे की, नुकतेच नवीन द्विभाषिक झालेले असल्यामुळे अंदाज आणि प्रत्यक्ष आंकडे यांत हा फरक पडला आहे. नवीन स्टेट झाल्यामुळे हा फरक पडला असे म्हणावे तर त्याच्यापुढचे बजेट पाहा. पान ४ वर १९५८-५९ सालचे आंकडे दिले आहेत त्यांत रेव्हिन्यू रसीट्स १,२०,००.१५ लक्ष रुपये, रेव्हिन्यू एक्स्पेंडिचर १,२२,०१.१० लक्ष रुपये व डेफिसिट २,००.९५ लक्ष रुपये दाखविण्यांत आला आहे. हा जो डेफिसिट आलेला आहे त्यासाठीच जनतेवर हे नवीन कर लादण्यांत आले आहेत हे उघड आहे. यानंतर पान १ वर १९५७-५८ सालचे आंकडे पाहिले तर २,३७ लक्षांचा डेफिसिट दाखविण्यांत आला आहे व रिव्हाइज्ड बजेटमध्ये ३,१७ लक्षांचा डेफिसिट दाखविण्यांत आला आहे. पण प्रत्यक्ष वास्तव्य शेवटी ५,५७ लक्षांचा सप्लस दाखविण्यांत आला आहे. हे आंकडे पाहिले म्हणजे हे बजेटिंग आहे की काय आहे अशी शंका येऊ लागते. एका अर्थशास्त्रज्ञाने म्हटल्याप्रमाणे बजेट म्हणजे आंकड्यांची जादूगिरी आहे असेच वाटू लागते.

मला असे म्हणावयाचे आहे की, जनतेवर नवीन कर बसविण्यापूर्वी जनतेमध्ये एक प्रकारची भूमिका तयार करण्याची आवश्यकता असते. वास्तविक पाहता, हे नवीन कर बसविण्याची जरूरी आहे असे मला वाटत नाही. दुसऱ्या पंचवार्षिक योजनेच्या अंमलबजावणीसाठी जनतेवर २४ कोटी रुपयांचा करांचा भुर्दंड बसणार आहे; आणि ह्या प्लानच्या इम्प्लिमेंटेशनला ह्या ३ कोटींच्या करांनी सुरुवात झाली आहे असे समजण्यास हरकत नाही. मी सरकारला असे विचारू इच्छितो की, ह्या करांमुळे समाजातील कोणत्या सेक्शनला रिलीफ मिळणार आहे? शेतकऱ्यांना रिलीफ मिळाला आहे, की मध्यम वर्गीला मिळाला आहे, की प्राथमिक शिक्षणाच्या बाबतीत कांही प्रगति झाली आहे? १० टक्के मोटर ट्रान्सपोर्टवर कर बसवितांना असा खुलासा दिला आहे की, हा इनडायरेक्ट कर आहे, पण हा टॅक्स काय किंवा सेल्स टॅक्स काय, त्यांमुळे जनतेला रिलीफ मिळण्याऐवजी त्यांच्यावर करांचा बोजा जास्तच बसतो असा अनुभव आहे.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member has so far taken 30 minutes but he has referred only to the point of taxation.

Shri K. R. PATIL : Yes, Sir.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member need not dwell any more on that point. He may go to some other point. If that is the only point that he wants to raise, then he may finish his speech.

Shri K. R. PATIL : I want to discuss this point fully. I will require some more time for this purpose.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member has fully discussed this principle of taxation. He says that the principle of taxation is wrong, and he has fully discussed it.

Shri K. R. PATIL : I will finish within two or three minutes.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, मध्य प्रदेशने जेव्हां पेट्रोलवरील सेल्स टॅक्स वाढविला तेव्हां गॅलनमार्गे ६ आणे कर होता तो १० आणे केला. आम्हांला असें सांगण्यांत येतें कीं, सर्वसाधारण मनुष्य पेट्रोल वापरीत नसल्यामुळे ह्या कराचा बोजा त्यांच्यावर पडणार नाही, पण प्रत्यक्ष व्यवहारांत सामान्य जनता ह्या करानून सुटू शकली नाही. पेट्रोलवरील कर वाढविल्यामुळे साहजिकच सरकारने टॅक्सीचे आणि मोटारीचे दर वाढवून दिले. टॅक्सीचा दर मालाला १ रु. १ आणा होता तो आर्. टी. ओ. ने १ रु. ५ आणे करून दिला. यामुळे मालामार्गे ४ आणे वाढ केल्यामुळे जळगांव ते खामगांव ह्या ३० मैलांच्या अंतरासाठी ८ रुपयांनी वाढ झाली. ह्या उदाहरणाप्रमाणे आतां मुंबई सरकारने पेट्रोलवर १० टक्के कर वाढविला आहे यामुळे जी वाढ आहे ती सर्वसामान्य जनतेला सोसावी लागणार नाही असें आश्वासन सरकार द्यावयास तयार आहे काय? असें आश्वासन सरकार देऊ शकेल असें मला वाटत नाही.

म्हणूनच, अध्यक्ष महाराज, मी असें म्हणतों कीं हें साप्टेफिक बजेट नाही. सोशॅलिस्टिक पॅटर्न आणणारें बजेट नाही. तर हें बजेट एसेन्शियली कॅपिटॅलिस्टिक बजेट आहे, गरिबांच्या लुटीवर आधारलेलें बजेट आहे. आपल्या राज्यांतली रॉटन अशी कॅपिटॅलिस्टिक सोसायटी आहे तिला आणखी काहीं काल तगविण्यासाठी सरकार प्रयत्न करीत आहे हें उघड आहे, पण सरकारला यांत यश येणार नाही, एवढे सांगून मी रजा घेतों.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers) : Mr. Chairman, Sir,

The CHAIRMAN : So far, only seven hon. Members spoke during the last 2½ hours. There are many other hon. Members who are anxious to speak. I, therefore, hope that hon. Members will try to be brief and will not repeat the same arguments over and over again.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ : After the Principal of the College and the Headmaster of a School have spoken, it is now my turn to ventilate the grievances of an ordinary secondary teacher. Both of them have complained against the parsimonious treatment that Government is giving to Colleges and schools. Sir, If I join them in putting before this House the long standing grievance of the secondary teachers, I think I will be doing my primary duty to my electorate. Unfortunately for me, neither the Hon. Minister for Education nor the Hon. the Deputy Minister for Education is present in this House now; but still I hope our grievances will be conveyed to those Hon. Ministers.

Sir, we were watching this year's Budget with keen curiosity because we thought that the secondary teachers' demand for a change in their pay scales—of course a change for the better—would be met in the Budget. But, to our great surprise and sorrow, we find that the case of the secondary teachers has been totally neglected. In this Budget a deal has been given to primary teachers—not that they too are completely satisfied considering the announcement of the Secretary of the Primary Teachers' Association. Still it can be said that an attempt has been made to meet them half way at least. The College teachers also are lucky enough to have an educationist and a sympathiser of teachers as the President of the University Grants Commission and he too has given enough grants to the Universities and he has declared that the

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University Grants Commission will meet half the expenses of the colleges which they will have to incur on account of raising the pay scales of the college teachers. But in between these two, viz., the primary teachers and the college teachers, are the secondary school teachers. They are as if sitting between two stools. There is nobody to protect their interests. As if they are orphans, neither maternal nor paternal attitude has been shown to them. The result is that they are greatly dissatisfied. What they demanded in 1938 in pre-war days, was tried to be given to them in 1948 by sanctioning the Ghate Parulekar Scheme when the prices had gone four times that of 1938 level. So, for the last 10 years they have been demanding a revision of their pay scales. In this connection, a Resolution was also brought by me before this hon. House last year requesting the Hon. Education Minister to appoint a Committee to reconsider the pay scales of the secondary teachers. Sir, I cannot say that he has neglected that request altogether because he has appointed an Integration Committee and he has said that one of the terms of reference of that Committee is to reconsider the scales of secondary teachers. One of the conditions is that the Committee must present its report by the end of May 1958. Now, from what we hear, we find that it would be practically impossible for the Committee to finish its work, if it is to do full justice to the work, before that period. I think that the Hon. Minister has also corroborated that fear as he has announced that he expects the Committee to submit its report within 6 months because, if he had expected that the Committee would be able to finish its work in May, he would have said that he expects the report within 3 months. But he himself now seems to have realised that the task of the Committee is very great and, therefore, the Committee would find it well nigh impossible to finish the work by May. That means that it will take some more months to submit its report. Now, supposing that the recommendations of the Committee are in the hands of Government, still that does not mean that the secondary teachers have been able to get the deal and whatever is recommended by the Committee is going to be given to them immediately. We have had enough experience of the red tapism of Government when the Ghate Parulekar Scheme was sanctioned. After the recommendations are made, they are considered by the educational authorities for months together and then the implementation begins piece by piece, section by section. In respect of some recommendations it is said that they are being considered, some are under consideration and some will receive consideration and all that and after years together some recommendations made by the Ghate Parulekar scheme were fully implemented. Therefore, even though the integration Committee has been appointed, that does not mean that any justice has been done to secondary teachers. When I went to Poona during the week end, I found that the secondary teachers were in a mood of desperation because no deal has been given to them and their grievance has not been considered in the Budget. They have now begun to think otherwise. When they see that the demands of the primary teachers are being considered, they ask the question to themselves as to why is it that their demands are being considered and why not ours and the reply that they get is that the demands of the primary teachers are considered because they have become more organised and more vocal.

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They have organised themselves under the All India Primary Teachers Organisation and it is only because the secondary teachers have behaved well so far, as they have not taken recourse to such measures, that their demands are not being heard. These are the thoughts which are predominantly entertained by the secondary teachers not only in Poona but by all secondary teachers in all the educational centres. I would, therefore, request Government that, till the recommendations of the Integration Committee are out, and the decisions of the Committee are considered, adopted and implemented by Government, they should give some kind of interim relief to secondary teachers. Otherwise I am afraid that secondary teachers will think of adopting certain other course and they would not be wrong, in my opinion, in doing that because recent instances point out that, unless they take some drastic measures, no demand of theirs would ever be met by Government. Some two years back the Nagpur teachers resorted to a sort of non-co-operation and immediately some of their demands were met, or at least an assurance was given that they would be met, when they resorted to fasting. At Calcutta also the secondary teachers' grievances were met when they resorted to fasting for days together. So when the teachers realise that their demands are not being met unless they resort to any of these things—either it may be non-co-operation or it may be Satyagraha, carrying out processions, fasting or some other means—I think that it would be wrong to blame them if they take recourse to them.

Then I will turn to another subject connected with education. From the Budget we find that N. D. C. is going to be encouraged.

(Recess from 4-30 p.m. to 5 00 p.m.)

(The Deputy Chairman in the Chair)

SHRI S. L. OGALÉ : Madam Chairman, I was referring to my second point, namely, the National Discipline Scheme, that is going to be introduced shortly in the schools. From the Budget it appears that a big sum of Rs. 5 lakhs has been provided for for the introduction of this scheme. We do not get any more information about the scheme in the speech delivered by hon. the Finance Minister, but if we refer to the book that was given to us only yesterday about the annual activities, we find therein that, in order to implement that scheme, specially trained staff is going to be appointed, mainly consisting of ex-Indian National army officers and ex-army officers, as they will be in a better position to develop character, to inculcate discipline and to teach some lessons on morality to the students. Madam, unless we have implemented the scheme and tried it for some months or years, we will not be in a position to decide whether it will be useful to the students or not, but till we know it, I want to raise one point about it. Have we not got enough activities in schools at present whose aim is just the very aim that this scheme is being adopted for? Are there no activities going on in schools at present which aim at developing character, developing morality and inculcating discipline amongst the

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students? We have got scouting, we have got physical training, we have got A. C. C., we have got N. C. C., we have got cultural activities, we have got extra curricular activities, we have got community life activities, etc., and as if none of these activities is going to foster a spirit of comradeship or develop morality, etc. amongst the students, a new scheme is being introduced. That is the only objection that I have to raise. Madam, it is a different thing with big schools, but small schools, with a staff of 10 or 11 teachers, will find it difficult to have a special teacher for each of these activities. When the Inspectors visit the schools, they ask—"Do you know scouting? Have you got specially trained teachers with special education? Is there a teacher trained for A. C. C.? Is there a teacher trained for N. C. C.? Is there a teacher who can teach students dramatics?" etc. etc. and now the schools will be burdened with this extra staff in order to conduct this National Discipline Scheme. All these things, Madam, will make matters more and more difficult and impracticable for schools, and, therefore, my request to Government is that it should scrap some of these activities. If you are going on with this National Discipline Scheme, then do away with either scouting or A. C. C. or some of the existing activities, so that you can concentrate on one particular scheme. It is better to introduce one all-pervading scheme which will carry out the purpose of the various schemes now being introduced in schools. That is what I wanted to say about the National Discipline Scheme.

Then, Madam, I shall turn to the State Council of Sports. Last year, when the Supplementary Demands were presented to the House in June, as much as Rs. 1,06,000 were sanctioned for this State Council of Sports and therein a huge sum of Rs. 80,000 was ear-marked for granting scholarship to sportsmen students. When that scheme was introduced and when that sum was granted, it was surmised that such a step, which was a step in the right direction, would be taken before the end of the year. An amount of Rs. 80,000 was to be spent by way of granting scholarship to sportsmen students and to those who had attained the State level of efficiency, and in order to enable them to reach the all India level, this scholarship was to be granted. We thought that Government was going to take immediate steps to put this scheme into action and eight months' scholarships were provided for, that is from August till the end of the year, that is till the end of March, but up till now not a single scholarship has been granted. If, Madam, what we read in the newspapers is correct, only the other day the very first meeting of the National Council was held. On the first day, the meeting unfortunately had to be adjourned because we were mourning the death of the late Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. But when the meeting was held the next day a meeting—which was supposed to consider a scheme to inculcate discipline, to build up character, to promote team spirit and patriotism and to foster a spirit of comradeship among the various institutions catering for sports in this country—what happened? How did the meeting—if the news which appeared in the newspapers is correct—go on? What business was carried on at the meeting? Nothing. Only on a constitutional point there was a deadlock and no business was carried on! That was in the very first meeting of the Council of Sports, whose aim was to foster all these aims in the minds of the students. There was some scramble

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for the posts of officers ; there was the question as to who should be the Vice-President. Unfortunately, the Hon. the Minister for Education, whom Government has nominated as the President, was, it appears, absent. In his place, I may be forgiven to say, Hon. the Deputy Minister attended and then a constitutional point was raised as to, when Hon. the Minister for Education has been nominated as the President, in his absence can the Deputy Minister officiate as President, since there was no provision for that. Another objection was, how could she be the President when she was not connected with any institution conducting such activities in the State ? If the reports are correct after a heated discussion the meeting was adjourned without transacting any business. The Council, which had been given the responsibility of distributing Rs. 80,000 to the students, so that they may be in a position to utilise that money as scholarship during the 8 months from August to March end, did not grant any scholarship. Three hundred applications were received and the students who have been waiting for months together, thinking that there would be a decision in the matter very soon, have still to wait for a decision. That is the fate of an amount of Rs. 1,06,000 that the House had sanctioned for the National Sports Council in June last. If that is going to be the way in which we are going to carry on with our affairs, how is it possible for an institution like this to inculcate a healthy spirit in the minds of the students ? Moreover, people have begun to think that all these things, namely, the creation of a National Council, nominating a President who is a Government nominee, etc. are being done because Government wants to have in hand the strings of these institutions, that it wants to have some authority, some say, in the conduct of these institutions and that is why these grants are being given to them. Hence the people are looking at it with some other motive. I may say here, by way of caution, that this is going to be a very difficult task for the President of the Sports Council, and considering the way in which the other institutions are being carried on, say, the various gymkhanas, cricket clubs, Football Associations, etc. and the way in which the business is being conducted by this Council, this is going to be a hornet's nest that Government has created by spending all this money. That is my fear about it.

I shall now turn to the Finance Commission, leaving aside the problem of education. As has already been pointed out, the Finance Commission has unfortunately done, in my opinion, great injustice to this State and to Hon. the Finance Minister. Last time when I spoke on the Budget, I complimented the Finance Minister, saying that a doctor was turned into a Finance Minister and the Finance Minister was turned into an able pleader, when he submitted the two memoranda to the Finance Commission, but it is now being doubled that something was wrong with the case that he presented to the Finance Commission. I do not know whether that is so.

Shri H. B. BHIDE : A wrong certificate !

Shri S. L. OGALÉ : That is not the only inference that can be drawn. The pleadings might be correct, still injustice might have been done. That can also be an alternative inference. According to the recent decision of the Finance Commission, our State is to have only 15.91 per cent. of the total

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income-tax collection. That has given us this year only Rs. 12.29 crores. According to that calculation we ought to have received Rs. 13.4 crores ; but due to the second Finance Commission's decision we are getting about Rs. 12 crores as our share, i.e. Rs. 1.4 crores less. Our State demanded more percentage. We have been given a lesser percentage, thus making us to incur a loss of Rs. 1.4 crores. Besides, there is no extra devolution of revenues which could be given to this State. There is no grant-in-aid to this State, when our State's efforts for tax collection were the best. Our target for tax collection was Rs. 23.5 crores and we had actually collected Rs. 24 crores during the first Five-Year Plan period. Then, as the figures themselves would show, our target has been reached not only cent per cent, but 102.13 per cent. And what have we got in return ? Not even a pat on the back ; not a word of praise. No reason at all has been given for not giving us adequate grants-in-aid. I am just reminded of the nackneyed proverb "God helps those who help themselves", but it does not seem to apply in the case of the Central Government or the Finance Commission. We can say that the Finance Commission helps those who do not help themselves. The Finance Commission has given more grants to those States which had not taken any care of reaching the target. This State has not only reached the target, but also has over reached it. That is why I say that great injustice has been done to this State.

Similarly, the policy of prohibition of this State has not been encouraged by the Finance Commission. On page 35 of the Finance Commission's report it is stated :—

"Our estimates of the States' resources have been made on the assumption that the cost of any extension of prohibition will be met by special taxation."

Following our old policy of prohibition, we have extended that policy to the newly added regions to our State ; but no grants and no help have come from the Centre. The Finance Commission says "if you want to extend the policy of prohibition, then you must depend on self help. You must raise income by new taxation. We are not going to help you in any way". Thus, having received a rebuff from the Finance Commission, naturally the only way left out was to meet the deficit by new taxation. During my last Budget speech I had said that, if luckily a windfall comes over us by a favourable decision of the Finance Commission, there will be no necessity of levying new taxes ; but if their decision goes against us and if new taxation is inevitable, I had then said, Madam, that no attempt should be made to place the last straw on the back of the camel which is already become weak and emaciated. I requested Hon. the Finance Minister to find out those wealthy people who can still bear the burden of taxation. That time has now come. But I am sorry to say that Hon. the Finance Minister has not sighted the wealthy. Before his eyes was only the camel and perhaps the last straw has already been placed on its back.

This year the problem was to meet a deficit of about Rs. 2 crores. The receipts have increased, but the expenditure has enormously increased and, therefore, the net result is that we are facing a deficit of Rs. 2.11 crores. The

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question was how to meet it. But the question is must we meet it. That is an important question. Last year when the deficit was Rs. 3 crores, we did not meet it. We allowed it to pass by. Luckily for us there was more collection of revenue during that year and we ended the year not with a deficit but with a surplus of Rs. 5 crores. But we had taken the decision not to try to cover up the deficit by any new taxation. The question, Madam, is why this year particularly an attempt is being made to cover up that deficit by fresh taxation. Is the atmosphere favourable for such a heavy taxation? Are the people in a mood to pay more taxes? On the other hand, the very words "new taxation" have become taxing, boring and abnoxious to the people. They are not in a mood at all to pay any further amount by way of new taxation. When this is the atmosphere in the whole State, our Finance Minister has been bold enough to try to cover this deficit of Rs. 2 crores or so, when the deficit of Rs. 3 crores was left uncovered last year; and for that purpose new taxes have been levied to the tune of Rs. 3 crores.

If we study the taxes, we can divide them into two categories. One category is that of taxes that have been levied for bringing about the unification of taxes in the whole State and the second category is that of taxes that are newly levied. In the first category come the motor vehicle tax, the duty for non-judicial stamps, entertainment tax and the tax on the consumption of electricity, etc. Personally for me I am not against these taxes, though it may mean that people from those regions who have been newly added to this State will have to pay something extra. I am not against the raising of these taxes. Just as those people are going to share the advantages of this new big State, they must also be in a position to share whatever losses or whatever handicaps they will be made to suffer because of that. There are many sorts of reliefs that the people from Marathawada are getting. I do not know the exact amount of relief. But there in Marathawada there were taxes on cereals, pulses, paddy, etc., which are things required by everybody, everyday. Then, again, there was the multi-purpose sales-tax. There was tax on Maida, Soji, Ata, etc. They had also to pay agricultural income-tax. They have now not to pay all those taxes. This advantage they have got because of the unification of scales, laws and other matters and, therefore, I personally think that, as they are getting advantages of the integration of services and the unification of scales, etc., they must be prepared to pay these taxes in order to solve the problem of unification of taxes. The problem of unification of taxes has to be solved sooner or later. Even by these unification of taxes we are going to get only Rs. 90 lacs. But the real problem is how to meet the deficit of Rs. 2 crores. That will necessitate raising a sum of Rs. 1.10 lacs more, and in order to raise that amount there are two other taxes, namely tax on motor spirit and tax on diesel oil. It is not that the people do not pay that tax here or there. The tax is going to be increased and, therefore, I refrain from saying that it is an additional tax. But the tax that is more discussed, the tax that has become a point of controversy and the tax that I personally dislike most is the tax on passenger fares by levying which Hon. the Finance Minister is thinking of collecting about Rs. 1.80 lacs. I am totally against this tax, Madam. I tried to think why this particular tax must have

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been chosen and I have found no answer. The only answer perhaps might be that it is very easy to collect this tax. No Government machinery is required to collect this tax. The tax is to be collected by the State Transport Corporation or by the private operators. They are to collect this tax and after a year, when the returns come, 10 per cent. extra is to be paid to Government. Government has to take some trouble to collect income-tax, sales-tax, etc. There is, however, no trouble whatsoever for Government in collecting the tax which is proposed to be levied. Our Finance Minister has followed the footsteps of the Government of India in this respect. The Government of India has taxed railway travel. But, Madam, there is a difference even in the two taxations. If the railways had been available everywhere, I do not think many people would have preferred the State Transport Service. The State Transport rates are already costlier than the railway rates. People travel by State Transport because of necessity. It is not that rich men only travel by State Transport; even the common man has, out of necessity, to travel by State Transport. That is why I would say that travelling by State Transport is not a luxury. Moreover, the people who would now be required to pay the additional tax are not going to get any additional benefit or relief. Is the State Transport Service going to arrange for any additional facilities or benefit for the welfare of the passengers? Not at all, because State Transport will ask: "What are we going to get out of this tax? Nothing. So we are not in duty bound at all to try to meet the grievances of the public out of this revenue." They are not going to get a single pie out of this revenue and the tax will have to be paid even by those who are not going to earn anything. Thus it is an indirect tax. Only because a person has travelled by State Transport, he will have to pay the tax even though his earnings may be less.

Then, Sir, my last argument against this tax is this: This is the only tax which does not bring in unification in the taxation measures. In the case of Sales Tax and other taxes, measures have been taken or are being taken to unify them. But what about the State Transport rates? If my information is correct, the State Transport rates in Marathwada are higher than the old Bombay State rates. Are they being unified? Have they been brought to the lower level of the Bombay State? Those higher rates are still there. So far as State Transport rates are concerned, there is no unification. So without achieving unification this tax has been levied. For all these reasons I am against this tax. The Hon. Minister might say that there is no tax levied on the urban passenger travel, meaning thereby that the BEST and the Poona Motor Transport will not levy this tax. But, Madam, after the increased tax on motor spirit and diesel oil, the BEST and PMT also might think of increasing the rate of fares. They would say that their profit would be less and perhaps they might also incur some loss if they do not increase the rates. Therefore, is Hon. the Minister for Finance going to give us a guarantee that there would be no increase in the bus fares in the urban areas inspite of all these facts which I have mentioned?

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member has taken a very long time. He should try to finish his remarks.

Shri S. L. OGALE : I will try to be very brief.

Now what are the alternatives ? As hon. Member Dr. Khair has suggested, not only in his speech today but also in his speech on the Budget last year, the levy on agricultural income-tax is the only other alternative that one can suggest. As the hon. Member Shri Deshmukh has asked, are we going to continue all the taxes that were in the old Bombay State ? Are we not going to learn anything from the taxation measures adopted by the other States ? If the agricultural income-tax had been levied that would have been a direct tax. The tax on travel is an indirect tax. In the case of agricultural income-tax, it is only those who cultivate and get something have to pay it. That is the merit of that tax. This tax has been introduced in Madras and some other States. Therefore, the introduction of this tax would have been better. If this tax is not to be levied or it is to be reserved for the next year or for the future, a tax should have been levied on the sale and re-sale of luxurious articles. There are many rich people buying and selling first-hand and second-hand motor cars, refrigerators, radiograms, etc. There are so many luxurious articles which are taken advantage of by the millionaires. If they had been taxed, that would have been a proper tax in my opinion. The third alternative would have been no tax at all. Why should the deficit be met at all ? Let the deficit remain as it is. Considering the injustice done to this State by the Finance Commission, Hon. the Finance Minister ought to have resorted to 'no tax' campaign against the Centre. He should have said that we are not going to raise any new tax at all. Therefore, my slogan is 'No Tax' at all, and all of us would have supported it because we think that injustice has been done to our State in the matter of allocation of our proper share. The principle which has been laid down by the Finance Commission is that not collection but consumption and population are going to be the basis for the distribution. If this principle is adhered to, in the next five years we would not get any increased share. Therefore, only the 'No Tax Campaign' would have been the fitting reply.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Or have more population !

Shri S. L. OGALE : Yes, but that is against our principle. We are already taking to artificial family planning.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I hope that the hon. Member will now try to conclude his remarks.

Shri S. L. OGALE : I will take only one point. Now about Rs. 75 lakhs are being earmarked for what is called the Road Fund. As Hon. the Finance Minister has said, he is thinking aloud and he has stated that new funds will be created so that there would be a bright future for the society in view of the different social welfare activities. It is really a good plan. It is a new orientation in our financial policy but the only bad thing about it is that the fruits of it are not going to be reaped by us, they are to be reaped by the future generations. So, if at all any blessings are to be bestowed upon Hon. the Finance Minister, they would be by the posterity and not by us. This is all the criticism that I wanted to level. I have nothing more to say.

Shri R. N. BHAVE (Maharashtra South—Local Authorities) : Madam, Chairman, if the Budget is read carefully, there would be no doubt in the mind of any impartial or dispassionate reader that it is meant for the poor and the poor only. It is meant for the uplift of the farmers and the peasants and the low income group people. If we just read the items of expenditure on several counts, we will find that the expenditure is substantially meant for the poor. The expenditure is for the agricultural improvement, for irrigation projects for community development projects, for social welfare work and for the welfare of industrial workers. Thus it would be found that all the expenditure is meant for the uplift of the poor, the farmers and the industrial workers. So how can it be argued that it is meant for the rich ? What expenditure is going to be incurred for the rich according to this particular Budget ? On the other hand we find that about 55 per cent. expenditure is going to be on agriculture and minor irrigation schemes, much more than on education and other items. It is, therefore, surprising to find hon. Members from the Opposition saying that this Budget is meant for the rich. This would appear to be incorrect to any man of common sense. Taking the revenue side, it is no doubt true that some taxation of regressive nature is levied. But that is because much of the taxes are levied on the rich by the Centre and few taxes remain to be levied by the States and generally they are of a regressive nature. It is said that there should be no tax of a regressive nature, such as sales tax or land revenue. In the conditions in which we are, some taxes are bound to be of a regressive nature. But when they are spread out over a large number of people, they become bearable. It would be found that even those people who champion the cause of the poor have argued in the Central Legislature that there should be a tax on salt and that prohibition should be scrapped. Let us take, for instance, land revenue. Even in the socialistic countries there is land revenue, the only difference being that there it is taken in kind and not in cash as it is done here. So it cannot be said that no tax falls on the poor. Therefore, when it is pointed out that some of the taxes fall on the poor, it must be realised at the same time that they do not exclusively fall on the poor, because we know that the burden of tax can be shifted by the poor on the rich. Take, for instance, the tax on agricultural income. The agriculturists can, to a certain extent, shift that burden of tax on the consumers. So that process of shifting the tax from one to another continues and, therefore, it cannot be said that every tax falls exclusively on the poor. Let us take the other aspect of this problem, that all taxes should be on the rich. Economists will show that, if that is done, the law of diminishing returns will operate and, really speaking, the tax to that extent will not be realised.

If, therefore, bearing the above facts in mind we look at the Budget dispassionately and consider the revenue as well as the expenditure side of it we may say that it is really a 'poor man's Budget'. Let us take into consideration the various activities and programmes undertaken by Government. In view of the vast dimensions of these programmes, it was necessary to associate the local institutions with the implementation of these programmes. When Government found that village panchayats were to be associated with the several programmes, a law was passed by the old Bombay State which

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expanded the powers of these panchayats and vested in them additional responsibilities. They have to look to the production of agriculture, minor irrigation works, community development projects, prohibition and so on and so forth and naturally, if all these developmental programmes are to be carried out successfully, all the local self-governing institutions, namely, the village panchayats, district local boards and district development boards, should be as broad-based as possible and they should act in co-ordination; their powers should be increased and their resources should be strengthened. So, under this Budget it will be found that the resources of the village panchayats have been strengthened, the resources of the district local boards have been strengthened and a large amount has been ear-marked for the various developmental programmes, which are all meant for raising the standard of living of the poor people.

It is not merely enough if more funds are provided for the village panchayats. It is necessary, at the same time, to see that they are administratively improved. At the Commissioners' conference several suggestions in this connection were made. We cannot say at this stage that the village panchayats are efficient enough to carry out the various additional responsibilities that they will have to bear. It has, therefore, been rightly visualised that there should be village camps in order that they may get the necessary training in the various developmental programmes which the village panchayats will have to carry out. It has been realised by Government that all these programmes cannot be carried out efficiently by these local self-Government institutions. So all these measures are embodied in this Budget. There is some machinery suggested for making the various schemes popular, and enabling the people and these institutions to actively participate in the different developmental programmes. There will be a sort of reorientation and a new outlook among the village people. It cannot, of course, be said that there is going to be cent per cent. improvement all of a sudden. It is easy to comment and say that this should be done and that should be done, but things cannot be done overnight. All this economy is meant to develop the resources and abilities of the people step by step and one has to be patient. No doubt the period of patience is very burdensome, but still if gradually, with the co-operation of the villagers and farmers, all these developmental activities are carried out, there is no reason to expect that, in the near future, all this statement will disappear and this State will attain its desired goal in a short time.

I want to make one suggestion here with respect to municipalities, especially district municipalities. I am making this suggestion not only this time but I have also made it often in the past. In the community development programmes these municipalities have been completely left out. If those district municipalities, covering a population of 20,000 and with a revenue of Rs. 2 lakhs, are not given an opportunity to develop financially, I believe they will not improve in any way and they will remain undeveloped in the neighbourhood of every village unit. For instance, what is the position of these municipalities at present? It has been recommended by Government that the municipalities

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may tax to the extent of 15 and 20 per cent. on certain schemes. The municipalities have levied tax to that extent, in the hope that this additional money would be found useful for developmental activities, but it has been found by experience that this additional money is taken up in the enforcement of awards under the Minimum Wages Act or in trade disputes under the Trade Disputes Act. Apart from the money spent on the implementation of these Acts, it has been found that the municipalities cannot tax on khadi and hand-spun cloth. There is a reduction in revenue on this account also. There is also the question of refunds. So it will be seen that the revenue side is very much weakened. My own experience is that, even though the municipalities are allowed to tax to the extent of 15 or 20 per cent. in certain cases, it is not possible for them to carry out any developmental activities. My suggestion, therefore, is that the municipalities should be included in the community development blocks and governed by the rules made thereunder, that is, they should be made to give their contribution to the extent of 20 per cent. in the case of water or drainage schemes, or 25 per cent. in the case of school buildings. If all these rules are made applicable to all the district municipalities, then we can hope for the development of these municipalities; otherwise they will remain undeveloped. I would request Government to take my suggestion into consideration.

Lastly, I may state here, Sir, that recently rather a peculiar attitude is being adopted by some people and they want to fight on every issue. For example, when there is any question relating to the Central tax, the remedy suggested is "let us fight shoulder to shoulder with the Central Government". Similarly, when there is any problem relating to the State Government and it has to be solved, the remedy suggested is "let us fight shoulder to shoulder with the State Government", and whenever any problems relating to local self-Government or district local board are to be solved, they say, "let us fight with the State Government". I have never found such an attitude before. I find such an attitude being adopted for the first time by leaders of parties, by persons even above the age of fifty. All that I would say is, let us fight shoulder to shoulder with the new attitude that is being adopted. If there is co-operative spirit in matters where co-operation is needed, I am sure that we shall be able to carry out the second Five Year Plan successfully.

શ્રી. છબીલાલ પી. મહેતા (સૌરાષ્ટ્ર ડિસ્ટ્રિક્ટ લોકલ ઓથોરીટીઝ તરફથી ચૂંટાયેલ) : માનનીય સભાપતિજી, સને ૧૯૫૮-૫૯નું બજેટ જતાં એમ લાગે કે નવા વર્ષની અંદર લોકોને જે સગવડતાઓ મળવી જોઈએ, લોકોને જે સવલતો આપવી જોઈએ, અને કલ્યાણકારી રાજ્ય તરફ જે રીતે આગળ વધવું જોઈએ, તે પૈકીની સગવડોનું કોઈ દર્શન આ અંદાજપત્રમાં દેખાતું નથી. માનનીય નાણા પ્રધાનશ્રીએ અંદાજપત્ર રજૂ કરતી વખતે સામાન્ય રીતે જેમ બીજા નાણા પ્રધાનો કરે છે એમ ગયા વર્ષની નિષ્ફળતાના કારણો બતાવવા અને એ કારણો વ્યાખ્યા કરાવવા પ્રયત્ન કર્યો છે. આ વખતે પણ ગયા વર્ષની અંદર ઈન્ડીગ્રેશનને કારણે મુશ્કેલી પડી, એક્સચેન્જને કારણે મુશ્કેલી પડી, બીજા કારણોસર મુશ્કેલી પડી, એમ કહીને નિષ્ફળતાનો બચાવ કરવાની કોશિષ કરી છે. આ બજેટની અંદર લોકોને—કામદાર વગર, મધ્યમ વર્ગને કે ખેડૂતોને—રાહત આપવાની કોઈ નવી વાત માનનીય નાણા પ્રધાનશ્રી લાવ્યા હોત તો

[શ્રી. છબીવદાસ પી. મહેતા]

સ્વાભાવિક છે કે લોકો એ વાતને સ્વીકારતાં. પણ આજે આપણે જોઈએ છીએ કે આ બજેટની અંદર બસોમાં મુસાફરી કરતા મુસાફરો ઉપર ૧૮૦ લાખ રૂપિયાના કરવેરા નાખવાની દરખાસ્ત માનનીય નાણા પ્રધાનશ્રી લાવ્યા છે.

બજેટની અંદર ખર્ચ વધ્યું છે અને સાથોસાથ આવક પણ વધી છે; છતાં આપણું બજેટ ખાધવાળું બજેટ છે. હું માનું છું ત્યાંસુધી આપણે આપણા એડમિનિસ્ટ્રેશનની અંદર નોકરીયાતોની કોઈ પણ જાતના પ્લાન વગર જો ભરતી કરશું તો મને લાગે છે કે દર વર્ષે ડેફીસીટ ફાઈનેન્સ આપણી સામે આવીને ઉભું રહેવાનું છે. કારણ કે બજેટની અંદર આપણે જોશું તો જણાશે કે બજેટનું મોટા ભાગનું ખર્ચ વહીવટી તંત્ર પાછળ કરવામાં આવે છે. એડમિનિસ્ટ્રેશનની પાછળ થતું ખર્ચ ઘટવાને બદલે વધ્યું છે. આ તકે સાથોસાથ આપણે જોવું જોઈએ કે જ્યારે આજે એડમિનિસ્ટ્રેશન પાછળનું ખર્ચ વધે છે ત્યારે એની પાછળ થતા ખર્ચનું વળતર લોકોને મળે છે કે કેમ? બજેટની અંદર જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે:—

“સુધારેલા અંદાજની સરખામણીમાં, આવતા વર્ષના અંદાજમાં રૂ. ૧૦,૨૩.૬૫ લાખનો વધારેલો ખર્ચ જણાશે. મોટા ફેરફારોમાંના કેટલાક અહીં સમજાવ્યા છે. ‘૧૭-વ્યાજ’ અને ‘૨૨-વ્યાજ’ હેઠળ જોગવાઈ કરેલ વ્યાજના ખર્ચમાં રૂ. ૮૮.૦૮ લાખનો વધારો થયો છે. આ વધારો મુખ્યત્વે..... ‘૨૫-સામાન્ય વહીવટ’ હેઠળ રૂ. ૬૨.૧૮ લાખ મુખ્યત્વે ‘સચિવાલય’ અને ‘જિલ્લા વહીવટ’ હેઠળ વધેલી પ્રવૃત્તિઓને પહેંચી વળવા માટે વધારેલા કર્મચારી વર્ગને કારણે છે, ‘૩૮-વેદકાય’ હેઠળ રૂ. ૧૮૪.૨૨ લાખ.”

આજે વધારાનું ખર્ચ બતાવવામાં આવ્યું છે એ વધારાના ખર્ચને માટે હું એમ કહું કે લોકોને આ ખર્ચતા પૈસાનું પૂરેપૂરું વળતર મળતું નથી. પરંતુ આજે લોકોની ઉલ્ટી મુશ્કેલીઓ વધી છે. આજે તો જમ જમ અધિકારીઓ વધતા જાય છે તેમ તેમ લોકોની મુશ્કેલીઓ વધતી જાય છે.

બજેટ પ્રવચનની અંદર માનનીય નાણા પ્રધાનશ્રીએ કહ્યું છે કે ગયા વખતની જેમ આ વર્ષે પણ કામદારો અને માલિકો વચ્ચેના સંબંધો બહુ સારા રહ્યા છે, મોંઘવારનો આંક બરાબર રહ્યો છે, અનાજનું ઉત્પાદન, જે કે થોડી અસર થઈ છે તો પણ, બરાબર છે. પણ એમનું જે પ્રવચન છે એ શું બતાવે છે? એમના પ્રવચનમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે:—

“કામદારો અને માલિકો વચ્ચેના સંબંધો આપણા રાજ્યમાં ગયા વર્ષની જેમ શાંતિભર્યા રહ્યા હતા.”

પણ હું એમ કહું કે આપણે કામદારો અને માલિકો વચ્ચેના સંબંધોની મુલવણી કઈ રીતે કરીએ છીએ? આજે મિલમાલિકો પોતાનું સંગઠન કરીને મજૂરોને બેકાર બનાવવા માટે જે નોટિસો આપી રહ્યા છે અને સરકારને પણ જે ધમકી આપી રહ્યા છે એ બાબતનો ઉલ્લેખ આ પ્રવચનમાં કેમ કરવામાં આવ્યો નથી? એટલું જ નહિ પણ પ્રવચનમાં પણ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે બેકાર મજૂરોને રાહત આપવા માટે શેલાપુરની નરસિંગગીરજા મિલ ચલાવવા માટે સરકારે તૈયારી કરી છે. એટલે રાજ્યમાં પ્રવર્તતી બેકારીનો કોઈ ઉલ્લેખ પ્રવચનમાં કરવામાં આવ્યો નથી.

કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે ઉત્પાદનના આંકમાં સુધારો થઈ રહ્યો છે. એ વાત સાચી છે કે ઔદ્યોગિક ઉત્પાદનમાં સુધારો થઈ રહ્યો છે. ઉત્પાદન વધ્યું છે પણ સાથોસાથ બેકારોની સંખ્યા પણ વધી છે એમ જે સ્વીકારવું જોઈએ તે આમાં સ્વીકારવામાં આવ્યું નથી.

[શ્રી. છબીવદાસ પી. મહેતા]

નાણા પ્રધાનશ્રીએ એમના પ્રવચનમાં એક બહુ મહત્વની વાત નાણા પંચના ચુકાદા માટે કહી છે. એમણે કહ્યું છે કે દ્વિતીય નાણા પંચના ચુકાદાને કારણે મુંબઈ રાજ્યને અન્યાય થયો છે. એ વાત સાચી છે કે મુંબઈ રાજ્યને આ ચુકાદાને કારણે અન્યાય થયો છે પણ એનો ઉપાય નાણા પ્રધાનશ્રી શું બતાવે છે? મુંબઈ રાજ્યને જે મોટો અન્યાય થયો છે એને અંગેનું કોઈ સૂચન, એને માટેની કોઈ દરખાસ્ત, તેમ લાવ્યા છે? મુંબઈ રાજ્યને જે અન્યાય થયો છે તે દૂર કરવા માટે આપણે સૌએ કોશિષ કરવી જોઈએ એ વાત સાચી છે. જેમ મારી પહેલાના માનનીય સભ્ય શ્રી દેશમુખ સાહેબે કહ્યું કે નાણા પ્રધાનશ્રીએ આપભોગ આપવો જોઈએ. હું તેમના આ સૂચન સાથે સંમત છું. પ્રવચનના પાના બે ઉપર કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે:—

“આ પંચના અહેવાલ ઉપરથી એક સોથી વધારે મહત્વનું અનુમાન એ તારવી શકાય કે એક અટપટી રાજદ્વારી સમસ્યાના રાષ્ટ્રીય ઉકેલ તરીકે નવા રાજ્યની પુનર્રચના થવાથી સહયારા કરવેરા તથા ગ્રાન્ટો કેન્દ્ર તરફથી મળવાથી આપણા નાણા સાધનોમાં વધારો કરવાની જરૂર ઉભી કરતી સંક્રાન્તિકાળની પ્રચંડ નાણા મુશ્કેલીઓ આપણા માટે ઉપસ્થિત થઈ છે એ હકીકત પંચે બરાબર પિછાની નથી.”

આ વાત સાચી છે. પણ આ મુશ્કેલીઓને ફેઈસ કરવાનો વખત નાણા પ્રધાનશ્રી આગળ આવે છે ત્યારે તેઓ એમ ફરિયાદ કરે છે કે દ્વિતીય નાણા પંચે આપણા રાજ્યને અન્યાય કર્યો છે. પણ એનો કોઈ ઉકેલ બતાવ્યો નથી. માત્ર એમ કહેવામાં આવે છે કે “અટપટી રાજદ્વારી સમસ્યાના રાષ્ટ્રીય ઉકેલ તરીકે નવા રાજ્યની પુનર્રચનાને કારણે જે નાણા મુશ્કેલીઓ ઉપસ્થિત થઈ છે એ હકીકત પંચે બરાબર પિછાની નથી.” પણ આમ માત્ર કહેવાથી અટપટી રાજદ્વારી સમસ્યાનો ઉકેલ થવાનો નથી. આ અટપટી રાજદ્વારી સમસ્યા કોણે ઉભી કરી છે? જે આપણે ઊભી કરી હોય તો આપણે એનો સામનો કરવા તૈયાર રહેવું જોઈએ. એને બદલે ફાઈનેન્સ કમિશનને દોષ દેવામાં આવે છે. એટલું જ નહિ પણ નાણા પ્રધાનશ્રી કહે છે કે નાણા પંચના ચુકાદાને એવોર્ડ તરીકે ગણવો જોઈએ. જે નાણા પંચના ચુકાદાને એવોર્ડ તરીકે ગણવામાં આવતા હોય તો પછી એ અંગે કાંઈ કહેવાનો હક્ક આપણને નથી. ફાઈનેન્સ કમિશનને આપણા સ્ટેટને અન્યાય કર્યો છે તે હું કબૂલ કરું છું પણ સાથોસાથ આપણે આપણા ખર્ચને પહેંચી વળવા માટે કંઈ માર્ગો જઈ રહ્યા છીએ? આવકના અને ખર્ચના ખાતાને સરભર કરવા માટે કંઈ માર્ગો જઈ રહ્યા છીએ એનો આપણે પહેલાં વિચાર કરવો જોઈએ. આ અંગે થોડાક આંકડા આપું તો અસ્થાને નહીં ગણાય. ૧૯૫૭-૫૮ ના સુધારેલા અંદાજ પ્રમાણે સામાન્ય વહીવટ પાછળનું ખર્ચ ૮૬૦ લાખ રૂપિયા, ન્યાય વહીવટી તંત્ર પાછળનું ખર્ચ ૨૬૭ લાખ રૂપિયા અને પોલીસ ખાતા પાછળનું ખર્ચ ૧,૨૭૧ લાખ રૂપિયા છે. હું માનું છું કે આ જનરલ એડમિનિસ્ટ્રેશન એટલે કે સામાન્ય વહીવટ અને પોલીસ ખાતા પાછળ થતો ખર્ચ કદાચ હિન્દુસ્તાનના બીજાં રાજ્યો કરતાં આપણે ત્યાં સરખામણીએ વધુ થતો હશે. ગયા વખતના પણ આની અંદર આંકડા આપવામાં આવ્યા છે. ૧૯૫૭-૫૮ની અંદર સામાન્ય વહીવટ પાછળ ૭૧૧ લાખ રૂપિયા ખર્ચાતા હતા. સુધારેલા અંદાજ પ્રમાણે ૭૮૮ લાખ રૂપિયા અને ૧૯૫૮-૫૯ના વર્ષ માટે ૮૬૦ લાખ રૂપિયાનું પ્રોવીઝન કરવામાં આવ્યું છે. આ ૮૬૦ લાખ રૂપિયાના ખર્ચમાં મોટા ભાગનું ખર્ચ શેમાં થવાનું છે? આ અંગે હું કહું કે આપણા અહીંના સચિવાલયમાં જે મોટો સ્ટાફ રાખવામાં આવ્યો છે એની પાછળ આ રકમ ખર્ચવામાં આવનાર છે. અધિકારીઓની સંખ્યાનો મેં આંકડો કાઢ્યો તો ગુલ ખાતાની અંદર નાના મોટા નવ અધિકારીઓ છે. રાજકીય અને સેવાગણ વિભાગની અંદર નાના મોટા ૧૩ અધિકારીઓ છે. અર્થ વિભાગની અંદર નાના મોટા ૯ સચિવો છે. મહેસૂલ વિભાગની અંદર ૧૨, સ્થાનિક સ્વરાજ્ય અને લોક સ્વાસ્થ્ય ખાતાની અંદર ૭, વિધિ વિભાગની અંદર ૧૦, કૃષિ અને વન વિભાગની અંદર ૮, શિક્ષણ વિભાગની અંદર ૬, મજૂર અને સમાજ કલ્યાણ વિભાગની

[શ્રી. છબીવદાસ પી. મહેતા]

અંદર ૪, ઉદ્યોગ અને સહકાર વિભાગની અંદર ૬, જાહેર બાંધકામ ખાતાની અંદર ૧૦ અધિકારીઓ છે. એટલે આ રીતે સચિવ, નાના મોટા પ્રતિ સચિવો, નાયબ સચિવ, સહાયક સચિવોની સંખ્યા લગભગ ૧૦૮ થવા જાય છે. આ ઉપરાંત સચિવાલયની અંદર ફરજ પરના અધિકારી, કમિશનર અને ખાસ ફરજ પરના કમિશનરની સંખ્યા જુદી છે. એમના પગારનું ધોરણ બજેટમાં જોતાં એક વિભાગમાં એક સચિવને ત્રણ હજાર રૂપિયા પગાર ઉપરાંત ૭૫૦ રૂપિયા વધારાની કામગીરીના. બીજા સચિવોને ત્રણ હજાર રૂપિયા પગાર આપવામાં આવે છે. આજે આપણે કલ્યાણકારી રાજ્ય હોવાનો દાવો કરીએ છીએ ત્યારે એક તરફથી આપણા રાજ્યની અંદર નીચેના નોકરિયાતને ૩૦ કે ૩૫ રૂપિયાનો પગાર આપીએ છીએ અને બીજી તરફથી આપણા જ રાજ્યમાં સચિવોને ત્રણ હજાર કે ૩,૭૫૦ રૂપિયા પગાર આપીએ છીએ એ કેટલે અંશે વ્યાજબી છે? અને જો એ વ્યાજબી હોય તો આપણને કલ્યાણકારી રાજ્યનો કન્સેશન—આદર્શ—મંજૂર નથી એમ માનવાનું રહ્યું. આટલા મોટા પગાર ખાતાના અધિકારીઓની હારમાળા ઉભી કર્યા પછી પણ એનું પરિણામ શું આવ્યું? આ દ્વિભાષી રાજ્યની રચના થયા પછી મેં આ પહેલાં કહ્યું તેમ સૌરાષ્ટ્રના તમામ કામો આજે અટકી પડ્યાં છે. જેમ જેમ અધિકારીઓ વધતા ગયા તેમ તેમ અમારા કાગળીયા અહીં ગુંચવાતા ગયા.

આ ઉપરાંત સૌથી મહત્વનો સવાલ તો અમારા સૌરાષ્ટ્રના નોકરિયાતોનો છે. સ્ટેટ્સરીઓર્ગેનીઝેશનને કારણે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર, વિદર્ભ અને મરાઠવાડાના નોકરિયાતો મુંબઈ રાજ્યમાં ભળ્યાં. સાહેબ, એ વખતે નોકરિયાતોને એમ કહેવામાં આવ્યું હતું કે તમારી નોકરીને કાંઈ બાધ નહિ આવે. કોઈને કોઈ પ્રકારની આંચ નહિ આવે. પણ આજે આપણે જોઈએ છીએ કે નોકરિયાતોનો સવાલ આજે સળગતો રહ્યો છે. ઈન્ડીગ્રેશન થયાને આજે આટલો સમય થઈ ગયા છતાં આજે એની પોસ્ટના ઈકવેશનના આખરી નિર્ણય થયેલ નથી. એટલું જ નહિ આજે એમને અન્યાય કરવામાં આવી રહ્યો છે. આપણે જાણીએ છીએ કે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર રાજ્ય ૨૦૨ રજવાડાઓનું બનેલું રાજ્ય હતું. એ વખતે સૌરાષ્ટ્ર સરકારે એ જૂના રાજાશાહી જમાનાના જે નોકરિયાતો હતા એ બધાને સમાવી લીધા. સ્ટેટની આવકની મર્યાદામાં રહીને સૌરાષ્ટ્રના નોકરિયાતોનું પાગાર ધોરણ ઓછું મૂક્યું. મુંબઈ રાજ્યની સરખામણીએ અમારા સૌરાષ્ટ્રની આવક અને જવક બહુ ઓછી હતી. અમારું સ્ટેટ નાનું હતું એટલે એનું બજેટ પણ મુંબઈની સરખામણીએ ઓછું હોય એ સ્વાભાવિક છે. ત્યારપછી સૌરાષ્ટ્ર મુંબઈ રાજ્યની અંદર ભળ્યું. પણ આજે સૌરાષ્ટ્રના નોકરિયાતોને એમ કહેવામાં આવે છે કે પાંચ વર્ગની એકધારી એક જ જગ્યા ઉપરની તમારી નોકરી હશે તો તમને એ જગ્યા ઉપર મૂકવામાં આવશે. પબ્લિક સર્વિસ કમિશને ૧લી ઓક્ટોબર ૧૯૫૫ પહેલાં કન્ફર્મ કર્યા હશે તો જ તમને કન્ફર્મ થયા ગણવામાં આવશે. મારી પાસે આજે એવા ૨-૩ દાખલા છે કે જેમાં કન્ફર્મેશન માટે નક્કી થઈ ગયું હોય પણ ઓડર મોડા મલ્યા હોય. આવા દાખલાઓમાં પણ ઈનજસ્ટીશ થઈ રહ્યો છે. જે સેક્રેટરી હતા તેને નીચે ઉતારી મૂકવામાં આવ્યા છે. જે સુપરીન્ટેન્ડેન્ટ હતા તેમજ જે હેડ ક્લાર્ક હતા તેમને નીચે ઉતારી મૂકવામાં આવ્યા છે. અને આજે આ નોકરિયાતોનો સવાલ મહત્વનો સવાલ બની ગયો છે.

આજે આપણે જોઈએ છીએ કે સૌથી વધુમાં વધુ ખર્ચ પોલીસ ખાતા પાછળ આ રાજ્યની અંદર થઈ રહ્યું છે. આજે બાર કરોડ રૂપિયા બજેટ ખર્ચ આ ખાતા પાછળ થઈ રહ્યું છે. ૧૯૫૫-૫૬ના અંદાજ પ્રમાણે માથા દીઠ ૨ રૂપિયા ૬૩ પૈસા બજેટનું એ થવા જાય છે. ૧૯૫૭-૫૮ના સુધારેલ અંદાજ પ્રમાણે ૨ રૂપિયા ૫૭ પૈસા માથા દીઠ એ ખર્ચ થવા જાય છે. જ્યારે બિહારની અંદર ૧૯૫૫-૫૬ માં માથા દીઠ ૧.૧ રૂપિયો ખર્ચ થવા જાય છે. ઉત્તર પ્રદેશ કે જે આપણા રાજ્ય કરતાં મોટું સ્ટેટ છે એની અંદર પણ ૧૯૫૫-૫૬ માં રૂપિયા ૧-૩-૦ નું ખર્ચ માથા દીઠ કરવામાં આવેલું. ફાઈનેન્સ કમિશનના રિપોર્ટમાં બતાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે આપણે ત્યાં રૂપિયા ૨-૦-૧૦ માથા દીઠ ખર્ચવામાં આવે છે.

[શ્રી. છબીવદાસ પી. મહેતા]

આટલી મોટી રકમ પોલીસ ખાતા પાછળ ખર્ચવા છતાં એનું પરિણામ શું આવ્યું છે? ગુન્હાની સંખ્યા વધી છે. જેમ જેમ પોલીસખાતાની અંદર માણસો વધતા ગયા એમ ગુન્હાહિત પ્રવૃત્તિ વધતી ગઈ છે અને સૌરાષ્ટ્રની અંદર તો ગુન્હાનું પ્રમાણ ઉલ્ટાનું વધારે બને છે. એટલું જ નહિ પરંતુ આવા જે ગુન્હાઓ બનતા હોય છે તેને જે કોઈ ઉઘાડા પાડતું હોય છે તેમને પણ મુશ્કેલીમાં મૂકવામાં આવે છે અને તે બાબતનો હું એક દાખલો આપવા માગું છું. હમણાં જ ભાવનગરના એક પત્રકાર ભાઈને હદપાર કરવાની નોટિસ ત્યાંના કલેક્ટર તરફથી આપવામાં આવી છે. આ બે-ચાર દિવસ પહેલાંની જ વાત છે. આ પત્રકાર ભાઈનો ગુન્હો એ છે કે સૌરાષ્ટ્રમાં વારંવાર થતી ચોરી, લુંટ, ધાડ અને ખૂનના બનાવોનો રિપોર્ટ તેઓ આપે છે અને તે માટે આ જાતની કિન્નાખોરી રાખીને આ ભાઈને હદપાર કરવાની કલેક્ટર સાહેબ નોટિસ આપે છે. એટલે આપણા કર્મચારીઓ જે રીતે કામ કરી રહ્યા છે તેના હું ધણા દાખલા આપી શકું તેમ છું. આજે નીચેથી તે છોક ઉપરના અમલદારો માટે સાચું સ્વરાજ્ય ઉભું થયું છે. એનો હું એક દાખલો આપું. હું એક થોપડી વાંચતો હતો ત્યારે તેમાં મેં વાંચ્યું કે કેન્દ્ર સરકારના માજી નાણાં મંત્રીશ્રી સી. ડી. દેશમુખ સાહેબને એક વખત એક માણસ માટે સારું બોલવાનું હતું અને તે માટે તેમણે તેમના સેક્રેટરીને કહ્યું તો તેમણે કહ્યું કે ગયે વખતે તો તમે તેને માટે બહુ ટીકા કરી હતી એટલે આ વખતે તમે તેને માટે સારું કંઈ રીતે બોલી શકશો? એટલે આપણે તે રીતે સારું કહી શકતા નથી. અલબત્ત, હું એક વાત કબૂલ કરું કે આપણી નીતિ અને પોલીસીની અંદર જોઈએ તો રાજાશાહી અને અંગ્રેજશાહી દરમિયાન જે રીતની નીતિ ચાલતી અને જે પદ્ધતિ હતી તેને પણ ઓળંગી જાય તેવી પદ્ધતિ અને વર્તણૂક ચાલુ રહ્યા છે. અને તેથી મને ભય છે કે જો આ જાતનો વર્તણૂક નોકરશાહી તરફથી લોકો પ્રત્યે ચાલુ રહેશે તો લોકશાહી જેખમમાં મૂકાઈ જશે. સૌરાષ્ટ્રનું ઈન્ડીગ્રેશન થયા પછી ભાવનગરનો જે એક મૂળભૂત સવાલ છે તે માટે કામ કરવામાં આવ્યું નથી. કારણ કે ભાવનગરમાં એક તબેલા કેમ્પ છે અને તેમાં નિર્વાસિતોને રાખવામાં આવ્યા છે. એ જગ્યા માણસોને રહેવા લાયક નથી તે જાતનો નિર્ણય ભાવનગરની મ્યુનિસિપાલિટીએ આપ્યો અને તે મતલબનું સર્ટીફિકેટ પણ આપ્યું હતું. જ્યાં ભાવનગર રાજ્યના ઘોડા બાંધવામાં આવતા હતા ત્યાં આ નિર્વાસિત લોકોને રાખવામાં આવ્યા છે. અને તે સામે જ્યારે ફરિયાદ કરવામાં આવી ત્યારે જૂના સૌરાષ્ટ્ર રાજ્યે તેમને માટે મકાનો બાંધવા માટેની એક યોજના તૈયાર કરી પરંતુ કમનસીબે આ દ્વિભાષી રાજ્યની રચના થતાં આજે ઈન્ડીગ્રેશન પછી પણ તે કામ હાથ ઉપર લેવામાં આવ્યું નથી. એ લોકો જ્યાં રહે છે તે જગ્યા માણસોને રહેવા લાયક નથી. છતાં આજે કલેક્ટર આ માણસો પાસેથી ભાડું વસૂલ કરે છે અને તે લોકોને ઈલેક્ટ્રીક પાવર અને પાણી મળતા હતા તે પણ કલેક્ટરે બંધ કરી દીધું છે. હું સરકારને આ બાબતમાં વિનંતિ કરવા માગું છું કે આ લોકોને તાત્કાલિક બધી સગવડ આપવામાં આવે.

આ ઉપરાંત માનનીય નાણાં મંત્રીશ્રીના ભાષણમાં એક વાતનો ઉલ્લેખ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે કે સહકારી મંડળીઓ વધારેમાં વધારે રચાતી જાય છે. સહકારી મંડળીઓ વધારે રચાય તે સારી વાત છે પરંતુ જામનગરની એક મંડળીને રજીસ્ટર કરવાની હા કહેવામાં આવી અને પછીથી તેને રજીસ્ટર કરવામાં ન આવી. આ રાજ્યની નીતિ એવી જણાય છે કે અમુક માણસો જે સહકારી મંડળી ઉભી કરે તો એને રજીસ્ટર ન કરવી. કારણ કે એ માણસો સરકાર પક્ષના ન હોવાથી તેવી મંડળી રજીસ્ટર કરવામાં આવતી નથી. અલબત્ત, આ વાતની તે લોકોને ખબર ન હોય તે સ્વાભાવિક છે. ફરીને જ્યારે માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રી ખાંભા આવેલા ત્યારે આ વિશે વાત કરેલી અને વચણ પણ આપવામાં આવ્યું અને આ બોર્ડ શરૂ કરવું હોય તો જે બીજા પ્રોપોઝલ આવી છે તે રીતે સરખસર આ માણસો રાખવા માટેનું કહેવામાં આવ્યું. અને એમ કરીને આ લોકોને રખડાવવામાં આવ્યા. હું કોઈની ફેવર કે અનફેવરની વાત કરતો નથી પરંતુ મારે કહેવું પડશે કે વિરોધ પક્ષના માણસો કોઈપણ પ્રવૃત્તિ શરૂ કરશે તો એના બોર્ડને મંજૂર કરવામાં ન આવે અને રાજ્યકર્તા પક્ષના માણસો જ એમાં ન હોય તો તેને લબડાવવામાં આવે છે.

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

સૌરાષ્ટ્રની અંદર પેસચુરાઈઝ દૂધની એક ડેરી કરવામાં આવી છે. પરંતુ એ ડેરી મોટા ભાગે ખોટમાં ચાલે છે. એટલે ખરી રીતે તો પક્ષના માણસોને નીભાવવા માટે આ જાતની ખોટમાં ચાલતી ડેરીને પણ નભાવવામાં આવે છે અને એ રીતે પ્રજાના પૈસાનો ધૂમાડો કરવામાં આવે છે, એ સિવાય બીજું કંઈ નથી.

Shri H. B. BHIDE : Is there a quorum, Madam ?

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Yes, there is a quorum.

Shri H. B. BHIDE : What is the number of hon. Members required to be present for a quorum ?

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Only 10 or 11.

શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા : આરે કેન્દ્ર એ એશિયાની અંદર આવેલું પહેલું દૂધનું સેન્ટર છે. અલબત્ત, મુંબઈના તમામ લોકોને આ કેન્દ્ર દૂધ પૂરું પાડે છે. પણ મુંબઈના લોકોની આ કેન્દ્ર સામે એક મોટી ફરિયાદ છે કે આ કેન્દ્ર ખાલી બાટલીના આઠ આના ચાઈ કરે છે. આ ખાલી બાટલીઓ 6.00 p.m. માટે જો ટેન્ડર ઈન્વાઈટ કરવામાં આવે તો ૨ આનામાં કે ત્રણ આનામાં આવી ખાલી બાટલીઓ પૂરી પાડવા માટેના ટેન્ડર મળે. જ્યારે આજે આ બાટલીના આઠ આના લેવામાં આવે છે. સ્વાભાવિક છે કે મધ્યમ વર્ગના કે કમદારોના કંટુઓમાં આવી એકાદ બે બાટલી દર મહિને ફૂટતી હોય છે અને તેને ફરી આ ખાલી બાટલી આઠ આનામાં લેવી પડે છે.

આ ઉપરાંત પબ્લીકેશન પાછળ આપણે લાખો રૂપિયા ખર્ચીએ છીએ. “લોકરાજ”, “કૃષિ વિકાસ” અને એવાં બીજાં પબ્લીકેશનો પાછળ લાખો રૂપિયા બગાડવાની જરૂર નથી.

આ ઉપરાંત સફેદ બુકના પાના ૧૪૨ ઉપર જેથું તો જણાશે કે આપણે કઈ રીતે ખર્ચ કરી રહ્યા છીએ. આજે રાજભવનની પાછળ આપણે લાખો રૂપિયા ખર્ચ કરીએ છીએ. એટલું જ નહિ પણ રાજ્યપાલના સલુન પરનું વ્યાજ અને તેને કારણે થયેલ નિભાવ અને મરામત ખર્ચ લગભગ ૧૮ હજાર રૂપિયા આવે છે. રાજભવનની દેખભાળ, સજવટ અને વૈદકીય સારવાર માટે લગભગ કુલ ૧ લાખ અને ૪૫ હજાર રૂપિયા ખર્ચ આવે છે. બીજી તરફથી ૧૮૦ લાખ રૂપિયા જેવી રકમના કરવેરા મુસાફરો ઉપર નાખવામાં આવે છે, તે કેટલે અંશે વ્યાજબી છે? એક તરફથી ખોટા ખર્ચા ઉભા કરતા હાઈએ અને બીજી તરફથી લોકો ઉપર કરવેરા નાખતા હાઈએ તો મને કહેવા દો કે આપણી જે આ પદ્ધતિ છે તેનાથી તો દર વરસે ડેફીસીટ બજેટ આવવાનું છે.

દારૂબંધીને કારણે આપણને એમાંથી જે આવક થતી હતી તે આપણે ખોઈ. દારૂબંધી આવકારદાયક છે. પણ દારૂબંધીની નીતિ કેટલે અંશે સફળ થઈ છે તેનો પણ આપણે સાથો-સાથ વિચાર કરવો જોઈએ. કારણ કે આજે હજારો ગેલન દારૂ દેકેદેકાણે ગળાય છે. આજે તો હજારોની કોથળીમાંથી દારૂ મળી આવે છે, મોટરની ટયુબમાંથી મળી આવે છે, પેટ્રોલની ટાંકીમાંથી મળી આવે છે, સાયકલની ટયુબમાંથી મળી આવે છે. ઘણાં માણસો કહે છે કે ગામડાની અંદર આ દારૂ એ હોમ-ઈન્ડસ્ટ્રી ગૃહ ઉદ્યોગ બની ગયો છે. ગઈ કાલે કે પરમ દિવસે નીચલા ગુહમાં એક માનનીય સભ્યશ્રીએ કહેલું કે માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રી જે પરવાનગી આપે તો દસ મિનિટમાં હું દારૂ લાવી આપું. મને લાગે છે કે આપણા વહીવટમાં કાંઈ ખામી છે. દારૂબંધીની નીતિ અપનાવવા છતાં શા માટે આટલા મોટા પ્રમાણમાં દારૂ ગળાય છે અને વેચાય છે? મુંબઈ શહેરના લોકો વાત કરે છે કે મુંબઈની અંદર દારૂ ગાળવાનો ધંધો એ ફર્સ્ટ ક્લાસ બીઝનેસ

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

જેવો થઈ ગયો છે. દારૂબંધી માટેના કેસો પકડવા માટેનું જે વહીવટી તંત્ર છે એને ખબર આપવામાં આવે કે ફ્લાયે દેકાણે દારૂ ગળાય છે. એ જગ્યાએ દારૂ ગાળનાર માણસો હોય, દારૂના ઠામ પડ્યા હોય, આથો પડ્યો હોય તો પણ એ માણસોને પકડવામાં આવતા નથી. આજે આ માણસો તરફથી પોલીસોને માસિક મહેનતાણું બાંધી દેવામાં આવ્યું હોય છે. એટલે આ દારૂબંધીની નીતિની નિષ્ફળતાનું જે કોઈ મૂળ કારણ હોય તો આ વહીવટી તંત્ર છે. અમલદારોમાં જે આ રેડ-ટેપીઝમ ચાલે છે તેને ઓવર હોલ કરવાની જરૂર છે. જે એને ઓવર હોલ તાકીદે નહીં કરવામાં આવે તો મેં પહેલાં કહ્યું તેમ લોકશાહી ભયમાં મુકાઈ જવાની છે. આજે વારંવાર કહેવામાં આવે છે કે આપણું રાજ્ય સમાજવાદી સમાજ રચનાની દિશામાં પ્રગતિ કરી રહ્યું છે. તો, સાહેબ, શહેરની ગલીઓની અંદર કે ગામડાની ગલીઓની અંદર ચાલતા મધ્યમ વર્ગના માનવીને પૂછીએ કે આજે તમે પ્રગતિ કરી રહ્યા છો? તમારી કાંઈ આવક વધી છે? તો એ કહેશે કે આવક વધવાને બદલે ઘટી છે, અને ખર્ચ વધ્યું છે. એક ભાઈ ચાના વેપારી હતા તેમને કલેક્ટરે સેલ્સ ટેક્સનું કહ્યું. એક ઉપર ટેક્સ લેવો અને બીજા ઉપર ન લેવો. એટલે મેં એ ભાઈને કહ્યું કે તમે રેપ્રીઝન્ટેશન કરો અને સેલ્સ ટેક્સ ખાતા ઉપર મોકલો. સેલ્સ ટેક્સના “એ” ટુ “ઝેડ” સુધીના ફોર્મ છે. આ બધા ફોર્મમાં જે વિગતો ભરવાની હોય છે તે એક વકીલ કે જઓ સભ્ય છે તેને પણ યાદ રહેતી નથી. એટલે ગામડાના વેપારી ભાઈઓને આ સેલ્સ ટેક્સના ફોર્મ ભરવાનું કઈ રીતે સરળ બને તે આપણે જોવું જોઈએ. માફ તો એ સૂચન છે કે આ ટેક્સને બદલે અમુક વેપાર હોય તેની ઉપર વાર્ષિક અમુક ટેક્સ નાખવો જોઈએ. દાખલા તરીકે પચીસથી ત્રીસ હજારનો વાર્ષિક વેપાર હોય તો અમુક ટકા ટેક્સ લેવો તેવું નક્કી કરવું જોઈએ. જ્યાં ગામડાના વેપારીઓને ફોર્મ વગેરે ભરવાની જે મુશ્કેલી છે તે દૂર થશે અને વેપારીઓને રાહત મળશે. ઉપરાંત વેપારીઓને રાહત આપવા માટે અને કાયદાની ચુંગાલમાંથી બચવા માટે જે લાઈસન્સ પદ્ધતિ કરવામાં આવે તો તે વધુ અનુકૂળ થશે. પાંચથી દશ હજારનો વાર્ષિક વેપાર હોય તો દર વરસે દોઢસો રૂપિયા ટેક્સ લેવાનો અને એ પદ્ધતિ પ્રમાણે જે કરવામાં આવશે તો હું માનું છું કે મધ્યમ વર્ગના જે વેપારીઓ છે તેને આસીર્વાદસમાન નિવડશે અને વધારે અનુકૂળ આવશે. નહિતર, પરિણામ એ આવશે કે વેપારીઓ આ અટપટા ફોર્મ બરાબર ભરી શક્તા નથી અને તે કામ તેમણે વકીલોને સોંપવું પડે છે, જેથી વકીલો આમાંથી કમાશે અને રીકોન્સીલીએશનની તથા રીફન્ડ ક્લેઈમની પણ મુશ્કેલી થશે.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member has taken sufficient time.

Shri CHHABILDAS P. MEHTA : I will take only two minutes more, Madam. આપણી સ્કુલોમાં અત્યારે વધારેમાં વધારે બાળકો ભરે છે તેમ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે તે વાત હું કબુલ કરું છું. પરંતુ જે ખાનગી સ્કુલો છે તેની એક ફરિયાદ છે કે ખાનગી શાળાવાળાઓ શિક્ષકોને પૂરતો પગાર આપતા નથી અને વધારે પગાર ઉપર શિક્ષકોની સહી લઈને ઓછો પગાર ચૂકવે છે અને એ રીતે સરકારને પણ ખાનગી શાળાવાળા છોતરે છે. જે શિક્ષક આ બાબતનો વિરોધ કરે અથવા તો ફરિયાદ કરે તો તેની નોકરીની સહિસલામતી રહેતી નથી. એટલે આ બાબતમાં પણ સરકારે જરૂરી પગલાં લેવાની જરૂર છે.

બીજો સવાલ એ છે કે આ સરકાર ચૌદ વરસના બાળકોને ફ્રી કેળવણી આપી શકે તેમ નથી, પરંતુ મુંબઈ પ્રગતિશાળી રાજ્ય છે તેમ કહેવામાં આવે છે ત્યારે બંધારણમાં જે ફ્રી કેળવણી માટે કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે તે મુજબ પણ આપણે કરી શકતા નથી તે દુઃખની વાત છે. માટે આની અંદર આપણે કોશિષ કરવી જોઈએ અને ૧૪ વરસના બાળકોને ફ્રી કેળવણી મળે જેવો પ્રબંધ કરવો જોઈએ.

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

ભાવ પ્રદેશની અંદર જે કામ કરવામાં આવે છે તેમાં લાખો રૂપિયા ખર્ચાઈ ગયા હોવાની ફરિયાદ આવા છે અને તે અંગે મારી પાસે કડીબદ્ધ માહિતી આવી પડી છે અને તે હું રજૂ કરવા તૈયાર છું. એટલે માફ એક સૂચન છે કે આ બાબત એક કમિટી નીમીને તપાસ કરવી જોઈએ.

Shri T. S. THAKORE (Gujarat—Teachers): Madam Chairman, I rise to offer a few remarks in connection with the Budget, especially with reference to education. It is a matter of pleasure that this State has been able to allot nearly Rs. 22 crores for education. It has provided Rs. 2 crores for University education, Rs. 3 crores for secondary education and Rs. 13 crores for primary education. Five years ago the amount that was spent on education was much less than what the State has been able to spend on primary education today. This is so far as the debit side is concerned. But the most important question is the credit side. Whenever there is a proposal, both the debit and the credit sides ought to be taken into account. In education, it is not only the monetary profit or revenue that we should take into account but we have to see whether the debit has produced the educational dividend that we expect from it. I would, therefore, request Government to devote its serious attention to the credit side from this point of view. At this stage I have in my mind the rapid deterioration in the standard of education in this State. It is unfortunate that, when we are spending 20 per cent. of our revenue on education, we find that even a man in the street is condemning the system of education and also its performance. But in my opinion it is no use simply criticising like that. We must find out as to why the standard has fallen down and at the same time we must devise ways and means to remedy it. I would, therefore, like to suggest a few reasons so far as this deterioration is concerned, and I would also suggest a remedy for them, so that we can invest money in a better channel and create better educational standard and better educational dividend.

The first question that arises is this: Now we are spending a very large amount on primary education, and, at the same time, the paradox is that primary education is the most paralysed. We have, therefore, to find out a remedy for it. We must see as to why there is so much deterioration. That is the question which I would put before the House. I feel that, so far as planning is concerned, the educational pendulum is swinging from one end to the other. Whereas it was swinging on one side before independence, now it is swinging on the other side. I will give illustrations to show as to how the pendulum is swinging from one end to the other. Formerly primary education was mainly concerned with the three Rs. Now, if we examine the present system of imparting primary education, we find that the three Rs. which were the foundation of primary education are now neglected in a majority of the cases. Formerly there was great concentration and great devotion to university education. Now our syllabus is planned in such a manner that university education is not taken care of much. I would say that there is rather certain indifference towards University education, the main target being the secondary stage. Formerly education was too literary. Now greater emphasis is put on craft, shramdhan, etc. and the emphasis on that is so great that it has produced a certain type of repugnance also, not only among teachers but even

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among boys. That also is a problem which has contributed to the deterioration of education, and, therefore, I am suggesting a way to find out why the pendulum must not swing from one end to the other but a certain amount of balance must be maintained, so that the money that is spent on primary education may be well utilised for the purpose.

Another aspect to which I want to refer is this. Formerly primary education was regarded as a base for modern education. Now there is the system of basic education, but unfortunately, owing to the indifference to the teaching of the Three Rs, sometimes people become critical. Some of the critics believe that our basic education has no base. It is an unfortunate thing. I am saying this with great pain, because, in our educational planning, there has not been a great devotion to the bare necessities of the age, to the bare necessities of the days in which we are living. That is due to the fact that, in our planning, the educationists have no status, have no place. Formerly education was planned, supervised and controlled by educationists; now a days, unfortunately, it is more or less the monopoly of our politicians and also our legislators. If we look to the condition of education in the different States of the world we shall find that education there is planned, controlled and supervised by people who are real educationists, but that does not happen here and that is the reason why primary education has decayed.

There is another thing also. Mahatmaji gave us the basic system of education; that was a unique experiment. It was an experiment which can be tried in schools in a limited way and tried in a manner which would produce good results. It will create an army of workers, but it is an experiment which can be tried in schools which can employ a good number of good teachers who are devoted to the basic plan of education. But, unfortunately, as the Chairman of the University Commission has said, sometimes money has been so attractive that all the schools are turned into basic schools overnight simply for the purpose of getting money. This is not the way in which basic education should be implemented. Far from it. If this is the way in which basic education is implemented, then it will be a kind of mockery of education and we do not desire that our education should be on such a basis as to create a kind of repugnance for our entire educational system. We have, therefore, what is called a 'truncated' plan of basic education. As I have said, if basic education is limited to certain schools which have got a proper background, then our basic education can produce results which can be said to be encouraging.

Now, Madam Chairman, what is the result of the introduction of this new system, the truncated plan as I said? We believe, and our Education Department seems to believe too, that wherever spinning and weaving are carried out, that school has got a good status, as if spinning and weaving alone are the only things in basic education. Mahatmaji's plan was something different. It was his view that spinning and weaving had some place but not the entire place in education. Unfortunately our education has not imbibed the spirit which basic education ought to have done. It has turned primary schools

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into some kind of factories in which teachers have got to keep records, just as it is done in factories, of the quantity of yarn spun and the amount of weaving done. Our schools are not factories, interested merely in production. They are meant to give a certain amount of educational background to the boy or girl who takes education, so that, in future, they might turn up as useful citizens of this country, but I may mention that the process adopted at present is such that, as I said just now, our primary schools, our teachers and even the educational inspectors regard our schools as factories. We feel that the plan of basic education has been imposed on us. It is not taken up as an honourable thing to experiment but it is considered as an imposition. I have, therefore, to request Government to examine this question of basic education not from the point of view of prestige but from the point of view of its results. The problem of basic education should be handled in such a manner that we will get the right type of teachers for basic education; otherwise we find, as a matter of fact, that when transfers are being made, teachers who are trained for basic education are transferred to schools where no basic education is planned and teachers who are not trained in basic education are transferred to schools which have got basic education. This is a state of affairs which is very lamentable and I have, therefore, to request Government to examine this question from that point of view.

Look at this problem from another point of view. In our basic system of education, as I said in the beginning, there are 45 periods. Fourteen periods are devoted to academic side; 4 periods for arithmetic; 4 periods for literature; 3 periods for science and 3 periods for History, Geography and Socialscience. Now, the question is, are these 14 periods sufficient for creating an academic background among the young boys who want to have a certain kind of education? As Dr. Radhakrishnan said the other day, what we want is not the children who are experts in science and crafts; we want children who are experts in mind, who are really fit to be the citizens of this State. Unfortunately, the 14 periods that have been allotted are not sufficient for development of the tendency among the children and for creating a certain type of atmosphere in that background. I, therefore, put this problem before Government in this way: That the problem of basic education and its application in the State should be properly considered and if it is not considered it will add to the deterioration that has already set in. I find that indiscriminate transformation of different schools into basic schools has caused the deterioration and, therefore, I feel that a certain amount of control should be exercised so that this indiscriminate transformation might not take place in future.

Madam, Chairman, I would like to make one more point clear. We have been in this field of education for the last 30 years. But sometimes we feel that, when things are coming out, they must come from the heart and should not be imposed from above. In this connection, I will just read out some letters which I have received from a lady teacher who has taken her education as one of the disciples of Mahatmaji in the Ashra of Mahatmaji and who is entrusted with the task of basic education. I am reading for the information

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of the hon. Members of this House only a few sentences to convince how the minds of many people who are connected with basic education work and how they feel that basic education is imposed on them from above, so that Government may consider this problem. The relevant portion of the letter is as follows:—

“एक स्कूल में मैं कताई शिक्षिका हूँ। आपने जैसा निदान किया है, ‘बच्चों में रस नहीं होता’। मैं भी देख चुकी हूँ सचमुच ही बच्चों में रस नहीं होता। कताई के प्रति बच्चों में प्रेम उत्पन्न कराने के लिए मैं कक्षा में कहानियाँ सुनाती हूँ, वैसे ही पू० बापूजी के जीवन की झांकियाँ सुनाती हूँ। फिर भी मैं देखती हूँ, बच्चों के कहानियाँ सुनने में जितना रस पड़ता है, उतना कातने में नहीं। जल्द ही उकता जाते हैं, इससे काफी सुत टूटता है। इससे न बच्चों को लाभ होता है न स्कूलवालों को। समय की बरबादी और उत्पन्न का अभाव देखकर मैं इस नतीजे पर पहुँची हूँ कि स्कूलों में ‘कताई’ कदापि होना नहीं चाहिए। इसके बदले मैं बड़ाई काम अथवा सिलाई काम सिखाया जाय, तो बच्चे उसमें ज्यादा रस ले सकेंगे और स्कूलवाले नुकसानी से बचेंगे।

इस बारे में एक बार मैंने इन्स्पेक्टर साहब से भी बातचीत की थी। उन्होंने जवाब दिया था—“बहन हम सब कुछ समझते हैं, लेकिन हम कुछ भी कर नहीं सकते। आप इस विषय पर अखबार में लेख लिखिए। लोगों का मानस तैयार कीजिए और सरकार का ध्यान खींचिए, तो कुछ उपाय निकल सकता है।

मेरे यह विचार पढ़कर किसी को लगेगा कि, कताई तथा खादी से नफरत करती हूँ। मैं कुछ साल पू० बापूजी के आश्रम में रही हूँ। ग्रामोद्योग के प्रति मुझे प्रेम है। हमारे घर के लोग अपने हाथों से कातते हैं और हम पूर्ण वस्त्रस्वावलम्बी हैं। फिर भी मेरी यह नम्र राय है कि स्कूलों में ‘कताई’ नहीं होनी चाहिए। इससे देश का तथा बच्चों का नुकसान ही होता है। और इतनाही नहीं इस फार्स के कारण पू० बापूजी की और खादी की मज़ाक ही उड़ाई जा रही है। अगर स्कूल में कताई रखनी ही है, तो आज की शिक्षा प्रणाली को बदलनी चाहिए। जूना ढाँचा और नये विचार इन दोनों का मेल नहीं बैठता है।”

Another thing is that the children are not interested in spinning. They are interested in weaving. A young child is always interested in the things he creates. Moreover weaving has got a great value also. I, therefore, feel that if this problem is analysed in the correct perspective, it shall add to our knowledge of basic education.

The second point is about the over-load of the extra curricular activities. In schools, both primary and secondary, there has been, as I said, a flow of extra curricular activities. These schools have become some kind of publicity agents. In this connection I would like to give the names and the number of weeks and days that we have to observe from day to day. The hon. Members would be greatly surprised to know that we have been planning for everything but education. Every day we are asked by the Education Department to observe a number of weeks and days and to do several other things as if the schools are a miniature factory for publicity work. We are given, not only ten commandments but many more. We are guided in all matters which are not educational, and that is the tragedy of the thing. As I said, we have

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to celebrate a number of weeks and days and some of them are : Samaj Shikshan Saptah, Harijan Saptah, Gram Sudhar Saptah, Scouts Guide Week, Small Savings Week, National Week and the Wild Lives Week, we have to celebrate the week for protection of wild lives also and on that day we are supposed to go out early in the morning with children and we see some wild life in our streets. Then sometimes we get a circular that a Prabhat-feri should be organised. Is it the monopoly of the teachers only that these Prabhat-feries and all other things should be organised by them ? I am only trying to draw the attention of the authorities concerned to the non-educational things that we have to do and which create disturbance every day. From the 15th of August down to 15th of March we have to observe these days and weeks. Even now we are organising dramatic competitions. Thus we have to look to so many things that there is no scope left for education. I wished to draw the attention of the Hon. Education Minister to these things but unfortunately he is not present in the House now. I, however, hope that his Hon. Colleagues would convey to him my remarks. As I am interested in this subject, I was very much interested in the speech of Dr. Madaliar which he delivered while addressing the graduates of the Karve University. He stated that even in America the great educationists are thinking that there should be some control over these extra curricular activities. I feel the same way that Government should now control these activities in our State also. I am of opinion that the diversion of minds of children to these various celebrations has taken away their power of concentration which is so essential for education. Look at the children of the present day ! Their eyes never stay on a single target because they are being guided to take part in the festivals, music and dances and all that except education. Of course, these activities also are necessary but they are subsidiary to our main educational purpose. I, therefore, hope that Government will review its policy as regards these extra curricular activities.

The third thing is the neglect of teachers, but I have said about it so many times in this House that I think, I need not repeat it. It is a very unfortunate fact that, in the first Five-Year Plan, the teacher had no place and even in the second Five-Year Plan the teacher had no place. It is only recently that the primary teacher has found a place somewhere. I earnestly plead with Government to take the secondary teacher also into account and I trust that, when the Integration Committee will take up this work, it will do so in right

earnest and that, at the end of the year, there will be some announcement so far as this matter is concerned.

But I am not interested in money alone ; my interest is in something more than that. I want Government to take teachers into its confidence more and more in its planning work. Government must take teachers into its confidence for the purpose of planning and create a healthy atmosphere which is so necessary for our educational purposes.

These, Madam Chairman, are some of the causes which, as I have said, have contributed to the deterioration of education. One is an overload of craft ; the second is unnecessary extra curricular activities.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Perhaps the hon. Member mentioned only spinning craft.

Shri T. S. THAKORE : I also mentioned about overload of craft. In fact I pointed out two things—one is spinning as a craft which does not appeal to the young children, and the second is overload of craft, that is, out of 45 periods, 31 periods are devoted to craft and only 14 periods are devoted to actual learning. That is what I meant by overload.

Lastly, there is one point which I want to refer to. As I said in the beginning, it is not the money that is allotted that counts ; it is not the schemes that count. We have got so many schemes. We have got for the university the three years' course scheme ; we have also schemes for secondary and higher education and there are so many other schemes. I am not interested merely in schemes. I am interested in building from the bottom ; unless and until we build from the bottom and find out the cause of deterioration in education and apply remedies thereof, the amount of money that we are spending on education will be entirely a waste. I, therefore, feel that, instead of taking up all the schemes and building from the top, it is much better to take primary education from the bottom and put it on a strong basis, so that our top will take care of itself. The top will rise like a growing tree and it will not topple down. These are some of the remedies that I would suggest. There are so many things which have contributed to the deterioration in education. I would suggest to Government to look into this entire problem by appointing a Committee if necessary or by calling conferences of teachers and headmasters. In 1952 or even earlier Balasaheb Kher had developed a certain amount of tendency to call the headmasters and teachers into conferences and to consult them on educational matters. I would request Government to fall in line with that precedent that was adopted by Balasaheb Kher by calling the teachers and headmasters in a conference and I am quite sure that, if Government takes them into confidence, it will find out remedies to set right the deterioration in education that has taken place.

With these words, Madam Chairman, I congratulate Hon. the Finance Minister who has allotted a fairly large amount of money for education and would request Government to take into consideration some of the suggestions that I have made.

श्री. एस्. एम्. थोरात (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंबलीने निवडलेले) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, १९५८-५९ सालासाठी जे बजेट ह्या सभागृहापुढे चर्चेसाठी आहे त्यावर माझ्या तर्फे बऱ्याच सन्माननीय सभासदांनी भाषणे केली आहेत, व मीही माझे विचार मांडण्यासाठी उभा आहे. आपल्याला असे दिसून येते की, ह्या बजेटमध्ये नामदार अर्थ मंत्र्यांनी निराळाचा विषयावर पैसा खर्ची टाकलेला आहे. प्रत्येक वर्षी दरसाल जो पैसा खर्च केला जातो त्यापेक्षा ह्या वर्षी वाढत्या प्रमाणात पैशाची तरतूद करण्यात आलेली आहे. शिकणे शेती ह्या महत्त्वाच्या विषयांवर ह्या वर्षी सरकारने जास्त पैशांची तरतूद केली आहे असे दिसून येते.

शेतीसंबंधाने निराळाचा सुधारणा व्हाव्यात, शेतांना ताली बांधल्या जाव्यात, लहान मोठे पाट बंधारे बांधून शेतीची जास्तीत जास्त सुधारणा व्हावी, पिकांकरील रोग नाहीसे करण्यासाठी शेतकऱ्यांना मदत व्हावी, त्याचप्रमाणे जनावरांच्या रोगांसंबंधी जास्त काळजी

[श्री. एस्. एम्. थोरात]

घेतली जावी ह्यासाठी सरकारने अनेक तरतुदी ह्या बजेटमध्ये केल्या आहेत. मध्यंतरी घेतली जावी ह्यासाठी सरकारने अनेक तरतुदी ह्या बजेटमध्ये केल्या आहेत. मध्यंतरी पुण्याला एक शेतकी सेमिनार भरले होते त्यावेळी तसे शेतकी तज्ञ मंडळी जमलेली होती. व अन्नधान्याचे उत्पादन कसे वाढविता येईल हाच विषय सर्वांच्या तोंडी होता. ह्यासंबंधी मी याच्या आधी काही सुचना केलेल्या आहेत. शेतकीसुधारणा करण्याचा मूळ हेतू अन्नधान्याचे उत्पादन वाढविणे हा आहे. गेल्या दश वर्षांत सरकारने शेतकी सुधारणा करण्याचा जरी प्रयत्न चालविला असला तरी आपल्याला असे दिसून येते की, आपल्याकडचा शेतकरी हा जुन्या पद्धतीचा आहे. ह्या क्षेत्रात अजून आधुनिक शेतकी शिक्षण घेतलेले लोक येत नाहीत. शेतकी कॉलेजेसमधून आधुनिक शिक्षण घेतल्यानंतर निर्माण झालेले शेतकी तज्ञ प्रत्यक्ष शेतावर येण्याऐवजी नोकरीच्या मागे लागतात, आणि नोकरीसाठी त्यांची रीघ लागलेली असते. वास्तविक, जे लोक शेतकीचे शिक्षण घेऊन बाहेर पडतात त्यांनी प्रत्यक्ष शेतावर जाऊन त्यांनी मिळविलेल्या ज्ञानाच्या जोरावर निरनिराळे प्रयोग केले पाहिजेत, शेतकीच्या जुन्या आणि मागासलेल्या पद्धतीला नवीन वळण लावण्याचे काम प्रामुख्याने ह्या शिक्षणतज्ञ तरुणांचे आहे. पण आज तसे होत नाही, ही दुःखाची गोष्ट आहे. प्राथमिक शिक्षणाबरोबरच दुय्यम शिक्षण व कॉलेज शिक्षण यावर सरकार खर्च करीत आहे आणि त्याची आवश्यकता आहे याबद्दल माझे दुमत नाही, पण आज आपल्याला प्रत्यक्ष काम करणारी मंडळी जास्त पाहिजे असल्यामुळे प्राथमिक शिक्षणावर जास्त जोर दिला पाहिजे असे माझे मत आहे. इंग्रजी राज्यांत नोकर निर्माण करण्याच्या हेतूने प्रामुख्याने शिक्षण दिले जात असे असे आपण नेहमी म्हणत असतो, पण आता आपल्या हातांत देशाचा कारभार आलेला असल्यामुळे त्या टीकेला आपण निरनिराळ्या अर्थाने वळण देऊन शिक्षणात बदल केला पाहिजे. माझ्या अगोदरच्या एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी असे सांगितले की, प्राथमिक शाळांत बेसिक शिक्षणावर जास्त लक्ष दिले जात. सूतकताई आणि क्लाटस यांवर सरकारकडून पुष्कळ पैसा खर्च केला जातो. ह्या बाबतीत माझे मत असे आहे की, खेड्यांमध्ये शिक्षण घेणारा जो वर्ग आहे तो ८० टक्के शेतकी व्यवसायांतला आहे आणि २० टक्के पांढरपेशा वर्ग आहे की, जो नोकरी करण्याच्या हेतूने शिक्षण घेणारा आहे. अर्थात जो बहुसंख्य वर्ग शेतकी व्यवसायावर अवलंबून राहणारा आहे त्याला दुय्यम किंवा उच्च शिक्षणाची तितकीशी आवश्यकता नसते. ज्याला उच्च शिक्षण घ्यावयाचे असेल तो घेईल. माझी अशी सुचना आहे की, बहुसंख्य शेतकऱ्यांच्या मुलांना प्राथमिक शिक्षण देत असतांना त्याबरोबरच शेतकीला आवश्यक असे शिक्षण देण्याची व्यवस्था झाली पाहिजे. शेतकऱ्यांच्या मुलांने आपले प्राथमिक शिक्षण घेतल्यानंतर तो आपले संसारी जीवन जगत असतांना त्याच्या शेतकी व्यवसायाला आवश्यक असे शिक्षण आवश्यक आहे, म्हणून ह्या शिक्षणाकडे सरकारने जास्त लक्ष दिले पाहिजे. असे केले तर आज शेतकीचा धंदा मागासलेला आहे त्यांत पुष्कळ सुधारणा होण्यास मदत होईल. सूत कटाई व हस्त व्यवसाय यांवर आज सरकार जो खर्च होत आहे त्याबाबतीत माझा अनुभव असा आहे की, ज्या किमतीचा कापूस मुलांसाठी विकत घेतला जातो त्या किमतीचे सूत तयार होत नाही. म्हणून माझी अशी सुचना आहे की, ज्या ठिकाणी विणकरांचा किंवा सूत कातणारांचा जास्त भरणा आहे किंवा बस्ती आहे अशा ठिकाणी जर हे शिक्षण दिले तर ते जास्त उपयुक्त आणि किफायतशीर होईल. ज्या ठिकाणी शेतकी करणारांची संख्या जास्त आहे अशा ठिकाणी सूत कटाई आणि हस्त व्यवसायांची केंद्रे काढल्यामुळे सरकारचा आज होत असलेला खर्च अनाढाई होत आहे असे मला सांगायचे आहे. शेतकीप्रधान देशांमध्ये शेतकीप्रयोग शाळा असतात. आपल्या सरकारनेही ह्या दृष्टीने गेली दोन वर्षे प्रयोग करून पाहिले, पण त्यांत अडचण अशी आली की, अशा प्रयोगशाळांसाठी जमीनच मिळत नाही. यामुळे सरकारला ही योजना बंद करावी लागली. तेव्हा ह्या दृष्टीने काय सुधारणा करता येईल याचा सरकारने जरूर विचार करावा अशी माझी सुचना आहे.

[श्री. एस. एम्. थोरात]

यानंतर एस. टी. च्या कारभाराबाबतही पुष्कळ चर्चा झाली. सरकारने जरी चांगल्या हेतूने एस. टी. चा कारभार आपल्या हाती घेतला असला तरी अनेक कारणांमुळे ह्या कामी सरकारला निराशा आलेली आहे असे दिसते. हा धंदा खासगी मालकीचा होता त्यावेळी कोणाकडेही सरकारप्रमाणे मोनापाली नसतांना खासगी लोक हा धंदा उत्तम प्रकारे चालवीत असत बसा सर्वांचा अनुभव आहे, आणि आता सरकारकडे ह्या धंद्याबाबत माँनोपाली असतांना आणि एस. टी. चे दर पूर्वीच्या रेल्वेच्या सेकंड क्लासइतके दर ठेवलेले असतांना हा धंदा जितका व्हावा तितका फायदेशीर झालेला नाही ही दुःखाची गोष्ट आहे धंद्याचे राष्ट्रीयीकरण करण्याच्या चांगल्या हेतूने सरकारने ह्या धंद्याला प्रथम हात घातला. पण ह्या धंद्याचा जो अनुभव येत आहे तो पाहता इतर धंद्यांचे राष्ट्रीयीकरण कितपत होईल याबद्दल साहजिकच एक प्रकारची शंका वाटू लागते. तेव्हा ह्या सगळ्या गोष्टी लक्षात घेऊन एस. टी. च्या कारभाराबाबत सुधारणा करण्याकडे आणि हा कारभार यशस्वी करण्याकडे सरकारने जास्त लक्ष द्यावे अशी मला सरकारला सूचना करावयाची आहे.

यानंतर, अध्यक्ष महाराज, ग्रामपंचायतीचा प्रश्न आज फार महत्वाचा होऊन बसला आहे. ह्याविषयाबाबतही माझ्या आधी पुष्कळ चर्चा झालेली आहे. सरकारने ग्रामपंचायतींना जास्त अधिकार देऊन ह्या संस्थांबद्दल एक प्रकारे उदार धोरण स्वीकारले आहे ही गोष्ट केव्हाही चांगली आहे व याबद्दल मी सरकारचे अभिनंदन करतो. आपले सरकार कल्याणकारी राज्याचे पुरस्कर्ते असल्यामुळे आणि ग्रामराज्य हाच लोकशाहीचा पाया आहे असा सरकारचा विश्वास असल्यामुळे ह्या संस्थांना जास्तीत जास्त मदत करण्याचे उदार धोरण सरकारने स्वीकारले आहे. परंतु ह्याबाबतीत जो प्रत्यक्ष अनुभव येतो तो सभागृहापुढे ठेवणे मी माझे कर्तव्य समजतो. मी खेड्यांत राहणारा मनुष्य आहे त्यामुळे मला या बाबतीत कांही अनुभव येतात. ग्रामपंचायतींचा कारभार जितका चांगला चालला पाहिजे तितका चांगला चालत नाही असा आजकाल अनुभव येतो. कांही थोर विभूतींनी ह्या बाबतीत आपल्याला असे सांगितले की ग्रामराज्याची ही प्रथमावस्था असल्यामुळे आपण ह्या संस्थांकडे उदार दृष्टीने पाहिले पाहिजे. ह्या दृष्टीने ह्या संस्थांना सरकारने न्यायदानाचे व कारभाराचे अधिकाधिक अधिकार दिले आहेत. इंग्रजांचे राज्य या देशात येण्यापूर्वी "पांचामुखी परमेश्वर" या न्यायाने आमच्या खेड्यापाड्यांत न्यायदानाचा कारभार चालला होता. म्हणजे ग्रामपंचायतींचा किंवा न्यायपंचायतींचा कारभार चालविणे आमच्या चालला होता. म्हणजे ग्रामपंचायतींचा किंवा न्यायपंचायतींचा कारभार चालविणे आमच्या खेड्यापाड्यांतील लोकांना अशक्य आहे असे मुळीच नाही. परंतु परकी सत्तेच्या काळात कांही चांगल्या गोष्टींबरोबर कांही वाईट गोष्टी देखील आमच्यामध्ये शिरल्या आणि परिणामतः आमच्याआमच्यांतील कलह आणि तंटेबखेडे यांमुळे आजच्या परिस्थितीत या संस्था चालविणे आम्हांला अत्यंत अडचणीचे होऊन बसले आहे. म्हणून ग्रामपंचायतींचा जो नवीन कारभार आता सुरू व्हावयाचा आहे त्यावर आमच्या सरकारने अत्यंत बारकाईने लक्ष ठेवले पाहिजे. खेड्यापाड्यांतील लोकांना राज्यशासनाचे ज्ञान मिळावे आणि त्यांच्या मर्यादित क्षेत्रापुरता कां होईना, त्यांना त्याचा प्रत्यक्ष अनुभव प्राप्त व्हावा आणि अशा रीतीने लोकशाही भागाने आपल्या राज्याची आणि देशाची उत्तरोत्तर प्रगति व्हावी हा याच्या पाठीमागे सरकारचा उद्देश आहे हे मी जाणतो. परंतु खेड्यांतील पाटींबाजी, याच्या पाठीमागे सरकारचा उद्देश आहे हे मी जाणतो. परंतु खेड्यांतील पाटींबाजी, एकमेकांतील अनिष्ट अहमहमिका किंवा चढाओढ, इर्ष्या, भत्सर आणि ब्देश यांमुळे कांही कांही ठिकाणी आमच्या ग्रामपंचायतींचा कारभार जसा चालावयाला पाहिजे तसा तो मुळीच चाललेला नाही, किंबहुना कांही कांही ठिकाणी तर तो आपुन किडलेला आहे आणि त्यामुळे त्यांच्या हातून कोणतेही भरीव लोकोपयोगी कार्य होऊ शकत नाही ही गोष्ट सरकारने लक्षात घेऊन या परिस्थितीला पायबंद घालण्याचा प्रयत्न करावा. ह्या गोष्टी सरकारने लक्षात घेऊन या परिस्थितीला पायबंद घालण्याचा प्रयत्न करावा. खेड्यांमध्ये जो एखादा पांढरपेशा शेतकरी असेल तो त्या गांवाचा मालक असतो असे म्हटले तरी चालेल आणि सर्व गांवावर त्याच्याच बुद्धीची छाप असते. त्यामुळे खेड्यांतील ग्रामपंचायतींचा कारभार खऱ्या अर्थाने लोकांच्या विचाराने किंवा मताने न चालता तो

[श्री. एस. एम. थोरात]

कांही ठराविक व्यक्तीच्या किंवा व्यक्तींच्या मताने चालतो. ही वस्तुस्थिति नाहीशी करण्याकरिता आणि ग्रामपंचायतीचा कारभार चांगल्यारीतीने चालून त्या संस्था खेड्यांतील जनतेला उपकारक ठराव्या म्हणून मी सरकारला अशी सूचना करू इच्छितो की सरकारने या ग्रामपंचायतीवर सभाजसेवेची आणि लोककल्याणाची तळमळ असणाऱ्या तज्ज्ञ सरकारी व्यक्ती नेमून त्यांच्या नियंत्रणाखाली आणि मार्गदर्शनाखाली या ग्रामपंचायतीचा कारभार चालविण्याची व्यवस्था करावी. अशा पद्धतीने ग्रामपंचायतीच्या वाढत्या व्यापाकडे सरकारने लक्ष पुरविले तर ग्रामपंचायतीच्या कारभारांत निश्चितपणे सुधारणा होईल आणि मग त्या खऱ्याखऱ्या अर्थाने लोकोपयोगी आणि लोकशाही संस्था ठरून त्याचा एकंदर ग्रामीण जीवनावर फार चांगला परिणाम होईल.

त्यानंतर पोलिस खात्यावरील खर्चासंबंधी या ठिकाणी बरीच चर्चा झाली. पोलिस खात्याच्या कारभारासंबंधी बोलतांना नाइलाजाने कांही कटु गोष्टी बोलाव्या लागतात. तथापि, याबाबतीत कांही सन्माननीय सभासदांनी जी टीका केली ती अतिशयोक्तिपूर्ण होती. हे राज्य पोलिसांचे राज्य आहे असे म्हणण्यापर्यंत देखील कांही सन्माननीय सभासदांची भजल गेली. परंतु ही टीका अतिशयोक्तिपूर्ण आहे. अध्यक्ष महाराज, आपणांस असे एकही राज्य आढळून येणार नाही की जेथे पोलिसांशिवाय राज्यकारभार चालला आहे. राज्यकारभार चालविण्यासाठी पोलिस हे पाहिजेतच ही गोष्ट नाकबूल करून चालणार नाही. परंतु त्याचबरोबर हीहि गोष्ट कबूल केली पाहिजे की हल्ली पोलिस खात्यांत अकार्यक्षमता आणि काम न करण्याची प्रवृत्ति जास्त वाढली आहे. गुन्हेगारीचा बंदोबस्त पोलिसांच्या हातून यथायोग्य रीतीने होवू शकत नाही. विशेषतः दारूबंदीच्या गुन्ह्यांबाबत तर भलताच अनागोंदी कारभार चालला आहे. त्यामुळे सरकारचे दारूबंदीचे धोरण अयशस्वी झाले आहे. राज्यांत संपूर्ण दारूबंदी होणे ही भाड्या दृष्टीने अत्यंत आवश्यक आणि महत्वाची गोष्ट आहे. ती आमच्या धोरणाची आणि कार्यक्रमाची नैतिक बाजू आहे. तिचे सुपरिणाम आमच्या भावी पिढीला निश्चितपणे भोगावयास मिळणार आहेत. परंतु आमच्या दारूबंदीच्या धोरणाचा आज जो कांही दिपय़ास होत आहे त्यामुळे कायदा मोडण्याची प्रवृत्ति लोकांमध्ये वाढली आहे. त्यामुळे हताश होऊन दारूबंदीच्या गुन्ह्यांना पायबंद घालण्यास पोलिस असमर्थ ठरले आहेत, इतकंच नव्हे तर ते त्यामध्ये सामील झाले आहेत. गुन्हेगारीला धरबन्ध राहिलेला नाही. त्या दृष्टीने सरकारने पोलिस खात्याच्या कारभारावर जास्तीत जास्त नियंत्रण ठेवून त्या खात्याचा कारभार कार्यक्षम करून होईल इकडे बारकाईने लक्ष दिले पाहिजे.

नवीन अंदाजपत्रकांतील करवाढीवर टीका करतांना कांही सन्माननीय सभासदांनी अशी सूचना केली की इतर कांही कर कमी करून अंदाजपत्रकांतील त्रुट भरून काढण्याकरिता सरकारने शेतीकर बसवावा. ही सूचना ऐकून मला खरोखर खेद आणि आश्चर्य वाटले. या देशांतील मूळ उत्पादक शेतकरी हा आहे. इतर सर्व करांचा बोजा प्रत्यक्षपणे किंवा अप्रत्यक्षपणे शेतकऱ्यावर पडतोच. त्यांत आणखी शेतीवरील कर त्याच्यावर लादला तर त्याचा शेतकऱ्याच्या जीवनावर आणि शेतीच्या धंद्यावर फार अनिष्ट असा परिणाम होईल. इतकंच नव्हे तर एकंदर राज्याच्या आर्थिक जीवनावरहि त्याचा विपरीत असा परिणाम होईल. शेतीवर कर म्हणजे राष्ट्राच्या आणि राज्याच्या आर्थिक जीवनवृक्षाच्या मुळावरच कुठार मारण्यासारखे होणार आहे. कारण शेतकरी हा आपल्या देशांतील मूळ उत्पादक आहे. पांढरपेशा किंवा नोकरपेशा मंडळीवरील करभार हा महागाई भत्ता, धरभाडे भत्ता प्रवास भत्ता किंवा इतर निरनिराळ्या भत्त्यामुळे हलका होतो आणि त्यामुळे ते लोक तो करभार कांही प्रमाणांत सहन करू शकतात. परंतु शेतकरी हा अगोदर आर्थिक अडचणीमुळे मेटाकुटीस आलेला असल्यामुळे आणि त्याला कोणत्याहि प्रकारचे भत्ते मिळण्याची सोय नसल्यामुळे त्याच्यावर शेतीकराच्या रूपाने जर आणखी जादा कर

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बसविला तर त्याची परिस्थिति मोठी बिकट होईल आणि त्याचा दुष्परिणाम एकंदर राज्याच्या आर्थिक परिस्थितीवर झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. अशा परिस्थितीत सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. ओगलेसाहेब यांनी जे सांगितले की मद्रास राज्यामध्ये शेतीमालावर कर आहे, म्हणून तो मुंबई राज्यांतहि बसविण्यांत यावा, ते ऐकून मला अतिशय आश्चर्य आणि खेद वाटला. शेतीमालावर कर लादणे हा, समाजाचा मूळ पुरुष जो शेतकरी त्याच्यावर अन्याय आहे आणि सरकारने शेतकऱ्यावर हा अन्याय होऊ देऊ नये अशी माझी सरकारला प्रार्थना आहे.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, या बजेटवर आतापर्यंत बरीच उलटसुलट चर्चा झाली आहे. निरनिराळ्या सन्माननीय सभासदांनी आणि विरोधी पक्षाच्या सभासदांनी सुद्धा बजेटमधील कांही कांही तरतुदींविषयी आपल्या भाषणांत समाधान व्यक्त केले. बजेटमध्ये दोष नाहीत असे नाही, परंतु लोकशाहीचा वाढता व्याप लक्षांत घेता ते दोष राहणे अपरिहार्य आहे. कोणतेहि बजेट सर्वांनाच संपूर्णपणे समाधान देऊ शकत नाही. त्या दृष्टीने लोकहित साधण्याचा जेवढा जास्तीत जास्त प्रयत्न करता येईल तेवढा या बजेटमध्ये करण्यांत आला आहे आणि त्यामध्ये पुष्कळ चांगल्या चांगल्या गोष्टी आहेत. विरोधी पक्षाच्या सभासदांना ही गोष्ट साहीत नाही असे नाही. खासगी बोलण्यामध्ये बजेटमध्ये पुष्कळ चांगल्या चांगल्या गोष्टी आहेत ही गोष्ट ते कबूल करतात, परंतु यापेक्षाही अधिक सुधारणा व्हावी आणि सरकारला बरेचवेळ मार्गदर्शन व्हावे म्हणून आम्ही टीका करता असे ते सांगतात. तेव्हा सर्वसाधारणपणे पाहता हे जे बजेट सरकारने तयार केले आहे ते राज्याला निश्चितपणे प्रगति पथावर नेणारे असे आहे आणि त्यातील कित्येक चांगल्या तरतुदींचा फायदा समाजाच्या अगदी खालच्या थरापर्यंत पोहोचणार आहे. निरनिराळ्या विकास योजना शेती सुधारणेसंबंधीच्या योजना पाटबंधाऱ्यांच्या योजना जनावरांची निगा राखण्या संबंधी योजना इत्यादि अनेक योजना अशा आहेत की त्या निश्चितपणे चांगल्या आणि लोकांच्या फायद्याच्या आहेत.

शेतीसुधारणेच्या आणि उत्पादनवाढीच्या दृष्टीने एका अत्यंत महत्वाच्या बाबीकडे सरकारचे लक्ष वेधणे मी आपले कर्तव्य समजतो. ती गोष्ट म्हणजे सरकारने बंदिगच्या योजना जास्तीत जास्त प्रमाणांत हाती घेऊन जमिनीची धूप थांबविण्याचा कसोशीने प्रयत्न केला पाहिजे. शेतीसुधारणेसाठी आणि उत्पादनवाढीसाठी सरकार शेतकऱ्याला निरनिराळ्या सोयी आणि साधने उपलब्ध करून देते. त्यांमध्ये सरकार शेतकऱ्याला निरनिराळी खर्चे देखील पुरविते. त्याखेरीज शेतकरी पूर्वी ज्या गोष्टी घाण म्हणून फेकून देत असे त्या गोष्टींचा उपयोग सरकारी प्रोत्साहनामुळे कंपोस्ट खत बनविण्याकडे देखील शेतकरी बऱ्याच प्रमाणांत करू लागला आहे. उदाहरणार्थ, उसाच्या गुन्हाळामधील चिपाडे आणि इतर घाण शेतकरी जाळून टाकीत असे किंवा फेकून देत असे. परंतु आता त्या गोष्टींचा उपयोग तो कंपोस्ट खत बनविण्याकडे करतो. अशा रीतीने शेतकरीहि हल्ली कंपोस्ट खत बनवू लागला आहे आणि त्याचबरोबर शेतकऱ्याची खतांची गरज भागविण्याकरिता सरकारहि निरनिराळ्या ठिकाणी खतांचे कारखाने काढीत आहे. सिंद्री येथे अशा तऱ्हेचा खताचा एक मोठा कारखाना सरकारने काढला आहे आणि आणखीहि असे कारखाने सुरू करण्यांत येणार आहेत. ही अर्थात आनंदाची गोष्ट आहे. परंतु त्याचबरोबर परमेश्वराने किंवा निसर्गाने जे एक अमोल खत आपणांस दिले आहे त्याचाहि आपण जास्तीत जास्त उपयोग करू घेतला पाहिजे. सतत हजारों वर्षे सूर्याच्या उष्णतेने जमीन जेव्हा भाजून निघते तेव्हा तिच्यावर एकप्रकारचे फूल निर्माण होऊन नायट्रोजन खत नांवाचे एक अतिशय अमोल असे खत निर्माण होते. सिंद्रीसारखे हजारो खतकारखाने निघाले तरी जे कार्य होणार नाही ते कार्य सूर्याच्या उष्णतेच्या द्वारा निसर्गाकडून होत असते. निसर्गाकडून निर्माण होणारे हे नायट्रोजन खत किंवा जमिनीवरचे फूल नीट जतन करून ठेवण्याची, ते पावसाच्या पाण्यामुळे वाहून न जाऊ देण्याची, खबरदारी आपण घेतली तर आज परदेशी खतांकरिता

[श्री. अस्. अम्. थोरात]

दरवर्षी जे लाखो रुपये आपणांस परदेशांत पाठवावे लागतात ते पाठविण्याचें कारण पडणार नाही आणि त्यामुळें आपल्या समोर फॉरिन एक्स्चेंजचा जो प्रश्न नेहमी उभा राहतो तो देखील राहणार नाही. परंतु त्याकरिता सरकारने जमिनीची आज होणारी अतोनात धूप थांबविली पाहिजे आणि ही धूप थांबविण्याकरिता बंडिंगच्या योजना जास्तीत जास्त प्रमाणावर सरकारने हाती घेतल्या पाहिजेत आणि त्याकरिता शेतकऱ्यालाहि जास्तीत जास्त प्रोत्साहन दिलें पाहिजे. ताली बांधणे आणि बांधबंदिस्ती करणे ह्या अत्यंत महत्वाच्या गोष्टी आहेत, आणि सरकारने ह्या गोष्टींना प्राधान्य दिलें पाहिजे. देशावर एकाच अरिष्ट कोसळलें असतांना सरकार मिलिटरीकडून व इतर सरकारी नोकरांकडून ज्याप्रमाणे कांहीं कामे सक्तीने करून घेते त्याचप्रमाणे युद्धजन्य परिस्थिति प्रमाणेच अन्नधान्याच्या प्रश्नाकडे सरकारने व लोकांनी पाहिलें पाहिजे. अन्नधान्य बाढीसाठी आपल्याला जणू युद्ध करावयाचें आहे अशा भावनेने हा प्रश्न सोडविण्यासाठी सरकारने प्रयत्न केला पाहिजे. सरकार आजहि शेतीकडे दुर्लक्ष करीत आहे असें मला म्हणावयाचें नाही. आपल्या राज-मुद्रेवर बैलाचें चित्र आहे. बैल म्हणजे हिंदुस्थानांतील शेतीचें चिन्ह आहे असें मानलें जाते. तेव्हां बळिराजाप्रमाणे आपल्या सरकारनेहि शेतकऱ्याच्या राहणीचें मान वाढविण्याचा प्रयत्न केला पाहिजे, सगळ्या रोगांचें भूळ भूक आहे. तेव्हां शेतकऱ्याच्या मुलांना शिक्षण मिळत आहे की नाही, त्यांचें आरोग्य चांगलें आहे की नाही ह्या गोष्टी पाहता असतांना आपल्या राज्यांतील बहुसंख्य शेतकरी वर्गाची भूक शमविणें ही अत्यंत महत्वाची गोष्ट आहे. जगांतील अनेक राज्यांतीचें भूळ पाहिलें तर जनतेची भूक होतें असें आपल्याला दिसून येतें. तेव्हां लोकांना पुरेसे खायला मिळेल इकडे सरकारने जास्त लक्ष पुरविलें पाहिजे. लोकांना खायला मिळावयाचें म्हणजे देशातील अन्नधान्याचें उत्पादन वाढलें पाहिजे यासाठी शेताना ताली बांधणे, बांधबंदिस्ती करणे आणि शेतकऱ्याच्या व्यवसायाला जेवढें संरक्षण देतां येईल तेवढें देणे ह्या गोष्टी केल्या तर अन्नधान्याचा जो मूलभूत प्रश्न आहे तो सुटून राज्यांत आबादीआबाद होईल व पंचवार्षिक योजना यशस्वी होण्यासहि मदत होईल अशी मला खात्री वाटते.

श्री. एच्. बी. भिडे (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंब्लीने निवडलेले) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महाराज, नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांनी आपल्यापुढें जो अर्थसंकल्प मांडला आहे तो राज्यपुनर्रचना झाल्यानंतरच्या सर्व परिस्थितीचा पूर्ण विचार करून मांडलेला अर्थसंकल्प आहे. गेल्या खेपेला जो अर्थसंकल्प त्यांनी मांडला होता तो राज्य पुनर्रचना झाल्यानंतर तीन चार महिन्यांनी मांडलेला असल्यामुळे नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांना सर्व परिस्थितीचें आकलन करून घेण्यास पुरेशी संधि मिळालेली नव्हती अशा परिस्थितीत मांडला होता असें नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांनी हा अर्थसंकल्प मांडतांना ज्या कांहीं प्राथमिक गोष्टी सांगितल्या त्यावरून दिसतें. पण आतां हा जो अर्थसंकल्प मांडलेला आहे तो वाढलेल्या राज्यांतील परिस्थितीचें संपूर्ण आकलन करून मांडलेला आहे असें त्यांच्या भाषणांत त्यांनी म्हटलें आहे.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, आज ह्या अर्थसंकल्पावर बोलतांना मला प्रथम ही गोष्ट ह्या सभागृहाच्या नजरेस आणावयाची आहे की, हें जें महाविभाषिक आमच्यावर लादलें आहे तें लोकांच्या इच्छेविरुद्ध लादण्यांत आलें आहे व त्याचे परिणाम ह्या अर्थसंकल्पात उमटलेले आपल्याला दिसून येतात. लोकांची मागणी एक आणि सरकारची कृति दुसरीच असें झाल्यानंतर काय होतें याचा अनुभव गेल्या ३०-४० वर्षांमध्ये स्वातंत्र्याची चळवळ चालवीत असतांना इंग्रज सरकारला आला व त्यानंतर काँग्रेस सरकारलाहि थोडाबहुत हा अनुभव आला. ह्या अर्थसंकल्पामध्ये नामदार मंत्र्यांनी ज्या कांहीं तक्रारी केल्या आहेत त्यावरूनहि मला असें दिसतें की, हा अर्थसंकल्प मांडीत असतांना ह्या अडचणीची जाणीव पूर्णपणे झालेली आहे. महाविभाषिक झाल्यामुळे अडचणी निर्माण झाल्या ही गोष्ट त्यांनाहि

[श्री. एच्. बी. भिडे]

कबूल करावी लागली आहे. आपल्या राज्यामध्ये अविकसित असे सौराष्ट्र, मराठवाडा व विदर्भ हे जे भाग आहेत तेथील व्यवस्था, कायदेकानू यांचें एकीकरण करीत असतांना सरकारपुढें कांहीं अडचणी निर्माण झाल्या. हें सर्व यूनिफिकेशन वर्गरे करण्यासाठी सरकारला तीन साडेतीन कोटी रुपये खर्च आलेला आहे ही नवीन विभागांतून आलेल्या नोकरांचे पगार किंवा इतर सुखसोयी, त्याचप्रमाणे जुन्या मुंबई राज्यांतील सुखसोयी यांची तरतूद करण्यासाठी सरकारला एवढा जास्त खर्च आला आहे असे त्यांचें म्हणणें आहे.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I think the hon. Member will require some more time. We may, therefore, rise now and reassemble on Friday, the 7th March at 2-00 p.m.

[The House was adjourned at 7-00 p.m. till 2-00 p.m. on Friday, the 7th March 1958.]

Friday, the 7th March, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m.
Friday, the 7th March, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published.)

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET (resumed).

श्री. एच्. बी. भिडे (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंबलीने निवडलेले): माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदया, आपल्यापुढे आलेला अर्थसंकल्प हा नवीन महाद्विभाषिक आल्यानंतरचा पहिलाच अर्थसंकल्प आहे. मी काळ सांगितल्याप्रमाणे हे महाद्विभाषिक आमच्यावर लोकांच्या इच्छेविरुद्ध लादलेले आहे, आणि आता येथील जनतेवर पुन्हा द्विभाषिक आल्याचे कारण सांगून जास्त कर बसविणे हे जनतेच्या दुःखावर डागण्या दिव्यासारखे होत आहे. ह्या द्विभाषिकाला अधिकाररुढ पक्ष जबाबदार असतांना जनतेवर करांचा हा आर्थिक बोजा लादणे म्हणजे आतांपर्यंत त्यांनी केलेल्या अनेक पापांमध्ये आणखी एका पापाची भर घालण्याप्रमाणे आहे असे मी समजतो.

सर्वसाधारणपणे कोणत्याही अर्थसंकल्पाचा जनतेवर फार मोठा परिणाम होत असतो. विधानपरिषदेमध्ये चर्चा करण्याची ह्या अर्थसंकल्पाची ही पहिली आणि शेवटची वेळ असल्यामुळे ह्या अर्थसंकल्पाकडे जरा जास्त बारकाईने पाहणे आवश्यक आहे. या दृष्टीने जितक्या विषयांवर बोलता येईल तितक्या विषयांवर बोलण्याचा मी प्रयत्न करणार आहे. ह्या अर्थसंकल्पावर बोलतांना मला माझी भूमिका स्पष्ट केली पाहिजे. ह्या अर्थसंकल्पाकडे मी वर्गविप्रहाच्या दृष्टीने पाहत नाही, वर्गसमन्वयवाद ज्याला म्हणतात किंवा इंग्रजीत नॅशनल कोऑर्डिनेशन ऑफ क्लास इंटरेस्ट्स म्हणतात ह्या दृष्टीने विचार करणारा मी आहे, आणि सर्वसाधारण जनतेला जे कर असल्यासारखे असतील त्यांना विरोध करणे हे मी माझे कर्तव्य समजतो.

ह्या दृष्टीने विचार केला तर असे दिसून येते की, ह्या राज्यामध्ये सारखी करावाढ होत आहे. राज्यपुनर्रचना होण्यापूर्वी ह्या राज्याचा अर्थसंकल्प १२ कोटींपासून वाढत वाढत ६० कोटीपर्यंत वाढला होता आणि आता महाद्विभाषिक झाल्यामुळे हा अर्थसंकल्प २०४ कोटींचा झाला आहे. म्हणजे पूर्वीच्या मानाने अर्थसंकल्पांत १९॥ पटींनी वाढ झालेली आहे. इतर करांच्या बाबतीतले प्रमाण पूर्वी ३-३॥ कोटी होत ते वाढून उदाहरणार्थ इनकमटॅक्सचे प्रमाण १७॥ पटींनी वाढले आहे. आज ६६ कोटींचा इनकमटॅक्स मध्यवर्ती सरकार वसूल

[श्री. एच्. बी. भिडे]

करीत आहे. पण त्या मानाने सर्वसाधारण जनतेच्या उत्पन्नात वाढ झालेली नाही. यामुळे १९-१६ वर्षांपूर्वी जनतेची क्रयशक्ति किंवा राहणीचे मान होतें तितकेच आजही राहिलेले आहे असे आपल्या अनुभवास येतें आणि सरकारच्याही अनुभवास येत असले पाहिजे. विशेषतः मध्यम वर्गीतील आणि गरीब वर्गीतील लोकांची हलाखीची स्थिति झालेली आहे असे खेडेगांवांत जे कोणी फिरत असतील त्यांना दिसून येईल. या दृष्टीने विचार केला तर सरकारने नवीन कर बसविण्याचे जे धोरण ठरविले आहे ते जनतेला अधिक जांचक झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. म्हणून नवीन कर बसविण्यापूर्वी सरकारने ह्या गोष्टीचा विचार करावयास पाहिजे होता, आणि जर कर बसवावयाचेच होते तर ते कर सर्वसामान्य जनतेवर बसणार नाहीत याची काळजी घ्यावयास पाहिजे होती. मोटर ट्रान्स्पोर्टवर सरकारने कर बसविला आहे तो सर्वसाधारण जनतेवरच बसणार असल्यामुळे जनतेला तो जांचक झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही.

सर्वसाधारण ॲडमिनिस्ट्रेशन ज्याला आपण म्हणतो तीसुद्धा दिवसे दिवस किचकट होऊ लागली आहे. कोणत्याही कामासाठी एकादा मनुष्य सरकारी कचेरीत गेला तर त्याच्या कामाची किंवा गाऱ्याच्या दाद लागणें सर्वसाधारण माणसाला अशक्य होतें. सर्वसाधारण माणसाची गोष्ट कशाला, पण एकादा प्रतिष्ठित मनुष्य जर सरकारी कचेरीत गेला तरी त्याची दाद लागत नाही असा अनुभव आहे. याचे उदाहरणच यावयाचें तर, मी दीड महिन्यापूर्वी नामदार श्री. रसिकलाल पारख यांना एक पत्र लिहिले होतें, पण त्याची साथी पोंचहि अद्याप मला मिळालेली नाही. मी कौन्सिलचा सभासद असूनहि माझी जर ही गत तर सर्वसाधारण माणसाला या बाबतीत किती त्रास होत असेल याची सहज कल्पना करता येण्यासारखी आहे. सांगण्याचा हेतु एवढाच की, सध्या सरकारी कारभार अत्यंत बेफिकीरीने चाललेला आहे.

आपण अनेक वेळां असे म्हणतो की खेड्यांतली स्थिति सुधारली पाहिजे, पण हा अर्थसंकल्प करीत असतांना किंवा इतर धोरण ठरवीत असतांना खेड्यांतल्या लोकांकडे संपूर्ण दुर्लक्ष होत असतें. तेव्हां अर्थसंकल्पतयार करीत असतांना खेड्यांकडे लक्ष ठेवून तो केला पाहिजे. खेड्यांतील मजुराला आज सर्वसाधारणपणे १ रुपया रोज प्रमाणें मजुरी मिळते आणि शहरांतील मजुराला २॥ ते ३ रुपये रोज प्रमाणें मजुरी मिळते. पण कोणत्याही बाबतीत खेड्यांतील राहणी शहरांच्यापेक्षा म्हणण्यासारखी कमी खर्चाची नाही. खेड्यांतील जीवन अत्यंत स्वस्ताईचे असतें अशी पुष्कळांची समजूत असते, पण ही कल्पना भ्रामक आहे. एक राहण्याच्या जागेचा आयटेम सोडला तर बाकी कोणतीही वस्तु शहरापेक्षा खेड्यांत स्वस्त मिळत नाही, उलट शहरापेक्षा त्या महाग

[श्री. एच्. बी. भिडे]

मिळतात. औषधांचीच गोष्ट घेऊं या. जें औषध मुंबईला १ रुपयाला मिळतें त्याच औषधाला तालुक्याच्या ठिकाणी १। रुपया पडतो, म्हणजे ४ आप्यांनी किंवा २५ टक्क्यांनी तें महाग पडतें. ही वस्तुस्थिति असतांना कर बसवितांना मात्र सरकार खेड्यांतील लोकांचा विचार करीत नाही. सरकारला मला असे सांगायचे आहे की, लोकांनी खेड्यांत जावे असे आपले सरकार आणि मोठाले पुढारी आज कित्येक वर्षे सांगत आहेत, पण खेड्यांत जाऊन राहण्यासारखी परिस्थिति निर्माण करण्याकडे मात्र सरकार लक्ष देत नाही.

सरकार जे कर बसवितें त्यामुळे एक प्रकारचे व्हिडस सर्कल निर्माण होतें. हे कर ज्या वस्तुवर बसतात त्यामुळे त्या वस्तु महाग होतात व निर्देशांक वाढतो. निर्देशांक वाढला म्हणजे पगार वाढ किंवा महागाई भत्ता वाढवून देण्याबद्दल लोकांची मागणी सुरू होते. तेव्हां कर बसवीत असतांना गिऱ्हाईकावर त्याचे काय परिणाम होतील इकडे सरकारने लक्ष देणें आवश्यक आहे. बहुसंख्य ग्राहक वर्ग हा सुसंवदित नाही, कारण त्यांच्या संघटना नाहीत. यामुळे त्याच्या क्रयशक्तीचा सरकार विचार करीत नाही. पण कोणत्याही वस्तुची, उदाहरणार्थ कापडाची किंमत किती ठेवावी हें सरकार ठरवून देतें, पण ती किंमत ग्राहकाला परवडेल की नाही याचा विचार करीत नाही. यामुळे कर वाढला की वस्तुच्या किंमती वाढवावयाच्या आणि आपला फायदा सुरक्षित ठेवावयाचा असे व्यापाऱ्यांचे धोरण असतें. हें जें काहीं चाललेले आहे याला आळा घालण्याचें काम सरकारचें आहे आणि तें सरकारने केले पाहिजे. ग्राहकांची क्रयशक्ति जर घटली तर संबंध अर्थव्यवस्था कोलमडून पडल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. तेव्हां अर्थसंकल्प बनावितांना ग्राहकांची क्रयशक्ति कशी नीट राहील याचा विचार नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांनी केला पाहिजे. आज ह्या ग्राहक वर्गाकडे कोणाचेंच लक्ष जात नाही.

नंतर शिक्षण विषयाकडे वळून मला नामदार मंत्र्यांना असे सांगायचे आहे की, सेकंडरी स्कूलमध्ये करण्यांत आलेल्या फी वाढामुळे आज जी परिस्थिति निर्माण झाली आहे त्या परिस्थितीचा विचार होणें अगत्याचें आहे. सेकंडरी स्कूल टीचर्स यांनी मागणी केल्यामुळे म्हणा किंवा इतर कारणामुळे म्हणा त्यांचा पगार वाढवून देण्यांत आला आहे. परंतु ह्या गोष्टीचा असा परिणाम झाला की, सेकंडरी स्कूलच्या खर्चात वाढ होऊन सेकंडरी स्कूलसना विद्यार्थ्यांची फी वाढ करणें क्रमप्राप्त झाले. ही फी वाढ मध्यम वर्गीतील लोकांना परवडते किंवा नाही ह्या गोष्टीचा आज दुर्दैवाने विचार केला जात नाही. वस्तुतः एकंदर आजच्या महागाईच्या परिस्थितीत शिक्षकांचे खर्चमान वाढल्यामुळे त्यांचा पगार वाढविणें अपरिहार्य होते ही गोष्ट मला मान्य आहे, परंतु त्याचबरोबर फीवाढ न होऊ देण्याच्या दृष्टीने सरकारने संबंधित

[श्री. एच्. बी. भिडे]

शाळांना भरपूर प्रमाणांत ग्रॅन्ट्स वाढवून दिल्या पाहिजे होत्या. ह्यासाठी मी सरकारला अशी विनंति करीन की सरकारने सेकंडरी स्कूल्सच्या ग्रॅन्ट्स वाढवून दिल्या पाहिजेत. ह्या निमित्ताने जो कांही खर्चाचा भार सरकारवर बसेल त्याची तांडमिळवणी करण्यासाठी सरकारला सर्व लोकांवर सारखा कर बसवावा लागेल, तसे केल्यास सध्यांच्या फीवाढीमुळे पालकांना आपल्या मुलांना माध्यमिक शिक्षण देण्याची जा गोष्ट अनेकांना असाध्य झाली आहे ती त्यांच्या आटोक्यांत येईल व त्यामुळे मध्यम वर्गातील विद्यार्थ्यांचा निश्चितपणे फायदा होईल असे मला वाटते. माझ्या आठवणीप्रमाणे जुन्या काळांत मॅट्रिकच्या विद्यार्थ्याला २॥-३ रुपये फी होती, परंतु एस. एस. सी.च्या विद्यार्थ्यांना आज जवळ जवळ ११ रुपये फी द्यावी लागत आहे. याशिवाय शिक्षणाच्या ज्या इतर बाबी आहेत त्यावर जो खर्च करावा लागतो तो वेगळाच. अशा परिस्थितीत मध्यम वर्गाच्या आपल्या मुलांना शिक्षण देणे अशक्यप्राय झाले आहे. ह्या विद्दशस सर्कलमधून मार्ग काढण्याच्या दृष्टीने सरकारने उपाय शोधून काढला पाहिजे. असे झाले नाही तर सरकारला मोठ्या प्रमाणांत कर देणारा मध्यमवर्गीयांचा जो ग्राहक वर्ग आहे त्या वर्गाची स्थिति अनुकंपनीय झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही.

राज्यकारभाराचा गाढा हांकणारी सरकारची जी खाती आहेत त्यांपैकी पोलीस खाते आपण विचारांत घेतले तर ह्या खात्यामध्ये काम करणाऱ्या अनेक लोकांच्या अनेक तक्रारी असल्याचे दिसून येईल. पोलीस खात्यामध्ये काम करणाऱ्या लोकांमध्ये जे कनिष्ठ दर्जाचे पोलीस अंमलदार असतात त्यांना, नामदार मुख्य मंत्र्यांनी सांगितल्याप्रमाणे, २४ तास ब्यूटि करावी लागते. अशा लोकांना वास्तविक पाहता त्यांच्या राहणीमानाच्या प्रमाणांत पगार द्यावयास पाहिजे, परंतु तसा तो दिला जात नाही. याचा परिणाम असा होतो की, तुटपुंज्या पगारांत त्यांना चांगल्या रीतीने राहातां आले नाही तर ते यांतून दुसरे मार्ग शोधून काढतात व अशा रीतीने लांचलुचपत सुरू होते. लांचलुचपतीची ही कीड एकदां सुरू झाली की ती सर्वत्र लागते असा आपला अनुभव आहे. नामदार मुख्य मंत्र्यांकडे जे पोलीस खाते आहे त्यांतील कनिष्ठ दर्जाच्या अधिकाऱ्यांना आर्थिक स्वरूपाचे संरक्षण देण्याच्या दृष्टीने विचार केला तर जे नोकर दिवसांतून २४ तास नोकरीला बांधलेले आहेत त्यांना त्या प्रमाणांत जास्त पगार दिला पाहिजे असे मला वाटते. २४ तास नोकरी करावयाची, दुसरा उद्योग करतां येत नाही अशा परिस्थितीत मिळेल त्यांत भागले नाही तर त्यांतून ते दुसरे साधन निर्माण करतात व लांचलुचपतीच्या प्रकारांचा अवलंब करतात. ह्या प्रकारांना आळा घालण्याच्या दृष्टीने व कनिष्ठ दर्जाच्या पोलीस अधिकाऱ्यांना आर्थिक स्वरूपाचे संरक्षण देण्याच्या दृष्टीने सरकारने अधिक लक्ष घातले पाहिजे असे मी या निमित्ताने सरकारला सुचवितो.

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पोलीस खात्याच्या अनुषंगाने मला दुसरी एक गोष्ट सांगायची आहे ती अशी की नुकताच जो रिपोर्ट प्रसिद्ध झाला त्याप्रमाणे, कोटीमध्ये पोलीसांनी भरलेल्या खटल्यांचे जे निकाल लागतात ते पोलीसांविरुद्ध लागून गुन्हेगार सुटले जातात. अशा रीतीने सुटलेल्या खटल्यांचे प्रमाण फार मोठे आहे. यासंबंधी मला असे सांगायचे आहे की, बंदोबस्ताच्या दृष्टीने सर्वसामान्य जनतेच्या मनामध्ये पोलीसांविरुधी जो धाक होता तो आतां कमी होत चालला आहे. त्यामुळे जनता व पोलीस यामध्ये एक प्रकारची पोकळी निर्माण झाली आहे. पोलीसांबद्दल कोणत्याही प्रकारचा राग न धरतां मी असे म्हणू शकेन की अशी पोकळी निर्माण झाल्यामुळे आपले कर्तव्य ज्या प्रकारे करावयास पाहिजे त्या प्रकारे करण्याकडे त्यांचा कल नाही. त्याचप्रमाणे आपली जबाबदारी ओळखून नॅशनल कॅरेक्टर लक्षांत घेऊन वर्गण्याचा आज समाजामध्ये ही भावना नाही. ह्यामुळे गुन्हेगारीच्या प्रमाणांत भयंकर वाढ होत चालली आहे. माझ्या माहितीप्रमाणे ज्या जिल्ह्यांत खून हा शब्द पूर्वी ऐकू येत नव्हता त्या जिल्ह्यामध्ये आज जे खून होऊ लागले आहेत त्यांचा आंकडा १०० पर्यंत गेला आहे व अशा रीतीने लोकांचे जीवित तृणवत झाले आहे. परवांच कऱ्हाडला भर दिवसां गोळ्या घालून एका इसमाला ठार करण्यांत आले, परंतु त्या प्रकाराची दाद नाही किर्याद नाही अशी आज परिस्थिति निर्माण झाली आहे. मी तर असे म्हणू शकेन की ह्या राज्यामध्ये सुव्यवस्था आहे व हे राज्य कल्याणकारी आहे असे वाटण्यासारखी ही परिस्थिति नाही. उलट हे राज्य अंदाधुंदीचे राज्य असून कोणाच्या पायांत कोणाचा पायपोस नाही असाच लोकांचा ही परिस्थिति पाहून ग्रह झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. ज्या नामदार मुख्य मंत्र्यांच्या हातांत पोलीस खात्याची सूत्रे आहेत त्यांनी ह्या बाबतीत योग्य ते लक्ष घालून परिस्थितीत सुधारणा घडवून आणली पाहिजे असे मला या निमित्ताने सुचवावयाचे आहे.

नामदार महसूल मंत्र्यांची जी मागणी आहे त्या मागणीच्या निमित्ताने मला असे म्हणावयाचे आहे की, शेतकऱ्यांना सरकारने बिना मोबदला पाणी देण्याचे जे ठरविले आहे तो स्तुत्य उपक्रम आहे. परवांच एका प्रस्नाला उत्तर देतांना नामदार महसूल मंत्र्यांनी असे सांगितले की, जमिनीचा कबजा मिळावा म्हणून जे दोन लाख अर्ज आले त्यापैकी फक्त ५-६ हजार अर्ज मंजूर झाले व बाकीचे नामंजूर करण्यांत आले. याचा अर्थ असा होतो की स्वतःची जमीन कसण्याची इच्छा आहे अशा बाकीच्या १,९४,००० लोकांना सरकार ती जमीन करून देत नाही. जमीनदारांची कोणत्याही प्रकारे बाजू न घेतां मला सरकारच्या निदर्शनास आणावयाचे आहे की, बिहार, उत्तर प्रदेश, सौराष्ट्र व मराठवाडा ह्या विभागांमध्ये जशी जमीनदारी आहे तशी नुन्या मुंबई राज्यामध्ये विशेषतः महाराष्ट्रांतील १२-१३ जिल्ह्यांमध्ये पाहावयास

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मिळणार नाही. ह्या गोष्टीचा विचार न करता सरकारने जमीननिविदपत्रक जे धोरण आखले आहे त्या धोरणानुसार मध्यम स्थितीतील जमीनदारांच्या उमऱ्याची जी सवासिडी त्यांना मिळत होती ती सवासिडी सरकार काढून घेत आहे असे मी म्हणालों तर त्यांत काहीं अतिशयोक्ति होईल असे मला वाटत नाही. वास्तविक पाहता सरकार इतर क्षेत्रांत लोकांना सवासिडी देत असतांना ह्या बाबतीत मात्र मध्यम स्थितीतील जमीनदारांची जी सवासिडी आहे ती सरकार काढून घेत असल्यामुळे ह्या वर्गाची अत्यंत शोचनीय अशी अवस्था झाली आहे. ह्यासाठी मला सरकारला असे सुचवावयाचे आहे की, कमणारा माणूस कोणत्या वर्गाचा आहे, तो जमीनदार आहे की मध्यम स्थितीतील कसणारा शेतकरी आहे ह्या गोष्टीचा साकल्याने विचार होऊनच जे कोणी कसणारे आहेत त्यांना जमिनी देण्यांत आल्या पाहिजेत. यावर कुळांची परिस्थिती काय होणार आहे अशी विचारणा करण्यांत येईल, परंतु ह्या बाबतीत मला असे सांगवावयाचे आहे की, कुळांना दुसरे उद्योगधंदे निर्माण करून देण्याची जी जबाबदारी आहे ती सरकारची आहे. कुळांना दुसरे उद्योगधंदे देण्याची जबाबदारी जमीनदारांवर नाही. मी रत्नागिरी जिल्ह्याचा माहितगार असल्याने मला असे सांगवावयाचे आहे की, रत्नागिरी जिल्ह्यांतील अनेक कुळे मुंबईसारख्या शहरामध्ये गिरणी कारखान्यामध्ये काम करणारे लोक असतात. ते शेती करतात व लावणी संपल्यानंतर पुन्हा गिरणी, कारखान्यामध्ये कामावर जातात. गैरहजर जमीनदारांचा वर्ग व अशी कुळे यांत फरक नाही. परंतु सरकारकडून ह्या जमीनदार वर्गाचा विचार होत नाही. मी तर असे म्हणू शकेन की सरकारने एका विशिष्ट भावनेतून विचार करून एका लहान वर्गाचे काढून ते दुसऱ्या मोठ्या वर्गाला देण्याचा प्रयत्न केला आहे. तेव्हा एका लहान वर्गाला नाखूष ठेवून दुसऱ्या मोठ्या वर्गाला संतुष्ट ठेवण्याची सरकारची जी नीति आहे ती बरोबर आहे असे मला वाटत नाही. आज जे खून होत आहेत त्यांचा आढावा घेतला तर सरकारच्या जमीननिविदपत्रक धोरणातूनच बरेच खून होत असल्याचे दिसून येईल. उदाहरणादाखल सांगवावयाचे झाले तर सरकारने जो कुळकायदा केला त्यानुसार कुळांना कांहीं दिवस जमीन आपल्याकडे ठेवता येते, परंतु त्या कुळाने जमीनदारांचे पैसे परत केले नाहीत तर त्याच्याकडून जमीन जाण्याची भास्ती असते. कुळाने जमिनीचे पैसे दिले नाहीत तर साहाजिकच जमीनदार आपली जमीन परत मिळविण्याची खटपट करतो परंतु जमीनदारांचा कांटा कसा काढावा याकडे त्या कुळाची प्रवृत्ती असते. अशा रीतीने कूळ व जमीनदार यांच्यामध्ये जे वैमनस्य निर्माण होते त्याचे पर्यवसान खून मारामार्यांत होऊन फौजदाऱ्या निर्माण होतात. हा प्रश्न कायमचा मिटावा अशी सरकारची इच्छा असेल तर मला स्पष्टपणे असे सुचवावयाचे आहे की, जमिनीच्या ज्या किंमती आहेत त्या देण्याची जबाबदारी, सरकारने

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उचलावी. अर्थात सरकारजवळ इतका पैसा नाही याची मला पूर्ण जाणीव आहे म्हणून मला असे सुचवावयाचे आहे की, जमीनमालकांना १५-२० वर्षांच्या मुदतीचे बॉन्ड्स देऊन त्यांचे जमिनीवरचे संबंध संपुष्टांत आणवेत. सरकार बॉन्ड्सच्या रूपाने जी रक्कम देईल ती कुळांकडून ३० वर्षांमध्ये लॅन्ड रेव्हन्यूप्रमाणे वसूल करण्याची योजना आखावी. ही योजना आखण्यांत येऊन तिची अंमलबजावणी झाली तर सरकारचे पैसे सरकारला मिळतील व सध्या मालक व कूळ यांची आपआपसांत जी भांडणे आहेत ती नाहीशी होतील. सरकारच्या हल्लीच्या जमीननिविदपत्रक धोरणामुळे अशी अवस्था निर्माण झाली आहे की आपल्या जमिनीचा हक्क गेला असे मालकाला वाटत नाही व हक्क आहे असेही वाटत नाही, कारण हक्क आहे असे म्हणावे तर कुळांकडून त्याला उत्पन्न मिळत नाही. सरकारने ही ॲनॉमलस पोझिशन नाहीशी करावयास पाहिजे. लांब मुदतीचे जे कांहीं हप्ते असतील ते कुळाने थकविल्यास त्याच्याविरुद्ध फिर्याद लावून सरकारला जमिनीचा कबजा मिळविता येईल. तेव्हा कुळांना जमिनीची पूर्ण मालकी देण्याच्या दृष्टीने सरकारने बॉन्ड्सच्या रूपाने मालकांना पैसे देऊन मोकळे करावे अशी माझी ह्या बाबतीत किमान सूचना आहे.

जमीन सुधारणांच्या बाबतीत दुसरी एक गोष्ट मी सभागृहापुढे ठेवणार आहे ती अशी की, स्वातंत्र्य मिळून दहा वर्षे झाली, पहिली पंचवार्षिक योजना संपली व दुसऱ्या पंचवार्षिक योजनेचाहि कांहीं भाग संपला तरी जुन्या महाराष्ट्रामध्ये जे मगर व सोलापूर जिल्हे आहेत व नवागत मराठवाड्याचे जे बीड, जालना, उस्मानाबाद असे तीन जिल्हे आहेत त्या जिल्ह्यांतील दुष्काळी परिस्थिती नाहीशी करण्याच्या दृष्टीने सरकारने कायम स्वरूपाची योजना हाती घेतलेली नाही. सरकारने ह्या जिल्ह्यांत पाटबंधाऱ्यांची कामे हाती घेतली असती तर व ती सातत्याने चालू केली असती तर ह्या दुष्काळी जिल्ह्यांचा फार मोठा फायदा झाला असता. वस्तुतः हे जिल्हे दुष्काळी असले तरी त्या जिल्ह्यांतील जमीन फारच झाला असता. हे जिल्हे दुष्काळी असले तरी त्या जिल्ह्यांतील जमीन फारच चांगली आहे. नगर जिल्ह्यामध्ये एक वर्ष चांगला पाऊस पडला तर पुढची दहा वर्षे सुखाने राहाता येईल अशी त्या ठिकाणचा जमीन आहे. परंतु ही जमीन इतकी चांगली असूनहि वेळेवर पाऊस न पडल्याकारणाने त्या जिल्ह्यांत पीक निर्माण होत नाही. आज सरकारची अशी तक्रार आहे की लोकच पाणी घेत नाहीत. परंतु ह्या बाबतीत मला असे म्हणावयाचे आहे की ज्यांना तहान लागली नाही ते पाण्याची अपेक्षा करणार नाहीत. जे खरोखरीच तहानेलेले आहेत त्यांना पाणी द्यावयाचे नाही, परंतु ज्यांना तहान नाही त्यांच्यासमोर मात्र गार पाण्याचे हडि भरून ठेवावयाचे अशा प्रकारची अवस्था आज सरकारने निर्माण केली आहे. ज्या भागांत पाटबंधाऱ्यांच्या

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ह्याच बाबतीत दुसरी एक सूचना मला करावयाची आहे. सरकार सध्यां सब घोडे बारा टक्के ह्या न्यायाने देशी आसवे आणि अरिष्टे यांवर एक्साइज ब्यूटी बसविले. मी सरकारला सांगू शकतो की, ज्यांवर सरकारने एक्साइज ब्यूटी बसविली आहे असे कोणतेही आसवे मी पिउन दाखवितो आणि तरीही माझ्यावर कोणत्याही प्रकारे अंमल चढणार नाही. हे प्रात्यक्षिक मी करून दाखवावयास तयार आहे. अज्ञानामुळे नाही तरी योग्य माहितीच्या अभावी सरकारने आसवे आणि अरिष्टे यांवर एक्साइज ब्यूटी बसविल्यामुळे देशी वैद्यक धंद्यावर विपरीत परिणाम होत आहेत. परदेशी औषधे आणावे लागल्यामुळे आपल्या देशाचे जे एक्सचेंज क्रेडिट कमी होत आहे ते धांववावयाचे असेल तर निदान सरकारने देशी औषधांवर बन्धने घालतां कामा नयेत. औषधांना काही चांगले स्टॅंडर्ड यावे म्हणून जी बन्धने घालणे आवश्यक असेल तेवढी बन्धने घातली तर त्याला माझी हरकत नाही. औषधांच्या संशोधन शाळा काढून शास्त्रोक्त पद्धतीने औषधे तयार करण्याचे काम हाती घेतले तर औषधांना आपोआप स्टॅंडर्ड येईल, पण त्यासाठी आसवे आणि अरिष्टे यांवर एक्साइज ब्यूटीसारखी बन्धने घालणे चुकीचे आहे. उलट, जी देशी औषधे सर्व सामान्य लोक वापरतात अशा औषधांवरिल एक्साइज ब्यूटी सरकारने माफ केली पाहिजे.

यानंतर वाहतुकीच्या साधनांकडे मी वळणार आहे. कालच मी वर्तमानपत्रांत वाचले की, पॅसेंजर ट्रॅफिक कराचा बोजा सर्वसाधारण जनतेवर पडणार नाही, असे नामदार अर्थमंत्री म्हणाले. पॅसेंजर ट्रॅफिक वरिल करांत १० टक्यांनी वाढ केल्यामुळे सरकारला एक कोटी रुपयांचे उत्पन्न मिळणार आहे. आधीच एस. टी. चे जे दर आहेत ते पुर्वीच्या रेल्वेच्या सेकंड क्लासच्या दरांपेवढे आहेत. ह्या धंद्याच्या बाबतीत सरकारने आपल्याकडे मॉनोपली घेतल्यामुळे दुसऱ्या कोणाला हा धंदा करण्याला परवानगी नाही. यामुळे जनतेची कितीही कुचंबणा झाली तरी एस. टी. चे दर वाढविणे शक्य झाले आहे. आधीच मैलाला ९ पै हा जो दर आहे तो लोकांना परवडत नाही. एस. टी. ने जाणे महाग पडते, बैल गाडीने प्रवास करणे शक्य नाही आणि दुसराही काही उपाय नाही, अशा कार्तीत जनता सांपडलेली आहे. तेव्हा अशा रीतीने लोकांची कुचंबणा करून वाहतुकीवर कर बसविण्याऐवजी करासाठी दुसरे एकादे साधन निर्माण केले असते तर बरे झाले असते. शक्य तो काटकसर करून सरकारने कर बसवू नयेत. आज सरकारी कारभार पाहिला तर सरकारच्या प्रत्येक खात्यांत किती तरी पैसा अनाठायी खर्च होत आहे. हा अनाठायी खर्च होत असलेला पैसा वाचवून पॅसेंजर ट्रॅफिकवरील करवाढ सरकारला टाळतां आली असती. खेव्यापाख्यांतील खालच्या वर्गातील लोकांना एस. टी. ने प्रवास करणे भाग पडते, पण एस. टी. चे दर वाढलेले

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असल्यामुळे त्यांची फार कुचंबणा होत आहे. सरकारने एस. टी. कॉर्पोरेशनला इतके मोठे भांडवल पुरविलेले असतांना एस. टी. चा कारभार व्हावा तितका फायदेशीर का होत नाही याचा सरकारने विचार करण्याची वेळ आली आहे असे मला वाटते. एस. टी. च्या डेपोमध्ये जाउन पाहिले तर असे दिसून येते की, ३५ ते ४० हजार रुपयांच्या गाड्या महिनोमहिने आयुडल पडून राहतात. एखाद्या किमतीच्या गाड्या एक माहिना जरी आयुडल पडून राहिल्या तरी त्यामुळे कॉर्पोरेशनला किती नुकसान येते याचा विचार केला जात नाही ही दुःखाची गोष्ट आहे. डेपोमध्ये प्रत्यक्ष चौकशी केल्यानंतरच ही माहिती मी येथे सांगत आहे. रोज लागणाऱ्या वस्तू एस. टी. च्या ताब्यांत नाहीत यामुळे जनतेचे फार नुकसान होत आहे. ह्या नुकसानीला सर्वस्वी जबाबदार कोण असेल तर ते सरकार आहे ही गोष्ट सरकारी अधिकाऱ्यांनी ध्यानांत घ्यावी.

एस. टी. च्या प्रवासासंबंधी दुसरी एक गोष्ट नजरेस आणावयाची आहे ती अशी की, बेस्. टी. मधून लगेज नेण्याची जी परवानगी आहे ती अगदी मर्यादित स्वरूपांत आहे. मी तर असे म्हणू शकेन की, विमानांतून जेवढे लगेज नेतां येते तेवढे आज एस. टी. च्या गाड्यांमधून नेतां येत नाही. प्रवाशाजवळ होल्डॉल व बेडिंग असले तर त्यांचे हि वजन केले जाते. त्यावर जो दर आकारला जातो तो जास्त असल्याचे दिसून येते. या शिवाय ज्या बेस्. टी. च्या कारभार माल लादलेला असतो त्या ठिकाणी प्रवाशाचे सामानसुमान लादले जाते त्यामुळे त्याची नासधूस होण्याची भीति असते. एवढेच नाही तर एस. टी. प्रवाशांचे लगेज वाहणारे जे लोक असतात ते त्या कामाबद्दल उत्पन्न काढण्याचा प्रयत्न करतात. ह्या बाबतीत अनेक वेळी तक्रारी किंबहुना भांडणे झाल्याचे मी पाहिले आहे. हे सर्व सांगण्याचा माझा हेतु इतकाच की, एस. टी. प्रवासासंबंधी सध्या जे नियम करण्यांत आलेले आहेत ते प्रवाशांना जाचक ठरतात म्हणून त्यामध्ये सुधारणा होणे आवश्यक आहे. केवळ आपण सत्ताधारी आहोत अशा भावनेने जनतेची आडवणूक करण्यांत येऊ नये. मला बऱ्याच गोष्टींवर बोलावयाचे होते परंतु वेळ फार झाल्याने मी माझे भाषण पुरे करतो.

Shri S. M. DAHANUKAR (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have risen to make some observations on this first budget which has been presented to us after the re-formation of this State and after the last general elections.

Sir, the Budget has been drawn up in the best tradition of prudent planning for which our Hon. Finance Minister, Dr. Jivraj Mehta, is 2-30 p.m. well known and deserves our congratulations. One, who has studied the various budgets which he has presented during the last five or six years, will see the consistency with which he has always thought of balancing the State's budget and has been conservative particularly so far as

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his revenue estimates are concerned. It is indeed very desirable to be conservative and prudent. One should always present a picture of our revenue as well as expenditure in a manner which will not create adverse results later.

Though this is so, I think that the new taxes proposed in the budget are not quite necessary. I feel there is no need at all to levy the additional taxes. I shall give reasons for this feeling in a little later. First, I want to refer to one very important aspect which has been brought out in the concluding remarks of his speech, and it may appear a little strange that one should refer to the concluding remarks of the speech at the beginning of one's speech. But it happens that this particular but important aspect appears in the concluding paragraphs of the speech of the Hon. Finance Minister, and I would like to draw the particular attention of the House to this portion of his speech. He says:

"We have to march from one success to another; fortunately, we have the means to do so. To this end, I feel that a new orientation in our financial policy has become essential. Time has come when we should change over from orthodox finance to welfare finance; in other words, we should utilise our accumulated reserves to create more physical assets, more wealth and more amenities in the State which will help in augmenting our resources for spending on welfare activities..."

This aspect of the approach to the budget is a new one and I welcome it. All along we have looked at the budget not merely as a source of revenue, but as something to guard against and there has always been great reluctance in spending. Now that we are planning on various welfare schemes, the approach has to be altered to suit the present requirements for which a large amount has to be spent on these welfare schemes. Therefore, this particular change in the approach to the budget is a very welcome change, and I felt I should draw the attention of the House to this particular aspect and also congratulate the Hon. Finance Minister on the new line of approach that he has enunciated in this budget. I hope this will be continued from year to year, and that it will be implemented in the spirit in which it has been referred to here. He has also said in the speech that this is his loud thinking and has not made it very clear as to what exactly is in his mind, but the direction he has indicated is welcome.

The Hon. Minister has suggested that although there are already a number of special purpose funds, he would like to add to these funds, so that the amounts which are earmarked for these funds would be properly spent for the purposes intended. That is also a welcome step. When he is thinking of creating new funds, I would like to suggest that he should consider starting a fund for housing purposes. Housing in this city as well as in many other big cities of the State has become a very acute problem, and it needs immediate attention. Government have already set up a Cabinet Sub-Committee on housing and it is looking into this question, but as the Hon. Finance Minister is considering starting of new funds for various special purposes, I think it will be very appropriate to start a housing fund by setting aside large amounts in order to tackle this urgent and immediate problem which is faced by all of us.

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As I said earlier, I think there was no necessity to levy any additional taxes and I feel so because of the last year's position which was presented to us in the month of May. In that budget a deficit of Rs. 3 crores was anticipated. Now the final figures are available, and we see that this deficit of Rs. 3 crores has been converted into a surplus of about Rs. 5 crores. This is a very special case when nearly Rs. 8 crores of additional revenue has been obtained. But all the same we see that a substantial addition to the revenue has been achieved in this period. If we look at the figures which have been presented to us in the previous years, we find that the position which was initially anticipated has subsequently always improved. That is why I refer to the conservative basis on which our Finance Minister bases his estimates. If that is so, then I think the deficit anticipated in the current budget would have been covered at the end of the year without resorting to any new taxes.

In this Budget Hon. the Finance Minister has referred to two or three other aspects which are not covered or the effect of which has not been included in the budget. One of them is the sales tax. The subject is before a committee and he is awaiting the report of the Committee. New proposals will be made in the light of the report. The effect of the proposals cannot be foreseen now. That aspect has not been taken into account. The other aspect is the unification of the court fee stamps. That also has not been fully considered in the preparation of Budget Estimates. Recently, some of the articles like cloth and sugar were taken over by the Centre from the purview of the sales tax and additional excise duty has been levied. What exactly will be the share of this State from the receipts of these excise duties is not yet clearly known. If we consider all these aspects, I am sure this deficit of about Rs. 2 crores would have been easily made up and therefore there was no necessity of levying any additional taxes at this stage. That is my view.

I think that this burden of 1 per cent. additional fare on passengers and their luggage is going to hit the middle and the poor classes of our State and if we could have avoided putting this burden it would have been better. There is also another aspect and that is that in this State the citizen is most heavily taxed as compared with the citizen in any other State. We have recently seen the figures about the sales-tax. The incidence of sales-tax in the old Bombay State comes to nearly about Rs. 8; as against Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 in Saurashtra and other areas. Similarly, the incidence of the other taxes is also, the highest for this State as compared to other States in the country. Thus at present, the people are already taxed to a very high limit and when this is so, to put additional burden, particularly on the middle and poor classes, was not quite necessary at this stage, particularly because I think that this deficit of about Rs. 2 crores would have been made up as the time went on.

The other aspect of the new taxation proposals is in respect of unification of the various measures that are obtaining in different areas of the State which have now merged. There is some justification in bringing uniformity and removing the disparity of the same tax in different areas of the State. But in doing so there is no necessity to increase even the highest level of the particular tax. Only, the lower levels of taxes in some areas could be brought

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in line with the higher level, if an average tax basis could not be introduced for the whole area. If we consider the taxes on petrol and diesel oil in the old Bombay State, we find that we were paying six annas per gallon. If the new proposal is implemented fully, it would be necessary to pay 8½ annas per gallon in the State. The tax rate of six annas in the old Bombay State was higher than that in other areas. Therefore, if six annas as a basis would have been applied to the State it may be justified. There is really no justification in increasing this level further by about 40 per cent. I do not understand where was the necessity for raising this tax to a level higher than that which was in existence in the old State of Bombay.

There is one more point in this connection which I would like to mention. It is about 20 per cent. *ad hoc* levy. It is not actually implemented; but Government is taking powers to tax upto a maximum of 20 per cent. *ad valorem*. This also involves a questionable principle in empowering the executive *now* with powers to tax in *future*. The principle of delegating such power for future action is not a very healthy practice. If it is implemented in every case we may start with small burden of taxation and eventually by executive orders this burden may be increased manifold. Therefore I think that this principle of delegating the powers to the executive in this manner is neither correct nor desirable.

Now, with these observations I once again would state that it was not quite necessary to put this burden of any new taxes and our purpose would have been served only by unification of taxes to the extent of maximum prevailing levels. I would like to make an appeal to the Hon. the Finance Minister to once again reconsider the question whether or not our revenues will increase and whether or not the deficit of Rs. 2 crores will be made up and if this question is reconsidered and if it is found that we will be able to make up that deficit, then I would appeal to the Hon. the Finance Minister to drop this proposal of levying these taxes, particularly on passengers and goods.

Shri A. R. BHAT: Is the tax to be levied on goods?

Shri S. M. DAHANUKAR: I am sorry; the tax is to be levied on luggage and not on goods.

In the speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister there is one other aspect to which I would like to draw attention of the House. I refer to page 32, paragraph 37—Spending Capacity. It is a good thing that the Hon. the Finance Minister has taken us into confidence and told us of the handicaps that we are facing in spending the amounts that are allocated to the various project schemes. Last year the allocation was Rs. 73.5 crores, but the actual expenditure was Rs. 65 crores. This year the allocation has been raised to nearly Rs. 77 crores; but it is feared that this may not be spent during the year. On page 33 four different difficulties which come in the way of spending capacity have been enumerated and I am quite sure that Government is actively looking into this aspect as to how to minimise these difficulties. But if they exist then we might not be able to spend all the money that has been

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allocated. Therefore the things that need to be done in order to increase our ability to spend have to be looked into and ways and means found to fully utilise the allotted funds.

In this connection, Sir, I would like to mention that the time lag in communicating the sanctioned budgetted provisions to all the spending officers right down to the district and taluka levels can be curtailed if immediately after the budget is introduced, the amounts which are provided for in the Budget are so communicated subject to such modification as will be made later on. The present practice, I understand, is to wait till all the various grants for various departments are passed by both the Houses and then they are communicated. This means that there is a delay of at least about a month or six weeks. This can be avoided if the grants can be communicated in advance subject to their being passed, so that other preliminaries can be made.

Then, there is the time lag in getting projects cleared with administrative and technical sanctions from the different departments in the State administration and the corresponding Ministries of the Government of India in cases where Central assistance is received. I understand that delay is caused in this respect because a matter has to be referred to 4 or 5 Ministries and then the papers go from one Ministry to another and thus takes time. I would therefore suggest that if a small Committee of the concerned Ministries is appointed and if there is a weekly or fortnightly meeting to dispose of these cases, then the matters could be expedited and the decisions might be communicated quickly in order to make progress on the schemes that are on hand or that are envisaged.

Then, there is the difficulty of getting requisite technical personnel and also the difficulty of getting constructional materials like iron and steel, cement, etc. The second difficulty so far as our State is concerned is solved; but with regard to the difficulties of getting technical personnel, although we are making all efforts to find out technical assistance and technical personnel, I think it is necessary to survey the needs of the technical personnel requirements that we might require in the next five years and then make a little bolder effort to have large number of personnel trained and if it is planned now at least in the next 2 or 3 years' time we will have this difficulty reduced to a considerable extent.

These are some of the observations which I would like to make on the question of capacity to spend the money that has been allocated.

Now let me refer to the question of sales-tax. The matter has been referred to a very able committee representing different interests under the Chairmanship of Shri Babubhai Patel. The whole question is now under consideration. It might be premature to make any observations, but I think it will not be improper if I express my views as to what should be done in order to relieve the hardships. There is one thing that I must say at the start that with 10 years' experience in the sales-tax I have now got used to the idea of paying the sales-tax.

The CHAIRMAN: Why don't you give your views in writing to the Committee? That will be far better.

Shri S. M. DAHANUKAR: All right, Sir. I have already submitted my views, but I thought that I might mention one or two points here. But in deference to your wishes, I will not make any mention of them here.

Sir, the other question is about housing. As I mentioned earlier, a fund should be created specially for providing new houses. Besides this, there is already a proposal to start a Housing Finance Corporation. That should be expedited. I have not been able to find out whether or not a provision has been made in the present Budget for the formation of such a Corporation but I presume that it must have been made. Now the problem has become so acute that it does not require any amplification. Even the Government servants who have now come to Bombay from the various States have found it very difficult to get accommodation. I, therefore, urge that this problem should be solved by combining the efforts of all concerned. It cannot be solved by the efforts of the State Government alone and hence the Municipal Corporations, the Central Government agencies, Railways, Port Trust, etc. as well as the private investors who would be prepared to spend for building constructions, all should be encouraged. Recently Shri Modak, the Municipal Engineer, gave a detailed report to the Corporation and stated as to what the Corporation can do. It reveals the position very vividly—the acuteness of shortage of housing as also its vast magnitude and how difficult it is of solution! In these proposal, we find that only 25 per cent. of the requirement of new houses is to be met by the Corporation. It is assumed that about 3,00,000 new tenements are required, and Shri Modak has suggested that 75,000 tenements should be constructed by the Corporation in the next 10 or 15 years. An equal number of tenements should be built by Government. That would give us about 1,50,000 tenements. Then the remaining 1,50,000 tenements will have to be built by the private sector in order to solve the problem to a substantial extent but not fully, because all this work would be spread over 10 to 15 years and by the end of that period the situation would again demand many more tenements. Yet, if this is done, it will mean a considerable relief. Even so, as I said earlier, the Municipal Corporation and the Government agencies would be able to tackle at the most 50 per cent. of the problem. Then the remaining work has to be done. It is here that I would like to suggest that Government should look into the question of finding out as to why today the private investors are shy in investing their money in the properties and try to solve their difficulties with a view to giving encouragement to them for the construction of the much needed new housing tenements. Besides this, there is also the question of supply of materials and to solve that I feel that as in the district places, in the suburbs of large cities also, we should use only lime mortar for the ground and the first floor structures and plaster them only in lime mortar thus avoiding the use of the cement and steel so that a large number of tenements can be quickly built. Whenever we talk of housing, and the shortage of housing material, we think in terms of cement and steel and the high cost of construction that we have to incur. But if we eliminate the use of cement and steel, that would not only expedite

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the work but lower the cost of construction. It is estimated that a building having 280 square feet of area using cement and steel would cost about Rs. 6,000 in Bombay city. But if the use of lime mortar is adopted the price would be brought down by about 30 per cent. Therefore, while we are considering the question of providing more houses we should also link it up with the question of cheapening the cost of construction and utilising alternative and local building materials which are easily available.

Now I am going to touch upon only one or two other points. Recently, the Government have, by a notification, removed the entertainment tax on the performance of stage plays and on the circus shows. This is a very welcome thing. I have always referred to this problem and to the need for removing the burden on the dramatic societies, in every speech of mine on the Budget proposal since the last 4 or 5 years, because they were extremely hard hit and were not able to stabilise and make progress. So I welcome this step and I congratulate the Government on this action which has not come a day soon.

In this connection, there is one more thing to which I would like to refer. Some two or three years back the Government had decided to utilise the revenue received from the dramatic plays, which was about Rs. 3 lakhs, for the purposes of giving prizes to plays and also for the purpose of giving grants to municipal bodies to construct open air theatres. I urge that this policy should be continued in future also even though there would be no revenue collected by this tax from the performances of the dramatic societies.

Another good thing which I notice and about which I have been speaking in my speeches on the Budget for the last two years is about the need for development of hot springs. I am glad to find that a substantial provision has been made during this year's Budget for providing health clinics and other amenities both at Vajreshwari which is near Thana and at Unai which is in Surat District. This source of health-giving water was neglected in the past and it needed immediate attention. Last year Government appointed a Committee to look into this question and as soon as the Committee submitted its report, Government has taken necessary steps to provide substantial amount to take this work in hand. I also hope that additional amenities would be provided at these places in the years to come to make these places really useful to all the people. With these observations, Sir, I have done.

श्री गुलाम हेबर वलीमुहम्मद (बम्बई विधान सभा द्वारा निर्वाचित): माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय फाईनान्स मिनिस्टर साहब ने जो बजट पेश किया है उसपर बहुत से माननीय मेम्बरों ने अपने मन्तव्य रखे। विरोधी पक्ष के माननीय सदस्यों ने सरकार की टीका की। उनमें से एक माननीय मेम्बर साहब ने यहां तक कहा कि उन्होंने बहुत कोशिश की यह माहूम करने की कि आया यह राज्य कल्याणकारी है या नहीं लेकिन उन्हें इस बजट में कल्याणकारी राज्य होने के कोई चिन्ह दिखाई नहीं दिये। एक माननीय सदस्य को अंधेरा ही अंधेरा दिखाई दिया और उन्हें

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अंधाधुंदी भी दिखाई दी। उन लोगों ने कुछ ऐसे मन्तव्य पेश किए जिनका अगर जवाब न दिया जाए तो एक तबके के लोगों को भ्रम पैदा हो सकता है कि इस राज्य में क्या चल रहा है। यह कहा गया कि ४ हजार रुपये तनख्वाह का चीफ सेक्रेटरी और ३५-१५ सौ रुपये तनख्वाह के सेक्रेटरी क्यों रखे हुये हैं? लेकिन ऐसे सेक्रेटरी और अंडर सेक्रेटरी कितने हैं। मुश्किलसे १२-१५ होंगे। हर एक डिपार्टमेंट में एक सेक्रेटरी और एक या दो अंडर सेक्रेटरी रहते हैं। लेकिन अगर इस राज्य को वेलफेयर राज्य बनाना है तो इनकी जरूरत रहनेवाली है। इसके लिये आर्थोडाक्स एकानामी बदलना होगी और नये तरीके पर वेलफेयर एक्टिविटीज को बढ़ाना होगा। उनको पूरा करने के लिये इन सब कर्मचारियों को रखना ही पड़ता है। इसलिये उनकी अगर कुछ संख्या बढ़ जाए तो कोई बात नहीं है।

हमारे माननीय फाईनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि बजट बढ़ने का एक कारण यह भी है कि स्वेज का सवाल था जिससे एक्सचेंज की मुश्किलत सामने आई और दूसरे यह कि फाईनान्स एवार्ड में जो कम रकम मिली उसका भी एक कारण हुआ। इसके अलावा प्राईमरी टीचर्स को ५-५ रुपया तनख्वाह में बढ़ाए गए। स्टाफ का इन्टीग्रेशन करना है। सौराष्ट्र का धोरण अलग था, मराठवाडा का धोरण अलग था, और विदर्भ का अलग था अब उन सबको एक लेवल (Level) में लाना है। यह सारे मामले हैं जिनपर रकम खर्च होनेवाली है। हमारे यहां सरकारी नौकरों की पोजीशन अलग थी, और इन्टीग्रेटेड स्टाफ की पोजीशन अलग थी अब उन सबका समीकरण करना है। उन सब को एक साथ लाने के लिए तीन करोड़ रुपये की जरूरत है। तो इन सब वजूहात की बिना पर अगर बजट में थोड़ासा इजाफा हो जाए और उसमें दो करोड़ की खोत आ जाए तो उसे खोत नहीं कहा जा सकता।

अगर गवर्नमेंट किसी डिपार्टमेंट को जरूरत से ज्यादा पैसा दिया गया होता या किसी को कम दिया गया होता, या पुलिस पर ज्यादा खर्च किया गया होता तो कुछ कहा जा सकता था कि गवर्नमेंट ने किसी आर्गेनाइजेशनल काम में पैसा कम कर दिया है; और जिसमें जरूरी नहीं था उसको पैसा दिया है। मैं पुछता हूँ क्या गवर्नमेंट ने फ्रस्ट फाइव इयर प्लान की शेड्यूल के मुताबिक पूरा कर के नहीं दिखलाया और क्या सेकंड फाइव इयर प्लान को ठीक से पूरा नहीं कर रही है? सरकार के सामने आज बहुत से प्रश्न हैं। सरकारी नौकरों के प्रश्न हैं। जो लोग नागपुर से आए हैं, या मराठवाडा से और विदर्भ से आए हैं उन सब की पगारें अलग अलग हैं। उन सब को एक लेवल (Level) में लाने के लिए रुपये की जरूरत होगी।

[श्री गुलाम हैदर वलीमुहम्मद]

इसी तरह से उन लोगों के रहने का सवाल है। उसपर भी सरकार का रुपया खर्च हो रहा है। गवर्नमेंट ने अपने छोटे क्लासेज के नौकरों के लिए चालें बनवाई है और उनमें उनके रहने का बन्दोबस्त किया है। जहाँ तक मेरी मायमात है गवर्नमेंट यह चाहती है कि अपने छोटे छोटे नौकरों को जब तक उनको बदलने की जरूरत न हो तब तक बदला न जाए। फिर भी हो सकता है कि कुछ क्लास फोर सर्वेन्टस् हों जिनको एक जगह से दूसरी जगह जाना पड़ा हो। उनके लिए भी गवर्नमेंट को इन्तजाम करना है। क्लास फोर सर्वेन्टस् की भी विदर्भ में पोजीशन अलग थी, मराठवाडा में अलग थी, सौराष्ट्र में उनकी पोजीशन अलग थी, उनको भी एक पोजीशन में लाना है। यह एक अच्छी बात है और इसमें कोई अन्याय का सवाल नहीं है। लेकिन पैसे का खर्च इसमें भी है।

दूसरी बात यह कि यह अश्वोरेंस दिया गया है सरकार की तरफ से कि किसी भी विभाग के साथ कोई अन्याय नहीं होगा। किसी भी विभाग को यह न मायूम हो कि इम इन्टीग्रेशन में उसे कोई नुकसान हुआ है। जैसे छोटी नदी समुद्र में जाकर खुद समुद्र बन जाती है इसी तरह से छोटी छोटी स्टेटस् को महसूस होना चाहिए कि जब वे बम्बई राज्य के महासागर में मिली हैं तब उनकी स्थिति में बड़ा फर्क हो गया है। माननीय सदस्य श्री छबीलदास मेहता ने यहां पर यह कहा कि सौराष्ट्र के साथ बड़ा अन्याय हुआ है। मैं उनको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि मैं भी सौराष्ट्र का रहने वाला हूँ। मुझे मायूम है कि वहां एक पड़ेवाले की तनख्वाह ६ रुपए से शुरू होती थी और ९ रुपए में खतम होती थी। लेकिन अब उनको मायूम होना चाहिए कि उन्हें तनख्वाह के अलावा २५-३० रुपया तो मंहगाई भता ही मिलता है। उनका, इस तरह से कुछ भी बातें करके लोगों को सरकार के खिलाफ भड़काना, मेरे ख्याल से, लोकशाही के सिद्धान्तों के खिलाफ है।

वह कहते हैं कि एस. टी. में आमदनी बढ़ी है। यह ठीक है लेकिन इसके साथ में खर्चा भी बहुत बढ़ा है। बहुत सा खर्चा बेकार बढ़ता जाता है। मैं उनसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि ट्रांसपोर्ट सर्विस जब अलग अलग प्राइवेट लोगों के हाथ में थी तब कैसी बुरी हालत थी। क्या वह लोग तब प्रेजुएटस् को अपना यहां नौकर रख सकते थे या इंजिनियर लगा सकते थे? बसेस् में इतना आराम दे सकते थे, जितना आजकल है? एस. टी. ने जैसे स्टेशन बनवा रखे हैं ठिकाने ठिकाने पर वैसे क्या प्राइवेट ओनर्स बनवा सकते थे? बसों के चलने के लिए एस. टी. ने जैसी सड़कों का बंदोबस्त किया है वैसा क्या प्राइवेट ओनर्स कर सकते थे? तो अगर इन सब सद्दलियतों के लिए एस. टी. में खर्चा ज्यादा होता है तो वह बिल्कुल जस्टीफाइड है।

[श्री गुलाम हैदर बलीमुहम्मद]

एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि हमारे जूने महाराष्ट्र के जो १२ जिले हैं उनमें ऐसे जमीन्दार नहीं हैं जैसे नए महाराष्ट्र के मराठवाडा और विदर्भ में हैं। हैदराबाद में तो बड़े बड़े तालुकेदार हैं। मैं उनको कहना चाहता हूँ कि उनके यहाँ इतने बड़े जमीन्दार न होंगे यह ठीक है लेकिन जमीन्दारी उनके यहाँ भी है। जमीन्दार का अर्थ यह है कि कोई भी आदमी जो खुद काश्त नहीं करता और जमीन रखता है वह जमीन्दार है। जो जमीन पर काश्त न कर के नौकरों से काश्त करवाता है और खुद नौकरी करता है, मिनिस्टर बनता है, प्रोफेसर बनता है या असेम्बली और कौंसिल का मेम्बर बनता है वे सभी जमीन्दार हैं। खेती उनके लिए सबसीडियरी धंधा है, इसलिए उनकी तरफ ज्यादा ध्यान नहीं दिया जा सकता।

हम कल्याणकारी राज्य की तरफ आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। इसके लिए हमने प्रोहिबिशन भी किया है जिससे गरीबों की हालत सुधर रही है। उसके लिए भी माननीय सदस्य श्री छबीलदास मेहता ने कहा कि वह चारों तरफ शराब बनती हुई देखते हैं। मैं उनसे कहूँगा कि उसका कारण यही है कि उन्होंने जैसा चश्मा पहना हुआ है वैसा रंग उनको दिखाई पड़ता है। उनको दारूबन्दी की नीति पसन्द नहीं है इसलिए उनको चारों तरफ शराब ही शराब दिखाई पड़ती है। लेकिन उन्हें समझना चाहिए कि पहले जैसे सड़को पर दारू पीकर लोग घुमते थे और औरतों बच्चों का निकलना मुश्किल था वैसा अब नहीं है। अब वैसे पीकर निकलनेवाले अधिक नहीं मिलते हैं। यह ठीक है कि १०० फीसदी कामियाबी अभी हमें नहीं मिली है। लेकिन १०० फीसदी कामियाबी मिलना तो वैसे ही कठिन है क्योंकि इससे पहले भी बड़े बड़े सन्त और पैगम्बर आए जिन्होंने कहा कि दारू पीना पाप है और बड़ा बुरा काम है लेकिन सब लोगों ने उसे नहीं माना और फिर भी कुछ लोग शराब पीते ही रहे। इसलिए लोगों में धीरे धीरे इसका प्रचार होगा ऐसा समझना चाहिये।

खास तौर से माननीय मेम्बरों ने जो टीका की वह यह कि २ करोड़ की जो खोट आई है वह न आना चाहिए थी। लेकिन वह इसलिए आई है क्योंकि एक साथ बहुत सी जिम्मेदारियाँ सरकार ने ली हैं। सब से बड़ी जिम्मेदारी उसने यह ली है, जो राष्ट्र का बड़ा सवाल था बम्बई राज्य के टुकड़े होने का और जिससे राष्ट्रीयता को खतरा था, उसको बचाने के लिये द्विभाषिक राज्य को चलाने की जिम्मेदारी हमारी सरकार ने ली। उसको लेते हुए अगर २ करोड़ की खोट आई तो यह कोई बड़ी खोट नहीं है। जो टैक्स गवर्नमेंट ने लगाए हैं उनके लिए माननीय सदस्य दहानुकरजी ने कहा कि वह अननसेसरी (Unnecessary) है। उनको मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि अब उन्हें आर्थोडाक्स एकाॅनॉमी की दृष्टि को छोड़कर नई दृष्टि से देखना चाहिये। अब नई एकाॅनॉमी में जाना चाहिए। हम जो टैक्स के

[श्री गुलाम हैदर बलीमुहम्मद]

रूप में एस. टी. को पैसा देंगे उससे मशीनरी बढ़ने वाली है, मुसाफिरों को कितने आराम पहुंचाए जायेंगे। चूंकि क्या कोयनेज सिस्टम अब आ रहा है उससे भी कुछ नुकसान होनेवाला था उसे भी पूरा करना है इसलिए एस. टी. के रेट्स अगर थोड़े बढ़ाये जाएँ तो कोई हर्ज की बात नहीं है।

सभापति महोदय, यह कहा गया कि फाइनैस एवार्ड में बम्बई राज्य जो प्रगतिशील राज्य है उसके साथ अन्याय किया गया है। इसलिये सेन्टर ने जो एटीब्यूड लिया है, और हमारी मुश्किलों की तरफ जो ध्यान नहीं दिया उसके खिलाफ सेन्टर से आप लड़ते क्यों नहीं। न लड़ने के कारण सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट का यह ख्याल है कि हमारी स्टेट ज्यादा प्रोग्रेसिव होने की वजह से, अगर सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से दूसरे राज्यों के मुकाबले में कुछ कम पैसा दिया जाय, तो चल सकेगा। और कम पैसा देने की वजह से जो खोट आयेगी उसे यह राज्य बरदाश्त कर सकेगा। उनकी इस बात को मानकर हम कम पैसा लेकर भी काम चला लेते हैं। लेकिन प्रिन्सिपल के तहत हमारे राज्य के लिये भी पाप्युलेशन के बेसिस पर सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट से ग्रांट मिलनी चाहिये और हमारी सरकार को भी इस बात की कोशिश करनी चाहिये कि उसे ज्यादा पैसा मिले। मुझे विश्वास है कि हमारे फायनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब इस बारे में अवश्य ही कोशिश कर रहे होंगे।

सरकारी कर्मचारियों के इनफिशियन्सी के बारे में भी बहुत कुछ कहा गया और यह भी कहा गया कि वे लोग तनख्वाहें बहुत लेते हैं, १,००० रुपये तनख्वाह और मोटर इन सेक्टेरियज आदि को दी जाती हैं लेकिन वे उनका काम जिस तरह से करना चाहिये, उस तरह से नहीं करते हैं। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि कम से कम समाजवादी पार्टी के लोगों को ऐसी टीका नहीं करनी चाहिये थी। इस देश में कभी समाजवादी पार्टी की गवर्नमेंट आयेगी तो उन्हें भी देश की प्रगती के लिये योजनाओं को कार्यान्वित करना होगा और इसके लिये उन्हें सरकारी नौकरों की संख्या में भी बढ़ती करनी होगी। ऐसी स्थिति में सरकारी कर्मचारियों के बारे में इस तरह के ख्यालात रखना ठीक न होगा। आज कई सरकारी कर्मचारी ऐसे हैं जो देश की आजकी बदली हुई हालत में अपने को ढाल रहे हैं। लेकिन मैं इस बात को भी मानता हूँ कि कुछ ऐसे कर्मचारी जरूर हैं जो आज भी पुरानी तरह से अपना काम करते हैं और उनका खैय्या भी पुराना है। अलबत्ता उन्हें इस खैय्या को बदलना ही होगा। कई कर्मचारियों के एक जगह पर रहने के कारण बिगड़ने का डर रहता है। इसी ख्याल से सरकारी कर्मचारियों के तबादले एक जगह से दूसरी जगह किये जाते हैं। पोंवर का डिसेन्ट्रलाइजेशन हो इस ख्याल से हमारे इस राज्य के छः विभाग बनाये गये हैं और हर एक विभाग के लिये एक

[श्री गुलाम हैदर बलीमुहम्मद]

कमिश्नर नियुक्त किया गया है। कमिश्नर के ऑफिस के लिये एक जगह से दूसरी जगह स्टाफ भेजा जा रहा है।

हमारे फायनान्स मिनिस्टर साहब ने जो बजट यहाँ पर पेश किया है उसके लिये हम उन्हें धन्यवाद देना चाहते हैं लेकिन हमें उनकी बहुत ज्यादा स्तुति भी नहीं करनी चाहिये, क्योंकि कहीं ऐसा न हो जाय कि यह फायनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब बहुत एफिशियन्ट हैं इसलिये सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेन्ट उन्हें दिल्ली में बुला ले।

इस बजट में जो टैक्सेस लगाये हैं उसके बारे में काफी चर्चा यहाँ पर हुई और टैक्स बढ़ाने की मुखालिफत की गई। मैं इस बात को कुछ हद तक मानता हूँ कि इसमें इतना बड़ा डेफिसिट नहीं था कि जिसको पूरा करने के लिये इस तरह से टैक्स लगाने की जरूरत हो। लेकिन इस बात को भी हमें न भूलना चाहिये कि जनता नई नई योजनाएँ तो चाहती है लेकिन टैक्स देना नहीं चाहती। इस नुकतेनज़र को हमें बदलना चाहिये। यदि जनता मुल्क का विकास करना चाहती है तो उसे ज्यादा टैक्स देने के लिये भी तैयार होना होगा और जनता का यह फर्ज है कि वह जो टैक्स सरकार को देती है उसका उपयोग ठीक तरीके से होता है या नहीं, यह देखे।

इस राज्य के जो विभाग ज्यादा पिछड़े हुये हैं और जिनके विकास के लिये ज्यादा रुपये खर्च करने की आवश्यकता है उस बारे में भी इस बजट में विशेष ध्यान रखा गया है ऐसा आपको पूरा बजट देखने पर मालूम हो जायेगा। विदर्भ के लोगों की जो माँगें हैं उनका इस बजट में विशेष ख्याल रखा गया है। आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि इस बजट को सही नज़र से देखा जाय। आप जिस चश्मे से सब बातों की तरफ देख रहे हैं वह आपका चश्मा ही रंगीन है इसलिये आपको सब चीजें रंगीन ही नज़र आती हैं। आप जब तक अपना चश्मा नहीं बदलते तबतक आपको कोई अच्छी चीज़ कहीं नज़र ही नहीं आ सकती। अखीर में श्री जीवराज मेहताजी ने जो यह प्रेप्रेसिव्ह बजट यहाँ पर पेश किया है उसके लिये उन्हें धन्यवाद देते हुये मैं अपना भाषण खतम करता हूँ।

(Dr. V. D. Sathaye rose).

The CHAIRMAN : There are many more Hon. Members yet to take part in the debate. Therefore, let the Hon. Member keep an eye on the clock before him.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE (Maharashtra—Graduates) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to make a few remarks on the Budget which has been placed before the House. As I have risen in the middle of the debate, when so many points have already been touched by previous speakers, I would refer only to those points which I would like to emphasise before the House.

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It has been already stated that this is the first detailed budget of the new Bombay State. Talking about budgets and Budget speeches, they are usually full of epithets and metaphors. Such speeches usually begin and end with metaphors. In this House, some budgets were described as historical budgets. Some budget was described as "on the eve of the election budget". One Hon. Member thought this as "the exploiter's budget". The Central budget this time has been described as "pedestrian budget". I do not know whether the pedestrian has wooden legs. So far as the budget before the House is concerned, I would call it an equestrian budget because the Finance Minister and Government are trying to ride roughshod over the people of this State, or at least on the people of a part of this State, and I may say, on the people of Maharashtra. (Interruption). Yes, I will explain why I say so. We all know that our Finance Minister is a very distinguished Member of the medical profession. In the former debates of this legislature, he has been called a financial wizard, that his operation is painless, that he cuts the pockets of the people in a bloodless and painless way and so on.

Kumari JETHI T. SIPAHIMALANI : He was never a surgeon.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : The Budget before us differs very much from the previous budgets. In the last six years that the present Finance Minister has been in office, in his first two Budgets, he had proposed some new taxes, but in the subsequent four Budgets there was no proposal for any new taxes. The reason would appear to be that the sales tax subsequently yielded revenues far in excess of the expectations, and therefore, no need was felt to levy new taxes. It is because of the very heavy collections from the sales tax that the Bombay Government was able to execute successfully the First Five Year Plan and part of the Second Five Year Plan.

The budget before us has proposed some new taxes for raising additional revenue, and one of the proposals is to levy a tax on the State Road Transport passengers and their luggage. This tax is bound to hit hard the common man or the lower middle class people. I would say that this tax is a tax on a necessity. Road travel in buses these days is a necessity to the poor and lower middle class people like food and clothing. Transport has become one of the vital needs of the people, and any increase in its cost vitally affects the economy of the poor people. I would point out to the House how this tax would hit very hard some particular districts of the State. There are some areas in the State where motor transport is the only means of quick communication as there are no railway facilities there. Take, for instance, the South and North Satara districts, the Ratnagiri district and Kolaba district and the Kolhapur district in Maharashtra. In these districts railway facilities do not exist. Especially in the South Satara district the railway line is far away. Therefore, the proposed levy would hit very hard the poor and the middle class people in these districts.

As regards the State Transport passenger fares, we on this side of the House have always emphasised that the present fare structure of the State Transport

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is very high. Instead of reducing the fare Government now proposes to levy a tax on such passengers. We on this side of the House cannot definitely support such a proposal.

Another burden that would have to be borne by the people of the State is as a result of the unification of taxes. We have in elementary mathematics what are known as the highest and the lowest common denominators. Probably, the Hon. Finance Minister is taking only the highest common denominator. As regards unification of taxes, really speaking, as was emphasised by the Hon. Member Shri Deshmukh, he should have taken the lowest common denominator. I submit that the lowest common denominator should have been the basis for the unification of the taxes. It is well known that Bombay is already the highest taxed State in the country. Not only that, but, as I remarked in the beginning of my speech, revenues from the sales tax have already far exceeded our expectations.

Something has been said in the Budget speech as regards the recommendations of the last Finance Commission, and one point that was made out here was that on page 24 of this Memorandum we find that the target fixed for Bombay State was Rs. 23.5 crores, whereas it reached the target of Rs. 28 crores by additional taxation. That means that a sum of Rs. 5 crores more was raised. So far as Uttar Pradesh was concerned, although the target fixed was Rs. 50 crores, only Rs. 12 crores were raised and it was in deficit of Rs. 38 crores. So, I want to suggest that, although we have a deficit budget, I do not think that we will have any deficit, because the Hon. Shri Deshmukh emphasised the fact that although last year we expected a deficit of Rs. 3 crores, we ended with a surplus of Rs. 5 crores. Therefore, I say that our Finance Minister is very conservative in his estimates and if the actual taxes are recovered at the end of the year 1958-59, I am sure that our expectations will be fortified and that is why I say that there is no necessity of levying any further taxes. The deficit of Rs. 3 crores is not going to make any difference. The deficit works out at hardly 3 per cent. and if we have a deficit of Rs. 3 crores, that should not be made a ground for increasing the taxes. In this respect I would like to suggest that we should go to the Central Government for a bigger and legitimate share from the Central taxes; otherwise what we find is that the State of Bombay is considered to be a very resilient State as has been mentioned in the speech of the Hon. the Minister for Finance and therefore the Government of India is under the supposition that the Bombay State citizens can stand even further taxation. Therefore, I would say that, before we agree to this taxation, we should carefully consider that proposal. In fact, I would say that the very fact that we have a deficit budget is a very good and clear case for us to go to the Government of India and put up our claim before the Government of India for a legitimate and rightful share in the distribution of the Central taxes.

Then, I would say one more thing about new taxation. Formerly there was a saying that taxation without representation of the people was slavery. That was one of the famous sayings of the late Mrs. Annie Besant. Today,

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we can say that taxation without the consent of the people is tyranny and today we find that the people in the Bombay State are being taxed without even consulting them. The people of this State are definitely opposed to new taxation. I would further say that if you take a vote of the Legislators from Maharashtra in both the Houses, it would definitely go against the new taxation. It is this bilingual State that is going to force a new tax on a part of the State which does not want this tax and therefore it is the responsibility, as you say, of the Government of India to see that if we have a deficit a proper share in the income from taxes received by the Central Government should be given to the State of Bombay.

Then, Sir, I have recently read in the newspapers that Government is proposing to do away with the duty on entertainments on some dramas. In this House we discussed a Resolution of which I gave a notice regarding the abolition of the entertainment tax on dramas and then I pointed out that

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member Shri Dahanukar claims that he was the mover of that Resolution.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE: I had actually moved the Resolution. That is on the record of the House. I would say that the proceeds from the entertainment tax were hardly Rs. 3 lacs and Government was rather obstinate in responding to the popular opinion because they thought that by doing away with the entertainment tax they would lose a chance of saying that whatever Government collects by way of entertainment tax would be given by way of prizes for the encouragement of dramas. The argument on this side was "Leave it to the popular opinion and the encouragement should come from the public and not specifically from Government".

Then, Sir, I would refer to some of the departments of Government, particularly I would like to refer to the Health Department, of which I think I should speak a little more in detail.

I would first come to the eye-camps. These eye-camps are held by Government without proper advice. There is a Council on Blindness which ought to advise Government. Last year, in the month of February, we received a letter from Government that we should hold an eye camp in the month of March. I then pointed out to Government that March is certainly not a month when it is possible to hold an eye-camp. I am connected with the eye relief work for the last 30 years and my experience is that March is certainly not a month when eye camps should be held. Either May or after Diwali are the two periods when eye-camps can be profitably held. What I find is that Government allots certain amount for this purpose and as the year is about to close, they want to spend the amount allotted for this purpose before the end of March and therefore they rush for holding eye camps. I would therefore say that Government should consult various parties interested in this behalf and then hold eye-camps at the proper times and at the proper dates.

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Then, I come to another aspect, namely, grants to private hospitals. While speaking about the grants to Colleges my Hon. Friend Dr. Karve stated that the policy of Government in giving grants to non-Governmental Colleges is not very helpful. The same argument I would repeat in the case of private hospitals. There also the Government has a curious way of looking at it. If you have a deficit in any year, then Government gives a deficit grant. If there is no deficit, there is no grant and Government does not care to see what work was actually done. That was the point which was made out even regarding Colleges and therefore in February 1955 I asked a question about the moneys spent by Government on Arts Colleges, as well as grants given to various Arts Colleges area-wise and we find that on page 12 so far as the Bombay University area was concerned, Government was spending about Rs. 11 lacs on Government Colleges. As against that if we take the private Colleges, the Government grant given was about Rs. 3 lacs. Even if you add the money that was spent on these Colleges, we find that Rs. 14 lacs was the total expenditure on these Colleges and therefore it works out that whereas in the Government Colleges Rs. 400 were spent per student in 1955, so far as the private Colleges are concerned in the same area the sum spent was only Rs. 200 per student and the grant given on an average per student to private Colleges was hardly Rs. 60 to Rs. 80. So, on the same analogy so far as the private hospitals are concerned, Government should frame a set of rules for distribution of grants to private hospitals.

Then, Sir, while speaking on the Governor's Address, I made a reference to Medical Colleges in the State of Bombay and when the report of the debate appeared in the press I received a letter from the Indian Medical Association, Sholapur, requesting me to emphasise one more point before Government which I did the other day. Government was saying that they were finding some difficulty in getting suitable staff. I would like to point out that the Indian Medical Association at Sholapur desire that a Medical College be started at Sholapur. I would therefore urge upon Government to see that a Medical College is started at Sholapur which has got the two basic necessities regarding hospitals and students as well as the necessary staff. So far as the financial aspect is concerned, Government should find its way to see that the starting of the Medical College at Sholapur is helped.

Then, Sir, it was mentioned by one of the hon. Members that Bombay has 9 Medical Colleges. That is a well-known fact and I do not deny that. But my point was that compared to the development in the other educational fields, there is not much development here. For instance, on page 24 of the Budget speech, the Hon. the Finance Minister has stated that there has been

an expansion of 62 per cent. in the secondary school students. But there is no comparative increase in the number of the medical colleges. Now if a comparison is to be made, it can be said that the Bengal State has only one University viz. at Calcutta. Of course there is another university viz. Vishwa-Bharati but it has no medical faculty. Still in Bengal we find that there are 4 Medical Colleges in Bengal State. Thus

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for one University, there are four medical colleges. Similarly, it can be urged that as in Bombay there are 5 Universities there should be 20 Medical Colleges. So we have got a latitude to enlarge the number of the Medical Colleges upto 20. But numbers or statistics are not final arguments in any discussion.

Now, I would specially mention the need of the Sangli Engineering College. This college was started about 8 or 10 years back but now its financial condition is very precarious. There was a report about a couple of years back that perhaps this college would be closed down but fortunately the Government of India and one wellknown donor from Maharashtra came to the rescue of the college and, therefore, it has been continued still. I would, therefore, urge that Government should lay down a definite policy so far as the question of giving recurring and non-recurring grants is concerned and especially give substantial aid to this college.

Then, Sir, last time I had raised a point as regards the Robertson Medical School at Nagpur. My relevant remarks are at page 409 of the proceedings dated the 26th July 1957, and the reply which the Hon. the Deputy Minister gave to my point is at page 414. It is as follows :

"Then, Sir, there was some criticism about the Robertson Medical School at Nagpur where make-shift arrangements is carried on. I may say that as we have got the paucity of medical personnel we want to continue it for some time more so long as the paucity of medical men remains. As soon as we feel that we have sufficient number of full-fledged medical personnel we may discontinue this school."

A three-year diploma course was being taught there. The Hon. the Deputy Minister had stated that this course would be continued so long as the paucity of medical men remains. But surprisingly we find that within six months from the date on which the Hon. Deputy Minister gave this answer the Government decided to discontinue the course.

Then, I would refer to the point of the Koyna resettlement which has been mentioned in the speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister. I would say that so far as the question of resettlement of persons displaced by Koyna Scheme is concerned, I think that this is a very good opportunity to have a model colony which would be self-sufficient as well as industrially, socially and economically sound. I understand that a Committee to go into this question has already been appointed. My suggestion is that this opportunity should be seized and a model colony of the persons displaced by the Koyna Scheme should be established.

Now, I would refer to a few points mentioned in the speech of the Hon. Finance Minister. On page 4 of the speech, there is a reference about the Finance Commission's findings and there it has been stated that we are hit both ways ; in the case of income-tax large weightage is given to population—collection of tax being relatively ignored—and in the case of Excise Duties, however, even the population weightage has been changed to our disadvantage. But if we frame a deficit Budget we can go to the Government of India and tell them that we cannot raise any more revenue and, therefore, they should come to our rescue and give us proper share in the taxation.

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Then, on page 8 of the speech there is mention about the administrative efficiency and the checking up of the evasion of the Sales Tax. It is further stated there that the Government have taken special enforcement measures in the cities of Bombay, Ahmedabad and Surat to reduce evasion of the tax. That is very good and we know what steps Government have taken to collect the Sales Tax. So far as the question of the collection of the tax is concerned, the efficiency of the Government machinery has been demonstrated but so far as the question of giving benefit to the public is concerned, we do not know whether proportionate efficiency has been shown or not.

Then I turn to the point which was also emphasised by the hon. Member Shri Deshmukh. On page 30 of the speech it is mentioned what activities will be undertaken, e.g. that subsidy in the form of additional rent to caste Hindu landlords for taking Harijans as their tenants; encouragement of inter-caste marriages between caste Hindus and Harijans, etc. I think that this is only a sort of spectacular way of encouraging these efforts. Recently the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Shri Shrikant, gave a speech at Ahmedabad. He said that the Article of the Constitution regarding removing the untouchability was being treated as a joke and that the untouchability would never be removed by mere observation of the Harijan Saptah and awarding merit medals. This is the opinion of no less a person than Shri Shrikant and that is why I say that giving such encouragement to inter-caste marriages is only a spectacular thing. After all those persons who would go in for the inter-caste marriage would not depend so much upon the encouragement of the Government. The persons who are prepared to take such a forward social step would never depend upon the encouragement such as being garlanded at public functions. Such ceremonies are not going to solve our problem.

Then, Sir, out of the 17 methods of levying taxes, the Government of Bombay have exploited 15 methods and they have left the levy of tax on the agricultural income. But so far as this tax is concerned, it would be well worth considering whether this tax should be levied in the whole State of Bombay instead of abolishing it from the Marathwada area.

Now I would refer to three or four points from the Blue book.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member may conclude his remarks in about five minutes.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE: I shall try to do so, Sir.

At page 392 of the Blue Book, under item 200 "School Health clinics in Marathwada Region", there is a remark as follows:

"Apart from the importance of maintaining individual and community health at a high level carrying out of Health measures is one of the most effective ways of ensuring economic prosperity of the country and of materially raising the level of the National income."

Keeping in view the above facts, while the Government has included the various Health schemes in its activities in order to provide curative and preventive health services to a large urban and rural population, as an important measure towards promoting the health of the younger generation, it is proposed to have Medical Examination for school-going children in Marathwada Region."

[Dr. V. D. Sathaye]

I would say that this is a welcome step, but it should not be restricted only to a part of Bombay State. The school health service is an important aspect of social security measure and, as such, it should be instituted for all the areas of Bombay State.

Then, Sir, on page 329 there is a new item, viz. "Establishment of Directorate of Ophthalmology for the State of Bombay". The annual recurrent cost that is provided is Rs. 20,000. I wonder what is the use of having such a new item in the next year's budget. I would like to give here the instance regarding the School Health Service which Government started 8 or 10 years ago. It appointed a special Officer in this connection. His office was at Poona. An amount of about Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 50,000 was spent on this item and ultimately Government gave up the whole scheme. Therefore, even in regard to the establishment of a Directorate of Ophthalmology I feel that there is no necessity of creating such a Directorate at this juncture, because, unless we are prepared to make a substantial provision for a recurrent expenditure, the establishment of such a Directorate will not be of much use. Merely advice from the Ophthalmic Director will not help us much. So far as ophthalmic relief is concerned, I would suggest that there should be a scheme drawn up for giving districtwise service. There are six divisions in Bombay State and in the beginning if we are to appoint a touring Ophthalmic Surgeon for each division who will be touring the different parts of his division, I feel that that would be a better way of spending money than having a Directorate of Ophthalmology the function of which will be to give advice in ophthalmic matters. There is nothing new to be advised, and, therefore, I would request Government to reconsider this question of establishing the Directorate of Ophthalmology.

I would then refer to page 291, item No. 128, which relates to a grant being given to the Universal Health Institute for Panch Karma treatment. The only point which I would like to bring to the notice of Government is that, whereas Government, in this very Budget, are granting an amount of Rs. 6 per bed per day to a non-official agency which is carrying on research work, here we find that Rs. 19 per day per bed are being granted to this hospital, namely, the Universal Health Institute. It will be seen that the amount of Rs. 19 per bed per day is three times the average cost which Government generally sanctions. I shall be glad to have some information about this Universal Health Institute. I may mention that there are so many Ayurvedic colleges in this State and I feel that this work can be undertaken by them on the usual basis of Rs. 6 per bed per day. In Poona, in the Tarachand Ramnath Hospital to which I am attached, there is a Panch Karma Department. I would like to know whether anything special is being done at the Universal Health Institute.

Then, Sir, one more point that I would like to raise is regarding the starting of the Eye Bank. Bombay State was the first State which had the honour of enacting the Corneal Grafting Act but I may mention that that Act has still not been implemented. When we discussed that Bill, I had pointed out

[Dr. V. D. Sathaye]

to Government that, so far as the implementation of the Act was concerned, unless the provisions of the Anatomy Act were modified, this Act would not work in practice. I would, therefore, suggest that, instead of spending an amount of Rs. 20,000 on the establishment of a Directorate of Ophthalmology, which would give advice on things which are known, Government should spend money on the starting of the Eye Bank in the City of Bombay. I feel that that would be a welcome step.

There is one last point, Sir, and I have done. So far as Government servants from Saurashtra and Hyderabad areas are concerned, I understand that, in the matter of unification, they have not been given the same facilities which the servants from the other areas have been given. I would like to bring that matter to the notice of Government.

श्री. एस्. एल्. बेनाडीकर (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंब्लीने निवडलेले) : अध्यक्ष महोदया, ज्या गोष्टीमुळे पुष्कळांचे पुष्कळ हित साधत असेल ती चांगली व असे हित साधत नसेल ती वाईट अशी जी नीतिशास्त्राने कसोटी दिलेली आहे त्या कसोटीला प्रस्तुत अर्थसंकल्प उतरतो की नाही हे पाहणे अगत्याचे आहे. आपल्या राज्यामध्ये राहाणाऱ्या लोकांपैकी जवळ जवळ ७० टक्के लोक खेड्यापाड्यांत राहाणारे शेतकरी आहेत. अशा बहुसंख्य लोकांचे ह्या अर्थसंकल्पाने हित साधत असेल तर हा अर्थसंकल्प चांगला व ते साधत नसेल तर वाईट असे म्हणता येईल. ह्या दृष्टीने विचार केला तर, दुसऱ्या पंचवार्षिक योजनेने घाढून दिलेल्या कामांसाठी जवळ जवळ २५ टक्के खर्चाची तरतूद अप्रिकलचर, कम्युनिटी डेव्हलपमेंट व ४० टक्के इरिगेशन व पॉवर ह्या गोष्टींवर करण्यांत आल्याचे दिसून येते. ज्याअर्थी प्रस्तुत अर्थसंकल्पांत एवढी मोठी तरतूद करण्यांत आलेली आहे त्याअर्थी हा अर्थसंकल्प ६०-७० टक्के शेतकऱ्यांच्या हिताकरिता आहे असे म्हणावयास कोणत्याही प्रकारची हरकत नाही असे मला वाटते. शेतकऱ्यांचे जीवन म्हणजे पावसाशी खेळण्यांत येणारा जुगार आहे. पाऊस पडला तर ठीक नाही तर त्याचे हाल कुत्रा देखील खात नाही अशी आज परिस्थिति आहे. कोल्हापूरच्या पश्चिमेस ३० मैलावर गगनबावडा म्हणून एक गांव आहे त्या ठिकाणी ३०० इंच पाऊस पडतो तर पूर्वेस जे मिरज गांव आहे त्या ठिकाणी १५ इंच पाऊस पडतो. पावसाच्या या लहरीवर आळा घाढून म्हणजे लहान मोठे पाट बांधारे बांधून शेतकऱ्याची उन्नति कशी होईल अशी या अर्थसंकल्पांत दृष्टि असल्यामुळे हा अर्थसंकल्प चांगला आहे असे म्हणावयास काही हरकत नाही. मी असे म्हणू शकेन की ज्या-अर्थी या अर्थसंकल्पामध्ये २५ टक्के रकम शेती व खेड्यापाड्यांच्या विकासावर व ४० टक्के रकम कालवे व पॉवर यावर खर्च केली जाणार आहे त्याअर्थी हा अर्थसंकल्प भांडवलदारांकरिता नसून सर्वसामान्य जनतेकरिता आहे. ह्यामुळे

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नुसती उत्पादनांतच भर पडणार आहे असे नाही तर कोयनेसारखी योजना पुरी झाली तर महाराष्ट्रामध्ये वीज सर्वत्र पोहोचून लहान मोठ्या उद्योगधंद्यालाहि मोठी चालना मिळणार आहे.

नामदार मुख्य मंत्री श्री. यशवन्तराव चव्हाण यांनी आम्हा आमदारांकरिता एक उपयुक्त अशी योजना आंखली आहे. ह्या योजनेन्वये विधानसभेतील व विधानपरिषदेतील सदस्यांना पाळा पाळाने परंप्रतात पाठविण्यांत येते. त्याप्रमाणे मी गुजराती विभागातील वल्लभनगर विद्यापीठाला भेट दिली होती. श्री. भाईलाल पटेल यांनी अत्यंत परिश्रमपूर्वक हे केंद्र तयार केले आहे. त्यांनी पॉवरवर चालणारा चरखा तयार केला आहे. घरांतील बायकांनी ह्या चरख्यावर काम केले तर स्वयंपाकाचे काम संभाळून त्यांना दररोज प्रत्येकी पांच रुपये मिळविता येतील. हा चरखा महाराष्ट्रातील बहुसंख्य शेतकऱ्यांच्या हिताच्या दृष्टीने तयार करण्यांत आला आहे असे त्यांनी सांगितले. प्रस्तुत अर्थसंकल्प सुद्धा बहुजन समाजाच्या हिताच्या दृष्टीने तयार करण्यांत आलेला आहे असे मी म्हणालां तर त्यांत काही अतिशयोक्ति होईल असे मला वाटत नाही. या अर्थसंकल्पामध्ये जो खर्च वाढविण्यांत आलेला आहे त्याला अनुलक्षून काही विरोधी पक्षाचे सन्माननीय सभासद असे म्हणाले की, हे द्विभाषिक जनतेविरुद्ध लादले गेल्यामुळेच ही खर्च वाढ व करवाढ करण्यांत येत आहे. त्यांना मी असे सांगू इच्छितो की हे द्विभाषिक जनतेनेच लादले आहे. द्विभाषिक लोकसभेने मंजूर केले आहे. परंतु लोकसभा ही जनतेची प्रतिनिधिक सभा असल्यामुळे जनतेच्या बाहेर हे द्विभाषिक कोणी लादले आहे असे आपणास म्हणता येणार नाही. मी तर असे म्हणू शकेन की द्विभाषिक राज्य निर्मितीचा जो हेतु आहे तो स्तुत्य आहे. आणि हेतूवरच एकादी गोष्ट चांगली की वाईट हे ठरविता येते. पोट कापणारा सर्जन व पोट कापणारा खुनी या दोघांच्या कृति जरी सारख्या असल्या तरी त्यांच्या हेतूमध्ये फरक असतो व सर्जनचा हेतु चांगला असल्याने सर्जनचे कृत्य स्तुत्य ठरते. त्याचप्रमाणे भारत ऐक्य या उच्च हेतूने लोकसभेने द्विभाषिक राज्याची निर्मिती केली असलेने ते लोकसभेचे कृत्य स्तुत्य ठरते. आपला भारत देश हा एक खंड आहे. युरोपातील रशिया सोडून जेवढा खंड होईल तेवढा आपला भारत देश आहे. ह्या खंडतुल्य भारताचे ऐक्य टिकवावयाचे असेल तर प्रांतभेद व भाषाभेद कमी केले पाहिजेत हा गोष्ट उघड आहे. लोकांमध्ये आम्ही भारतीय आहोत अशी भावना जागृत झाली पाहिजे ह्या हेतूने द्विभाषिक अस्तित्वांत आलेले आहे. या सद्हेतूव्यतिरिक्त या द्विभाषिक राज्याच्या निर्मितीमागे दुसरा हेतु आहे असे मला

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मुळीच वाटत नाही. वस्तुतः ह्या द्विभाषिकामध्ये कोणाचा फायदा होणार आहे ह्या दृष्टीने आपण विचार केला तर तो महाराष्ट्रातील लोकांचाच होणार आहे असे दिसून येते. कारण या द्विभाषिक मुंबई राज्यामध्ये मराठी भाषिकांची जी संख्या आहे ती ६९ टक्के आहे व याच्या उलट या राज्यातील गुजराती भाषिकांची संख्या फक्त ३१ टक्के आहे. परंतु समितीच्या सन्माननीय सदस्यांना ही गोष्ट पटत नाही याबद्दल मला मनस्वी खेद होतो. उदाहरणादाखल सांगावयाचे झाले तर मी पूर्वी अकदां सांगितल्याप्रमाणे, अका बाजारांत पाउस व वारा आल्याबरोबर ज्याप्रमाणे मीठवाल्या तेलवाल्यापेक्षा नारळवालाच अधिक गडबडा लोळू लागला त्याप्रमाणे हे द्विभाषिक आल्याबरोबर मराठी भाषा बोलणारे समितीवाले गडबडा लोळू लागले आहेत. वास्तविक पाहता ह्या बाबतीत खरी ओरड गुजरातच्या मंडळींनी करावयास पाहिजे. परंतु भारतीय ऐक्य लक्षांत घेऊन ते स्वस्थ आहेत. सारांश लोकसभेने हे द्विभाषिक निर्माण केले ते खरोखर भारतीय ऐक्य वाढावे व भारताविषयीचा अभिमान जागृत व्हावा या स्तुत्य हेतूने निर्माण केले हे लक्षांत यावे म्हणूनच मी ह्या सर्व गोष्टी सांगितल्या.

गुजराती व महाराष्ट्रीय लोकांना एकत्र आणण्यांत लोकसभेचा हेतु हा असावा की गुजराती व महाराष्ट्रीय लोकांची संस्कृति एकसारखी आहे असे मला वाटते. गुजराती व मराठी भाषा व त्यांची लिपी ही एकमेकांना सहज समजू शकतात. याच्या उलट कानडी भाषेची अक्षरे खेकड्यासारखी असतात म्हणून ती महाराष्ट्रीयाना अगर गुजराती लोकांना समजण्यास फार कठीण जातात. याशिवाय कन्नड लोक द्रवीडियन संस्कृतीचे असून गुजराती व महाराष्ट्रीयन लोक आर्यन संस्कृतीचे आहेत ही गोष्ट कोणालाहि कबूल करावी लागेल. गुजराती व महाराष्ट्रीयन लोकांमध्ये जी नावे आहेत त्यांच्यामध्येहि सारखेपणा आहे. उदाहरणादाखल सांगावयाचे झाले तर व्हिलेज पाटलाला आम्ही पाटील म्हणतो तर गुजराती लोक पटेल अशी संज्ञा देतात. माझेहि नांव पूर्वी पाटील असे होते. परंतु बोर्डिंगमध्ये बरचसे विद्यार्थी पाटील या नांवाचे असल्याकारणाने नांव ओळखणे सुलभ व्हावे म्हणून गांवावरून नांव पडली व त्याप्रमाणे मी बेनाडीकर असे नांव धारण केले. त्याचप्रमाणे देसाई, भट, उपाध्याय अशी जी आडनावे आहेत ती गुजरात व महाराष्ट्र या दोन्ही विभागामध्ये सारखीच आहेत. देसाई या नांवावरून मला एकांने असे विचारले की सार्वजनिक बांधकाम खात्याचे मंत्री गुजराती आहेत काय ? ते महाराष्ट्रीयन आहेत असे मी त्यांना सांगितले.

[श्री. एस्. एल्. बेनाडीकर]

गुजराती व महाराष्ट्रीयन लोक एकमेकांना पूरक आहेत म्हणूनच मी हे सर्व सांगितले. आमच्यामध्ये जे अवगुण आहेत ते त्यांच्यामध्ये नाहीत. उदाहरणार्थ महाराष्ट्रीय लोक उधळे असतात तर गुजराती लोक काटकसरी असतात. त्यांच्यांत हा जो सद्गुण आहे तो आपण घेतला पाहिजे. त्याचप्रमाणे गुजराती लोकांमध्ये व्यापारी वृत्ति आहे परंतु महाराष्ट्रीय लोकांमध्ये ती वृत्ति नसून श्रम करण्याची धाडसी वृत्ति आहे. एकमेकांमध्ये हे जे गुण आहेत ते परस्परांनी घेतले पाहिजेत. विष्णूमय जग वैष्णवचा धर्म । मेदामेद-वर्म अमंगळ ॥ असे तुकारामबुवांनी म्हटल्याप्रमाणे भाषाभेद, प्रांतभेद इत्यादी राष्ट्रीय ऐक्याला विधातक अशा ज्या गोष्टी आहेत त्या टाकून दिल्या पाहिजेत. ही व्यापक दृष्टि ठेवूनच एक नमुनेदार राज्य व्हावे म्हणून द्विभाषिक राज्याची निर्मिती करण्यांत आशी आहे. जनतेचे वाटोळे करण्यासाठी द्विभाषिक निर्माण करण्यांत आलेले नाही किंवा जनतेच्या विरुद्ध ते लादले गेले नाही. द्विभाषिक खरोखरच बदलून घ्यावयाचे असेल तर पार्लमेंटमध्ये जाऊन त्या ठिकाणच्या सदस्यांचे मतपरिवर्तन करून ती गोष्ट साध्य करावयास पाहिजे परंतु तसे कांही न करता संयुक्त महाराष्ट्र झालाच पाहिजे अशा सभागृहामध्ये घेण्या करण्याचा जो प्रयत्न केला जातो तो निरर्थक आहे असे मला वाटते. समितीच्या सन्माननीय सदस्यांची ह्या प्रश्नाच्या बाबतीत कशी स्थिति झाली आहे हे लक्षांत घेण्यासाठी मी एक उदाहरण सांगितले तर ते अस्थानी होईल असे मला वाटत नाही. एका खेळ्यामध्ये एक इसम विहिरीत पडला परंतु तो सांपडला नाही म्हणून दुसऱ्या एका इसमाने असे सांगितले की, झऱ्यातून तो दुसऱ्या विहिरीत गेला असेल तेव्हा त्या विहिरीत त्याचा शोध करण्यांत यावा त्याचप्रमाणे लोकसभेत चळवळ न करता समितीवाले भल्याच ठिकाणी चळवळ करण्याचा प्रयत्न करीत आहेत असे मला वाटते.

दुसऱ्या एका गोष्टीचा मला प्रामुख्याने उल्लेख करावयाचा आहे तो असा की, मी मघाशी सांगितल्याप्रमाणे शेतकऱ्यांचे जीवन हे पावसाशी खेळण्यांत येणारा जुगार आहे म्हणून पावसाच्या लहरीला आळा घालण्याच्या दृष्टीने सरकारने पाटबंधाऱ्यांच्या व मोठमोठ्या धरणांच्या योजना आखल्या आहेत व त्याप्रमाणे प्रस्तुत बर्थसंकल्पांत तरतूद करण्यांत आलेली आहे. ह्या बाबतीत मुंबई राज्याने बरीच प्रगती केलेली आहे. गुजरात विभागाचा विचार केला तर सरकारने काकापारा, मही सारखे मोठमोठे प्रॉजेक्ट्स हातांत घेऊन व कालवे काढून सर्व भूमि सुजलाम सुफळाम करण्याचे योजिले आहे. ह्या दृष्टीने त्या कामावर जो खर्च होणार आहे तो अनाढ्या आहे असे म्हणता येणार नाही.

[श्री. एस्. एल. बेनाडीकर]

त्यानंतर शिक्षणाच्या बाबतीत आपण असे ध्येय ठेवले पाहिजे की, पुष्कळांना पुष्कळ शिक्षण कसे मिळेल, या दृष्टीने प्राथमिक शिक्षणाचे महत्त्व जास्त आहे व ही गोष्ट लक्षांत घेऊन प्राथमिक शिक्षणावर जास्त खर्च करण्याचे सरकारने ठरविले आहे हे अगदी स्तुत्य असेच आहे. कौटिल्य अर्थशास्त्राप्रमाणे प्रजा ही आपली मुलेबाळे आहेत असे राजाने अथवा राजकर्त्यांनी समजले पाहिजे, व बाप आपल्या मुलांच्या शिक्षणाची जशी काळजी घेतो तशी प्रजेच्या शिक्षणाची काळजी सरकारने घेतली पाहिजे. ह्या दृष्टीने पाहून गेल्यास बहुसंख्य लोकांच्या शिक्षणाची काळजी सरकार घेत आहे असे दिसून येते. दुसऱ्या शाळांचा खर्च वाढलेला असून ह्या शाळा खाजगी संस्थांकडे असल्यामुळे त्यांना हा खर्च भागविता येत नाही ही गोष्ट खरी आहे तेव्हा दुसऱ्या शिक्षणावरील सरकारने थोडा अधिक खर्च केला पाहिजे. त्याचप्रमाणे कॉलेज शिक्षणाला आणि त्यांतल्या त्यांत मायन्सच्या शिक्षणाला ह्या युगांत जास्त महत्त्व असल्यामुळे त्यावरही सरकारने खर्च केला पाहिजे. नुसत्या कथा कादंबऱ्या वाचून लोकांची भूक भागत नाही, अगर काव्यरस पिवून तहान भागत नाही. तेव्हा आर्ट कॉलेजसोबत शास्त्राध्य संशोधन करणाऱ्या संस्था आणि स्थापत्यांचे शिक्षण देणारी जी कॉलेजेस आहेत त्यांनाही सरकारने मदत केली पाहिजे.

ह्या अंदाजपत्रकांत दुसरी एक समाधानाची गोष्ट अशी आहे की, सरकारने नाट्यकले-वरील कर काढून टाकला आहे. भारताने नाट्यकलेची जोपासना फार जुन्या कालापासून केलेली आहे. ज्या वेळी युरोपातील लोक अर्धनग्नस्थित फिरत होते त्यावेळी आमच्या देशातील लोकांनी नाट्यकला उज्जितावस्थेस आणली होती. जगामध्ये जे आठ ग्रंथ पहिल्या प्रतीचे मानले जातात त्यांपैकी त्रायवल् हा एक असून भारतातील कालीदासाने लिहिलेले शाकुंतल हे नाट्य ह्या आठ ग्रंथांपैकी एक मानले जाते व ह्या नाटकांची भाषांतरे सर्व युरोपियन भाषांमध्ये करण्यांत आलेली आहेत. तेव्हा आपल्या देशातील अत्यंत जुन्या कलेला उत्तेजन देण्यासाठी ह्या कलेवरील कर सरकारने काढून टाकला ह्याबद्दल मी सरकारचे अभिनंदन करतो.

यानंतर देशी वैद्यकासंबंधी येथे एक मुद्दा उपस्थित करण्यांत आला होता, व ह्या बाबतीत मलाही अंक सूचना करावयाची आहे. सध्यांच्या कायद्याप्रमाणे अशी प्रथा आहे की, एकाद्या वैद्यानें अमूक एक वर्षे वैद्याचा धंदा केलेला असला तर त्याला लायसेन्स देण्यांत येते. पण ह्या पद्धतीचे दुष्परिणाम खेड्यांत दिसून येऊ लागले आहेत. देशी वैद्यकाला उत्तेजन देण्याबद्दल मझे दुमत नाही, पण हे उत्तेजन देत असतांना लोकांना फायदा होण्याऐवजी नुकसान पोहोचणार नाही याची काळजी घेतली गेली पाहिजे याचे मी एक उदाहरण देतो. खेड्यांवांतील एका माणसाच्या डोळ्यांत कांही दोष

[श्री. एस्. एल. बेनाडीकर]

निर्माण झाला होता. खेड्यांत आधुनिक पद्धतीचे शिक्षण घेतलेला डॉक्टर नसल्यामुळे तो एका जुन्या वैद्याकडे गेला. ह्या वैद्याने कांही वर्षे वैद्याचा धंदा केलेला असल्यामुळे वैद्याचा धंदा करण्याचे लायसेन्स त्याला मिळालेले होते. त्याने ह्या माणसाच्या डोळ्यांत कांही तरी औषध घातले, आणि आठ दहा दिवसांत त्या बिचाऱ्याचा डोळा गेला. दुसऱ्या एका वैद्याने पोटादुखीसाठी औषध दिले व त्यायोगे त्याला रक्ताचे जुलाब होऊन अवयवस्थ झाला. सरकारी डॉक्टरकडे ह्या गोष्टीचा रिपोर्ट गेल्यानंतर त्याने त्या वैद्याला काय औषध घातले असे विचारले तेव्हा त्याने सांगितले की, गूळ आणि शेर (शॅड) या नांवाच्या झाडाचा चीक याचे मिश्रण पोटात दिले होते. तेव्हा, वैद्याचा धंदा करण्यासाठी जे लायसेन्स द्यावयाचे ते जास्त काळजीपूर्वक सर्व गोष्टींचा विचार करून व विशेषतः या बाबतीतील शिक्षणक्रमाच्या परिक्षा पास झाल्यानंतर देण्यांत यावे असे मला सुचवावयाचे आहे.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, आतां वेळ फार झाला आहे तेव्हा जास्त बोल्डन सभागृहाचा वेळ न घेतां नामदार मंड्यांनीं हे जे वजेत सादर केले आहे त्याबद्दल त्यांचे अभिनंदन करून मी रजा घेतो.

Shri D. B. Agarwal rose.

The CHAIRMAN: There are many hon. Members yet to speak. So, the hon. Member may be brief.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL (Maharashtra South Local Authorities): Sir, I do not wish to take much time of the House in offering my remarks on the Budget before the House, because many hon. Members who have spoken before me have covered most of the general ground on which I wanted to traverse. I would like to refer to the grievances of my constituency because I think it is necessary and because that is the purpose for which I have been sent here.

Sir, you are aware of the fact that in my constituency there are two cantonments and the third is now going to come up. Fortunately, the Hon. Minister for Local Self-Government is here and I think it would be 4-00 p.m. in the fitness of things if I narrate those grievances, so that they may be discussed at the Ministerial level at Delhi. What I wanted to point out, about which I have also spoken in my previous speech, is that these Cantonments are neglected for years together. In our State we have got seven Cantonments and the eighth is on its way. On the 1st of April this year the new Cantonment at Dehu is coming up. We have a population of about 4 lacs of people. What I find is that the State Government is not looking to their interests properly. All the taxes that are levied by the State Government are also recovered by it from these Cantonment areas. When,

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[Shri D. B. Agarwal]

however, the question of giving grant-in-aid arises, nothing is being done. Whenever this question comes up before the State Government, we are told that, under the Constitution, the State Government cannot do anything.

The CHAIRMAN : Do you mean to say that there is only one way traffic ?

Shri D. B. AGARWAL : It is so, Sir. The Cantonments are mentioned in the VIIIth Schedule of the Constitution. It is a fact that the Cantonments are on the Union list. I think that that is done for a particular purpose, for the purpose of delimitation of the areas of the Cantonment and the areas coming under the Local Self-Government. But I think there is nothing that can stop the State Government from giving grants to the Cantonments. Sir, actually we find that the State Government levies tax, especially the urban immovable property tax, not on par with the other areas, but at a higher rate. The tax on urban immovable property in the Cantonment areas is levied at 7 per cent., and 3 per cent. whereas in the other areas it is less than that. Sir, when the State Government is levying sales tax, urban immovable property tax and electricity tax, should it not look to the grievances of the Cantonments? The Cantonment area is next to the Corporation area. So, whatever benefits the Corporation employees get in the matter of wages, etc., the same benefits the employees of the Cantonments also should get. But our Cantonment areas are not in a position to give any increase in the wages to the employees of the Cantonments. Sir, actually this matter was represented by us to the Central Government. They also turned a deaf ear to our grievances. When we approach the State Government, we are told to approach the Central Government. What we suggest is that, whatever grants the municipal or corporation areas are getting, the Cantonment areas must also get similar grants. This is one of the grievances which I want to stress in this House. I would suggest that, if the Hon. Minister for Local Self-Government happens to go to Delhi, he should discuss this matter on the higher levels and see that our grievances are redressed.

Another grievance which I wish to put forth here is that we have got an area called Bhimpura which is a slum or a backward area. There is a great difficulty about water supply. The supply of water is a concern of the State Government. We suggest that, in this area, big branch pipe lines be laid as we are not getting sufficient water supply. I may mention that, if a house is situated inside, say, about 200 or 300 ft., they have to take small pipes and for taking these small pipes a lot of money is required to be spent.

Then, Sir, I have got another grievance about water rates. In the Cantonment area the rate of water is Rs. 1-1-0 per 1,000 gallons for commercial purposes and As. 9 for domestic purposes. People residing in these areas are very much troubled and they have made a representation to Government in this connection, but so far no attention has been paid to this grievance.

[Shri D. B. Agarwal]

Then, Sir, I come to local bodies. What I feel is that actually this urban immovable property tax should be abolished. It is my duty to represent the grievances in general. The local bodies are actually suffering from a great handicap to the tune of Rs. 160 lacs. Money is being spent in paying bills and very little amount is left for providing amenities to the people residing in these areas. I would, therefore, request Government to forego this urban immovable property tax, so that the local bodies in these areas can take the revenue for their own benefit. Actually a supplementary memorandum has been submitted to the Second Finance Commission. Government said that they will be foregoing the amount of urban immovable property and it will be reduced from Rs. 160 lacs to Rs. 80 lacs in 1958, Rs. 40 lacs in the year 1959, and in this way it will be reduced. We made a submission to Government in this connection and we learn that the Government of India have granted some relief in this respect. I would request Government to look into this matter and see that this urban immovable property tax is completely abolished, so that the local bodies in the various areas may get some financial relief, to enable them to improve their areas properly.

Sir, the other day the hon. Member Shri Deshmukh remarked that we have already exploited 15 sources of taxation out of 17 and only 2 have been left. He made a suggestion that Government should levy profession tax. I would request Government that they should never consider that proposal. Government on the contrary should allow the local bodies and local authorities to raise this tax. In our Cantonment area we collect taxes to the tune of Rs. 63,000. If the suggestion is accepted, I feel that most of the local bodies will get enough revenue and they will be able to balance their budgets through this source.

As regards the tax on agriculture suggested by my hon. Friend Shri Deshmukh, I may say that agricultural income-tax may be levied because, after having visited the Gujarat area, I have come to the conclusion that the agriculturists are earning lacs and crores of rupees and they are spending large sums on irrigation. We find that their lands have improved. But what is the change in the tax? They are paying no extra tax which they ought to pay. Actually in Gujarat, in the Anand area and in Kaira District, we found that any amount of tobacco cultivation is going on. I have come to know that the agriculturists are owning cars. That shows the property of the people in those areas. If agricultural income-tax is levied, that will be a good source of revenue to Government and it will get a lot of money. That is one of the sources which Government should exploit.

Another thing which I would like to bring to the notice of this House is that there is a great chaos in these local bodies. We find that the Chief Officer is involved in party politics. I agree with the suggestion made by one hon. Member that the Chief Officer should be appointed by the State Government so that he may be above party politics and help in the smooth running of the local bodies.

[Shri D. B. Agarwal]

The other day one of my hon. Friends, who is concerned mostly with the local bodies, made a complaint that it has come to his notice that Government has asked all the local bodies to examine the octroi duty on handloom cloth. Actually the idea is that the people who manufacture handloom cloth should get the benefit of the exemption, but we find that the traders put false stamps of 'handloom cloth' on other cloth and obtain the exemption. The small municipality of Wai in Satara District which is in my area suffers on this account to the tune of Rs. 6,000 per year and, therefore, we can imagine what benefit the traders must be deriving from this.

I have been told that, in Marathwada, most of the municipalities have nominated members. Now very shortly there would be election of some of the Council Members and, therefore, our House would take some members from the Marathwada Local bodies constituencies also but they would not be the real representatives of the people. What else can such nominees be excepting henchmen of Government? I would, therefore, request that the election of the Council Members from Marathwada local bodies should be held in abeyance till the elections of members to the municipalities in that area take place. There were some of the grievances of the people from my constituency which I have placed before the House.

I will now turn to the Budget in general. In the first instance, I would refer to the speech of Hon. the Finance Minister. He has made a grievance against the Finance Commission that it has not recognised the fact that the reorganisation of the new State as a National solution of a complex political problem has faced us with tremendous transitional financial difficulties. But who is responsible for the formation of such a State? It is the Congress Party, here and at the Centre, which is responsible for it. So it is for them to see and persuade the Finance Commission to help us in removing these financial difficulties. Actually he seems to have been excited when making references to these things and he himself has brought in provincialism in his speech by referring to the point that the Commission has given help to particular provinces and not to us. As for myself, after going through the full award of the Finance Commission, I feel that the award is a correct one. It is a national award and it is according to the principle of establishing a socialistic pattern of society. When we take the nation as a whole, then we must go by the population and the needs of the population of each part. From this point of view, I am convinced that the award of the Finance Commission is in accordance with the award of a socialistic pattern of Society, and no grievance can be made against it excepting that we can similarly lay our claim on the share from excise duty on the basis of population, which basis they have accepted in the case of income tax.

Then a reference has been made to sales tax. In this connection, I would request Government to see that the procedure of collecting sales tax should be simplified as much as possible and it should be further seen that the merchants are not harassed unnecessarily.

[Shri D. B. Agarwal]

Then I come to the food policy of Government. Government has spent crores and crores of rupees in the last 7 years—in the five years of the First Five-Year Plan and two years of the Second Five-Year Plan—and still the return is nothing. On the contrary, we find from the figures that actually there is a decrease in the output and this is a very serious thing. It is mentioned that, in 1953-54, about 70 lakhs tons of cereals were produced. Now, what is the production after spending so many crores of rupees during the last few years? It is about 70 lakhs tons only. Hon. the Finance Minister has stated that our food problem is not just a problem of output or production potential but is also the problem of purchasing power in the hands of the community and the propensity to consume various types of foodgrains and stock-keeping habits and practices of the farmer, purchasers, middlemen and the consumers at large. He has his own doubts about the middlemen also and, therefore, he has stated that if Government finds that it cannot succeed by the present methods, it might even think of resorting to nationalisation of this trade in foodgrains.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member has now only five minutes within which to conclude his remarks.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL: Yes, Sir. From the figures we find that the reduction in revenue from State Excise would be Rs. 47 lakhs. These are the figures which were submitted by Government to the Finance Commission and they are very interesting. Now I ask Government, "Is prohibition a success?" Actually when Mahatmaji was alive, just to honour his word we introduced prohibition. But today we find that even in Delhi, the place where the Constitution was framed, complete prohibition has not been introduced, even though our old Chief Minister has gone there. But we are still persisting in having that policy, with the result that we would be losing a loss of revenue of Rs. 47 lakhs. It is stated on page 17 of the Memorandum submitted to the Commission that revenue from the State Excise in the year 1957-58 would be Rs. 177 but in 1959-60, 1960-61 and 1961-62 it would be Rs. 130 lakhs every year and this reduction is on account of full prohibition from 1958-59 onwards. We also find that the expenditure on Police is mounting high and high. We find from item No. 29 on page 22 that the expenditure on Police in 1957-58 was Rs. 11,43,00,000 and we further find that in the Budget before us there is a provision of Rs. 12,71,00,000 for expenditure on Police. That shows that we are going to spend Rs. 1,28,00,000 more on Police. This increase in expenditure on Police is necessitated mainly because of prohibition which is merely a fad of Government.

I would, however, congratulate Government on some of the good things which it has done. When we visited Gujarat and Rajkot areas we found that Industrial Estates have been established there which have a very great employment potentiality. I would mention in this connection that the amount that is being provided in the next year's Budget, viz. Rs. 15 lakhs, is very meagre and Government should provide something more, considering the employment potentiality of the scheme.

[Shri D. B. Agarwal]

We also found that the roads in Gujarat and Saurashtra were not good and, therefore, good roads should be provided there. I am not at all considering this matter from the point of view of linguistic regions. The roads in Gujarat and Saurashtra are really very bad and they need proper attention. Government should, therefore, make adequate provision for constructing good roads there. Similarly, in the Rajkot area there are no means of communications. Government should, therefore, construct good roads there and also request the Central Government to have a railway there.

Then, Sir,

The CHAIRMAN : I hope this is the last point.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL : Sir, I will take only five minutes.

The CHAIRMAN : There are many other hon. Members who have yet to speak. So the hon. Member may conclude his remarks.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL : Sir, I am coming to the end of my speech.

So far as cottage industries are concerned, I have already referred to this subject even previously. I would once again request Government to see that people take more and more interest in cottage industries, like hand-pounded rice, atta, etc. Government should actually introduce legislation in this respect to see that all such products are made use of in the canteens run by this Government as well as by the Central Government. If that is done, it would create enough employment potential amongst the people in the villages.

I would also like to congratulate Government on its extending the Beggars Act to Poona and Ahmedabad areas. This is really a praiseworthy act which Government has done.

Then, Sir, a number of hon. Members have spoken about marriages amongst the Hindus and the Harijans. They are, of course, worth encouraging. If Government really wants to encourage such marriages, then, if Government were to give some sort of a guarantee about providing employment after the marriage takes place, then perhaps more number of people might come forward for such marriages.

With these words, I resume my seat.

Shri V. S. PAGE (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the general discussion of the Budget a number of points have been dealt with by those Hon. Members who have spoken before me and I have very little to say as regards those points.

First of all, Sir, I would like to refer to two specific points, as I am, in duty, bound to refer to them as a member of the Bombay Village Industries Board. I would refer to page 586, that is the last page, of the Budget Memorandum.

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Here there is a scheme for the grant of loans in connection with the development of Village Industries in community development areas. In the explanatory remarks it has been stated that the State Government has made a provision for giving loans to the tune of Rs. 11,50,000 out of a total provision of Rs. 20,00,000 that is proposed for the year 1958-59 for giving loans for the development of small industries in the N. E. S. and C. D. Blocks. In the beginning of these remarks, however, it has been stated that the Government of India, in the Ministry of Community Development, have informed the State Government that the allotment of funds to be released by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for the development of village industries in the N. E. S. and C. D. Blocks in the Bombay State will roughly be of the order of twice the allocations made by the State Government. So the Khadi and Village Industries Commission was to give an allocation to the tune of twice that of the State Government, but I see from the figures that the allocation made by the State Government is twice that of the All India Khadi and Village Industries Commission. I would like to have some elucidation on that point.

Then, Sir, as regards the utilisation of the funds also there are some difficulties. It is not known whether the funds that have been assigned for giving loans to small industries in the N. E. S. and C. D. Blocks are to supplement the schemes of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission or they are to be utilised independently, because the pattern of the schemes of that Commission is settled by a sort of anticipated provision made in the pattern itself. So I would like to know whether these funds are to be used to supplement the schemes of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. I may mention that, in practice, that difficulty has been felt. Funds have been reserved for this purpose but the officers and workers themselves do not know how they are to be utilised. It is simply said that they can be utilised for giving training and granting loans only. Therefore, a clear idea about the utilisation of these funds should be given to the officers and workers concerned. That has not been done as yet. I put it as a suggestion that a clear provision for specific purposes should be made.

I would then refer to page 399 where we find a novel scheme for investigating increase in the yield of fruits and vegetables by bee-pollination. This scheme was taken in hand by the Bombay Village Industries Board. It has got staff, laboratory, etc. for the purpose and a lot of research work has been done by the Board in this respect. In the matter of research on the different types of honey I think we have made definite progress. Our centre for this work is at Mahableshwar where trainees from all parts of India come for training. I am surprised to see that this very experiment of bee-pollination is now going to be taken in hand by the agriculture Department. I would request Government to consider whether such a duplication is at all necessary. This experiment is already being carried out by the Bombay Village Industries Board at Kopergaon. All of us know that Kopergaon is a place where we have got fruit gardens. There are big fruit gardens, and in a single garden there are lakhs of trees sometimes. There this experiment of bee-pollination is being

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carried out for the last two years. It is not such a thing which we can extend to the other areas. In fact the schemes which are already being conducted by the Village Industries Board should have been supplemented instead of having a different scheme to be run by the Agriculture Department. I do concede that some part of it pertains to the Agriculture Department, and that is, seeing whether there has been any actual increase in the yield or not. To that extent the Agriculture Department is no doubt concerned, but the first part of the experiment, namely, that of bringing bees all the way from a place where experiments are already being conducted, is not easy for any one. Bee-hives can be had only from the jungles. Then the bees have to be reared. They have to be brought from hill stations and carried to a place where there is fruit culture. So, as I have said, this experiment can be carried out only by the Bombay Village Industries Board because it has got the necessary implements and has also got experts; moreover, such experiments are already being conducted there. That is why I would suggest on the floor of this House that this aspect of the scheme should be considered by Government. Now, this scheme has been chalked out in accordance with the recommendations of the All India Bee-Keepers' Conference and the Agriculture Department has taken it up because the Government of India is prepared to give 50 per cent. of the expenditure that is to be incurred in this connection. Now my suggestion is that the Bombay Village Industries Board should be considered as the agency for implementing the scheme, but just to evaluate as to what improvement has taken place in the yield of fruits or vegetables or foodgrains, the Agriculture Department must come in.

Having referred to these two specific points, I would come to another matter. One of the Hon. Members talked about a certain murder at Karad. I am a member from nearabout that area and I should say that such offences do take place there, but it is not true that the murderer is not traced. I have got information—it may not be absolutely correct but can be presumably true—that the murderer has been traced. It is not at all proper to say that nothing has been done in this matter. I learn that the culprit has been traced.

The main thing which I would refer to now is contained in two most unfortunate sentences in the whole of the Budget Speech. The first is on page 2. Time and again the Hon. Members from the Opposition have referred to these sentences and drawn a conclusion which I do not support. It is neither warranted by reality, nor is it a logical inference from that. That statement is as follows :—

"...as 'a national solution of a complex political problem has faced us with tremendous transitional financial difficulties arising out of integration which require augmenting of our resources by way of Central devolution of shared taxes and grants-in-aid.'"

All the hon. Members referred to it as if

The CHAIRMAN : Will the hon. Member require more time ?

Shri V. S. PAGE : Yes, Sir.

The CHAIRMAN : Then the House will adjourn for recess and meet at 5-00 p.m.

(Recess from 4-30 p.m. to 5-00 p.m.).

(The Deputy Chairman in the Chair)

Shri V. S. PAGE : Madam, Chairman, I was referring to the sentence on page 2, in paragraph 6 of the Budget speech. It is this sentence, namely, that the re-organisation of the new State as a national solution of a complex political problem has faced us with tremendous transitional financial difficulties that has given rise to criticism. Some meaning, that this bilingual character of the State has brought us these difficulties, was tried to be made out of this sentence. I for myself have read this sentence twice and I have come to the conclusion that no meaning against the bilingual State can be drawn from this sentence. It refers to the reorganisation of the State and it is not that the national solution has a reference to bilingual State only. When the question of reorganisation of the States was before the nation, it was considered that the reorganisation of States was a sort of a national solution. Here there is no particular reference to the bilingual character of the State. Even if there had been two unilingual States, the difficulties of integration would have been there. Unless it is pointed out that, by integration of these two linguistic areas, some additional expenditure has been necessary, we cannot say that these transitional financial difficulties have any reference to the bilingual character of the State. The question of integration was there. There was the question of integration of Vidarbha, Marathwada, Saurashtra and Kutch areas with this State. But the problem would have been there even if there had been two unilingual States. From this the inference, that by making the State bilingual the problem of integration created many more financial difficulties, cannot be drawn. I would rather say that, having considered the question of integration, the integration of Marathwada and Vidarbha is presenting us greater difficulties than the integration of Saurashtra and Kutch. If we take the figures of *per capita* taxation and expenditure in the various parts of the other States that have come to the old Bombay State, we find that the integration of the two areas, namely, Marathwada and Vidarbha, is presenting us greater difficulties than the integration of Saurashtra and Kutch, because we find that in Saurashtra and Kutch the taxation and the plan are nearly on par with the territories of the old Bombay State. But in Vidarbha or Marathwada we find that neither the plan expenditure is on par with the level of the old Bombay State, nor is the tax level quite on par with the tax level in the old Bombay State. Therefore, the integration problem presents us a greater difficulty in the case of Marathwada and Vidarbha than in the case of Saurashtra and Kutch. So, the question of reorganization has no reference whatsoever to the bilingual character of our State. I would like to emphasise this fact again.

Then, again, I refer to the other unfortunate sentences which have created a lot of misunderstanding. That fact is in the last line in paragraph 54, on page 42, which is as follows :—

"To this end I feel that a new orientation in our financial policy has become essential. Time has come when we should change over from orthodox finance to welfare finance."

A meaning was tried to be read out of this sentence that upto now there had not been—here is a confusion—no welfare State and that now the time has come to change over to it. Sir, I would like to point out that this sentence

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refers to the modified finances and it has no reference to the character of the State as such. This para refers to the method of finance and the position has been given easily and quite clearly. We are given an idea as to what change is going to take place in this method of finance. It is suggested that a separate fund for the development activities should be formed so as to have ready money and to avoid the difficulty of lapsing of grants. All this is to have ready money for the speedy implementation of the schemes. The building up of funds has been found to be beneficial for such a speedy implementation of schemes and for having in hand ready money. More money will be required for many developmental activities. So, here the method of finance alone has been referred to. A confusion of this State not being a welfare State is tried to be screwed out. It is too much, not only is it too much, but it is incorrect altogether and wrong to say so. Constructive suggestions were called for from the hon. Members of this House. I find that this is the only point where the Hon. Finance Minister has invited the hon. Members of this House to offer their suggestions on this question so that he can come forward before this House with supplementary demands; but no constructive suggestions have been offered. On the contrary, a confusion is being read out of this particular sentence. I would like to emphatically point out that the question whether this State was a welfare State or not has nothing to do with the particular paragraph or particular matter and, therefore, there is much misconstruing as I said.

As regards the point whether this Budget is a poor man's Budget or exploiters Budget, I can only refer to the long list of new items of expenditure that is given in the Memorandum. I should say that a list of 388 items has been given here. Has any body read the whole list and found out if there is any single item that is going to help the exploiters only? I would like to know whom it is going to benefit. All these schemes are largely going to benefit the poor man, the villager and the common man. The expenditure is about Rs. 13.59 lacs. All these items are new items which concern only a common man of the State.

Coming to new taxes; what is the extent of the taxes levied? The taxes amount to, as has been pointed out, Rs. 3 crores at the most. A portion of it is necessitated by the fact that unification of taxes throughout the State has to be brought about. We cannot avoid it after the merger of new territories. As we are having unification of laws, unification of grants, etc. unification of taxes also is a necessary step. We must congratulate and I do congratulate Hon. the Finance Minister on his having taken this step as early as possible. It is an important thing that the two taxes which were prevalent in some of the new parts of the Bombay State have now been dropped. We have to see whether they have been dropped rightly or not. One of the taxes was the agricultural income tax. It was prevalent in a part of the State, namely, in Marathwada. It was suggested on the floor of this House by the hon. Shri Agarwal that that tax should be revived and it should be applied to the other parts of the State as well. I would rather say that this is not a correct

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suggestion. It is included in the list of taxes which a State can impose. But looking to the situation regarding foodgrains and also looking to the financial position of our agriculturists, I should say that the circumstances in which our agriculturists live do not warrant a levy of agricultural income tax on them. The very fact that, for the last 20 years, we have not been able to raise land revenue goes to show that we should not levy agricultural income tax. Some people say that if agricultural income tax is levied, it would affect the richer class only. But the other argument is, what about the extra income that the agriculturists would derive from irrigation, etc.? That should also be taxed. Now we are already imposing betterment levy, cess, etc. and, therefore, as a matter of fact, it is not necessary to levy agricultural income tax at this stage. We are very peculiarly situated. We need not go to the list of taxes which we can levy and levy each and every one of them. When the food situation in the State is not good, I think that Government has done the right thing in dropping out this tax altogether. The other tax, that is professional tax, is being levied by local bodies and, therefore, if the State had also levied that tax, the people of the State would have been hit both ways. Excluding these two items, Government has exploited all the other sources of revenue. I have, therefore, said that the only new tax is the tax on passenger fare. As the Hon. Minister has stated in his speech, we can get a revenue of Rs. 180 lakhs from this source. I was also thinking as to why it must have been felt necessary to have this additional tax. Is it necessary just to meet the deficit or something else? But one can find that there is a case for such an increase in bus fare. It was said that many items have not been taken into consideration while framing the Budget. The hon. Member Shri Dahanukar pointed out one or two items. He stated that the portion of the excise duty which we are going to get from the Union Government is not taken into consideration at all. But I do not support his view. The portion of the excise duty which we are going to get has been taken into consideration. That item has not been dropped by Hon. the Finance Minister. It is true that the stamp duty and whatever additional revenue we may get from sales tax, etc. has not been assessed but it is not possible to assess it at this stage. It would not, therefore, be proper to say that these items have been lost sight of. The reason for increasing the bus fare may be high traffic. I think that high traffic might be the cause of this taxation. We find that there is too much crowd everywhere at the bus stands. The traffic has increased to such an extent that, unless we provide for more vehicles and better roads, it is impossible to solve the problem. We have no doubt a good number of buses. But what is the condition of the traffic? We find that every bus is over-loaded as it used to be when the private buses were being operated. The situation has not improved in that respect. In other respects it has improved a lot. As regards the stands, other amenities to the passengers, administration, and in respect of everything else the situation has, no doubt, improved but the problem of over-crowding is yet there. So it is my personal view that, in order to ease that situation, this tax has been levied. I expect an explanation from Hon. the Finance Minister as to whether this view is correct or not.

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I would now only touch two other points because I have only two minutes left. At the time of discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the Governor for his Address, these two points were raised. One was as regards the progress of the Koyana Scheme and the other was as regards the Master Plan for the Industries in the State. I am glad that Hon. the Finance Minister has referred to both these points in his Budget speech.

Now I want to seek only one clarification from Hon. the Finance Minister. According to his Budget speech there would be a tax on motor spirit and diesel oil. So I would like to know whether the agriculturists who would be using diesel oil for operating pumps and engines in their fields in the production of food crops would also be taxed now. I would like to have an explanation from the Hon. Minister on this point.

Another thing I would refer to is the abolition of Mahar Watans. I had referred to this point while speaking on the Governor's Address. I think that a very good beginning has been made, but in my view the sum of Rs. 5 lakhs that has been provided for this work is a very modest one. It appears that, in the first instance, these Mahar Watans are going to be abolished in two areas only, viz. Kutch and Marathwada, and it is said that there is going to be a phased programme for completely abolishing them throughout the State. Government is going to employ persons on a salary basis instead of having these hereditary watandars. I wish that this work should be completed at least by the end of the Second Five Year Plan. That is all I have to say.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ (વિધાનસભા તરફથી ચૂંટાયેલ) માનનીય અધ્યક્ષ મહોદયા, અર્થ-મંત્રીના પ્રવચનમાં જણાવ્યા પ્રમાણે આ બજેટ દ્વારા સરકાર તેની નીતિ અને કાર્યક્રમ આ સભા-ગૃહ દ્વારા લોકોને સંપૂર્ણ રીતે સમજાવવા માગે છે. કસ્ટોમરો સરકારને જે આદર્શ છે તેને સિદ્ધ કરવા, રૂઢીચુસ્ત અર્થવ્યવસ્થાને બદલે કસ્ટોમરો અર્થવ્યવસ્થાના માર્ગે સરકાર આગળ વધવાનું છે તેમ આમાં બતાવવામાં આવ્યું છે. પરંતુ સરકારે જે નીતિ સ્વીકારી છે એ નીતિ વાસ્તવિક રીતે કોને લાભદાયક નીવડી છે અને તેના કાર્યક્રમથી આમજનનાને લાભ થયો છે કે નહિ તે આપણે જાણી જોઈએ. સરકારે આપણી સમક્ષ જે બજેટ રજૂ કર્યું છે એ બજેટ દ્વારા જુદા જુદા વિભાગ ઉપર કેટલું ખર્ચ થઈ રહ્યું છે તેનો અંદાજ આપણી આગળ રજૂ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે. પરંતુ પૈસા ખર્ચવાથી જ લોકોને લાભ મળે છે? સરકાર એમ બતાવવા માગે છે જે આજે કરોડો રૂપિયા ખર્ચાઈ રહ્યા છે એને કારણે સામાન્ય લોકોને જ લાભ મળી રહ્યો છે, જુદી જુદી યોજનાઓ પાછળ આટલી મોટી રકમ ખર્ચવાથી ઉત્પાદન વધ્યું છે, અને ઉત્પાદન વધવાનો સાથેસાથ લોકોનું સ્ટાન્ડર્ડ પણ સુધર્યું છે. આપણને એમ પણ કહેવામાં આવે છે કે ૧૮ ટકા જેટલી રાષ્ટ્રની આવક વધી છે અને માથાદીઠ લોકોની ઇન્કમમાં ૧૩ ટકા જેટલો વધારો થયો છે. આથી લોકોની આર્થિક સ્થિતિ સુધરી છે. વાસ્તવિક રીતે જોતાં, લોકોની ઇન્કમમાં ૧૩ ટકા વધારો બતાવવામાં આવે છે છતાં લોકોની સ્થિતિ દિવસે દિવસે વધુ ને વધુ કફોડી બનતી જાય છે. એની આવક બાજુ અને જવક બાજુ—ખર્ચ બાજુ—છે તેનો કોઈ મેળ ખાતો નથી. રૂપિયા ખર્ચવાથી ફાયદો જરૂર કોઈને થયો તો છે જ, પણ તે સામાન્ય માણસને નહિ.

બીજી પંચવર્ષીય યોજનાની ગણતરીમાં આજે એક મોટી ગડમથલ થઈ છે અને સરકારને પણ એની સફળતા બાબતમાં ભય ઉભો થયો છે. પણ એનું મૂળ જે કારણ છે તે તરફ તે લક્ષ્ય કરવા માંગતી

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નથી. મૂળ કારણોને દબાવવાનો અને ભયને ઓછો કરીને બતાવવાનો તે પ્રયત્ન કરે છે. અનાજની ઉત્પાદનની બાબતમાં માનનીય નાણાં-મંત્રીશ્રીએ એમના પ્રવચનમાં જે આંકડા આપ્યા છે તે આપણે જોઈશું તો જણાઈ આવશે કે ઉત્પાદન વધતું નથી પણ ઘટે છે. ૧૯૫૩-૫૪માં ૭૦ લાખ ટન અનાજ ઉત્પન્ન થયું, ૧૯૫૪-૫૫માં ૭૪ લાખ ટન, ૧૯૫૫-૫૬માં ૬૨ લાખ ટન, ૧૯૫૬-૫૭માં ૬૮ લાખ ટન, ૧૯૫૭-૫૮માં ૬૫ લાખ ટન અનાજ ઉત્પન્ન થયું હતું. ૧૯૫૩-૫૪ અને ૧૯૫૪-૫૫-એ બે વર્ષના કુલ ઉત્પાદનનો આંકડો જોઈએ તો કુલ ૧૪૪ લાખ ટન થાય છે અને છેલ્લા બે વર્ષનો કુલ ઉત્પાદનનો આંકડો જોઈએ તો ૧૩૦ લાખ ટન અનાજનું ઉત્પાદન થવા જાય છે. એટલે આ બે આંકડાની સરખામણી કરતાં જણાય છે કે ૧૪ લાખ ટન જેટલું અનાજનું ઉત્પાદન આ વર્ષો દરમિયાન ઓછું થયું છે. આ ઉપરાંત આપણે જોઈએ છીએ કે દર વર્સે આઠ લાખ જેટલી વસતી વધે છે. એટલે આ વસતી-વધારાનું પ્રમાણ ગણતરીમાં લેવામાં આવે અને માનનીય નાણાં પ્રધાનશ્રીએ કહ્યું છે એમ દરેક માણસને ૧૮ એંસ અનાજ જોઈએ એ પ્રમાણે ગણવામાં આવે તો આપણને લગભગ ૪૦ લાખ ટન અનાજની નૂટ પડે છે એમ જણાઈ આવે છે. તેમ છતાં પણ માત્ર ૧૦ લાખ ટનની તૂટ છે એમ બતાવવામાં આવે છે. એટલું જ નહિ પણ પંચવર્ષીય યોજનાનું લક્ષ્ય પણ ૧૫ લાખ ટન એમ બતાવવામાં આવ્યું છે. અનાજનું ઉત્પાદન આપણે ત્યાં ઓછું થાય છે એ શું બતાવે છે? એ બતાવે છે કે અનાજ માટે આપણે પરદેશ ઉપર અને વરસાદ ઉપર આજે પણ આધારીત છીએ. પહેલી પંચવર્ષીય યોજનાની અંદર ખેતીની સ્કીમોને પ્રાધાન્ય આપવામાં આવ્યું હતું છતાં પણ અનાજની જે સ્થિતિ છે તે દિવસે દિવસે કફોડી થતી જાય છે. એટલે આ સ્કીમો અમલમાં આવ્યા પછી પણ એનો લાભ અનાજ ઉત્પાદનને શા માટે નથી મળ્યો તેનાં કારણો અમલમાં આવ્યા નથી. શા માટે આપણે વરસાદ ઉપર આધાર રાખતા થઈએ છીએ, શા માટે આપણે પરદેશ ઉપર આધાર રાખતા થયા છીએ તેનો કોઈ સ્પષ્ટ ઉલ્લેખ કરવામાં આવ્યો નથી.

ઈરિગેશન દ્વારા અનાજનું જે ઉત્પાદન થાય છે તેનો જે આંકડો આપણે જોઈશું તો આપણને ખ્યાલ આવશે કે આપણું રાજ્ય બીજા રાજ્યોની સરખામણીએ કેટલું પાછળ છે. સમગ્ર દેશ માટેના એકંદર વાવેતર નીચેના વિસ્તારના પ્રમાણમાં સિંચાઈ નીચેનો વિસ્તાર ૧૭.૫ ટકા છે ત્યારે આપણા રાજ્યમાંના સિંચાઈ નીચેના વિસ્તારનું પ્રમાણ વાવેતરના વિસ્તારના ફક્ત ૫.૫ ટકા છે. જ્યાં ઈરિગેશનની સગવડ છે ત્યાં પણ મોટા પ્રમાણમાં કેશ કોપનું વાવેતર કરવામાં આવે છે. ખેડૂતો અનાજનું ઉત્પાદન કરવાને બદલે કેશ કોપનું ઉત્પાદન કરે છે એનું મૂળ કારણ એ છે કે અનાજના ભાવો એને પોસાતા નથી. કેશ કોપનું ઉત્પાદન કરવાથી ખેડૂતોને ફાયદો થાય છે. એટલે અનાજની જે ખાધ છે તે ખાધ ઈરિગેશન દ્વારા, ડેવેલપમેન્ટ સ્કીમો દ્વારા કે વિકાસના એકંદર દ્વારા પૂરી થતી નથી. આજે ખેડૂતને એના ઉત્પાદનનું જે વળતર મળવું જોઈએ તે કાર્યક્રમ દ્વારા પૂરી થતી નથી. આજે ખેડૂતને એના ઉત્પાદનનું જે વળતર મળવું જોઈએ તે મળતું નથી તે સ્થિતિમાં શ્રી રીતે વધારે અનાજના ઉત્પાદન તરફ વળે? પંચવર્ષીય યોજના દ્વારા કરોડો રૂપિયા ખર્ચાયા પછી પણ દેશને લાભ થયો છે અને અનાજની ખાધ ઓછી થઈ છે એમ આપણે કહી શકીએ એમ નથી અને આ જ રીતે ચાલવાથી ભવિષ્યમાં પણ આપણે એમ કહી શકવા સમર્થ બનવાના નથી. કારણ કે આપણી પાસે એને માટેની કોઈ ખાતરી નથી.

અનાજના ભાવો સંબંધમાં એમ આપણને કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે સુએઝના સંઘર્ષને કારણે વિદેશી હુડીઆમણની તથા અનાજ પુરવઠાની મુશ્કેલીઓ ઉભી થવાથી ભાવો વધી ગયા હતાં. એટલે આમાંથી એમ સ્પષ્ટ થાય છે કે સુએઝ કે સુએઝના જેવો બીજો કોઈ આંતરરાષ્ટ્રીય પ્રશ્ન ઉભો થાય અથવા તો પરદેશોની કોઈ સરકારો વચ્ચે સંબંધ ખરાબ થાય તો આપણા દેશમાં બજારમાં અનાજ આવતું બંધ થાય અને લોકોને ભૂખે મરવું પડે અને દેશમાં અનાજના ભાવો બેઠકા વધતા જાય. દેશમાં આજે અનાજના ભાવો સોથી ઊંચા છે. અનાજની તંગી છે, એમ છતાં અનાજના ભાવો ઊંચા થતા જાય છે એવી એક જાતની અસર આ બજેટ સ્પષ્ટ દ્વારા ઊભી કરવામાં આવી છે. આજે અનાજના ભાવોમાં નજીવો ફેરફાર દેખાય છે તેનું કારણ શું છે? શું આંતરિક

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

પરિસ્થિતિ સુધરી છે? આંતરિક પરિસ્થિતિમાં કોઈ સુધારો થયો નથી પણ બહારથી જે અનાજ આપણે ઇમ્પોર્ટ કરીએ છીએ તે એનું મૂળ કારણ છે. આજે જે એક પોઈન્ટ ભાવ ઘટ્યા છે તે પરદેશથી આયાત કરવા અનાજને કારણે છે. મેન્યુફેક્ચર્ડ ગુડ્સના ભાવોને અનાજના ભાવો સાથે સરખાવતાં કોઈ મેળ બેસતો નથી. છૂટકના ભાવો જેઈએ તો નવું જે અનાજ આવું છે તેમાં જ થોડાક સુધારો થયેલો જેવામાં આવે છે. સરકારી અનાજની જે દુકાનો છે તેમાં થોડેક ફરક દેખાય છે. કારણ કે ત્યાં પરદેશી અનાજ વેચાય છે. જ્યારે બીજા અનાજના ભાવોમાં કોઈ ફરક દેખાતો નથી. વર્કીંગ ક્લાસનું કન્સ્યુમર્સ પ્રાઈસ ઇન્ડેક્સ નંબર્સ જે બજેટ બ્રિફના પાના ૨૦ ઉપર આપવામાં આવ્યા છે. એમાં જે આંક આપ્યા છે, ૧૯૫૫માં ૩૩૮, ૧૯૫૬માં ૩૫૩, ૧૯૫૭ના જાન્યુઆરીમાં ૩૫૫, ૧૯૫૭ના નવેમ્બરમાં ૩૮૩, ૧૯૫૭ના ડિસેમ્બરમાં ૩૮૩—મુંબઈને માટે છેલ્લા બે મહિનામાં તે સરખો જ રહ્યો છે. વર્કીંગ ક્લાસનું કોસ્ટ ઓફ લીવીંગ ઘણું ઊંચું ગયું છે. જીવનની જરૂરીઆતોની ચીજોના ભાવોમાં આજે કોઈ પ્રકારની સ્થિરતા નથી. એક વરસે કેટલીક ચીજોના ભાવ એકાદ બે પોઈન્ટ ઓછા થાય છે તો બીજા વરસે દોઢ ગણા ભાવ સ્થિરતા આવશે એમ પણ જણાતું નથી. જથ્થાબંધના ભાવો આપીને આપણે પ્રજાને સંતોષ આપી શકે તેમ નથી. આજે આપણા દેશમાં જરૂરી એટલું ઉત્પાદન થતું નથી, કાળા બાજર અને હોડીંગની પરિસ્થિતિ ચારે તરફ વ્યાપક બની છે. રિપોર્ટમાં આર્થિક સલાહકારે જે આંકડા આપ્યા છે તે જેઈશું તો આપણને જણાઈ આવશે કે જથ્થાબંધ ભાવો ઉતરવા બાબતમાં કોઈ મોટો ફરક દેખાતો નથી. ૧૯૫૬માં ૧૦૨.૦૬, ૧૯૫૭માં ૧૦૭.૭ અને ૧૯૫૮માં ૧૦૬.૬નો આંક રહેલો છે. એટલે ૧૯૫૭ અને ૧૯૫૮ વચ્ચે માત્ર એક પોઈન્ટનો ડીફરન્સ અને ૧૯૫૬ અને ૧૯૫૭ વચ્ચે પાંચ પોઈન્ટનો વધારો બતાવવામાં આવ્યો છે. આવ ઇન્ડીયા મેન્યુફેક્ચર્ડ ગુડ્સના ભાવ ૧૯૫૬માં ૩૧૮.૮, ૧૯૫૭ના માટે ૩૮૮.૬ અને ૧૯૫૮ના માટે ૩૮૮.૮ બતાવવામાં આવ્યા છે. એટલે આમાં પણ એક પોઈન્ટનો જ સુધારો બતાવવામાં આવ્યો છે. પરંતુ મહત્વની વાત ૧૯૫૬ અને ૧૯૫૭ નો તફાવત છે. આ તફાવત બતાવે છે કે ઔદ્યોગિક ઉત્પાદન વધતું હોવા છતાં પણ ભાવો ઉતરતા નથી પણ વધે છે જ્યારે આપણે જેઈએ છીએ કે ખેડૂતોની પરિસ્થિતિ દિવસે દિવસે ખરાબ થતી જાય છે. જેવો પાક ધરમાં આવે છે કે ભાવો નીચા બેસી જાય છે. આમ ખેતીના ઉત્પાદનના ભાવો અને ઔદ્યોગિક ઉત્પાદનના ભાવોમાં કોઈ મેળ રહેતો નથી. પરિણામે ગામડાની જે સહજતા છે તે દિવસે દિવસે કમજોર થતી જાય છે. આજે આપણે જેઈએ છીએ કે સરકાર જે તગાવી આપે છે, અથવા તો કો-ઓપરેટીવ બેન્ક જે નાણાં ધીરે છે તેનો ૮૪ ટકા ભાગ મોટી જમીનવાળા ખેડૂતો અને શાહુકારના હાથમાં જાય છે. પણ જે નીચલો થર છે એના હાથમાં આવતો નથી. ફરલ કેડીટ સર્વિસના રિપોર્ટમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે:

“ The loans which the Government advances, like Co-operative loans, found on investment, to gravitate to the big and large cultivators in preference to medium and small ”.

એટલે આ રિપોર્ટમાં જે કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે તેના ઉપરથી સ્પષ્ટ થાય છે કે જે નાના ખેડૂતો છે, જે મધ્યમ ખેડૂતો છે તેના હાથમાં સરકારની લોનના પૈસા જતા નથી.

આજે સામાન્ય ખેડૂતની સ્થિતિ એ છે કે ઈરિગેશન ટેક્સના પૈસા આપી શકતો નથી. સરકાર એક વર્ષને માટે માફી આપે છે પણ એક વર્ષ માટે માફી આપ્યેથી આ પ્રશ્નનો ઉકેલ આવતો નથી. મને લાગે છે કે ત્રણ વર્ષ સુધી એને આવી જતની માફી આપવામાં આવે અને પાણીના દર અર્ધા જેટલા કરવામાં આવે તો જ તે આ ઈરિગેશનનો લાભ સારી રીતે લઈ શકે. આજે પાણીના દર ઊંચા છે. એટલે મોટા ભાગના ખેડૂતોને તેનો લાભ મળતો નથી. પરિણામે નાણાના અને સાધનના અભાવે અનાજનું ઉત્પાદન પૂરું થતું નથી. જ્યારે અનાજના ભાવો વધે છે ત્યારે અનો લાભ પૈસાદાર વર્ગ હોડીંગ દ્વારા ઉઠાવતો હોય છે, જે હોડીંગ હોય છે તે એનો લાભ ઉઠાવતા હોય છે. અને પરિણામે તેને ફરીથી ઊંચા ભાવે અનાજ ખરીદવા માટે તેની પાસે જવું પડે છે.

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

સરકાર આ ભાવોને સ્થિર રાખવા નિયંત્રણ કરતી નથી તેથી ખેડૂતોને ઘણું સહન કરવું પડે છે.....

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. Member reading the prepared speech?

Shri RASIKLAL S. BHATT: I am not reading the speech. They are my points.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Member has already taken more than 15 minutes. He should try to finish his speech earlier. There are other hon. Members who also want to speak.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ: એટલે ખેતી પર આજે જે જે સુધારો થઈ રહ્યો છે તેમાં ગણોત્સારો મુખ્ય છે. આજે પણ રજવાડાં પાસે જે જમીન હતી તેમાંથી મોટા ભાગની જમીન ખેડૂતોને મળી નથી. જમીન વગરનાને એક પણ તસુ જમીન મળી નથી. ટેનન્સી કમિટી તથા પેનલ ઓફ લેન્ડ રીફોર્મ્સ ઓફ પ્લાનીંગ કમીશને પણ આ બાબત જણાવેલ છે. ૧૯૪૮થી ૧૯૫૧માં ૧૭ લાખ સંરક્ષક ખેડૂતોમાંથી અત્યારે ૧૩.૬ લાખ થયા છે. એટલે કે ૨૦ ટકા ઓછા થવા એરીઆ ૧૮ ટકા ઘટાડવામાં આવ્યો છે. આ વસ્તુ બતાવે છે કે ગણોત્સારી ખેડૂતોને સતત રીતે જમીન ઉપરથી હટાવી દેવામાં આવે છે. આ ઉપરાંત ગોખલે કમીટીના રિપોર્ટ પરથી જણાશે કે ૬૦ ટકા મૂળ ખેડૂતો જમીન પર બાકી રહ્યા અને ૨૫ ટકાની પાંચ વર્ષમાં જમીન ઝૂંટવાઈ ગઈ છે. આમ આ ખેડૂતો પાસે જે જમીન હતી તે ઓછી થઈ છે. ૧૫ ટકા ખેડૂતોની જમીન બદલાઈ છે અને માત્ર ત્રણ ટકા ખેડૂતોને જમીન પ્રાપ્ત થાય છે. ૧૯૫૬માં એસેમ્બલીમાં માનનીય રેવન્યુ મીનીસ્ટર સાહેબે પોતાના વક્તવ્યમાં આંકડો આપેલ, એમાં ૧૦,૬૭૧ ગણોત્સારી આઓની ૫,૦૦૦ એકર જમીન ગઈ, ૨૩,૪૪૭ ગણોત્સારીઓએ ૧૭,૩૫૩ એકર સ્વેચ્છાએ છોડી. ઉપર જણાવેલી ટેનન્સી કમીટીના જણાવ્યા પ્રમાણે ૧૯૫૧થી ૫૫માં ૫૭ ટકા સંરક્ષિત ખેડૂતોને જમીન પરથી હટાવી દેવામાં આવ્યા અને તેમનો ૫૮ ટકા એરીઆ હાથથી ગયો. આમ ગણોત્સારી ધારો નિષ્ફળ ગયો છે અને તેમાં છટકબારી રહી ગઈ છે એમ કમિટીએ મત વ્યક્ત કર્યો છે.

આ ઉપરાંત માનનીય ચેરમેન સાહેબ, ગામડાઓમાં જે રેકર્ડ્ઝ રાખવામાં આવે છે તેમાં પણ જમીનદારોનો આડકતરો હાથ હોય છે અને રેકર્ડ્ઝમાં ઘણા ખેડૂતોનાં નામો મળતાં પણ નથી. અને ઘણા ખેડૂતોના નામે જમીન ચડાવવામાં પણ આવતી નથી. ચોપડામાં ખેડૂતોના નામ હોતા નથી, આને લઈને પરિણામ એ આવે છે કે મોટા ભાગના ખેડૂતો પાસેથી ધીમે ધીમે જમીન ઝૂંટવાતી જાય છે. આમ હેદરાબાદ તેમજ બીજા સ્ટેટોમાં આશરે ૬૦ ટકા જમીન ખેડૂતો પાસેથી ચાલી ગઈ છે. આ બાબત આપણી સરકારે ધ્યાન આપવાની જરૂર છે.

નવા કરવેરા આ બજેટમાં નાખવામાં આવ્યા છે તે આ રાજ્ય મધ્યસ્થ ટેક્સના ભંડોળમાં અર્ધા ઉપરાંત રૂપીઆ આપે છે અને માત્ર ૧૫.૮૭ ટકા હીસ્સો પાછો મેળવે છે. ફાઈનેન્સ કમિશને વસ્તીના પાયા ઉપર હીસ્સો આપવા પર પ્રાધાન્ય આપ્યું છે. તે ઉપર દુઃખ વ્યક્ત કરી મધ્યસ્થ સરકારે આપણને અન્યાય કર્યો છે એ વાત સામે ધરવામાં આવી છે. અને લોકો ઉપર નવા કર લાદી દીધા છે. નવા નવા ટેક્સના બોજમાં મુંબઈ સરકારનો વિરોધ નથા એ સાફ વાત છે. ગઈ વર્ષે મધ્યસ્થ સરકારના નવા ટેક્સ આવ્યા ત્યારે આ રાજ્ય સરકારે કથો જ વિરોધ કર્યો ન હતો. મધ્યસ્થ સરકારે અન્યાય કર્યો અને આપણે સક્રિય વિરોધ કર્યા વિના લોકો પર કર વધારી દીધો.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Does the hon. Member still require time? There are many more hon. Members who have given their names and who want to speak.

Shri RASIKLAL S. BHATT: I will not take more than five minutes.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If the hon. Member has already covered the points, he can conclude his speech. It is not possible to give more than one minute.

આ વસ્તુ કોઈની સમજમાં આવે તેવી નથી. પણ લોકો આજે કરભારથી ભરી શકે તેવી સ્થિતિમાં નથી. આજે દેશમાં રોજ અને બેકારીનો પ્રશ્ન ઉગ્ર બનતો જાય છે તેમાં આવા નવા કરવેરા નાખવાથી લોકોની મુશ્કેલી વધવાની છે. માટે આ બાબત સરકારે ફરી વિચારણા કરવાની જરૂર છે.

—બીજું, માનનીય ચેરમેન સાહેબ, મુંબઈની કોરપોરેશનને એજ્યુકેશનની ગ્રાન્ટ વધારવાની બાબતનો ઈન્કાર કરી સરકારે ઓછો અન્યાય કર્યો નથી. મધ્યસ્થ સરકાર નાણાંની હંથણીના સવાલ ઉપર જે રીતે ચાલે છે તે જ રીતે આ સરકાર ચાલે છે તેમાં કોઈપણ સુધારો કરવામાં આવતો નથી. કોરપોરેશનને વધુ રાહત આપવાની જરૂર હતી કારણકે પ્રાથમિક તેમજ સેકન્ડરી એજ્યુકેશનને મુંબઈમાં વિનામુલ્ય બનાવવાને પ્રાધાન્ય આપવામાં આવ્યું છે. મ્યુનિસિપલ કોરપોરેશન આ બાબતમાં સારી પ્રગતી કરી શકે તે માટે એજ્યુકેશન ગ્રાન્ટ વધારવી જોઈતી હતી. અગર બાળ નેટવી અપાય છે તેટલી મંજૂર કરવી જોઈતી હતી. સરકારે મધ્યસ્થ સરકાર તથા ક્લર્કનન્સ કમીશનને આપણા રાજ્યની સ્થિતિ—નવા રાજ્યો જોડાયા પછી તેનું પછાતપણું વગેરે બાબતોને સમજાવવામાં આપણી સરકાર તથા માનનીય નાણાં પ્રધાન સાહેબ નિષ્ફળ ગયા છે તેનો રોષ તેમણે નવા ટેક્સના રૂપમાં જનતા પર ઠાલવ્યો છે.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member Dr. B. C. Lagu may offer his remarks. But before the hon. Member Dr. Lagu begins his remarks, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Members that there are many hon. Members who want to express their views and, therefore, the time limit that I will fix is 15 minutes for each hon. Member.

ડૉ બી. સી. લાગૂ (નામિનેટેડ): અધ્યક્ષ મહોદયા, મુંબઈ રાજ્યાચ્ચા નવીન મહા-દ્વિભાષિકાંતિલ સર્વ ભાગાંચેં એકીકરણ જ્ઞાલ્યાનંતર પહિલ્યાંચ વર્ષાંચેં જે અંદાજપત્ર નામદાર અર્થમંત્ર્યાનીં સાદર કેલેં આહે તેં સ્વાગતાર્હ અસલ્યામુલેં આપણ ત્યાંચેં અભિનંદન કેલેં પાહિજે.

કોણતેંહિ અંદાજપત્રક બાહેર પડલેં મ્હજે લોકાંપુઢેં જો એક મુખ્ય પ્રશ્ન ઉભા રહતો તો અસા કીં, ત્યાંત કરવાદ આહે કીં નાહીં. કેવ્હાંહિ કર દેખ્યાંકડે સર્વસાધારણ માણસાચી પ્રવૃત્તિ નસતે વ ત્યા દૃષ્ટીને કર વાદ નસેલ તર તેં અંદાજપત્ર ચાંગલેં અસેં સ્વામાવિકચ માણસાલા વાટતેં. અસેં અસલેં તરીહિ આપલ્યાલા જર પ્રગતિ કરાવયાચી અસેલ, આપલ્યા રાજ્યાંત અનેક સુધારણા ઘડવૂન આળૂન કલ્યાણકારી રાજ્ય બનવાંવયાચેં અસેલ તર આપણ કરવાદ સહન કેલી પાહિજે અશા મતાંચા મી અસલ્યામુલેં હ્યા વર્ષાંચા અંદાજપત્રકાંત ત્રીન કોટી રૂપયાંચેં ઉત્તર વાદવિખ્યાસાઠીં જી કર વાદ સુચવિખ્યાંત આલી આહે તી યોગ્યચ આહે અસેં મલા મ્હજાવેંસેં વાટતે. સમાજવાદી સમાજરચના આળપ્યાચ્ચા દૃષ્ટીને હ્યા અંદાજપત્રકાંત

[ડૉ. બી. સી. લાગૂ]

અનેક પાવલેં ટાકલેલીં અહેત. રાજ્યકારભારાંતિલ અગદી સાધી ગોષ્ઠ ઘેતલી તર અસેં દિસૂન યેતેં કીં, જ્યાંચી પાંચ વર્ષે નોકરી જ્ઞાલેલી આહે, અશા ચાલચ્યા વ ચૌધ્યા વર્ગાંતિલ નોકરાનાં પ્રેચ્યુટી દેખ્યાચી તરતૂદ યા અંદાજપત્રકાંત કરખ્યાંત આલી આહે. આણિ જ્યાંચા પગાર ૧૦ રૂપયાંહૂન કમી આહે અશા નોકરાના મિલત અસલેલ્યા મહાગાર્હ મત્યાંત ૧ રૂપયાંચી વાદ કરખ્યાંત આલી આહે. ત્યાંચપ્રમાણેં જે સરકારી નોકર સેવાનિવૃત્ત હોતાંત ત્યાના પેન્શન મિલખ્યાસ ફાર કાલ લાગતો અશી તત્કાર હોતી તી દૂર કરખ્યાસાઠીં એક બિજિલન્સ કમિટી નેમૂન હ્યા પેન્શન કેસેસચા નિકાલ લૌકર કરખ્યાચી વ્યવસ્થા કરખ્યાંત આલી આહે.

યા નંતર ઉદ્યોગધંધાંબાવતચેં સરકારચેં ધોરણહિ પ્રગતિપર અસેંચ આહે. એકન્દર દેશાચ્ચા આણિ આપલ્યા રાજ્યાચ્ચા પ્રગતીચ્ચા દૃષ્ટીનેં મોઠમોઠે ઉદ્યોગ-ધંધે વાદલે પાહિજેત યાંત શંકા નાહીં, પળ ત્યાંચચરોબર ઘરગુતી જોડધંધે આણિ કુટિર ઉદ્યોગ દિવસોંદિવસ વાદલે પાહિજેત. ત્યાંશિવાય લેખ્યાંતિલ બહુસંખ્ય લોક સુખી હોનાર નાહીંત. હી ગોષ્ઠ લક્ષાંત ઘેઝન ઘરગુતી આણિ છોવ્યા ઉદ્યોગધંધાનાં ઉત્તેજન દેખ્યાસાઠીં હ્યા અંદાજપત્રકાંત પુષ્કલ તરતૂદ કેલેલી આહે લેખ્યાંતિલ જનતેલા જર આર્થિક સ્થિતિ સુધારાવયાચી અસેલ તર રોતીચ્ચા ધંધા-બરોબરચ જોડધંધા કરૂન ઉત્તર વાદવિખ્યાચી સંધી મિલાલી પાહિજે. ઉદ્યોગધંધે વાદવાવયાચે અસતીલ તર વાહતુકીચીહી સોય કેલી પાહિજે. યા દૃષ્ટીનેં રસ્ત્યાંસાઠીં બરીચ તરતૂદ હ્યા અંદાજપત્રકાંત કેલેલી આહે.

યાનંતર ગ્રામપંચાયતીચ્ચા બાબતીંત નિરનિરાલ્યા પ્રાન્તામધ્યે નિરનિરાલ્યા પ્રકારચી રચના હોતી. ત્યાંચેં એકીકરણ કરૂન સર્વીના સારફ્યા તન્હેચી મદત કરખ્યાચેં સરકારને ઠરવિલેં આહે. મહસુલી ઉત્પન્નાચ્ચા ૨૧ તે ૩૦ ટકે ઇતકા હિસ્સા ગ્રામપંચાયતીના દેખ્યાચી તરતૂદ હ્યા અંદાજપત્રકાંત કરખ્યાંત આલી આહે. હી મદત દેખ્યામામેં એક તત્વ આહે. ગ્રામપંચાયતી આણિ લોકલબોર્ડે યાંચ્યાસંબંધી નામદારે અર્થમંત્ર્યાની આપલ્યા ભાષણાંત અસેં મ્હટલેં આહે કીં, લહાન લહાન ગાંવાંતિલ લોકાંચ્ચા સર્વ નાગરી ગરજા ભાગવીતાં યાવ્યાંત વ પ્રત્યેક લેડે સ્વયંપૂર્ણ બ્હાવેં અસા હ્યા સરકારચા ઇરાદા આહે. ત્યાંચપ્રમાણેં ગ્રામપંચાયતીચ્ચા સેક્રેટરીચી નેમણૂક સરકારને આપલ્યાકડે ઘેતલી આહે, હી ફાર ચાંગલી ગોષ્ઠ જ્ઞાલી આહે. આજપર્યંત યા નેમણૂકા ગ્રામપંચાયતીમાર્ફત હોત અસલ્યામુલેં અનેક ઘોટાલે જોડે અસત. હે ઘોટાલે યામુલેં હોનાર નાહીંત.

[डॉ. बी. सी. लागू]

एकन्दरीत ह्या सर्व गोष्टींचा विचार केला आणि ह्या अंदाजपत्रकांत दिलेले आंकडे पाहिले तर असे दिसून येतं की, ज्यामुळे जनतेचे कल्याण होईल आणि विकास होईल अशाच बाबींवर ह्या अंदाजपत्रकांतील बराचसा पैसा खर्च होणार आहे.

ह्या अंदाजपत्रकाप्रमाणे महत्वाच्या विकास योजनांवर होणाऱ्या खर्चाची मी थोडक्यांत कल्पना देतो. एकंदर रकमेपैकी ३५ कोटी ८ लक्ष रुपये शेतीविकास योजना आणि पाटबंधारे यावर खर्च होणार आहेत, २२ कोटी ९६ लक्ष रुपये शिक्षणावर खर्च होणार आहेत, आणि १३ कोटी ७२ लक्ष रुपये कोयनेसारख्या वीज योजनांवर खर्च होणार आहेत. त्याचप्रमाणे ९ कोटी ७२ लक्ष रुपये बाह्यतुकीच्या सोईवर म्हणजे नवे रस्ते बांधणे व जुने दुरुस्त करणे यावर खर्च होणार आहेत व १२ कोटी ५ लक्ष रुपये आरोग्यखात्यावर खर्च होणार आहेत.

इतक्या गोष्टी सर्वसामान्य रीतीने सांगितल्यानंतर, जास्त वेळ नसल्याकारणाने, आरोग्य खात्याच्या बाबतीत मी सरकारला एक दोन सूचना करणार आहे. आरोग्य खात्याला अनुलक्षून असे सांगण्यांत आले आहे की, १९५५ मध्ये १५९५ दवाखाने होते त्यांची संख्या १९५७ च्या अखेरीस १९३८ वर गेलेली आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे बेडसची संख्या १८,२३७ वरून १९४३८ वर गेली आहे. सध्या ४७५ सबसिडाइज्ड मेडिकल प्रॅक्टिशनर सेंटर्स असून सौराष्ट्रामध्ये ६, विदर्भामध्ये ८ व मराठवाळ्यामध्ये ३ असे एकंदर १७ नवीन आयुर्वेदिक दवाखाने उघडावयाचे आहेत. तसेच १३० प्राथमिक आरोग्य केंद्रे सुरू करण्याच्या दृष्टीने जी तरतूद करण्यांत आलेली आहे. त्यापैकी १०३ केंद्रे सुरू झालेली आहेत व २७ केंद्रे पुढच्या साली सुरू होणार आहेत. इतक्या सर्व तरतूदा केल्या असल्या तरी त्या अपुऱ्या आहेत असेच म्हणावे लागेल.

आयुर्वेदिक दवाखाने उघडण्याच्या बाबतीत मला सरकारला असे सांगायचे आहे की, आतां सरकारने आयुर्वेदाच्या शिक्षणाला मान्यता दिली आहे व आयुर्वेद विद्यालयातून जे विद्यार्थी बाहेर पडतात त्यांनी मिश्र शिक्षण घेतलेले असल्याकारणाने त्यांचा उपयोग करून शहरामध्ये व खेड्यापाड्यामध्ये मिश्र पद्धतीचे आयुर्वेदिक दवाखाने यापुढे काढले गेले तर ती गोष्ट उपयुक्त अशी ठरेल, सध्यां सरकारी दवाखान्यांतील डॉक्टरांना आयुर्वेदिक औषधे वापरतां येत नाहीत अशी वस्तुस्थिति आहे व आतां सरकारने मिश्र पद्धतीचे नवीन पदवीधर तयार केले आहेत तेव्हा यापुढे नवीन ठिकाणी

[डॉ. बी. सी. लागू]

जे जे दवाखाने काढले जातील ते ते मिश्र पद्धतीचेच काढण्यांत यावेत म्हणजे हे पदवीधर रोग्यांकरितां साधी साधी औषधे वापरू शकतील व त्या दृष्टीने खर्चही कमी येईल, व ज्या एका शाखाला सरकारने मान्यता दिलेली आहे त्या शाखाच्या पदवीधर मंडळींनी मिश्र शिक्षण घेतले असल्याकारणाने सरकारला त्यांचा उपयोग करून घेतां येईल.

दुसरी एक गोष्ट मी सरकारच्या नजरेस आणू इच्छितो ती अशी की, सरकारने आयुर्वेद शाखाला मान्यता दिल्यानंतर, प्रथम फक्त डिप्लोमा कोर्सच काढला होता. पण १९५० पासून आयुर्वेदाचा शिक्षणक्रम ही वाढवून त्याचा डिग्री कोर्स केला आहे. हा अभ्यासक्रम सामान्यतः एम्.बी.बी.एस् च्या तोडीचा आहे. व त्याला जी.एफ्.ए.एम् अशी पदवी दिली जाते, व त्याचा शैक्षणिक दर्जाहि तोंच असून इंटर सायन्य झाल्यावरच त्यांना विद्यालयामध्ये प्रवेश मिळतो व एम्.बी.बी.एस् प्रमाणे त्यांचाहि अभ्यासक्रम ४॥ वर्षांचा असतो. परंतु अशा पदवीधरांना सरकारी नोकरीमध्ये घेतांना मात्र भेदभाव केला जातो असे दिसून येते. वास्तविक पाहिले असतां यापुढे ही गोष्ट होतां कामा नये. एम्.बी.बी.एस् सारखेच शिक्षण, तीच बुद्धिमत्ता अशी वस्तुस्थिति असतांना केवळ आयुर्वेदिक पदवी म्हणून ह्या लोकांना पाश्चात्य पदवीधरांपेक्षां पगार कां कमी देण्यांत येतो याचे मला काहीं आकलन होत नाही. तेव्हां ज्याअर्थी सरकारने आयुर्वेदाला मान्यता दिलेली आहे व त्याचा अभ्यासक्रम पाश्चात्य पदवी इतका ठेवला आहे त्याअर्थी पाश्चात्य पदवीधरांना जे वेतन दिले जाते ते वेतन ह्याहि पदवीधरांना दिले जावे एवढेच मला या मुद्यासंबंधी आप्रहाने सुचवावयाचे आहे.

आपल्या राज्यामध्ये सबसिडाइज्ड मेडिकल प्रॅक्टिशनर्सचे ४७५ सेंटर्स आहेत, अशा सेंटर्सची आणखी वाढ करण्यांत येणार आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे १३० प्राथमिक आरोग्य केंद्रांसाठी तरतूद करण्यांत आलेली आहे. या आरोग्य केंद्रांच्या परिस्थितीसंबंधी मला असे सांगायचे आहे की, ह्या केंद्रांवर बहुतेक सबसिडाइज्ड मेडिकल प्रॅक्टिशनर्स असून त्यांचा त्या ठिकाणी मुख्य मेडिकल ऑफिसर म्हणून उपयोग केला जात आहे. वास्तविक पाहाता ज्यावेळी एस्. एम्. पी. सेंटर्स उघडण्यांत आले त्यावेळी एस्. एम्. पी. लोकांना खेड्यांत राहाण्यास उत्तेजन मिळावे या हेतूने त्यांना दरमहा काहीं रक्कम मदती-दाखल देण्याचे ठरविण्यांत येवून खाजगी धंदा करण्याची त्यांना मोकळीक ठेवण्यांत आली होती. अशी वस्तुस्थिति असतांना ज्या ठिकाणी प्राथमिक आरोग्य केंद्रे सुरू करण्यांत आलेली आहेत त्या ठिकाणी या एस्. एम्. पी. डॉक्टरांना प्रमुख मेडिकल

[डॉ. बी. सी. लागू]

ऑफिसर म्हणून वनाविण्यांत आले आहे व त्यांचेवर दवाखान्याचे कामाचा खूप बोजा टाकला असून शिवाय त्यांचे पाठीमागे लिहिण्याचे काम इतके लावण्यांत आले आहे की, खाजगी व्यवसाय करण्यास त्यांना पांच मिनिटांचीसुद्धा फुरसत मिळत नाही. ह्या लोकांना केंद्राचे दवाखान्याचे काम सांभाळून ८-१० खेब्यांत फिरावे लागते. सकाळी केंद्राच्या दवाखान्याचे काम १२ वाजेपर्यंत करून जेवण केल्यानंतर १ ते ५ वाजेपर्यंत खेडी फिरून आल्यानंतर त्यांना मुख्यतः लिहिण्याचे काम करावे लागते. त्यांची अशी परिस्थिति असतांना खाजगी प्रॅक्टिस करण्यास त्यांना अवसर ठेवला आहे असे म्हणण्यांत कांही अर्थ नाही. सरकारने ह्या लोकांना एक तर सरकारी नोकरीत तरी घ्यावे किंवा त्यांना सबसिडाइज्ड प्रॅक्टिशनर्स म्हणून ठेवावयाचे असेल तर त्यांचे जे काम आहे ते कमी करण्यांत यावे. त्यांना तास दोन तास फुरसतीचा वेळ ठेवण्यांत आला पाहिजे. ह्या लोकांना मदत (Subsidy) म्हणून मासिक रु. १२० दिली जाते व त्यात कधीही वाढ होण्याची शक्यता नाही, त्यांना सुटी, रजा कधीही घेतां येत नाही अशी आज परिस्थिति आहे. त्यांच्या हाताखाली काम करणाऱ्या नसेसना प्यून आहे पण ह्यांना प्यून नाही. त्यांच्यावर सरकारी नोकरांपेक्षा अधिक कामे लादली गेली असतांना देखील सरकारी नोकर म्हणून आज त्यांना गणण्यांत येत नाही. ह्यासाठी मी सरकारला अशी विनंति करीन की त्यांचा सरकारी नोकरांत समावेश करून घ्यावा नाही तर त्यांच्या मदतीमध्ये वाढ करण्यांत यावी.

(Shri Chhabildas P. Mehta crossed between the Chair and the Member speaking).

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member Shri Chhabildas Mehta, while entering the House, crossed between the Chair and the hon. Member addressing the House. I have brought it to his notice before also that he should not do so. He may please make a note of it again and I would like other hon. Members also to note it.

डॉ. बी. सी. लागू: अध्यक्ष महाराज, प्राथमिक आरोग्य केंद्रावरील सबसिडाइज्ड मेडिकल प्रॅक्टिशनर्सची जी अडचण आहे ती सरकारने जरूर विचार करण्यासारखी आहे. नाहीतर आतांपर्यंत खेब्यांत राहिलेली ही मंडळी खेडी सोडून दुसरीकडे जाण्याच्या विचारांत आहेत. त्या लोकांवर सध्या कामाचा बोजा फार आहे. त्यामुळे त्यांची खाजगी प्रॅक्टिस बंद झालेली आहे. मी सुचविल्याप्रमाणे ह्या भेस. भेम. पी. लोकांना सरकारी नोकरांत घेण्याची निकड निर्माण झाली आहे असें मला वाटते.

[डॉ. बी. सी. लागू]

आरोग्यविषयक कांही सूचना केल्यानंतर मी घरबांधणीच्या प्रश्नासंबंधी थोडक्यांत विवेचन करणार आहे. शहरामध्ये घरे बांधण्याची फार गरज आहे. पुणे मुंबई, अहमदाबाद इत्यादि शहरांत घरे बांधण्याच्या बाबतीत सरकार जे लक्ष देत आहे ते अपुरे आहे असेच म्हणावे लागते. मी फक्त पुणे शहरातील घरबांधणीचा प्रश्न उपस्थित करणार आहे. सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. पटवारी यांनी सांगितल्याप्रमाणे पुणे व अहमदाबाद शहरांत घरे बांधण्याच्या बाबतीत सरकारने कांही विशेष केले आहे असे म्हणता येणार नाही. थंदा २०० टेनेमेंटस बांधली जाणार आहेत परंतु ती अपुरीच पडणार आहेत. पुणे शहराविषयी मला असे सांगावयाचे आहे की ह्या शहरामध्ये मोठमोठे कारखाने व उद्योग नसले तरी पुणे हे महत्वाचे विद्यास्थान असल्यामुळे पुणे शहरामध्ये बाहेरून येणाऱ्या विद्यार्थ्यांची संख्या इतर शहरांपेक्षा फार जास्त आहे परंतु पुरेशा घराच्या अभावी त्यांची राहाण्याची फारच गैरसोय होते. या शहरामध्ये व इतर ठिकाणी सरकारने मजुराकरिता ज्या खोल्या बांधल्या आहेत त्यावर बराच खर्च करण्यांत आलेला आहे परंतु त्या मानाने सरकारला भाडे मिळत नाही. सोलापूर शहरामध्ये मजुराकरिता ज्या खोल्या बांधण्यांत आल्या आहेत त्या तर रिकाम्या पडल्या आहेत. पुणे शहरामध्ये सरकारने विद्यार्थ्याकरिता मध्यवर्ती ठिकाणी जर होस्टेलस बांधली तर त्यावर सरकारचा जो खर्च होईल तो व्याजसह भरून निघण्याइतके विद्यार्थ्यांकडून त्यावर सरकारचा जो खर्च होईल तो व्याजसह भरून निघण्याइतके विद्यार्थ्यांकडून भाडे मिळेल अशी माझी खात्री आहे. आज पुणे शहरामध्ये अशी परिस्थिति आहे. की, एक एक खोलीमध्ये पांच पांच-सहा सहा विद्यार्थी राहात आहेत. सरकारने पुणे शहरांत या वर्षी ५०० विद्यार्थ्यांचे वसतिगृह बांधण्याची योजना हाती घ्यावी अशी मी सरकारला या निमित्ताने सूचना करित आहे. यामुळे या शहरामध्ये जे कजेशन झाले आहे तेहि थोड्या प्रमाणात कमी होईल.

शेवटी या नव्या मुंबई राज्यातील सर्व विभागांच्या एकीकरणाच्या दृष्टीने या विशाल मुंबई राज्यांत सर्वांना सारख्या रीतीने वागविले जाईल ही दृष्टी ठेवून सन्माननीय डॉ. जिवराज मेहता यांनी जे अंदाजपत्रक सादर केले आहे त्याबद्दल त्यांचे अभिनंदन करून मी माझे भाषण संपवितो.

श्रीमती सुभगाबाई एस्. काशीकर: (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असंब्लीने निवडलेल्या): अध्यक्ष महाराज, नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांनी जे बजेट ह्या सभागृहापुढे सादर केले आहे ते मला शक्य झाले तेवढे मी वाचले आहे. त्यावरून मला असे वाटते की, सरकारने निश्चितपणे पुढचे पाऊल उचलले आहे व म्हणून नामदार अर्थ मंत्र्यांचे मी मनःपूर्वक अभिनंदन करते. अशी टीका केली जाते की जे काँग्रेस पक्षाचे सभासद आहेत

[श्रीमती सुभगाबाई एस्. काशीकर]

त्यांना गत्यंतर नसल्यामुळे ते सरकारचे समर्थन करतात, पण विरोधी पक्षाची ही टीका मला मुळीच मान्य नाही. कारण मीही एक स्वतंत्र व्यक्ति आहे आणि मला स्वतंत्र मत आहे, आणि म्हणूनच मी ह्या बजेटचे स्वागत करण्यासाठी उभी राहिले आहे.

ह्या ठिकाणी एक असे मत मांडले गेलं की, सर्वसाधारणपणे अर्थसंकल्पांत जास्त पैशाची तरतुद केलेली असली म्हणजे ते चांगले बजेट आणि कमी पसा ठेवलेला असला म्हणजे ते वाईट बजेट असे मानले जाते. पण तसे समजण्याचे कारण नाही. कोणत्या बाबतीत कोणत्या तऱ्हेने आणि किती आस्थेने लक्ष दिलं गेले आहे, आणि किती काटेकोरपणे जनतेच्या पैशाचा उपयोग केला जात आहे ह्यावर बजेटचे महत्व अवलंबून असते, आणि या दृष्टीने विचार करतां सरकारने टाकलेले पाऊल योग्य असेच असल्यामुळे मी सरकारचे अभिनंदन करते.

योजना ह्या शब्दाला अर्थसंकल्पांत अतिशय महत्व आहे. सरकारजवळ अमाप पैसा असता तर तुम्ही आम्ही विचार करण्यासाठी कदाचित येथे जमलोहि नसतो आणि बजेट सभागृहापुढे आणण्याची जरूरीहि पडली नसती असे एक मत येथे व्यक्त करण्यांत आलं. अमाप पैसा असता तर काय झालं असतं हा प्रश्नच सध्या आपल्यापुढे नाही, अपुऱ्या पैशांत सर्व लोकांच्या गरजा कशा भागवितां येतील हाच प्रश्न प्रामुख्याने आपल्यापुढे आहे व त्याचाच विचार आपल्याला करावयाचा आहे. एकाद्या मनुष्याला १५० रुपये पगार असला आणि त्याला तीन चार मुलं असली तर त्या सर्वांच्या गरजा भागविणं त्याला कठीण जातं. मुलांच्या गरजा पुऱ्या करून त्या सर्वांना खूप करण्याची बापाची इच्छा नसते असे नाही, पण पैशांच्या अभावी त्याला तसे करतां येत नाही. तरीहि तो शक्य होईल त्याप्रमाणे आपलं बजेट आंखीत असतो व ह्या महिन्यांत एका मुलाला कपडे करावयाचे तर त्याच्या पुढच्या महिन्यांत दुसऱ्या मुलाला कपडे करावयाचे असे तो करतो. असे केले की, साहजिकच चौथ्या मुलाला कपडे मिळण्यासाठी चौथ्या महिना येतो. तेव्हां आतां मी हें जे उदाहरण सांगितलं ह्या दृष्टीने आपल्या राज्याच्या बजेटकडेहि सर्वांनी पाहिले पाहिजे. पण तसे न करतां आमचे विरोधी पक्षांतील बंधू विरोधासाठीं विरोध करावयाचा ह्या दृष्टीने ह्या बजेटकडे पाहतात ही दुःखाची गोष्ट आहे. एकाद्याला कावीळ झाली म्हणजे त्याला सगळंच पिवळं दिसतं तसे विरोधी बंधूंनी सर्वच प्रश्नांकडे दूषित दृष्टीने पाहू नये अशी मला माझ्या विरोधी बंधूंना विनंती करावयाची आहे. एक गुलाबाचं झाड होतं व

[श्रीमती सुभगाबाई एस्. काशीकर]

त्याला एक अतिशय सुंदर असे फूल आलेलं होतं. त्या बाजूने एक वाटसरू जात होता. तें फूल पाहून तो मोहित झाला. इतक्यांत गुलाबाच्या झाडावरील कांद्यांकडे त्याचें लक्ष गेलं, आणि त्याच्या तोंडून सहज उद्गार निघाले, हे ईश्वरा तुझी करणी किती अगाध आहे. ह्या कांटेरी झाडावर तूं किती सौंदर्ययुक्त असे फूल निर्माण केलं आहेस. असे म्हणून हा वाटसरू पुढे गेल्यावर त्याच ठिकाणी दुसरा एक वाटसरू आला व त्याच्याहि दृष्टिला हें सुंदर फूल पडलं व तोहि फूल पाहून मोहित झाला, पण तो म्हणाला, हे परमेश्वरा, तूं किती मूर्ख आहेस, इतके सुंदर फूल तूं कांटेरी झाडावर निर्माण केलंस, तुझ्याजवळ योजकताच नाही. म्हणजे, वस्तू तू कांटेरी झाडावर निर्माण केलंस, तिच्याकडे पाहण्याची दृष्टि भिन्न असली म्हणजे काय होतं याचें एकच पण तिच्याकडे पाहण्याची दृष्टि भिन्न असली म्हणजे काय होतं याचें एक उदाहरण म्हणून मी हें सांगितलं. एकाचें लक्ष गुलाबाच्या सौंदर्यावर केंद्रित झालं, तर दुसऱ्याचें लक्ष कांद्यावर केंद्रित झालं. तेव्हां ह्या निमित्ताने मला असे सांगावयाचें आहे की, अशा तऱ्हेची विकृत दृष्टि कोणत्याहि राष्ट्राला पोषक होईल असे मला वाटत नाही.

मी नुकतीच गुजरातच्या दौऱ्यावरून जाऊन आले. गुजरातमध्ये गोंडाल संस्थान आहे तेथे मी गेले होतं. तेथील राजा स्वतःसाठीं फार थोडे पैसे घेतो, पण तेथील रस्ते आणि सडका इतक्या सुंदर आहेत की, कोणाची कल्पना होणार नाही. याचें कारण एकच आहे की, त्या राजाजवळ पुष्कळ पैसे असून तो ते सदृच्छा असल्यामुळे जनतेच्या हितासाठीं खर्च करतो. आपल्या राज्याची परिस्थिति अशी आहे की, आपल्या-
6-00 p.m. जवळ सदृच्छा आहे, पण पैसा नसल्यामुळे विरोधी पक्षांनी कितीहि आरडा ओरडा केला तरी कांहीं गोष्टी करणें सरकारला अशक्य होतं. तेव्हां आपल्या राज्याची एकंदर आर्थिक परिस्थिति लक्षांत घेऊनच विरोधी पक्षानें बजेटकडे पाहणें अशी मला विनंती करावयाची आहे.

यानंतर मी विदर्भाच्या बाबतीत कांहीं गोष्टी सभागृहापुढे मांडणार आहे. ह्या सरकारने एकंदरित निश्चितपणे सुधारणा केल्या आहेत व त्याबद्दल मला समाधान वाटतं प्राथमिक शिक्षणाच्या बाबतीत सरकारने लक्ष दिलं आहे, आणि तें मोफत करण्याचा सरकारचा विचार आहे. भिक्षुक्यांच्या बाबतीतहि सरकार आस्थेने लक्ष देत आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे नागपूरला इंजिनिअरिंग कॉलेज काढून स्थापत्य शास्त्र व पशुसंवर्धन यांकडे लक्ष देऊन शेतविषयक कार्याला पुष्कळच हातभार लावला आहे. मुलांसाठीं एक रिमांड होमहि काढलं आहे. शेती सुधारण्याच्या दृष्टीने शेती संशोधन केंद्रे काढून शेतकऱ्याला उत्तम बी-बियाणें पुरविण्याचेंहि कार्य सरकार करीत आहे. तेव्हां अशा अनेक गोष्टींवर ह्या बजेट प्रमाणे खर्च होणार आहे. पण हें बजेट जरी सरकारने

[श्रीमती सुभगाबाई एस्. काशीकर]

तयार केलें असलें तरी तें कार्यान्वित करण्याचें काम इतरांचें आहे. कपाशीच्या बाबतींत संशोधन करण्यासाठीं एक केंद्र काढण्यांत आलें आहे. याशिवाय तात्कालिक सुधारणासाठीं २॥ कोटी रुपये सरकारने आमच्या विभागासाठीं दिले आहेत. तेव्हां अशा रीतीने सरकारने विदर्भांमध्ये पुष्कळ सुधारणा केल्या आहेत.

शेवटीं मला एवढेंच सांगावयाचें आहे की, सरकारने कोणताहि कायदा केला किंवा बजेट सादर केलें तरी त्याला जर जनतेचा पाठिंबा मिळाला नाही तर तो कायदा किंवा बजेट यशस्वी होणार नाही. म्हणून विरोधी पक्षांना मला असे सांगावयाचें आहे की, सरकारला अपयशी ठरविण्याचा जरी त्यांनीं कितीहि प्रयत्न केला तरी त्या अपयशाचा दोष शेवटीं विरोधी पक्षावरच येतो. विरोधी पक्ष काय किंवा इतर जनता काय सर्वांनीं सरकारच्या योजना यशस्वी करण्यासाठीं सहकार्य केलें पाहिजे. ह्या मुंबई राज्यामध्ये दैव योगाने चार बंधु एकत्र आलेले आहेत. ज्ञानेश्वर आणि रामदास यांच्या अध्यात्मिक सौंदर्याने नटलेला माझा मराठवाडा बंधु, श्रीकृष्णाच्या सासुरवाडीचें भाग्य ज्याला लाभलें आहे आणि विदर्भ कन्येसारख्या तेजस्वी कन्या जेथे निर्माण झाल्या तो माझा विदर्भ बंधु, शिवाजीपासून टिळकांपर्यंत आणि ज्ञानेश्वर, रामदास, तुकाराम आदि वीर आणि सत्पुरुषांच्या वास्तव्याने उज्जल आणि तेजस्वी बनलेला माझा महाराष्ट्र बंधु आणि गुर्जर वीरांचा रत्नहार ज्याने धारण केला आहे आणि नरसी मेहतांसारख्या संतांचें अध्यात्मिक वस्त्र ज्याच्या वक्षस्थलावर शोभत आहे तो माझा गुर्जर बंधु हे जे चार बंधु एकत्र आले आहेत त्यांनीं ह्या सरकारचें कोणतेहि कार्य जर उचलून धरलें तर संबंध हिंदुस्थान देशांत आपण मुंबई राज्य यशस्वी करून दाखवूं असा मला आत्मविश्वास वाटतो.

शेवटीं, जातां जातां मला एकच गोष्ट सांगावयाची आहे. आता सांगितलेले जे चार बंधु ह्या राज्यांत एकत्र आलेले आहेत ते राम, लक्ष्मण, भरत व शत्रुघ्न यांच्याप्रमाणे पूर्वीच्या कालाप्रमाणे नाही तरी सध्यापरिस्थितीला अनुसरून आपापलीं कामें पार पाडतील अशी मला आशा आहे. रामाचें उज्वल चारित्र्य, कर्तृत्व आणि सेवाभाव दाखवून आपण सर्वांनीं सरकारला मदत केली पाहिजे. लक्ष्मणाच्या अनुनयाचा अवलम्ब करून होईल तितकी मदत सरकारला केली पाहिजे. जेथें राम आणि लक्ष्मण आहे तेथें भरताप्रमाणे आपापली जबाबदारी उचलण्यास प्रत्येकांने तयार राहिलें पाहिजे. भरत म्हणजे आपली भरभराट होईल असे प्रयत्न आपण केले पाहिजे. राम, लक्ष्मण व भरत आपल्यामध्ये निर्माण झाले म्हणजे आपले राज्य शत्रुघ्न झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही, अशी मला खात्री आहे. तेव्हां

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ह्या चार बंधूंनी एकत्र येऊन हें राज्य यशस्वी करावें एवढीच माझी विनंति आहे. तुम्ही आम्ही सगळे एक आहोत अशा राष्ट्रीयत्वाच्या भावनेतून योजना यशस्वी करण्याचा प्रयत्न करण्यांत आला तर आपणाला खात्रीने यश मिळेल यांत कोणत्याहि प्रकारची शंका नाही. प्रस्तुत अर्थसंकल्पांत ही राष्ट्रीयत्वाची दृष्टि ठेवल्याबद्दल मी पुन्हां एकदा नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांचें अभिनंदन करतें.

शेवटीं एकाच गोष्टीचा उल्लेख करावासा वाटतो तो असा की, नागपुर या शहराचें राजधानीचें महत्त्व गेलें असून तेथील हाय-कोर्टहि गेले आहे ही गोष्ट सर्वांना माहीत आहे. यामुळे त्या शहरांतील जनता उदासीन आहे. अहमदाबाद व पुणे शहरांमध्ये ज्या प्रकारच्या सुधारणा करण्यांत आल्या आहेत त्या प्रकारच्या सुधारणा आज नागपुर शहरामध्ये नाहीत. यासाठीं मला अशी विनंति करावयाची आहे की, या शहराचें सौंदर्य वाढविण्याच्या दृष्टीने सरकारने आवश्यक सुधारणा करावयास पाहिजेत. मी अहमदाबाद शहराला नुकतीच भेट दिली होती. त्या ठिकाणचे बागबगीचे व तळ्याचे सौंदर्य अप्रतिम आहे. नागपुर शहरांतसुद्धा मध्यभागी तळें असलें तरी नागपुर शहराचें सौंदर्य व अहमदाबाद शहरांतील सौंदर्य यामध्ये बरीच तफावत आहे. सरकारने नागपुर शहराचें सौंदर्य वाढविण्याचा प्रयत्न केला तर आज जनतेमध्ये जे एक प्रकारचें औदासीन्य आहे तें नाहीसे होऊन जनतेमध्ये एक प्रकारचा दिलासा व उत्साह निर्माण झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. इतके सांगून मज्जे भाषण संपवितें.

श्री. एच्. डी. अचोडे (बम्बई विधान-सभा द्वारा निर्वाचित) : उपसभापति महोदया, नागपुर से राजधानी हट जाने के कारण वहां की जनता को जो ठेस पहुंची और निराशा हुई उसको यहां पर प्रदर्शित करने का जो साहस माननीय सदस्या श्रीमती काशीकरबाई को हुआ और उन्होंने उसे यहां कहा उसके लिये मैं उन्हें बधाई देता हूँ।

इस अर्थ संकल्प से मुझे बड़ी निराशा हुई। इससे अनेकों को निराशा हुई होगी। इस अर्थ संकल्प को देखकर यह प्रतीत नहीं होता कि हम कल्याणकारी राज्य की स्थापना की ओर जा रहे हैं। इससे तो यह निश्चित मालूम पड़ता है कि हम पूंजीपति अर्थ व्यवस्था की नवि गहरी और मजबूत करने जा रहे हैं।

ऐसे तो अपने राज्य में अनेक समस्याएँ हैं। इन समस्याओं में से महत्वपूर्ण कितनी भी समस्या को हल करने का इस अर्थ संकल्प में कोई प्रयत्न नहीं हुआ है। उन अनेक समस्याओं में से केवल एक समस्या का मैं इस सभागृह के सामने उल्लेख करना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि समय अधिक नहीं है। मैं दूसरी किसी और समस्या पर अभी नहीं बोलूंगा।

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हमारे इस राज्य में अन्न समस्या सबसे विकट समस्या है। हमारा राज्य इस दृष्टि से आपने देश पर एक बोझ है। हमारे देश में अन्न की कितनी कमी है? सारे देश की कमी को देखते हुए हमारे इस राज्य की कमी देश की कमी की आधी है। मैंने कहीं पढ़ा है जिसमें बताया गया है कि केवल १० लाख टन अन्न की ही कमी होगी लेकिन किसी अन्य स्थान से पड़े आंकड़ों पर से मैं कह सकता हूँ कि इस राज्य में इस वर्ष करीब २० लाख टन की कमी होगी। जिस राज्य में २० लाख टन अनाज की कमी होती हो वह कितना दुर्दैवी है यह सोचना आपकी कल्पना पर छोड़ता हूँ। जो राज्य अन्न के मामले में इतना दुर्दैवी हो उस राज्य में अन्न समस्या हल करने के लिये कोई योजना न हो वह और कितने दुर्दैव की बात है, इसका भी अन्दाज लगाना आपकी कल्पना पर छोड़ता हूँ।

हमारे इस राज्य में काश्तकारी करने लायक सवा सात करोड़ एकड़ भूमि है। इस सवा सात करोड़ एकड़ भूमि पर साढ़े पाँच करोड़ जनता का निर्वाह करना है। हम प्रति वर्ष ९ लाख के अनुमान में अपनी लोकसंख्या बढ़ाते जा रहे हैं। इस वक्त हमारे राज्य की साढ़े पाँच करोड़ जनसंख्या होगी। तो आज की स्थिति में सवा सात करोड़ एकड़ जमीन से साढ़े पाँच करोड़ जनता को अन्न पुराना सम्भव नहीं। जब इस प्रश्न पर विचार करते हैं कि हमारे पास जितनी भूमि है और उसके साथ जो दूसरी व्यवस्थाएं उपलब्ध हैं उनको ध्यान में रखने हुए क्या यह सम्भव है या नहीं कि हम साढ़े पाँच करोड़ जनता के लिये अन्न की पूर्ति कर सकें तो हमें पता चलता है कि इनसे हम निश्चित रूप से उत्पन्न बढ़ा सकते हैं और यह बात असम्भव नहीं कि हम इतनी भूमि से इतने लोगों को अन्न प्राप्त करा सकें। परन्तु उसके लिए योजनाबद्ध कार्य करने की आवश्यकता है।

हमारे इस राज्य में ८७ लाख खेती उपयुक्त पशुधन हैं, ३३ लाख लकड़ी के नागर, ४ लाख लोहे के नागर और साढ़े तीन हजार के करीब ट्रैक्टर हैं। हमारे राज्य में कुछ बुलडोजर्स भी हैं। यदि इन सारी वस्तुओं को एकत्रित किया जाए तो सवा सात करोड़ एकड़ भूमि में इतना अन्न उपजाया जा सकता है कि हमें दूसरे राष्ट्रों की ओर दामन पसारने की कोई आवश्यकता न होगी। परन्तु इतनी सारी व्यवस्थाएं होते हुए भी हमारे यहाँ खेती की क्या परिस्थिति है इस ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। इस भूमि की २० प्रतिशत भूमि इस प्रकार की है जिसके मालिक ५-७ एकड़ भूमि से ज्यादा के मालिक नहीं हैं। यानी ५-७ एकड़ भूमि-टुकड़ों के ही वे मालिक हैं। ४० प्रतिशत जमीन हमारे राज्य में ऐसे लोगों के पास है जिनके पास १०० एकड़ से ज्यादा भूमि है। अन्य ४० प्रतिशत भूमि ऐसे लोगों के पास है जिनके पास १० एकड़ से अधिक और १०० से एकड़ कम भूमि है। स्पष्ट है कि

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ऐसी २० प्रतिशत भूमि से हम अन्न नहीं उपजा सकते। वह बेकार पड़ी रहती है। यद्यपि यह काश्तकारी के लायक जमीन है फिर भी जो ५-७ एकड़ जमीनवाले मालिक हैं या भूमिधर हैं वे अपनी भूमि की व्यवस्था काश्तकारी के लिये नहीं कर सकते। उनके पास हल और बैल का खर्च, कुटुंब का खर्च, और काश्तकारी में लगाने के लिए दूसरे खर्च के लिये पर्याप्त पैसा न होने से उनकी यह सारी भूमि बेकार जाती है। जिनके पास १०० एकड़ से ज्यादा भूमि है वे उनकी जरूरत के लिये जितना अन्न-धान्य पर्याप्त होता है उसके बाद बाकी जमीन पर काश्त नहीं करते इसलिए उनकी यह भी भूमि बेकार जाती है। इन्हीं सब कारणों से हमारे राज्य का और देश का उत्पादन बहुत कम हो गया है।

हमारे देश में काश्तकारी करने का जो तरीका है वह इतना प्राचीन और पिछड़ा हुआ है कि उसे अब बदलना चाहिये लेकिन उन तरीकों को अब तक हम छोड़ नहीं पाए हैं। इन्हीं सब कारणों से हमारे देश की उत्पादन शक्ति बहुत कम है। दूसरे देशों की उत्पादनशक्ति बहुत ज्यादा है हमारे देश की तुलना में दूसरे देशों की उत्पादन शक्ति कितनी अधिक है? हमारे देश में एक एकड़ जमीन में १,००० पौंड से ज्यादा चावल का उत्पादन नहीं होता लेकिन दूसरे देशों में बहुत अधिक उत्पादन होता है। उदाहरणार्थ अमरीका में एक एकड़ भूमि पर ३,२१८ पौंड चावल का उत्पादन होता है। केलिफोर्निया में ४,१०० पौंड, इटली में ४,९५८ पौंड और स्पेन में ५,३१२ पौंड उत्पादन होता है। इसी प्रकार से अन्य देशों में भी है। यही बात दूसरी फसलों को भी लागू है। हमारा देश जिसको हम कृषि प्रधान देश कहते हैं और गौरव मानते हैं उसमें एक एकड़ में १,००० पौंड से कम चावल की पैदावार होती है। ये सारी बुराईयाँ मिटा देनी चाहिये और हमारे देश की भूमि का उत्पादन बढ़े, भूमि की काश्त ठीक से की जाय, इस प्रकार की कुछ योजना करनी चाहिये।

सन १९४७ में इस राज्य की सरकार ने एक कानून पास किया था जिसको प्रिवेंशन ऑफ फ्रैग्मेंटेशन एन्ड कन्सालीडेशन ऑफ होल्डिंग्स एक्ट कहते हैं। इस कानून को पास हुये लगभग ११ साल हो गये लेकिन ११ साल होने के बाद भी इस राज्य की भूमि आज छोटे छोटे टुकड़ों में बंटी हुई है। उसमें कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ और कोई परिवर्तन होने की संभावना भी दीखती नहीं है। यह जो कानून है इस कानून से जनता को किसी प्रकार का त्राण प्राप्त नहीं हो सकता। उसमें बौद्ध समाज के लोगों की, अस्पृश्य समाज के लोगों और अन्य पिछड़ी जाति के लोगों की उन्नति की भी कोई संभावना नहीं है। बौद्ध समाज और अस्पृश्य समाज के पास भूमि नहीं है। सदियों से वे भूमिहीन हैं। उन्हें तो कहीं कहीं अस्पृश्यता के कारण

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खेत पर मजदूरी नहीं करने दी जाती। तब इस प्रकार के कानून से किसी को लाभ प्राप्त नहीं हो सकता। इसीलिये यह सारे लोग आज देहात में बेकार पड़े हैं उनकी समस्या पर कोई ध्यान इस बजट में दिया गया, ऐसा मैं नहीं देखता। हमारे देश की अन्य समस्या हल हो और देश में जो बौद्ध समाज, अस्पृश्य समाज और अन्य पिछड़े जाति के लोग हैं उनकी बेकारी दूर हो, इस ख्याल से मैं कुछ सूचनाएँ यहाँ पेश करना चाहता हूँ और उम्मीद करता हूँ कि हमारे अर्थ मंत्रीजी ने इस सदन के सामने जो अर्थ-संकल्प प्रस्तुत किया है उसमें वे आवश्यक सुधार करेंगे। वैसे ही मैं राज्य सरकार के अन्य मंत्रियों से भी अनुरोध करता हूँ कि वे इस योजना पर विचार कर यह अर्थ-संकल्प संशोधित करें।

हमारे राज्य की और देश की भी अर्थ व्यवस्था खेती पर निर्भर है। इस खेती को शासकीय उद्योग करना चाहिये। इसके लिये सरकार राज्य की सारी खेती की भूमि अपने अधिकार में और नियंत्रण में ले लेवे। वैसे ही खेती के लिये उपयुक्त पशुधन, हल आदि सारे आयुधों को भी सरकार अपने अधिकार में लेवे। भूमि, पशुधन और आयुधों की कीमत निर्धारित करके उनके मालिकों को यह कीमत "डिबेंचर्स" के रूप में दी जावे। डिबेंचर्स की रकम सरकार निर्धारित करें और उसे निश्चित तारीख को निर्धारित खंडों में दी जावे। जमीन, लाभदायक खेती की जा सकेगी, ऐसे किमान क्षेत्रों में बाँटी जावे। ये क्षेत्र गाँव के सभी ऐसे कुटुंबों में जो कास्तकारी करना चाहें उनके बीज बिना जातिभेद या राजीय पक्ष भेद किये बाँटे जावे। गाँव की सारी जमीन सामुदायिक पद्धति से सरकार की ओर से निर्धारित नियमों के अनुसार काश्त की जावे। सरकार किसानों को आधुनिक खेती पद्धति सिखावे और उनकी सहायता के लिये सरकार पानी, बैल, नागर, खाद, बीज आदि वस्तुओं को देवे। उपज निकलने पर सरकारी लगान, डिबेंचर्स के खण्ड की रकम, सरकार की ओर से दिये वस्तुओं की कीमत का खण्ड आदि रकम काटकर शेष धान्य का उसकी रकम काश्तकारों के बीज बाँटी जावे। इस तरह यदि योजनापूर्वक काम किया जाय तो आज से दुगुना तिगुना उत्पादन बढ़ना कोई असंभव बात नहीं है। हमारे यहाँ जो हर साल करीब २० लाख टन अनाज की कमी होती है वह आसानी से पूरी हो सकेगी और हमें दूसरे देशों से जो अनाज मागना पड़ता है वैसे जरूरत ही नहीं पड़ेगी। हमारे शासन के पास इन योजनाओं को कार्यावित करने के लिये अधिकार है और शक्ति भी। उसके लिये भारतीय विधान की अनुमति है और विरोधी दल का सहकार्य भी है। इन तमाम योजनाओं को कार्यावित करने के लिये आज इस देश की जनता, लाला इत है, सहकार्य देने

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को तैयार है। दूसरे और कोई इन योजनाओं को कार्यावित करने के लिये आगे बढ़े या न बढ़े किंतु मैं आश्वासन देना चाहता हूँ कि इस योजनाको कार्यावित करने के लिये हमारा पूरा सहकार्य हम शासन को देने के लिये तैयार हैं। इस योजना की पूर्ति के लिये सरकार के पास सम्पत्ति भी है।

पहला पंचवर्षीय योजना में करोड़ों रुपया खर्च किया गया। दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में भी करोड़ों रुपयों का आयोजन है।

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member should now wind up his remarks.

श्री. एच्. डी. अबोडे : खैर, मैं अब खतम करता हूँ। दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना ३५० करोड़ रुपये की है। जिसमें इस वर्ष के लिये ७७ करोड़ रुपये का प्रविजन किया गया है। हर एक राज्य को जो रकम बाँटी गई है उसमें हमारे राज्य के लिये उक्त रकम मिली है। फिर प्रतिवर्ष की साधारण आय भी आती है। इन सब में से अपने अर्थ-संकल्प में बहुत पैसा रखा गया है। परंतु यह रकम सही तौर पर खर्च की जानी चाहिये। प्रश्न अब केवल सरकारी पक्ष की इच्छा का है। शासन यदि इस योजना को हाथ में ले तो आज हमें जो हर साल २० लाख टन अनाज की कमी होती है वह नहीं होगी और एक ही साल में अनाज की समस्या हम हल कर सकेंगे, ऐसा मुझे विश्वास है। आखीर में मैंने सूचना यहां पर रखी है उसपर अर्थ मंत्री महोदय आवश्यक विचार करेंगे ऐसी उम्मीद करते हुये मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ।

श्री. बी. पी. बडवे (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंबली में निवडलेले) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांनी मुंबई राज्याचा जो अर्थसंकल्प सादर केला आहे त्याचे स्वागत करण्यासाठी मी उभा आहे. हें अंदाजपत्रक आपल्याला समाजवादी समाजरचनेकडे नेणारें आहे. त्याचप्रमाणें कल्याणकारी राज्याकडे नेणारें आहे, असें मला वाटत असल्यामुळे मी ह्या अंदाजपत्रकाचें मनःपूर्वक स्वागत करतो. ह्या अंदाजपत्रकावर गेल्या दोन

6-30 p.m. दिवस चर्चा चाललेली असून हें अंदाजपत्रक ह्या राज्याला कल्याणकारी राज्याकडे नेणारें नसून, समाजवादी राज्याकडे नेणारें नसून भांडवलशाही राज्याकडे नेणारें आहे अशी टीका करण्यांत आली. अध्यक्ष महाराज, ज्या सन्माननीय सभासदांनी ह्या अंदाजपत्रकावर टीका केली आहे त्यांचें लक्ष ह्या अंदाजपत्रकांतील खर्चाच्या बाजूकडे वेधूं इच्छितो.

ह्या अंदाजपत्रकांतील खर्चाच्या बाजूकडील आंकडे पाहिले तर सरकारची पन्वळे सहकारी संघ राज्याच्या दिशेने यशस्वीपणे पुढें पडत आहेत असें दिसून येईल. आपल्या राज्यांत १६ साखर कारखाने सहकारी पद्धतीवर चालविण्याला सरकारने मान्यता दिलेली आहे आणि त्यापैकी ९ साखर कारखाने साखरेचें उत्पादन

[श्री. बी. पी. बडवे]

करीत आहेत. हे पाहिले म्हणजे आपण निश्चितपणे सहकारी संघ राज्याच्या मार्गाने जात आहेत व याच मार्गाने आपण यशस्वी होऊ यांत मला कोणत्या प्रकारची शंका वाटत नाही.

काही सन्माननीय सभासदांनी अन्नधान्याचा प्रश्न उपस्थित केला होता. अन्नधान्याच्या उत्पादनाचा प्रश्न बिकट आहे ही गोष्ट नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांनी मान्य केलेली आहे मुंबई राज्य अन्नधान्याच्या बाबतीत तुटीचे आहे ही गोष्ट कोणीही नाकवूळ करीत नाही, पण अन्नधान्याचे उत्पादन वाढविण्यासाठी विरोधी पक्षांकडून जे मार्ग सुचविले गेले त्यांनी हा प्रश्न सुटेल असे मला वाटत नाही. सरकारने शेती केली पाहिजे, पशुधन किंवा शेतीला लागणारी सर्व साधने सरकारच्या मालकीची केली गेली पाहिजेत वगैरे जे उपाय सुचविण्यांत आले त्यांनी अन्नधान्याचे उत्पादन आपल्याला जेवढे वाढावयास पाहिजे आहे तेवढे वाढेल असे मला वाटत नाही. आपल्या सरकारचा सहकारी पद्धतीवर विश्वास आहे व त्या मार्गाने हा प्रश्न सोडविण्याचा सरकार प्रयत्न करीत आहे. ह्या बाबतीत रशिया व चीन ह्या देशांचा उल्लेख येथे करण्यांत आला, पण रशिया व चीन ह्या देशांचे योजना यशस्वी करण्याचे मार्ग व भारतातील पंचवार्षिक योजना यशस्वी करण्याचे मार्ग यांत महदंतर आहे, ही गोष्ट मला विरोधकांच्या निर्दनास आणवयाची आहे. आमचा मार्ग लोकशाहीचा मार्ग आहे आणि भारतांत प्रथमच ह्या मार्गाने नियोजन केले जात आहे. नियोजनाचा हाच लोकशाही मार्ग आहे आणि तो भारतांत यशस्वी झालेला आहे. एवढेच नव्हे तर सर्व जगाचे डोळे भारताच्या नियोजनाच्या मार्गाकडे लागलेले आहेत. लोकशाहीच्या तत्वावर हे नियोजन यशस्वी करण्यासाठी भारत सरकार व मुंबई सरकार निश्चितपणे पावले टाकीत आहे.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, हे अंदाजपत्रक कल्याणकारी राज्याकडे नेणारे आहे की नाही याचा विचार केला तर असे दिसून येईल की, पाणी पुरवठ्याच्या योजना, शेती सुधारणेच्या योजना, शैक्षणिक योजना व सहकारी योजना ह्या ज्या विकास योजना आहेत त्या सर्व सामान्य माणसाचे जीवन सुखी करणाऱ्या योजना असून त्यांवर जास्तीत जास्त खर्च करण्याची तरतूद ह्या अंदाजपत्रकांत केलेली आहे, जवळ जवळ ७६ टक्के खर्च ह्या लोकांच्या विकासासाठी करण्यांत येणार आहे. ह्या अंदाजपत्रकांत पोलिस खात्यावर जो खर्च दाखविण्यांत आला आहे त्याबाबत येथे विरोधी पक्षांकडून टीका करण्यांत आली. पोलिसांवर खर्च वाढत आहे असे एकाकडे म्हणत असतांना तेच सन्माननीय सभासद गुन्हेगारी वाढत आहे, लोकांच्या जीवितवित्ताला धोका निर्माण झाला आहे असे म्हणाले. म्हणजे लोकांचे जीवित आणि वित्त सुरक्षित राखण्यासाठी पोलिसांची जरूरी आहे असे म्हणावयाचे पण त्याचबरोबर पोलिस खात्याचा कारभार जास्त खर्चिक झाला आहे अशी टीका करावयाची, यांतून सरकारला मार्गदर्शन कसे काय मिळेल हे मला समजत नाही. तेव्हा मला असे म्हणावयाचे आहे की, पोलिस खात्यावरील काय किंवा इतर कोणत्याही खात्यावरील खर्च कमी करण्याची जबाबदारी

[श्री. बी. पी. बडवे]

जशी सरकारची आहे तशी विरोधी पक्षांचीही आहे, ही गोष्ट विरोधी पक्षांनी विसरतां कामा नये. याच सभागृहांत, अध्यक्ष महाराज, फायनान्स कमिशनच्या रिपोर्टासंबंधाने बोलतांना एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी असे सांगितले की, मुंबई राज्याला योग्य वांटा मिळावा म्हणून ह्या सरकारने मध्यवर्ती सरकारशी लढा दिला पाहिजे, एवढेच नव्हे तर ह्या प्रश्नावर नामदार अर्थ मंत्र्यांनी आपल्या जागेचा राजीनामा दिला पाहिजे. अध्यक्ष महाराज, लढा देणे आणि राजीनामे देणे ह्या बाबतीत मुंबई राज्यांत गेली दोन वर्षे वाईट अनुभव आलेला आहे. असे असतांना लढा देणे आणि राजीनामे देणे ही भाषा जर अजून अशीच चालू राहिली तर पोलिसांची संख्या कमी करणे कोणत्या राज्याला शक्य होईल? ज्यांनी लोकांचे कल्याण करण्याकरिता प्रयत्न करावयाचा त्यांनी लक्षाचे आव्हान देण्यास सुरुवात केली तर या मार्गाने पोलिस कमी करणे अशक्य होईल. पोलिसांची संख्या कमी करायला माझी हरकत नाही, पण राज्यांत सुरक्षिततेचे वातावरण निर्माण करण्याची जबाबदारी विरोधी पक्षांनी उचलली पाहिजे, आणि लोकशाहीखेरीज दुसऱ्या अन्य मार्गाचे अवलंबन केले जाणार नाही याची ग्वाही दिली पाहिजे. परंतु याऐवजी लोकशाहीखेरीज अन्य मार्गाचे अवलंबन करू अशा धमक्या दिल्या जातात, अशा परिस्थितीत लोकांचे जीवित, वित्त सुरक्षित ठेवणे आणि आपल्या पुढे असलेल्या सर्व योजना पार पाडणे यासाठी पोलिसांवर काही जादा खर्च करणे आवश्यक असते ही गोष्ट विरोधी पक्षाचे सन्माननीय सभासद घ्यानांत घेतील अशी मला आशा आहे.

यानंतर निरनिराळ्या विषयावर पुढच्या वर्षी सरकार कसकसा खर्च करणार आहे याची थोडीशी कल्पना मी देतो. ह्या अंदाजपत्रकाप्रमाणे शिक्षणावर २२ कोटी रुपये खर्च होणार आहेत. गेल्या दहा वर्षांत शिक्षणाच्या क्षेत्रांत सरकारने पुष्कळच प्रगती केली आहे. शिक्षणाच्या बाबतीत आपले राज्य गेल्या दहा वर्षांत १५९ पटींनी पुढे गेले आहे. ज्या रशियाचा येथे उल्लेख करण्यांत आला तेथे प्राथमिक शिक्षण सक्तीचे करण्याला १० वर्षे लागली, परंतु मुंबई राज्यांत काँग्रेस सरकार अधिकारावर आल्याबरोबर एक दोन वर्षांतच शिक्षण सक्तीचे करण्यांत आले आणि आज त्याची अंमलबजावणी चालू आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे पहिली पंचवार्षिक योजना पुरी करावयास रशियाला १० वर्षे लागली, तर त्याच काळांत भारताने एक पंचवार्षिक योजना पुरी करून दुसरी पंचवार्षिक योजना हाती घेतली आहे. ह्या दोन्ही योजना भारत लोकशाही मार्गानेच पुऱ्या करणार आहे व त्यासाठी भरपूर पैशांचीही तरतूद करण्यांत आली आहे. ह्या योजना पुऱ्या करण्यासाठी जास्त खर्च करण्याची आवश्यकता आहे व त्यासाठी जनतेने काही प्रमाणांत कर सहन करण्यास तयार असले पाहिजे. (G.O.P.) MAR. 7 1958-59

[श्री. बी. पी. बडवे]

गाय आंखूड शिंगाची पाहिजे, दूधदुभती पाहिजे व किंमतही कमी पाहिजे अशी जी मराठीत म्हण आहे त्या म्हणीप्रमाणे आज विरोधीपक्षांतील सन्माननीय सदस्य अपेक्षा करीत आहेत. मला या बाबतीस असे सांगायचे आहे की, सर्व गोष्टी एकाच वेळी साधणे फार कठीण आहे. मी तर असे म्हणू शकेन की, लोक कल्याणाकरिता काही प्रसंगी करसुद्धा सहन करावे लागतात. ह्या राज्यांत इतर राज्यापेक्षा करांचे प्रमाण जास्त आहे ही गोष्ट विरोधीबाजूच्या सन्माननीय सदस्यांकडून सांगितली गेली असली तरी मला असे म्हणावयाचे आहे की, ज्या अर्थी मुंबई राज्य हे इतर राज्यांच्या मानाने प्रगतिपथावर आहे त्याअर्थी ते पुढेही प्रगतिपथावर राहण्याच्या दृष्टीने ज्या काही आर्थिक जबाबदाऱ्या असतील त्या सहन करावयास पाहिजेत. ह्या अर्थ संकल्पांत जे काही कर बसविण्यांत आले आहेत ते अगदी गरीब लोकांवर बसविण्यांत आले नाहीत. एस्. टी. च्या वाहतुकीवर थोडासा कर लादण्यांत आलेला आहे परंतु ज्यांना उप-जीविकेची साधने आहेत अशा मध्यमवर्गीयांतील लोकांवर ह्या कराचा थोडासा भार पडणार आहे. या अर्थसंकल्पांत नुसते करच बसविण्यांत आले आहेत असे नाही तर खालच्या वर्गांतील जे लोक आहेत त्यांच्यासाठीही योजना करण्यांत आल्या आहेत. त्या दृष्टीने खालच्या दर्जाचे सरकारी नोकर, मध्यम वर्गातील प्राथमिक शिक्षक इत्यादि लोकांच्या पगारांत वाढ करण्याच्या योजनाही या अर्थसंकल्पांत आहेत. तेव्हा हा अर्थसंकल्प मध्यम वर्गाकरिता व सर्वसामान्य लोकांकरिता नाही असा ज्यांनी आरोप केला त्यांनी हा अर्थसंकल्प डोळे झांकून वाचला असावा अशी मला शंका वाटते. माझे तर असे मत आहे की, ह्या अर्थसंकल्पामध्ये ज्या ज्या खर्चाच्या बाबी नमूद करण्यांत आलेल्या आहेत त्या त्या विकासाकडे नेणाऱ्या आहेत. आज या ठिकाणी असे सांगण्यांत आले की, सरकार शेतीसुधारणा व अन्नधान्योत्पादन या गोष्टींकडे लक्ष देत नाही. विरोधी बाजूच्या सन्माननीय सभासदांना मी नम्रपणे सांगू इच्छितो की, पाणी पुरवठ्याच्या व क्षेत्रासंचनाच्या ज्या मोठमोठ्या योजना हाती घेण्यांत आल्या आहेत त्या या द्वितीय पंचवार्षिक योजनेच्या काळांत पुऱ्या होणार आहेत. ह्या योजना पुऱ्या झाल्यावर आपल्या राज्यांतील अन्नधान्याची कमतरता नष्ट होऊन आपले राज्य स्वावलंबी झाल्या-शिवाय राहणार नाही. याशिवाय ज्या भागांत पाणी पुरवठ्याच्या योजना करणे अशक्य आहे अशा भागांत नवीन विहिरी खणण्याच्या दृष्टीने सरकारने या अर्थसंकल्पांत ४९,००० विहिरी खणण्यासाठी १ कोटी रुपयांवर तरतूद केली आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे शेतकऱ्यांना पंपिंग सेट्स देण्याचीही योजना आखण्यांत आलेली आहे. एका विहिरीमागे २ एकर जमीन धरली तर ४९,००० विहिरी पुऱ्या झाल्यावर लाख दीड लाख एकर जमिनीचे रूपांतर बागाईत जमिनीत होणार आहे व त्यामुळे आपल्या

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अन्नधान्याच्या उत्पादनांत तीन लाख टनांची जास्त भर पडल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. अशी परिस्थिती असताना सरकारने शेतीसुधारणांकडे लक्ष दिले नाही असा जो आरोप करण्यांत आला तो वस्तुस्थितीला सोडून आहे एवढेच मला या अर्थसंकल्पाच्या निमित्ताने सभागृहाला सांगायचे आहे.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I hope the hon. Member will now finish his speech. His time is up.

Shri B. P. BADAVE : I will make some suggestions and finish my speech. या अर्थसंकल्पामध्ये ज्या रकमा खर्ची टाकल्या आहेत त्यामध्ये मूल्योद्योगावर बरीच मोठी रक्कम धरली आहे व अशा रीतीने मूल्योद्योगावर बराच भर देण्यांत आलेला आहे. मूल्योद्योगाची वाढ झाली तर बेकारी नाहीशी होण्यास बरीच मदत होणार आहे. परंतु ह्या योजना अंमलांत आणते वेळी सुपर्विजनचे काम सुकर होण्याच्या दृष्टीने शिक्षक वर्गाकडे जास्त लक्ष द्यावयास पाहिजे असे मला वाटते. त्याचप्रमाणे मूल्योद्योगाचे शिक्षण देणारी जी शिक्षकांची प्रॅक्टिकल ट्रेनिंग कॉलेजेस आहेत ती बहुतेक शहराच्या ठिकाणी आहेत. मी सरकारला अशी सूचना करीन की, ही कॉलेजेस शहरी वातावरणामध्ये ठेवण्यापेक्षा ज्या खेड्यांपाषांत मूल्योद्योगाचे शिक्षण दिले जाणार आहे त्या ठिकाणी ती नेण्यांत यावीत. ही गोष्ट करण्यांत आली तर खेड्यांतील मूल्योद्योगाची योजना यशस्वी झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही इतके सांगून मी माझे भाषण पुरे करतो.

श्रीमती सुभद्राबाई डो. जोशी (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंब्लीने निवडलेल्या) : अध्यक्ष महोदया, नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांनी जो अर्थसंकल्प सादर केला आहे त्याची मांडणी फार उत्तम तऱ्हेने झालेली आहे असे एकंदरीत गेल्या दोन दिवसांत जे उलटसुलट वादविवाद झाले त्यावरून दिसून येते. आणि म्हणूनच मी नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांचे मनःपूर्वक अभिनंदन करते. हा अर्थसंकल्प माहितीपूर्ण रीतीने आपल्यापुढे ठेवण्यांत आल्यानंतर माझ्यासमोर बसलेल्या सन्माननीय सदस्यांना त्यांत कोठे चूक सापडना म्हणून काही तरी टीका करून त्यांनी उणीव भरून काढण्याचा प्रयत्न केला असे मला वाटते. हा अर्थसंकल्प चांगला असल्याचे त्यांच्या मनाला पटले आहे असा त्यांच्या एकंदर चर्चेतून निष्कर्ष निघतो.

मागच्या अधिवेशनांत ज्या एका गोष्टीचा मी अल्लेख केला तीच गोष्ट मी या ठिकाणी पुन्हा सांगू इच्छिते. परकीयांच्या ज्या काही गोष्टी आम्ही घेतल्या त्यामध्ये इंग्रजी भाषाही घेतली. आमच्या लोकांना इंग्रजी भाषा फार आवडली. त्यांतल्या त्यांत माझ्या समोर बसलेल्या सदस्यांना मराठी भाषा अवगत असली तरी इंग्रजी भाषा फार गोड आहे म्हणून इंग्रजीमधून बोलण्याचा त्यांना मेढ होता. इंग्रजी भाषा गोंडस

[श्रीमती सुभद्राबाई डी. जोशी]

असल्यामुळे त्यांना ती गोड वाटते परंतु परकीय देशप्रमाणे येथे कर बसविण्यात आले तर ती गोष्ट मात्र त्यांना पसंत पडत नाही. परकीय देशांमध्ये ज्या वेळी कर बसविले जातात त्या वेळी राजा करतो ते योग्य करतो ह्या भावनेने काही कुरकुर किंवा तक्रार न करता देशातील लोक करांचा बोजा अर्धपोटी राहून सहन करतात. विरोधी बाजूच्या सन्माननीय सभासदांना ही गोष्ट त्यांच्या सोयीची नाही म्हणून ते घेत नाहीत. त्यांच्या ह्या मनोवृत्तीबद्दल मला खेद वाटतो. कर बसविण्याची काय कारणे आहेत हे मी सांगण्याची आवश्यकता आहे असे मला वाटत नाही. मी सभागृहापुढे एक उदाहरण ठेवणार आहे. एखाद्या आईबापांना मुलगा झाला तर त्यांना फार आनंद होतो. परंतु बाप चिक्कू असेल तर लहान वयात आपल्या मुलाला सदरा शिवण्याकरिता तो जे एक वाराचे कापड घेईल तितकेंच कापड तो आपला मुलगा मोठा झाल्यावर घेण्याचा प्रयत्न करील. त्यावेळी तो एक वारांतच सदरा झाला पाहिजे अशी इच्छा दर्शवितो. वस्तुतः त्याचा मुलगा मोठा झाल्यावर त्याला जास्त कापड लागेल ही गोष्ट स्पष्ट आहे. हीच गोष्ट आपल्या विशाल मुंबई राज्याच्या बाबतीत लागू करता येईल. ह्या राज्यांत इतर भाग सामील झाल्यामुळे एकंदर व्याप वाढला गेला आहे असे नाही तर ह्या राज्यांतील लोकसंख्येचे वाढते प्रमाण आहे. लोकसंख्येचे प्रमाण गंगेच्या ओघासारखे वाढत आहे असे मी म्हणाले तर त्यांत काही वावगे होईल असे मला वाटत नाही. ह्या गोष्टीवर निर्विवाद बसला पाहिजे हे मला मान्य आहे परंतु ह्या बाबतीत सर्व भार सरकारवर टाकून चालणार नाही. आमचे जीवनमान वाढून आम्हाला विशिष्ट दर्जांमध्ये राहाता आले पाहिजे अशी इच्छा असणे बार्ड नाही परंतु हे जीवनमान व दर्जा वाढविण्याच्या दृष्टीने उत्पादनांत कशी भर पडेल व अशी भर पडण्यास मार्ग काय आहेत याचा विचार व्हावयास पाहिजे. हिंदुस्थानांत पूर्वी जितकी जमीन होती तितकीच आता आहे. जमिनीच्या क्षेत्रांत काही वाढ झालेली नाही, प्रजेमध्ये मात्र वाढ झाल्याचे दिसून येते. याशिवाय अकाल, अनावर्षण ह्या गोष्टीमुळे उत्पादनांत वाढ न होता लोकांचे नुकसान होते. अशा परिस्थितीत कर न बसवितां फक्त जीवनमानच वाढवा असा कोणी अट्टाहास धरला तर तो अनाठाई आहे असे मला वाटते. आम्हांला आज वेतनवाढ इत्यादी पुष्कळ गोष्टी हव्या आहेत परंतु त्या कोणत्या मार्गाने साध्य करावयाच्या याचा विचार होणे अगत्याचे आहे. आपल्याला शक्य काय आहे हे आपण पाहिले पाहिजे. आमच्या भारतामध्ये काय परिस्थिती आहे हे न पाहतां रशियाची उदाहरणे देण्यांत काय अर्थ आहे? सध्यांच्या आपल्या परिस्थितीत जर आपल्याला सुखसोयी वाढवावयाच्या असतील तर कर बसविल्या-खेरीज गत्यंतर नाही. पूर्वी लोक बैलगाड्यांनी लांबलांबच्या यात्रा करीत असत, पण आतां दोन मैल जरी कोठे जावयाचे असले तरी मोटार, ट्राम यांसारखी वाहने

[श्रीमती सुभद्राबाई डी. जोशी]

आपल्याला लागतात. ह्या सोयी तर पाहिजेत आणि कर बसतां कामा नयेत असे कसे चालेल? आपल्या सरकारजवळ काही पैशांची खाण लागलेली नाही. ती लागेपर्यंत आपण अर्धपोटी राहूनसुद्धा सरकारने बसविलेले कर भरले पाहिजेत. एक उदाहरण म्हणून सांगते की, कर्नाटकांत बालाजीचे एक देवस्थान आहे. त्या ठिकाणी पायली लावण्याची पद्धत आहे. याचे कारण असे सांगतात की, ज्या वेळी देवाची स्थापना झाली तेव्हा जे कर्ज झाले होते ते अजून फिटत आहे आणि ते कर्ज फेडण्यासाठी प्रत्येकाने हातभार लावला पाहिजे. देवाचे नांव काढले की, लोक आपोआप पैसा खर्च करतात. आज धर्माच्या नांवाने किती तरी पैसा खर्च केला जात आहे. अर्थात ही माझी कल्पना आहे. कोणी धर्मावर खर्च करावा किंवा करू नये असे सांगण्याचा माझा हेतु नाही. पण धर्माच्या नांवाने आज किती तरी सुशिक्षित लोक पैसा खर्च करीत आहेत तेव्हा सरकारने जर कर बसविला तर तो देण्याच्या बाबतीत तरी कुरकुर करू नये असे मला प्रामुख्याने सांगावयाचे आहे. सरकार कर बसविते तो जनतेच्या हितासाठीच बसविते, तेव्हा कर देणे हाहि आपला धर्म आहे असे प्रत्येकाने समजले पाहिजे.

एवढ्या मोठ्या बजेटचा विचार करीत असतांना बारीकसारीक गोष्टीत लक्ष घालणे योग्य नाही असे मला वाटते. ह्या बजेटचा एकंदरीत विचार केला तर त्याबद्दल नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांचे आपण अभिनेदनच केले पाहिजे इतके ते चांगले आहे. ह्या वर्षी शेतीसुधारणेसाठी जास्त पैशाची तरतूद करण्यांत आली आहे. विदर्भांमध्ये छोटे छोटे पाटबंधारे घालण्याची व्यवस्था होत आहे ही चांगली गोष्ट आहे. आतां योजना आखतांना जेथे आधी गरज असेल तेथे आधी योजना हातांत घेण्यांत येतात. सरकारला सगळे भाग सारखेच असतात. पण काही विरोधी पक्षांचे सन्माननीय सभासद अशी तक्रार करतात की, गुजरातला काकापारा योजना आधी का दिली, आमच्या महाराष्ट्रांत आधी योजना का हातांत घेतली नाही? काकापारा धरण बांधले त्यासाठी आमचा पैसा खर्च झाला आहे तेव्हा आतां आमचे कुकाई धरण लौकर हाती घेतले पाहिजे. पण मी म्हणते असे मांडण करण्याचे कारण नाही. गुजरातला झाला तरी आपलाच आहे आणि तेथे राहत असलेले लोकहि आपलेच बांधव आहेत. समजा, उद्यां गुजरातमध्ये लौकर आणि जास्त धान्य पिकू लागले तर आपण असे म्हणावे की, काही हरकत नाही, तुमच्या भागांत धान्य पिकल्यावर आमचीहि गरज भागवा म्हणजे झाले. ज्या भागांत ज्या योजना होणे आवश्यक आणि शक्य आहेत तेथे त्या हाती घेऊन धान्याचे उत्पादन वाढले म्हणजे झाले. कसेहि करून धान्यासाठी आपला पैसा परदेशांत जातां कामा नये हे आपले ध्येय आहे, व ते साधण्यासाठी

[श्रीमती सुभद्राबाई डी. जोशी]

सर्वांनी प्रयत्न केले पाहिजेत. धान्याचे उपादन वाढविण्यासाठी सरकार सारखे प्रयत्न करीत आहे. जमिनीची धूप थांबण्यासाठी पाट-बंधारे घालण्याच्या योजना आखीत आहे. ज्या ठिकाणी नैसर्गिक पावसाचे पाणी मिळत नाही अशा ठिकाणी धरणे बांधून, पाट व कालवे काढून पाणी पुरविण्याची व्यवस्था सरकार करीत आहे. शेती सुधारणेला सरकारने पहिला क्रमांक दिलेला आहे. तेव्हा सरकार प्रयत्न करीत आहे, पण सर्व गोष्टी पुऱ्या होण्यास काही तरी कालावधि लागणारच. ह्या प्रयत्नांत सरकारला यश आले व शेती किफायतशीर व विपुल झाली म्हणजे अन्नधान्याचा प्रश्न कायमचा सुटणार आहे. काल एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी सांगितले की, शेतकऱ्यांवर कर बसवा कारण शेती सुधारणांचा त्याला फायदा मिळत आहे. पण मला असे म्हणा- वयाचं आहे की, शेतकऱ्यांवर निराळा कर बसविण्याची आवश्यकता नाही. कोणताही कर बसविला तरी शेवटी तो शेतकऱ्यांवरच बसतो. कर बसविला म्हणजे दुकानांतील माल महाग होतो आणि त्याची झळ शेतकऱ्याला लागतेच. तेव्हा शेतकऱ्यावर निराळा कर बसविला तर त्याच्यावर काय प्रसंग येईल याचा आपण विचार केला पाहिजे. शिवाय, शेतकरी उभा असेल तर आपण उभे राहाणार आहोत. शेतकरी पिकवतो म्हणून आपल्याला खायला मिळते व कपडा मिळतो. तेव्हा शेतकऱ्यांवर कराचा जास्त बोजा पडणार नाही याची काळजी आपण घेतली पाहिजे. त्याचप्रमाणे शेती किफायतशीर व्हावी म्हणून त्याला जितकी साधने पुरविली येतील तितकी पुरविली पाहिजेत.

यानंतर शाळा मास्तरांना किंवा कॉलेजांतील प्रोफेसरांना पगार कमी आहेत अशी तक्रार करण्यांत येते, पण सध्याच्या परिस्थितीत सरकारला जेवढे करता येईल तेवढे करण्याचा सरकार प्रयत्न करीत आहे. सरकारजवळच पैसा नसला तर सरकार पगार वाढवून कसे देणार? तेव्हा सरकार देईल ते घेऊन आपण राहिले पाहिजे. सरकार म्हणजे तरी कोण आहे? आपण निवडून दिलेले आपलेच ते प्रतिनिधि आहेत, तेव्हा सरकार करते ते जनतेच्या कल्याणासाठीच करते असा आपण विश्वास बाळगला पाहिजे.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, आतापर्यंत बजेटवर पुष्कळ चर्चा झालेली आहे, आणि मला त्याबाबत जे सांगायचे वाटले ते मी सांगितले आहे. शेतीच्या क्षेत्रांत हळू हळू सुधारणा होत आहे, विकासाची आणि कल्याण केंद्रे निघत आहेत व त्यांची कामे चाळली आहेत. बी पेरल्याबरोबर काही झाड होणार नाही. त्याला ठराविक काल जावाच लागतो, तसेच सरकारच्या ह्या योजनांच्या बाबतीतही आहे. बी पेरल्यानंतर झाडाला जसे सारखे पाणी घालीत राहावे लागते व काही

[श्रीमती सुभद्राबाई डी. जोशी]

कालानंतर आपल्याला फळ मिळते त्याप्रमाणे योजना सुरू केल्यानंतर त्या यशस्वी करण्यासाठी जनतने सरकारने बसविलेले कर देण्यास तयार असेल पाहिजे. निसर्गाचा काय कोप होईल हे सांगता येणार नाही, पण एवढी आपण सर्वांनी मिळून जर पंचवार्षिक योजना यशस्वी करण्यास हातभार लावला तर त्यांत सगळ्या राज्यांचे कल्याण आहे. शेवटी नामदार मंत्र्यांनी हे जे बजेट सादर केले आहे ते फार उत्तम आहे असे सांगून व त्याबद्दल त्यांचे अभिनंदन करून मी रजा घेते.

Shri A. R. BHAT (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly): Madam Chairman, the Budget proposals have been so far discussed at length and several hon. Members have offered their remarks. Some of them have offered congratulations to Hon. the Finance Minister on his handling the finances of this State very ably. Madam, I join the latter in offering my congratulations to Hon. the Finance Minister on the admirable way in which he has produced this Budget. I can very well understand the criticism that is levelled. That only shows the dissatisfaction which is prevalent among the people regarding the achievements that have been made. That is because there is a great gap between people's expectations and the actual results achieved by Government. People's expectations are not materialising to the extent to which they desire. But critics forget that we have to manage within the resources that are available to us. It is said, "निर्वाहः प्रतिपन्न वस्तुषु." The resources have to be increased to satisfy people's expectations. Therefore Hon. the Finance Minister came out with certain taxation proposals in the year 1952. Their result had to be watched. There was no further taxation except for some minor amendments in the next four years. Now he has come out at the end of the second year of the Second Five-Year Plan with a proposal for some small additional taxation. He is trying to do it for bridging the gap between the revenue and the expenditure. This gap, as he has mentioned, is to the extent of Rs. 2,00,01,000. It has been stated by my hon. Friend Shri Dahanukar that since, during the last year, the Finance Minister could have a surplus of a substantial amount when he had budgeted for a deficit, this year he should have waited for some time to find out whether he would get more revenue or not. That was the plea which the hon. Member Shri Dahanukar made in this House a little while ago. May I point out to him that there has been a considerable change recently in the available resources to the State? Firstly, some important commodities on the sales of which sales tax was being collected by our State are now transferred to the Centre and the latter has levied an additional Excise Duty in its place. But we are not going to have the same amount as our share from that additional Excise Duty as we formerly used to collect. We are going to get only Rs. 3 crores as our share from the divisible pool. But our original collection from the sales tax on the three items transferred to the Centre, and particularly cloth, was substantially higher and we are not being properly compensated for the same. Then again, in the current year's revised Budget Estimate there is the amount of inter-State sales tax for which we have got credit but we are not going to get any

[Shri A. R. Bhat]

credit from that source next year. When these facts are taken into consideration, one gets convinced that there is sufficient justification for Hon. the Finance Minister to come with a proposal for additional taxation. Now the Second Five-Year Plan for our new State has been framed and those of us who are in full support of it have also to see to it that we are making sufficient resources available to the State to carry out that Plan. What is the target of the additional taxation that has to be raised by us? That target is of Rs. 24 crores during the five years of the Second Five-Year Plan. It is pretty high. Hon. the Finance Minister is probably waiting for the report of the Sales Tax Enquiry Committee because, as this House is aware, the principal elastic source of revenue available in this State is the sales tax. Since I happen to be a member of the Enquiry Committee, I would not like to say anything on the subject of sales tax. I shall only say this, that he has done the right thing in giving certain minor concessions which he could within the framework of the present taxation to the people in those new areas that have come to the former Bombay State. He has done a proper thing. But it should not be interpreted as a prejudgment on the issue which is at present engaging the attention of the Sales Tax Enquiry Committee. He has only made minor adjustments in order to bring in line the sales tax schemes that were operating in the other areas with the one now in the former Bombay State.

Having said this, I want to say something about the tax on the bus passenger and luggage fares that is proposed to be levied. I am told that tomorrow we are going to get the relevant Taxation Bill and it may be that the proposed tax is so constructed that actually the burden may not be to the extent of 10 per cent. I was just now told by the Finance Secretary that we should wait till tomorrow to find out what actually would be the increase in the passenger fares or the luggage fares of passengers. We shall certainly wait till tomorrow, but quite apart from it I have to make a few observations. If we are to implement the Second Five-Year Plan, then additional sources of revenue have to be tapped and this is one of the sources that has come in handy. This is, however, not for the first time that this tax is being levied in any State. This tax, so far as the fares of passengers and their luggage are concerned, has already been levied in the other States. In 1950, a tax at the rate of two annas in a rupee was levied in Bihar on fares. In 1953, Madras levied such a tax at nine pies in the rupee and the Punjab had levied in 1952 a tax of one pie per anna on the passenger and luggage fare. These were the three States that levied taxation on the fares of passengers and their luggage, but not only this, these States and Assam taxed freight on the goods traffic by motor vehicles. It is my personal view that taking into consideration the present demand for goods traffic by motor vehicles, it might have been better to levy a tax on goods freight so that some relief could have possibly been given in the passenger fares which would be increased with the new tax. But I do not want to make any specific criticism of that aspect because I am awaiting the exact details in that behalf. I, however, feel that, if not now, some time in future, a tax would be levied on goods freight as there is an ever increasing need to augment the resources. After all, if we can bear a surcharge

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on railway fares, both in the matter of passenger fares and goods freight, certainly there is a case for tax on motor transport which is its counterpart and which provides larger transport facilities in the interior. It has been said "why tax the poor?" No doubt, in an under-developed economy, the first to be taxed would be the rich, but if it is said that people with smaller incomes shall not bear any taxation, then no improvement in their economic condition is possible. We must face facts as they are. Take the Budget of the Punjab. There the Finance Minister has come with taxes on the poor as well as on the rich. In Madras also there is some increase in taxation. Excepting one

7-00 p.m. State all other States in the country have deficit budgets and their Governments have come with new taxation

proposals.

Hon. the Finance Minister has dealt at length with the award of the Finance Commission.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would like to know whether the hon. Members would like to sit longer to-day; otherwise the House will adjourn now and meet tomorrow. (*After a pause.*) The House will now adjourn and meet tomorrow at 8-15 a.m.

(The House was adjourned at 7-05 p.m. till 8-15 a.m. on Saturday, the 8th March 1958).

Saturday, the 8th March, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 8-15 a.m. on Saturday, the 8th March, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(For Questions—See Part I).

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET—contd.

Shri A. R. BHAT (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, yesterday when the House rose I was saying something about the additional taxation and I was on the point of referring to the recommendations of the Finance Commission as they affected our State. As regards the new tax on the passenger fare and the luggage fare, I would only say that the Taxation Inquiry Commission did examine this question at length. They went into the total burden which is laid either on the passengers or the persons who carried their goods by motor vehicles and examined whether the burden of the said taxes in various States was equitable or not. I may say here that the Taxation Inquiry Commission found that the total burden of taxes on motor vehicles in the Madras State alone was not equitable and, therefore, they opined that there was obviously a case for reduction so far as the Madras State was concerned. The Bombay State did not come in for any criticism in that behalf.

Then, Sir, coming to the subject of recommendations of the Finance Commission, criticism has been levelled against what the critics have chosen to call the 'provincial' outlook of the Hon. Finance Minister. But, Sir, there is nothing 'provincial' about it. It is just trying to get as much as is possible from the common divisible pool. For instance, the Deshmukh Award did justice to our State, while the later Awards did not. Further, we do realise that, in a socialistic pattern of society, ultimately it is the population basis which will govern the distribution of the proceeds from the Income Tax. The position which our State has taken has been that it should be a gradual process so that we may be able to adjust our finances to the recommendations of the Finance Commissions. It has now been clearly stated by the Second Finance Commission that, on the next occasion, the proceeds of Income Tax assigned to States should be distributed entirely on the population basis. That is the picture of the future and, therefore, there is every justification for increasing the resources of our State by way of additional taxation. It has also been said that the taxation should be direct as far as possible but sometimes it is inevitable, in an underdeveloped economy, to levy indirect taxation. We are out to build a welfare economy and as far as possible we have resorted to direct taxation but further scope is limited and, therefore, I plead that indirect taxation will have to be resorted to. I have not been able to understand the injustice which the Finance Commission has done in regard to the distribution of the assigned portion of excise duties. If once the population basis was adopted, then it should have been adopted all round. There actually we have received less than what we should have on the population basis.

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There is one factor that should be taken into consideration. So far as the excise duties are concerned, it is not so much the population but the consumption of the particular goods in a State that should be the basis. As a matter of fact, the first Finance Commission had stated that, because they had no definite data in that behalf, they had gone on some kind of empirical basis and they had recommended that, during the next five years, the necessary survey should be undertaken, but it is unfortunate that even the second Finance Commission could not take consumption as the basis for the purpose of distribution of the divisible pool of excise duties. I, therefore, feel that our Government should represent to the Central Government that they should take steps immediately to find out the consumption of the various commodities in different States, so that it could be taken as the basis for the distribution of excise duties by the next Finance Commission when it is appointed, so that we will get due justice. I hope our Government will be alert in that respect.

Having said all this and taking into consideration the time at my disposal, I shall deal only with one important aspect of the Budget, namely, industrial development. In that connection, I should like to state that the Finance Minister has taken due credit for the advancement of industries, particularly large-scale industries, in our State. It has also been said that there has been considerable progress in the production of cloth as well as in the production of yarn, but the prospect of the leading large-scale industry does not seem to be bright. The present critical condition of at least some units is not so much due to the shortcomings of the Management as it is due to a certain taxation policy of the Central Government. There has been a complaint and there is some justification in it that the excise duties on different categories of cloth are neither rational nor reasonable. If they are so made, the cotton textile industry's health would materially improve. I shall not deal further with this aspect but only say this, that the unemployment which is already created and threatens to be created in the textile industry should receive anxious attention of our State Government, because whatever may be the policies of the Central Government, they affect industry in our part of the country. Two-thirds of the cotton mills are situated in the Bombay State. Taking this fact into consideration, our State Government ought to draw the attention of the Central Government to the grave unemployment situation that is prevailing at present.

It has been reported—and I do not think there is any ground for doubt in that behalf—that the former Chief Minister of this State, on a similar occasion, pleaded with the Central Government for a proper adjustment of the excise duties and he did succeed. We may hope that, on the present occasion, when our former Chief Minister happens to be the Commerce and Industry Minister at the Centre, if our present Chief Minister pleads with him and through him with the Prime Minister, some kind of relief may be forthcoming. There is another aspect of the excise duties on cotton cloth. The latest changes in the excise duty are forcing twelve big powerloom establishments in our State to curtail their production, which will, in consequence, aggravate the unemployment situation. That aspect also has to be taken into consideration and our

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Government should prepare a detailed note proving inequity in bracketting big powerloom factories with composite mills and forward it to the Central Government.

Sir, the Central Government has been doing its utmost for the development of small-scale and cottage industries, and our Government has also the other. State Governments have been charged with the responsibility of executing the various schemes that the Central Government has been formulating. Our Minister for Small and Cottage Industries has constituted a State Advisory Board and Divisional Boards. There is also the State Industries Advisory Council that is attached to the Department of Planning and Industries. What I would plead in that behalf is that, if these Councils are to function effectively, there must be periodical reports of the progress of the activities that have been undertaken by the State Government. I am very sorry to say that nothing of the kind is being done at the State level, while at the Central level we get periodical reports. We get a report of the action taken on the recommendations of the Advisory Council and what the various organisations and institutes have been doing for the development of small-scale industries. What we desire is this. The State Advisory Council for industries should be able to advise the State Government on the implementation and progress of the various schemes. If there are any difficulties, Government should bring them to the notice of the Advisory Council. In the absence of such progress reports, I regret to say that it is not possible to make any headway. I, therefore, request that such periodical reports on the schemes in their respective fields should be made available to the members of the State Industries Advisory Council as well as those of the Small and Cottage Industries Board.

Sir, I have one observation to make regarding the powerloom industry in our State. The Government of Bombay had done well in appointing the Powerloom Enquiry Committee whose report is now available. Government has communicated to the Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industries that the recommendations of that Committee have been accepted. If that is so, I am unable to understand why no action has been taken on a number of them and the Powerloom Board has not been established. One of the recommendations of that Committee is that, so far as largescale powerloom establishments are concerned, the present concessions in regard to excise duties enjoyed by them *vis-a-vis* the composite mills should be maintained. That has not been done by the Central Government. Attention may be drawn by our State Government to the said recommendations made by the Powerloom Enquiry Committee.

Then, Sir, regarding the scheme for a change over of handlooms to powerlooms, that programme seems to have been curtailed because the supply of powerlooms has been delayed. No reasons have been given for it. On the last occasion I was assured by the Hon. Minister for Planning, Shri Wankhede that, so far as the grant or loan under the conversion scheme was concerned, the basis would be the same in the entire State. I shall be grateful if some indication is given with regard to the grant or loan that would be given to

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each handloom weaver for the conversion of his handloom into powerloom. I should also like to know the exact programme that is likely to be implemented. I am afraid there is not much enthusiasm for the scheme of conversion.

There is one more point, and that is with regard to the Directorate of Mining. While the Finance Minister has not referred to it in his speech, it has been stated in the "Outline of Activities" that this Department has undertaken a detailed prospecting of bauxite deposits in the Udgiri area in the Kolhapur District. As has already been declared by the Hon. Minister for Planning and Industries, while addressing the Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industries at Poona, our Government is very keen on having an aluminium plant in order to exploit bauxite deposits near Kolhapur. Sir, the Government of India had appointed a Committee, called the "Aluminium Committee". That Committee was presided over by Shri Nagraj Rao, Industrial Adviser to the Government of India. It was to make recommendations about the location of the aluminium plants to be undertaken during the Second Five Year Plan. Two projects with a capacity of 10,000 tons each have been recommended for establishment at Rihard and Mettur. So far as the third project is concerned, it would be for the exploitation of bauxite round about Kolhapur. But, Sir, the real difficulty in its promotion, as pointed out by the Aluminium Committee, is that the bauxite deposits are distributed over a large area where communications are not developed and the power is not cheap enough. I would therefore urge that since Government is seriously thinking of having an aluminium plant in the Kolhapur area, which is a major project which can give employment on a large scale and also impetus to industrial activity in an area where it is a crying need, it should see to it that communications are properly developed, and the second stage of the Koyna Project is taken up immediately the first is completed, so that when the third Five Year Plan is prepared, it may not be said that because either cheap power is not being made available or because there are no communications, the Kolhapur Project cannot be included in the Third Five-Year Plan.

With these words, Sir, I have done.

(Shri M. V. DONDE *rose*).

The CHAIRMAN: Before the Hon. Member Shri Donde begins to offer his remarks, I wish to make it clear that there are about seven Hon. Members who want to take part in the debate. The Hon. Minister for Finance will at least require two hours. So, I hope the Hon. Member Shri Donde will be as brief as possible.

Shri M. V. DONDE (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I assure you that I shall be as brief as I possibly can.

Let me start, Sir, with a word of congratulation to Government on its removing the burden of entertainment tax on dramatic performances. Sir, this has been a persistent demand for all these years and last year I remember very well that not only the Hon. Members from this side but also my Hon. Friend Shri Babubhai Chinai put forward a very strong claim for removing this entertainment tax on the dramatic performances on the ground that it

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was unjust and unfair. If we take into consideration the income that is derived by way of entertainment tax on dramatic performances, we will find that practically a very small amount used to be received by the State treasury by taxing the dramatic performances. Government has now taken a very laudable step and I have my hearty congratulations to offer to Government for this bold step.

Sir, I can say that still something more can be done in this respect. Dramatic performances are now being exempted; but tamashas and lectures are still under the burden of entertainment tax. Government is very keen on making tamashas very popular for the purpose of carrying the message of our Second Five Year Plan and other development schemes to the villages, because tamashas are a very powerful medium for that purpose. I would, therefore, request Government to take this fact into consideration also.

Sir, Government is at present levying entertainment tax on lectures. I do not know why lectures are considered on par with dramatic performances or cinemas. Generally moneys are raised by holding lectures because it is necessary to balance the expenditure that is incurred. I would say that Government policy is a wrong policy. It is really taxing what we call knowledge. Therefore, I would request Government to take as early as possible the step of removing this burden of entertainment tax from tamashas and public lectures. If this tax is removed, then I would say that Government would be giving support and encouragement to such cultural activities. When this tax was first imposed, I led deputations on behalf of different organizations and waited upon Hon. the Chief Minister on several occasions during the last 15 years and we requested him to exempt dramatic performances from the payment of entertainment tax. I am glad that Government has taken note of public opinion and I may say that Government has taken this step in response to the pressure of public opinion. I am saying this not only in this House, but I may inform Government that very soon, on the 14th of this month, there is going to take place a very big function of dramatic artistes to congratulate Government on this very courageous step. This function is being held to express gratitude for the good thing which Government has done.

Sir, I also congratulate Government on the bold fight it has given to the Government of India so far as the finances of this State are concerned. We have been very shabbily treated by the Finance Commission. Although we have played our part very well beyond our expectations as pointed out by Hon. the Minister for Finance in his speech, I do not know why the Government of India and the Finance Commission should have taken such an unfavourable attitude towards the Bombay State. We have been told that it was the Bombay Government alone among the State Governments which has not only fulfilled but actually exceeded the target of additional taxation during the First Five Year Plan. We have been told that, out of 17 items of taxes, we have tapped 15 items and in this way, so far as the moral and financial responsibilities are concerned, they have been fulfilled beyond expectations. But still I do not see why there is so much reluctance on the

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part of the Government of India in giving us our dues. Sir, we have been told that we are making provision for the Second Five Year Plan and I think ours will be the only State which can take upon itself the responsibility of doing whatever is possible to see that good progress is made in respect of the various scheme during the Five Year Plan periods. I, therefore, congratulate Hon. the Finance Minister and the Government of Bombay on their taking up this matter with the Government of India and it is worth while going still farther and saying to the Government of India that this will have a very unfortunate reaction on the public mind. Now unfair treatment to one State as against the other States will certainly have, what we call, emotional disintegration of the people so far as the nation is concerned and there will be a day when it might result in frustration, that with all our efforts at having this national feeling of national integration, we have been very unfairly treated.

Sir, I differ from my Hon. Friend Shri Bhat when he says that population should be the basis for the purpose of allocating the amount of compensation. I do not entirely agree with him. I do feel however, that population has got everything to do with it ; but the most important thing which should be taken into consideration is the need of a particular State. That is very important. We have got in different re-organised States different conditions and we expect that the need of the States would be taken into consideration while allocating compensation to them. We are anxious to have one consolidated State of progress for the whole nation. The backward States will have to be given some weightage so far as the finances are concerned and we cannot go on simply on the basis of population. The basis really ought to be, and I think the most scientific basis should be, the needs of that particular State and, therefore, I wholeheartedly support the attitude taken up by Government.

Sir, so far as the speech of Hon. the Finance Minister is concerned, it is really an elaborate attempt to put before this House and also before the public what exists at present. It is simply, according to me, a statement of the present position and, therefore, I do feel that, with all the efforts that he has made to impress upon this House and the public that these are the progressive things done, not much has been done to show that the country is rapidly moving towards progress. The other day the Prime Minister found it appropriate to describe the Budget of the Government of India as "a pedestrian Budget". That means going on, going on any how. The same can be the description of this Budget which simply allows the administration to go on.

8-45. a. m.

I shall now refer to the new policy of Government of putting additional taxation. I for one, without going into the merits of the different items of the proposal, would say that there is absolutely no need for additional taxation, in this sense, that the deficit for which the additional taxation has been proposed can easily be made good. What is the position? We have been told that there is a deficit of about Rs. 2 crores. Now, what is our income? Our income is Rs. 120 crores. Is it not possible that, within a Budget of

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Rs. 120 crores, a sum of Rs. 2 crores can be covered? I think it can easily be found out to meet the deficit. If we talk in terms of percentage, then the deficit represents hardly $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The Government of India also makes an allowance for such a kind of deficit. The Government of India has a deficit of Rs. 32 crores, and a deficit of Rs. 27 crores out of that deficit has been left uncovered because of the possibility of getting more income. Usually, income is under-estimated, and from the actual figures that we have, it will be possible to show that every time we have been able to exceed our expectations so far as the receipts are concerned. Therefore, this deficit of Rs. 2 crores could very well be left uncovered and in a Budget of Rs. 120 crores, I think there should not be any necessity of putting additional burden on the people.

As regards the different items from which Government proposes to raise additional income, the items, according to me, are objectionable from this point of view, namely, that almost all those items which are going to be the sources of additional income affect rural life. We want all the cities that are now overgrown to extend. If at all people travelling from one place to another are going to be burdened with this additional tax, it becomes a very serious hardship particularly upon the population that is outside the big cities in the rural areas. It is good that the principal areas have been exempted, but so far as the general travelling public outside the cities is concerned, I think Government has not acted wisely or well in imposing what we call the "passengers' and luggage tax". Therefore, my point of contention is, firstly, it is absolutely not necessary and it is the general principle of taxation that you have to tax people and raise money from them not beyond the necessities of the particular situation. You may have some reserve funds here and there, and you cannot tax this generation with a view to have large surpluses for the next generation. That cannot be done. Therefore it is not only unjust and unfair, but I think it is unwise that Government should have resorted to this additional taxation.

I will now make a reference to the last year's Budget. Last time various constructive suggestions were made from this side of the House. Generally, it has been our complaint that suggestions are always thrown to the winds and Government is, as it were, determined not to take notice of the suggestions. I remember last time I made three or four suggestions and I have found that these suggestions appear to have been advertently or inadvertently adopted by Government. Firstly, I said last time that it was difficult to understand why the Poona Reay Museum was given a grant of Rs. 5,000 from the Forest Department. It was shown so in the last budget and I said that I failed to understand why the grant to the Museum should have come from the Forest Department. It was really a discrepancy, and I find that this time in the Budget that grant is not shown with reference to the Forest Department. Let me hope however, that that grant has not been eliminated altogether but that it finds a place somewhere in the Budget.

Last time I also made the complaint that there are hundreds of items shown as "Miscellaneous items" and that a sum of nearly Rs. 8 to 12 crores was shown under "Miscellaneous Items". That was objected to because under

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miscellaneous items anything can come and, therefore, this House is deprived of knowing details as to how that amount is spent. Therefore, I made the complaint last year, and I am happy to find this time that the number of miscellaneous items has been considerably reduced.

Then, Sir, last time I also made the complaint that receipts under the Sales Tax were not shown under a separate head but under "Other Receipts". Income from that source, last year, was, I think, more than Rs. 21 crores and, therefore, I said that such an important source of income ought to be shown under a separate appropriate head, but should not be included in what is called "Other Receipts". This time I am very happy to find that Sales Tax receipts have been separately shown and not mixed up with "Other Receipts" like last year.

Then, Sir, very strong exception was taken by me last time to an item of expenditure, and that was as regards the Secretariat annexe. I do not find any mention about that here. I do not know what has happened to the provision. The sum provided for the purpose was, if I mistake not, Rs. 50 lakhs. Secondly, I remember that Government was very particular last time to spend Rs. 50 lakhs on the Secretariat annexe and Rs. 20 lakhs for a hostel. Speaking, subject to correction, I fail to find out in this bulky volume the two provisions or what happened to them. Even if the whole amount had been spent, we should have some information about it here. Or, even if a partial provision has been spent, that should find a place here. Therefore, I take it that Government has taken a very good decision in submitting to the pressure of public opinion on some of these points, and, therefore, I am very happy that Government has been more and more mindful of the criticism levelled from this side of the House.

Then, I will make a few remarks here and there on the different items in the Budget. Firstly, so far as educational head is concerned, it has been pointed out that Rs. 20,000, which represents a small amount, is shown as receipts from fees for primary education. I still fail to understand this, when we are having free and compulsory primary education. We are proud of the fact that we here, in the whole of the country, have taken this advanced step. Therefore, why should this paltry amount be taken from the public of the State by way of fees for primary education? We are very anxious to see that we fulfil the directive of the Constitution of India, and I am very happy to inform this House that the Bombay Corporation has taken a very bold step in that respect. They have announced, in spite of financial difficulties that children up to the age of 14 will not be charged any fees in municipal schools. That means nearly three lakhs of children are going to get advantage of that. Therefore, I would like Hon. the Education Minister to adopt a policy by which no fees could be collected from primary students.

Another point that struck me is this: In the Education Budget there is a provision on the receipt side of Rs. 41 lakhs on account of overpayments. I fail to understand the working of the administration in this connection as to how so much overpayment was made. This is not a small amount of a couple

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of lakhs of rupees here and there but it is Rs. 41 lakhs. This is a very big slice. We appoint several auditors, accountants and assistant accountants. In spite of that, how did this happen? Now Government is expecting to recover the amount. In some cases these overpayments have been made to the primary teachers, and now Government expects that they should repay the amount. So, if a primary teacher might be drawing Rs. 50 per month for the recovery of overpayment, he will have to pay an instalment of Rs. 40 per month. That has been done in the past. This would really be a heartless thing, that a man drawing Rs. 50 per month should be asked to pay an instalment of Rs. 40 per month out of his total emolument of Rs. 50 per month. Whose fault was it that he was overpaid? It was certainly not his fault but it was the fault of somebody else working in the administration side. This, according to me, is a very great slur on the administration side.

Then, Sir, so far as the secondary schools are concerned, I find that there are very few Government Secondary Schools. But in the Budget, curiously enough, more provision is made for clerks and servants in Secondary Schools than for teachers. I fail to understand as to what kind of proportion is there between these two things. There is an increase of 4 to 5 times in the provision for the clerks and other servants in Secondary Schools run by Government. I do not know as to why it is being permitted to be done. Similarly, we find that there is an increase in the temporary establishment, which is nearly three times. What is the idea behind this? Are we going to run the schools more or less on a temporary basis? What are these temporary appointments for and why to this extent?

Then, Sir, I might mention that on one occasion the Hon. Minister said that, for the implementation of the different schemes under the Second Five-Year Plan, we are in need of a large technical personnel. It was pointed out at that time that immediately 300 overseers and 1,000 sub-overseers were needed and it was said that the number of technical personnel then working would be doubled within 3 years. I would like to know from Government whether any definite steps have been taken by Government so far to impart engineering education in the State. When we once admit that there is a dearth of technical personnel and then we admit that it is necessary that we should have such a large number of trained overseers and sub-overseers, I do not find any special provision made in the Budget showing any special efforts on the part of the Government to spread engineering education.

Then, Sir, I would refer to the Forest Department. My idea in referring to it is this: According to me we have not been paying that much attention to the growth of forests in the State which we should have paid. On the forests depend the rains and if the rains are not there, what is the use of our dams and our hydraulic schemes? Is it not necessary that we should make special efforts to see that more provision is made for afforestation? If we make a beginning now, then after ten years we might reap the advantage of it because the trees do not grow overnight. Therefore, in order to make our many hydraulic schemes successful, on which we have spent large amounts,

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it is absolutely necessary to see that some amount is spent also on the plantation of trees. We have no quarrel about the money spent on hydraulic schemes. But we must see that there is water that can be stored there; otherwise the whole money will be wasted. I simply mentioned this point because I want Government to take note of the fact that we have to spend something on the forests also.

Then, Sir, a complaint has been made that we are spending more on the Police. This complaint is very serious. I think that ours is the State which spends the largest amount on the Police Department. We are spending more than Rs. 12 crores on the Police. Is it worthwhile spending such a large amount on them? Why is it that our State only is required to have such a large personnel in the Police Department? Our expenditure on the Police Department is increasing. Does that, in any way give any advantage to us? We who are living in this enlarged Bombay State also find it very difficult to move about freely in some localities in spite of there being such a big provision for the Police. The protection is inadequate and this is a matter which Government should consider. The Government comes forward and says here that crime is not increasing. But do people really believe that crime is decreasing? What is the necessity of spending such a large amount on the Police? Government is spending such a large amount on public safety and protection, but is there anything like public safety so far as most of the citizens are concerned?

Then, Sir, I would make a passing reference to the expenditure on the Governor and his establishment. A provision of nearly Rs. 8,27,000 has been made for the Governor and the Legislative Assembly. As I said, I am particularly referring to the Governor's establishment. Is this expenditure in keeping with, what is called, the socialistic pattern of society? I would, therefore, request Government to reconsider this matter.

Then I would refer to the Small Savings Scheme. We have set a target of acquiring Rs. 100 crores in one year by way of public contribution to the Small Savings Scheme. During the last ten months we have been able to collect Rs. 38 crores. Our target is, of course, much higher, but during the course of the last ten months we have been able to collect an amount of Rs. 37 to Rs. 38 crores. I am making a liberal calculation. In the next two months we may be able to get another Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 crores more, which again is a very very extravagant and liberal calculation. That means we shall be able to get, with great difficulty, an amount of Rs. 50 crores when our target is Rs. 100 crores. I would like the Hon. Minister to enlighten me as to why this thing has happened. Is it that our calculation of the target of Rs. 100 crores an extravagant and a baseless calculation, or are there any difficulties in the matter? I would say that this scheme is not being properly administered. First of all this money is expected from the middle class. Is the middle class in a position to lay by any surplus when the cost of living has increased abnormally? It is certainly, therefore, a wild expectation that the middle class should contribute towards the Small Savings Scheme. Their incomes have increased no doubt, but their expenditure also has increased beyond all calculation.

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There is one very small but an important point which I want to make. Those who hold the Small Savings Certificates are treated by Government officials as debtors; they are treated indifferently and contemptuously as if they are debtors. They are not debtors. They are the creditors of Government and the attitude which the ordinary bankers or ordinary banks show towards these small depositors is one which Government adopts. I will point out here one instance. Whenever, a Small Savings Certificate holder goes to ask for the interest that is due to him—the monies are his; he is the creditor and Government is the debtor; interest is assured to him—what are the difficulties? He has to face a lot of harassment. He is asked to show his income-tax certificate, and unless the authorities concerned are satisfied that he has got a proper income-tax certificate, the amount of interest is not given to him, because it is thought perhaps that this amount of interest may upset the whole calculation so far as income-tax receipts are concerned and, therefore, every small holder coming from the middle class has been harassed. I am pointing this out because I have heard of so many complaints from people who have gone in for Small Savings Certificates.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member may try to be brief.

Shri M. V. DONDE: Sir, within a very short span of time it is difficult to do justice. I have expressed my views so far as some of the important items are concerned.

I know fully well that the speech of Hon. the Finance Minister makes very interesting reading, but it leaves an impression in one's mind that these taxes are imposed when it is not at all necessary to do so. Secondly, there is very little to enthuse over the speech of Hon. the Finance Minister because it is simply a catalogue of events. The way in which some of the Departments are allowed to run is, according to me, rather dangerous. It has left an impression in the mind of the public that, so far as Bombay State is concerned, the Government of India has been very unjust and unfair towards it. One of the hon. Members on this side made a suggestion that the Finance Minister ought to have resigned on this issue. That would certainly have been a perfectly constitutional step, but that would be possible only when the party that rules at the Centre and the party that rules in the State are two different parties. If that was the case, then such a situation might arise. It may happen in Kerala, it may happen sometimes in some other States also, but when you come under the heavy rod of iron discipline, it is too much to expect any kind of bold step being taken by the present Government, but it would have been, according to me, a perfectly legitimate step and it would have been something to the credit of Government for which the public would have thanked it. I am not merely laying emphasis upon the resignation. I am laying emphasis upon the fact that it is a just grievance and that such a just grievance has to be attended to, whoever may be at the top of the Union Government; the mightiest personalities may be there, but we, the five crores of people of this State, have been taxed and taxed unnecessarily, just because

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of the whims and the partial treatment of the Union Government. I strongly join in the protest in my own way and I do appreciate the bold step taken by the Government of Bombay.

These, Sir, were the few remarks that I wanted to make on the Budget estimates presented to this House.

Shri C. D. BARFIVALA (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra West Local Authorities): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would refer to Hon. the Finance Minister's speech, and particularly to paragraph 33 thereof, wherein two or three different statements have been made. I am glad that the Hon. Minister for Village Panchayats is present in the House and I shall refer only to that subject. One of the statements that has been made is that Government proposes to appoint village panchayat secretaries instead of allowing the village panchayats themselves to do so; secondly, the village panchayat secretaries will hereafter be paid for by Government, and thirdly, the audit of village panchayats will be conducted by Government and not by the District Local Board. These are the three statements that have been made. A brief reference here to the history of village panchayat secretaries may be instructive and perhaps very interesting too.

In the pre-British period, it is well known that the village headman was absolutely a servant of the village panchayat and the cause of the downfall of the village panchayat has been mentioned by all historians, namely, the transfer of allegiance of the secretary or the village headman to Government from the village panchayat. That is a definite statement that has been made and accepted by every historian, that Government deprived Village Panchayats of the allegiance of the Village headman or secretary and transferred it to Government and that was a sure way to its downfall. That is the one proposition which has never been challenged.

Now, Sir, let us go further. Right from Lord Ripon down to the Reforms one proposition was settled, namely, that internal control should be abolished; you may put all kinds of external control, but not internal control. In 1915 there was the resolution of Lord Hardinge. Then Lord Montagu's resolution of 1918 was of a fundamental character. Then you come to the Reforms of 1919. The first Village Panchayat Act was the Act of 1920. I am talking only of the position of village panchayat secretary in the said Act. That Act laid down that the village panchayat secretary shall be appointed by District Local Board itself. Now, Sir, what has happened? All along we have been talking of the proposition that the District Local Boards are to be linked with the village panchayats. Here, under the present reforms, we are divorcing them. I will come to that afterwards. In 1933 we make an amendment to this proposition. We say that the District Local Boards should not confirm the appointment of the secretary but that it should be done by the Standing Committee of the Board, because it is a smaller body and it can consider the proposition properly, but still we do not see Government entering the field. Now we go further. After diarchy, we go to Provincial Autonomy. The Village Panchayat Act is again revised in 1938. What is done then? We are told that, in that autonomy, we should have panchayats standing on

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their own legs. That is what we, in fact, tried to do. But then what happened, Sir? In about 1939 another amendment comes. At this time there was our own party which was in power and in this House and in the lower House a proposition was moved that Government

should appoint a village panchayat secretary. That proposition was carried through. But with what effect? Within about 8 years or so another amendment comes in. And what do we find then? Then our late Vartaksahab, who was then the Minister for Local Self-Government, was there; our Morarjibhai was also there; and if I remember rightly, Chairman, Sir, you were there and took a prominent part in the discussion in the matter. What was the result? Vartaksahab said that the village panchayat secretary being appointed by Government lost all regard for the village panchayats. The village panchayats were not working properly because of this proposition. He also maintained that, even if Government pays the whole salary of the Secretary to the village panchayat, still the position will not improve. Morarjibhai supported it. Morarjibhai was again questioned by some of the hon. Members "Some years ago you supported this and now is it that now you want to say that the appointment should be made by the village panchayat?" Morarjibhai definitely said that village panchayats must be made to shoulder the responsibility. Government does not want to interfere in the working of the village panchayats. If the village panchayats do not want a secretary appointed by Government, Government will not foist him on them. Vartaksahab said to the effect that "Don't pay the salary of the Secretary; even if the whole salary is paid, there will be dissatisfaction. You will have to change your notions." Morarjibhai said to the effect that "I have got ample powers. If the village panchayat goes wrong, Government will proceed to supersede it and appoint an Administrator." And now what is happening? In spite of all these arguments, Government is going to appoint the secretary of the village panchayats. What is now said is that everything is wrong; Morarjibhai was wrong; Vartaksahab was wrong and we, after reorganisation, feel that Government should step in. I do not understand why Government should step in. An argument that might perhaps be advanced is that now we are doing planning work. Some planning work will have to be done as recommended by the Balwantrai Committee; so many things are recommended by that Committee; how can you put them into effect? The heading of the report is "Democratic decentralisation". I do not know how that caption can be justified by the contents of the report itself. It is just the other way round. Sir, our Prime Minister Panditji, when he read the report, was very much perturbed. Panditji said "Why do you want to introduce officialism in the village Panchayats?" I have got with me the speech of Panditji here. I will not, however, read it out now because the time at my disposal is very short. Panditji said "If you want to introduce officialism in the village panchayats, the man who will go there as secretary will not be a servant but he will become a boss."

Then, the Balwantrai Committee has made another proposition, which is a very funny proposition. It is said that the distinction between officials and non-officials must be given up. It is a funny thing. I have not seen or heard

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this in England or anywhere else where democracy is thoroughly established. The Committee says that in effect, the stage has come when there should be no objections to official interference. I do not know how the Ministry will be justified in accepting such a proposal. But I must congratulate Government on its making a statement; it has given a warning in the beginning itself. It will take some months before a Bill embodying the above proposal is introduced. We know now what the intention of Government is. So there is enough time for the public to tell Government that what they are going to do is a wrong thing. I am sure the people of the Bombay State will not be slow to agitate over this point. This method of Government resembles the methods adopted by the Nizam to which Bombay is not accustomed.

An hon. MEMBER: What about Vidarbha?

Shri C. D. BARFIVALA: I am asked about Vidarbha. What is there in Vidarbha? We are most democratic people and we will not tolerate it. I may tell you, Sir, that the Opposition may support it because their ideal of democracy may be different from what I believe it to be.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR: Why don't you join hands with the Opposition on this issue?

Shri C. D. BARFIVALA: No, I won't do so. There is one thing about it. During the last Session at Poona I protested against the introduction of officialised Cadre-system. The Opposition opposed me. I must, therefore, say that I am not with the Opposition, nor the Opposition is with me.

Then, Sir, there is one thing more.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member may please bear in mind that the time at his disposal is very short.

Shri C. D. BARFIVALA: Sir, I will try to finish early.

What is the meaning of appointment by Government? Who appoints? It is, what one may call, an administrative fallacy—an institutional fallacy—to say that Government appoints. Who, in fact, appoints? Is it that the Minister appoints? Does the Parliament or Legislature come in? Who comes in? Who appoints? Not even the Collector. Not even the Mamlatdar. The person who makes the appointment of the secretary of the village panchayat is the Aval Karkun. The Aval Karkun says "In my village so and so is a very good man". The higher authorities say "Alright, appoint him". So, it is an appointment by a last officer in a village, because the Collectors and the other officers are not supposed to know the conditions in villages. Is this appointment independent and in any way better than the one made by the Panchayats? The appointments by the panchayats are a result of a parallelogram of forces. Let us admit of parties, factions, etc. Moreover, there will be corrections by the village itself if the appointment

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is of a wrong person. Is there any Act anywhere in the world to support this type of democracy? I submit, Sir, "No". There might be some Acts in some other States. Supporting this method of appointment. I believe that we should never follow a reactionary policy of the South. In Madras and Andhra they have done one thing better than what Government here are proposing to do. They have thought of appointing officers in "A" class village panchayats, in villages the population of which is about 5,000 and the income of the village panchayat is Rs. 10,000 or more. Let us not fall in line with them. We are in a State where we have been following the principles of Mahatmaji. Let us not forget that.

श्री बच्छराज एस. व्यास (विदर्भ स्नातक): माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं बजट के बारे में अपने विचार प्रकट करने के समय, अपने अर्थ मंत्री महोदय ने जो भाषण दिया है, उसके पृष्ठ ३१ में जो लिखा है उसका पहले उल्लेख करना चाहता हूँ। उन्होंने उसमें कहा है—

"During current year there has been a general decline in net collections of small shavings for the country as a whole and also in our State, compared to the net collections during the last year."

इस ओर ध्यान दिलाने समय मैं यह पूछना चाहूँगा कि इसका अर्थ हमारे माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने और सरकार ने क्या लगाया है। क्या इसका मतलब है कि जनता में आपकी स्कीमों के कारण कुछ तरक्की हुई और कुछ पैसे की बहुतायत हो गई है या उसका यह मतलब है कि जनता में गरीबी आई है। जनता की पैसे देने की शक्ति कम हो गई है। यदि आप इस बात को मानते हैं कि शक्ति सब की कम है, तो कहीं न कहीं यह जो अधिक खर्चा करने की दौड़ है और यह जो अधिक से अधिक टैक्स लगाने की प्रवृत्ति है, उसको रोकना पड़ेगा अन्यथा हम देश को उलटी दिशा में ले जाएंगे।

वास्तव में जब देश स्वतंत्र हुआ उस समय इस देश में जो पूंजी अंग्रेज छोड़कर गए और जिसका कांग्रेस सरकार ने उपयोग किया उसके लिए कहीं ऐसा न हो कि शासन को कहना पड़े कि हमने वृकान्दारी बंद कर दी क्योंकि व्यापार में घाटा आया और हमारा व्यापार लिक्विडेशन (Liquidation) में आ गया। एक बात विदित होती है कि इस देश के साधनों का ख्याल न करते हुए एक स्वप्न कल्पना में हमारी सरकार ने देखा और प्रथम पंचवर्षीय योजना तथा द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना की सफलता कागजों में देखी और व्यवहार में चूँकि असफलता रही इसी कारण आज स्थिति यह है कि असेम्बली में और परिषद् में हम कहते हैं कि जनता जो सोचती है और सरकार जो समझती है उसके अन्दर इतना अन्तर है कि उसका सम्भालना बहुत कठिन हो गया है।

पहली पंचवर्षीय योजना में कहा गया था कि हम अन्नोत्पादन के बारे में सेल्फ सफिशेंट हो गए लेकिन उसके बाद भी आज हम कहाँ हैं। यदि यह पंचवर्षीय योजना का बड़ा ढाँचा जो केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा चलता है इसी तरह आगे बढ़ता है तो बड़ी भयानक परिस्थिति ला देगा। मैं इस विषय में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि पंचवर्षीय योजना का ढाँचा जिसे कार्यान्वित करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार को खर्चा देना चाहिए अगर उसके खर्च का बोझ जनता पर डाला जाता है तो जनता उसे सहन नहीं कर सकेगी, इसको हम भूल जाते हैं। इसलिए मैं कहूँगा कि हमें अपने सब खर्च कम करने की आवश्यकता

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है। इसके लिए जैसा मेरे एक माननीय मित्र ने बताया मिनिस्टर्स की संख्या कम करनी चाहिए। क्योंकि जब मिनिस्टर्स की संख्या बढ़ती है तब उनके सचिवों की संख्या कैसे कम होगी और फिर उनके नीचे काम करने वाले स्टाफ की संख्या तो और भी बढ़ी रहेगी। अगर सचमुच सरकार का इरादा है इस राज्य को वेलफेयर स्टेट बनाने का तो सब से अच्छी बात यह होती कि अपनी सरकार इस बात पर जोर देती कि खर्च में बचत की जाय और उसके लिए बेकार के खर्च कम करती और एक आदर्श उपस्थित करती। मैं सम्माननीय सदन तथा सम्माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय के प्रति अपना आदर व्यक्त करते हुए अपना यह मत प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ कि खर्च कम करने के लिए अपर चेम्बर नाम की यह जो संस्था है सरकार उसे कम से कम अपने प्रान्त में खतम करके ५ लाख रुपए साल की बचत करती। शायद यह बात कुछ को अच्छी न लगे लेकिन इसके सम्बन्ध में जो मेरे विचार हैं उन्हें मैं व्यक्त करना चाहता हूँ। इस हाऊस की आवश्यकता इसलिए नहीं है क्योंकि विधान सभा तो है ही, जो जनता द्वारा चुनी गई है। यह मेरा ख्याल है, अन्यथा अपर चेम्बर की व्याख्या ठीक से समझाने का प्रयत्न किया जाए, और बताया जाये कि इसकी क्या आवश्यकता है। अगर अपर चेम्बर को खतम किया होना या सरकार ने उसके लिए कदम उठाया होता तो ठीक था। यह हमारा दुर्भाग्य है कि गवर्नमेंट के सपने जितने बनते हैं उनमें खर्च बढ़ाने का रास्ता ढूँढा जाता है। जितनी भी योजनाएं आती हैं वे सब खर्च बढ़ाने की ही होती हैं, कम करने की नहीं।

हमारी सरकार के निवेदन के एक भाग में आया है कि हमारा यह जो महा द्विभाषिक है उस राज्य की स्थापना के लिए और केवल सरकारी नौकरों के इन्टीग्रेशन के लिए ३ करोड़ रुपए का खर्च होने वाला है। मैं पूछता हूँ कि आपने इसे राज्य को इतना बड़ा बनाया क्यों है। जब हम झोपड़ी में रहते हैं तो महलों का स्वप्न क्यों देखें। जब हमारे पास साधन नहीं बड़े काम करने के लिए तो फिर बड़े बड़े स्वप्न क्यों देखते हैं। बड़े देश चीन और अमरीका की तरफ देखना और अपने घर की हालत नहीं देखना यह बिल्कुल गलत बात है। मेरा ख्याल है कि महाद्विभाषिक बनने से सौराष्ट्र और कच्छ जो हैं उनकी कुछ समस्याएँ शायद हल हुई होंगी क्योंकि वे घाटे के प्रान्त थे। लेकिन वह घाटे की बात विदर्भ के साथ लागू नहीं होती। इस महाद्विभाषिक में मिलने के बाद हमारे सामने जो समस्या आई है वह यह है कि हमें सुख नहीं मिला है। हमें महाद्विभाषिक में दुख ही मिला है। अभी कल खुद कांग्रेस के माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा कि नागपुर की हालत बड़ी खराब है। उन्होंने कहा कि विदर्भ कन्या का विवाह जैसा हुआ है और फिर उन्होंने कृष्ण का वर्णन किया कि वह सौराष्ट्र में आकर बसे। उनकी १६००८ रानियां थीं। जिनमें विदर्भ कन्या भी एक थी। वह पत्नी पवित्रता की मूर्ति थी इसलिए उसे बहुत कष्ट उठाना पड़ा। इसी प्रकार से कांग्रेस हाई कमांड से लेकर नीचे तक के लोगों ने विदर्भ का फायदा उठाना चाहा।

जब कायदों का इन्टीग्रेशन किया या नौकरों का इन्टीग्रेशन किया तो जो विदर्भ वालों को फायदा मिलने की चीज थी उसे पहले नहीं किया। कायदों के इन्टीग्रेशन की परिस्थिति यह है कि अब तक जितना इन्टीग्रेशन होता है तो उसमें विदर्भ को जो फायदा हो सकता है उसको नहीं लिया जाता और जो नुकसान की चीज होती है उसे तुरन्त ले लिया जाता है। मैं राज्य के जिस हिस्से से आया हूँ वहाँ की हालत को हम देखते हैं तो वहाँ के लोग जब एकान्त में बात करते हैं तो उससे यही मालूम होता है कि उनके अन्दर सेंस आफ फ्रस्ट्रेशन (Sense of frustration) पैदा हो गया है। उनकी ऐसी निराशाजनक परिस्थिति है कि वह सोचते हैं कि इस राज्य में नहीं आते तो अच्छा था।

[श्री. बच्छराज एस्. व्यास]

जो सेल्स टैक्स का कायदा यहाँ पर लागू है उसे अब विदर्भ में भी लागू किया जाने वाला है। यहाँ पर यह कहा गया है कि सबसे एफीशेंट डिपार्टमेंट सेल्स टैक्स डिपार्टमेंट है। लेकिन स्थिति यह है कि विदर्भ के लोगों ने जब सेल्स टैक्स के वहाँ पर लागू रहने की डबल पद्धति (मध्यप्रदेश-बम्बई) के विरुद्ध तरह तरह के रिप्रेजेंटेशन किए तब सरकार ने उस पर विचार करने के लिए और इन्टीग्रेशन के सम्बन्ध में विचार करने के लिए एक कमेटी एप्वाइंट की। लेकिन उसकी रिपोर्ट अब तक आई नहीं है।

इस समय व्यापार की स्थिति यह है नागपुर में कि वह कम होता जा रहा है और व्यापारियों में बड़ी बेचैनी फैली हुई है। वहाँ की स्थिति की कल्पना यहाँ सदन में बैठे हुए नहीं हो सकती। वहाँ के व्यापारियों से मिलकर और जनता की हालत को जाकर देखने की जब यंत्री महोदय कोशिश करेंगे तब उनकी हालत मालूम होगी। अब विदर्भ में मनोवृत्ति पैदा हो रही है कि महाद्विभाषिक में बेकार आ गए। महाराष्ट्र प्राप्त करने का भी संतोष न हुआ। कई कहने लगे हैं कि हमको यदि अपना छोटा विदर्भ दे दिया जाता तो वही अच्छा था। उस समय विदर्भ देने की बात पर हमने विरोध किया था लेकिन अब महाद्विभाषिक में सभी पछता रहे हैं। क्या सरकार जानबूझकर विदर्भ में महाराष्ट्र विरोधी भावना पैदा करना चाहती है?

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member has only three minutes more to conclude his remarks.

श्री. बच्छराज एस्. व्यास: मैंने जैसी आपके सामने विदर्भ की परिस्थिति रखी वैसी ही नागपुर की परिस्थिति है, जिसे अब मैं रखना चाहता हूँ। वहाँ पर एक सड़क स्टेशन रोड वहाँ की स्टेशन के पीछेसे कांटन मार्केट तक जाती है। १५ वर्ष से यह विचार चल रहा है कि उसके सुधारने की जिम्मेदारी किसकी है। सरकार की है या कांफ़रिशन की है। एक दूसरा रास्ता भंडारा रोड है उसकी भी यही हालत है।

अपनी यह सरकार एफीशेंट सरकार होने का दावा करती है लेकिन वस्तुस्थिति ऐसी नहीं है। हमारे यहाँ नागपुर के डी. सी. ने एक पुराने पब्लिक ट्रस्ट के सम्बन्ध में ट्रस्ट पंजीयन करने के लिए ए. डी. सी. को पावर्स दे दीं। बाद में हाई कोर्ट ने फंसला दिया कि डी. सी. का इस प्रकार अपने अधिकार का डेलीगेशन करना गलत है। इस लिए ऐसे ट्रस्टों का ए. डी. सी. द्वारा रजिस्ट्रेशन गलत माना गया। इसलिए पब्लिक ट्रस्ट ने उस समय जो लोग पर दावे किये और धर्मादा के पैसे वसूल करने के लिए, वह सब दावे गैर कानूनी होने से वे चले नहीं। उस बात को कायदे से अब वैलीडेट करना चाहिए लेकिन पूरा एक साल बीत गया है अब तक वैलीडेटिंग कानून नहीं पास हुआ है। पुराने मध्य प्रदेश में जिसे हम बहुत एफीशेंट एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन नहीं मानते थे ऐसा एक केस हुआ था तो ४-५ दिन के बाद वैलीडेटिंग आर्डिनेंस निकाल दिया गया था। लेकिन यहाँ एक साल बीत गया, वहाँ से यहाँ रिप्रेजेंटेशन आए लेकिन कोई सुनवाई नहीं हुई। मेरा कहना यह है कि हम इस स्थिति को बदलें। हम इस स्थिति को बदलने का प्रयत्न करें। जनता पर टैक्स लगाने के बजाए उसे जीवित रखने का प्रयत्न करें। जब जनता ही खतम हो जाएगी तब टैक्स का फायदा कौन लेगा।

Shri V. S. DONGRE (Nominated): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Hon. the Finance Minister's speech and the Budget that is placed before us make it very clear that Government is trying its best and utmost for the uplift of the poor of this country. The intention of Government is to bring health, prosperity and

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happiness to the poor farmers and workers who have been neglected, not only by the Britishers during the last 150 years but also by the *Pandharpesha Varga* of this State and country from times immemorial.

Hon. the Finance Minister has asked us to make some suggestions and I shall make one. I think that there is a Fund set apart for the development of the State. I think that it is absolutely necessary that, out of this fund, a certain amount should be set apart and named as the 'Irrigation Fund' and it should be utilised particularly for the construction of wells, lakes, tanks, ponds and Bandharas—Chhota Bandharas, Kutcha and Pucca. Having made this suggestion, I now turn to the debate.

It appears to me that the Opposition has built castles in the air on facts which do not exist. They have attacked Government for no fault of theirs. To take only one example, I was astounded to hear some of the remarks made by the Hon. Member Shri K. R. Patil. From personal knowledge which I have got regarding the working of the District Development Board, Nasik, I know it for certain that Government is spending crores of rupees for the benefit of the farmers. The whole machinery of Government is engaged in doing the work for the benefit of the farmers and the poor. To take an example, money is being given for the construction of wells and especially the wells dug in Adiwasi, Tribal and Harijan areas. Then money is provided every day for manure, for seeds, for breeding of cattle and poultry and for so many other things which are useful to the farmers. We know further that money is provided through the Sub-Committees, which exist under the District Development Boards, for the wandering tribes and the so-called criminal tribes. Money is advanced to them in order that they should follow a respectable trade, such as of pig breeding, sheep and goat breeding, poultry, cattle and many other things. If this is not the socialistic pattern of society, then, I would like to ask the Hon. Members of the Opposition, what else is it? I have not got a definition from them about the socialistic pattern of society but I have got a definition given by the Congress Government.

Then, I would refer to the remarks made by the Hon. Member Shri Ogale. He referred to the National sports Council. This Government has started the National sports Council with the best of intentions, so that the people of the country and this State may understand the value of discipline and team work. It was pointed out that, when the first meeting was held, there was some disorder. But is Government to be blamed for it? If people do not observe discipline and they behave in an unconstitutional manner, can Government be blamed for it? They said that a technical objection was raised as the Deputy Minister had presided over the meeting instead of the Hon. Minister. Now lawyers can raise technical objections to everything. But is the work more important or the technical objection more important?

Then, I would refer to the very suggestive remark made by the Hon. Member Shri Bhide. He went on to say that Government was asking students to participate in Prabhat Paries, to celebrate the National Days and weeks, etc. I think this is done in all the countries. The children, boys and girls from the

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Primary schools, high schools and the colleges must be taught the value of the National Days. What is wrong in asking the students to know the value of unity? Government want that they should forget their castes, provinces and communal differences. In this respect I cannot help remarking that the teaching profession is poor. What do some of them do in private and other classes? Some of the Mahasabha and Communist groups have made some propaganda before the election—and to a certain extent very poisonous propaganda—against Government and the Congress. A point was made by the Hon. Member that the students should not be dragged into politics. I agree with him, but some teachers, especially of the R. S. S. cult, themselves have dragged them into politics.

Shri M. V. DONDE : Sir, I rise on a point of order. Can the Hon. Member be permitted to condemn the whole class of teachers as such? He has not pointed out even a single concrete instance where any teacher has indulged in such activities, and even if he points out such an instance, can he condemn the whole class of teachers as such on that account? I remember very well that, on one occasion, Hon. the Chief Minister had to come out with a statement that it is not permissible to condemn the whole class as such and a ruling to that effect was also given by the Chairman.

Shri V. S. DONGRE : Sir, if I may be permitted to give an explanation, I would like to say

The CHAIRMAN : The time at the disposal of the Hon. Member is very short. He need not give an explanation.

Shri V. S. DONGRE : I only wanted to say that I was not criticising the class as such I am not condemning the class as a whole. I have been a teacher myself. I know that there are excellent teachers, and the Hon. Member Shri Donde is one of them.

Then, Sir, I go to the other point. The Hon. Member Shri Ogale raised the point about S. T. charges. I think they are normal charges. The second class Railway charges from Nasik to Bombay are Rs. 7.76 nP. ; the third class charges are Rs. 4.38 nP. A man travelling from Nasik City has to go to Nasik Road station, which means an additional expenditure. The central bus station in Nasik is near the City and I think the charges from Nasik City to Bombay are Rs. 5 and a few more annas. The seats in the third class in the railway are wooden seats, whereas the seats in the S. T. buses are cushioned seats, something like Rolls Royce seats. Therefore, I think the S. T. charges are not at all dearer. If that be so, why should we grumble about the taxes? The principle of the educated and parliamentarians is 'no taxation without representation and no representation without taxation'. I know, Sir, of a small village in America about which I read. To run a village something has to be spent. All the villagers sit together and say, "This must be done for the village" and then all of them voluntarily agree that they should tax themselves to that extent. Now,

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Sir, what is the slogan of the Opposition? The slogan of the Opposition is "We want this, we want that and we want everything and Government is doing this thing badly and that thing badly". The Opposition never sees what is good. I think it requires an amount of godliness in oneself to see what is good amongst us.

The CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Member may be brief.

Shri V. S. DONGRE: I shall take, Sir, only ten minutes.

The CHAIRMAN: No, the Hon. Member may take only three minutes more.

Shri V. S. DONGRE: I shall take, Sir, only three or four minutes more.

I shall then refer to the statement made by the Hon. Member Shri Dahanukar. He talked about housing. I agree with him that housing must be undertaken very soon and that houses should be built, but I think he should spend some time of his,—time at his disposal is very valuable, I agree, but even then he should make some propaganda and ask the rich people of this State to give up certain rooms which they have no right to occupy and which they occupy unnecessarily, say, five or seven rooms. If such rooms are placed at the disposal of Government, then I think at least 10 lakhs of people can be accommodated. There is no exaggeration in this. There is great truth in what I say.

The CHAIRMAN: The Opposition Members will agree with you!

Shri V. S. DONGRE: Then, Sir, I shall refer to the proposal regarding petrol tax. What is wrong about the petrol tax? If the rich will only curtail their joy rides and night rides, they will not feel this increase. Instead of 6 annas per gallon, Government proposes to charge 8-1/2 annas. If, therefore, they will curtail their activities—I should not use the word ' nefarious '—and curtail their joy rides and night rides, they will be able to pay even ten annas more per gallon.

Then, Sir, I will make one or two remarks and resume my seat.

The CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Member has only one minute more.

Shri V. S. DONGRE: I have already suggested that, instead of cement, bricks, lime and chunam should be used. This will give employment to millions in the villages. I agree with the suggestion made by my Hon. Friend Shri Dahanukar in this respect.

Now, Sir, I come to the question of prohibition. Prohibition has been put into practice not by the Congress Government alone. It is a process. The Britishers also tried it. It is excellent for the health and brain of every citizen—I mean prohibition, not liquor.

Shri M. V. DONDE: It has given employment to the people!

Shri V. S. DONGRE: Does my speech make you uncomfortable? I did not interrupt the Hon. Member Shri Dongre and I would request him not to interrupt me. In the local trains I had seen hundreds of drunkards on holidays and Sundays. That scene is absent now. In the streets I had seen hundreds of women, half naked, after being drunk. Is that good for the ladyhood and womanhood of any State? Those scenes are absent now. If such things could be achieved by prohibition, then I am of the opinion that prohibition has succeeded and it should continue.

श्री. जी. एस्. देसाई (सार्वजनिक बांधकाम मंत्री): अध्यक्ष महाराज, सभागृहामध्ये बजेटवर चर्चा चालू असतांना सार्वजनिक बांधकाम खात्यासंबंधी एक दोन मुद्द्यांवर उद्‌घाटन झालेला असल्यामुळे तेवढ्यापुरतेंच उत्तर देण्याचा मी प्रयत्न करणार आहे.

सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. पटवारी यांनी ह्या सभागृहांत असा एक मुद्दा आग्रहपूर्वक मांडला की डोलरा पोर्ट हे सरकारकडून दुर्लक्षित आणि उपेक्षित असल्यामुळे सरकारने त्या पोर्टकडे लक्ष द्यावे. हे पोर्ट उपेक्षित आणि दुर्लक्षित आहे असे त्यांचे मत असल्यामुळे साहजिकच त्यांनी आपल्या भाषणांत सरकारला दोष दिलेला आहे. काही बाबतींत गैरसमज फार लोकर होतात आणि असा गैरसमज ह्या बाबतींत होऊ नये म्हणून ह्या पोर्टसंबंधीची परिस्थिती मी सभागृहापुढे स्पष्टपणे मांडणार आहे. अध्यक्ष महाराज, डोलरा पोर्ट दुर्लक्षित आणि उपेक्षित आहे यामध्ये सरकारचा काही हेतु आहे असे ध्वनित करण्याचा सर्वसामान्यतः सन्माननीय सभासदांनी प्रयत्न केला असावा की काय याची मला शंका आहे, आणि म्हणून मी त्यांच्या शक्यतेने निरसन थोड्याफार प्रमाणांत करणार आहे.

डोलरा पोर्ट किंवा विठ्ठल बंदर यांच्यापासून ८ मैलावर मगरवली क्रीक आहे. हे बंदर डेव्हलप करण्याच्या दृष्टीने मगरवली क्रीकला काही पोर्टेन्सिअलॅटीज आहेत असे दिसून आल्यानंतर आणि बंदरांत पुष्कळ गाळ सांचलेला आहे तो काढणे अशक्य आहे असे दिसल्यानंतर मगरवली क्रीकची पाहणी करण्याचे सरकारने ठरविले. डोलरा पोर्ट निकामी झाल्यामुळे जी गैरसोय होते ती दूर करण्याच्या दृष्टीने दुसऱ्या पंचवार्षिक योजनेमध्ये डोलरा पोर्ट तात्पुरते थांबवून ८ मैलांवरच एक चांगली साइट आहे ती डेव्हलप करण्यासाठी ५० हजार रुपये सरकारने मंजूर केलेले आहेत आणि त्याप्रमाणे हँड्रॉलिक सर्व्हे करण्याच्या कामाला सरकार लोकरच सुरुवात करणार आहे. माझा सांगण्याचा हेतु एवढाच आहे की, मगरवली क्रीकची पाहणी करण्याचा विचार सरकारने का केला नाही याचे स्पष्टीकरण करणे जरूरीचे आहे. भडोच आणि सुरत ही जी दोन पोर्टेस् आहेत त्यांची पाहणी करण्याच्या कामाला सरकारने अग्रहृक्क दिलेला असल्यामुळे मगरवली क्रीकची पाहणी करण्याला थोडासा उशीर होईल. त्या कामाला १९६०-६१ मध्ये सुरुवात केली जाईल. तेव्हा डोलरा पोर्ट बंद करण्याचे सरकारने ठरविलेले नसून त्यांत ज्या अडचणी आहेत त्या दूर करण्याचा सरकार पद्धतशीर प्रयत्न करित आहे ही गोष्ट मला सन्माननीय सभासदांच्या नजरेस प्रामुख्याने आणावयाची होती.

यानंतर सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. दोंदे यांनी असे म्हटले की, ह्या बजेटमध्ये सचिवालय आणि एम. एल. ए. जच्या क्वार्टर्ससंबंधी कोठेहि रेफरन्स दिसून आला नाही, आणि त्यांनी अगोदरच सरकारचे अभिनंदन करून टाकले. मला त्यांना असे सांगायचे आहे की, अशा रीतीने अगोदरच ही दोन्ही कामे बजेटमधून वगळली म्हणून अभिनंदन करण्याऐवजी त्यांनी जर पांड्या पुस्तकांतील १०५० पान काढून पाहिले तर त्यावर १२ व १३ हे आयटेम्स अनुक्रमे सचिवालय वाढविण्यासाठी व एम. एल. ए. जच्या क्वार्टर्ससंबंधी आहेत.

श्री. एम्. व्ही. दोंदे: अभिनंदनाचे जे ओव्हरपेमेंट झाले आहे ते मी परत घेतो.

श्री. डी. एस. देसाई : स्वाभाविक आहे. सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. दोंडे यांना कामाच्या व्याप्तीमुळे संबंध बजेट चाळायला वेळ मिळाला नसेल म्हणून मी ही गोष्ट त्यांच्या निदर्शनास आणली आहे. सरकारने सचिवालयासाठी आणखी इमारत बांधण्याचे कां ठरविले या-संबंधी मी ह्याच सन्माननीय सभागृहांत याच्यापूर्वी एकदा स्पष्टीकरण केलेले होते. सचिवालयाची जागा वाढविण्याचे कारण असे आहे की, सचिवालयाच्या कांहीं ऑफिससाठी सरकार दर वर्षी ५ लक्षाहून अधिक रुपये भाड्यावर खर्च करित असते. हा खर्च आज कित्येक वर्षे सरकार करित आहे. हा खर्च यापुढेहि असाच करित राहण्याऐवजी जर नवीन जादा इमारत बांधली तर निरनिराळ्या ठिकाणी जी ऑफिसेस इतस्ततः पसरलेली आहेत ती एकत्र येऊन कामाच्या दृष्टीने सोय होईल व दरवर्षी भाड्यासाठी ५ लक्ष रुपये खर्च होत आहेत तेहि बांचतील. शिवाय, आज मुंबईत जागेची टंचाई असल्यामुळे इतरत्र सचिवालयाची ऑफिसेस ज्या जागा वापरित आहेत त्या इतर लोकांना वापरावयास मिळतील. तेव्हा अशा रीतीने सध्या होत असलेली कुचंबणा बांधविण्यासाठी सरकारने हे नवीन सचिवालय बांधण्याचे ठरविले आहे.

यानंतर एम. एल. एज. साठी राहण्याच्या जागेची सरकार जी व्यवस्था करित आहे त्याबद्दल सभासदांचा कां राग असावा हे मला समजत नाही. सध्या एम. एल. एज. ची राहण्याची व्यवस्था मॅजेटिक हॉटेलमध्ये करण्यांत आलेली आहे, पण तेथे १८७ पैशां जास्त सभासदांची सोय होऊ शकत नाही. शिवाय, तेथे त्यांना निवांत वाचावयास मिळत नाही, स्वास्थ्य लाभत नाही, व अशा रीतीने त्यांची कुचंबणा होते. शिवाय, आतां मुंबई राज्य वाढल्यामुळे एम. एल. एज.ची संख्या जवळ जवळ ४०० पर्यंत वाढली आहे, आणि कौन्सिलचे संख्याहि वाढलेली आहे. तेव्हा सर्वसाधारणपणे ३०० आमदारांची राहण्याची सोय होईल असे क्वार्टर्स त्यांच्यासाठी बांधण्याचे सरकारने ठरविले आहे. तेव्हा असेव्हीचे व कौन्सिलचे सभासद येथे येतात त्यांची कुचंबणा होऊ नये, त्यांना राहण्यासाठी चांगली व सोयीची जागा मिळावी म्हणून प्रामुख्याने सरकारने हे क्वार्टर्स बांधण्याचे ठरविले आहे. ह्या दोन चर्चित्या गेलेल्या बाबीसंबंधी मी जो खुलासा केला आहे त्याने सन्माननीय सभासदांचे समाधान होईल अशी मी आशा करतो.

Shri M. V. DONDE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say some words. When I criticised the provision made for construction of an annexe to the Sachivalaya I had mentioned that only a provision of Rs. 2 crores was made in the Budget for housing for the whole of the State, and when we are making a provision of Rs. 2 crores only for the housing programme for the whole State, it was certainly undesirable that we should make a provision of Rs. 70 lacs for the purpose of extending the present building of the Sachivalaya. It was a question of priorities. That was more or less a point of comparison and nothing more.

श्री. रतुभाई एम्. अदाणी (ग्राम-पंचायत मंत्री) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, सन् १९५८-५९ के आय-व्ययक पर इस माननीय परिषद में जो चर्चा हो रही है उसके सम्बन्ध में बोलते हुए माननीय सदस्य श्री चुन्नीलाल जी बरफीवाला ने ग्राम-पंचायत के बारे में जो निर्देश किया है उसके विषय में कुछ कहने के लिए मैं खड़ा हुआ हूँ। माननीय श्री बरफीवाला जी ने अपना जीवन इसी कार्य में बिताया है इससे कोई इन्कार नहीं कर सकता। जहां तक स्थानिक स्वराज्य का सम्बन्ध है हम बड़े आदर से उनकी ओर देखते हैं और जहां तक सम्भव होता है उन मामलों में उनका सहयोग प्राप्त करने की कोशिश करते हैं। मैं माननीय सभागृह की जानकारी के लिये कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिस बारे में माननीय श्री बरफीवाला जी ने अपने विचार पेश करते हुए नाराजगी व्यक्त की है उसके बारे में मैंने उनके साथ काफी चर्चा करने की कोशिश की है। लेकिन मुझे खेद है कि न मैं उनके मत से सहमत हो सका और न वे मेरे मत से सहमत हो सके। लोकशाही में किसी एक बात पर सब के सब सहमत हों यह सम्भव नहीं है।

[श्री रतुभाई एम्. अदाणी]

माननीय श्री बरफीवाला जी ने जो निर्देश किया उससे मुझे नाराजगी नहीं है लेकिन जिस ढंग से उन्होंने कहा उससे मुझे दुःख हुआ। मुझे दुःख इस बात पर है जो उन्होंने कहा कि जब माननीय श्री मोरारजी यहां थे तब उनकी इस बात को उन्होंने माना था। उस समय जो चर्चा हुई थी उसे सुनने का मुझे मौका नहीं मिला इसलिए उसके बारे में मैं कुछ कह नहीं सकता। माननीय श्री बरफीवाला जी ने यह कहा कि माननीय श्री मोरारजी यहां पर नहीं हैं तो शासन की ओर से पंचायत का ढांचा बदलने का प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है। इस प्रकार सारी बात को एक गलत ढंग से रखने की कोशिश माननीय श्री बरफीवाला जी ने की है। मैं इतना ही कहूंगा कि माननीय श्री मोरारजी भाई यदि आज यहां होते तो जो प्रस्ताव शासन की ओर से रखा गया है उससे वे भी सहमत होते और वे भी इसका समर्थन करते। माननीय श्री बरफीवाला जी ने जो विचार रखे हैं पंचायत के बारे में उसके विषय में, मेरे पास समय नहीं है, वरना मैं भी पंचायत की तबारीख बताते हुए अपना दृष्टिकोण उन्हें समझाने का प्रयत्न करता। लेकिन समय कम होने के कारण मैं माननीय सदन का ज्यादा समय लेना नहीं चाहता। केवल पंचायत के मंत्री के बारे में मैं यहां पर कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ।

पंचायत का मंत्री शासन की ओर से नियुक्त हो या चुना हुआ हो यह सिद्धांत का सवाल है। इसके बारे में विधान-सभा और विधान-परिषद् के सामने जब विधेयक रखा जायगा उस समय इस पर चर्चा करने का सब को मौका मिलेगा और इस सिद्धान्त के ऊपर अच्छी तरह से चर्चा हो सकेगी। अभी यहां पर उसपर चर्चा के लिए अवसर नहीं है। मैं एक बात माननीय श्री बरफीवाला जी के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। उन्होंने यह जो चेतावनी दी, कि शासन की तरफ से यदि जोर दिया जायगा तो आन्दोलन शुरू हो जायगा, यह बात ठीक नहीं है।

दूसरी दुःख की बात जो उन्होंने रखी वह यह थी कि सौराष्ट्र में सामन्तशाही थी और मराठवाडा में निजामशाही थी इसलिए वहां के शासन प्रबन्ध उसके आधार पर चले और पंचायतों की नई शासन व्यवस्था न बना सके। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि सौराष्ट्र में सामन्तशाही का जो पुराना ढांचा था और जिसका आधार लिया जाता है, वह सन १९४७ के बाद नहीं रह गया था। माननीय सदस्य ने स्वयं, सौराष्ट्र में पंचायत का जो काम हो रहा था, उसकी प्रशंसा की थी। आज वे शासन से सहमत नहीं हैं इसलिए कहते हैं कि सौराष्ट्र में सामन्तशाही थी और उसके आधार पर पंचायत का ढांचा वहां बना था या मराठवाडा में निजामशाही के आधार पर पंचायत का ढांचा बना था। मैं सहमत हूँ उनके साथ इस बात में कि एक हिस्से में एक प्रकार का ढांचा था तो दूसरे हिस्से में दूसरी तरह का। उसके बारे में भी मैं स्पष्टता करना चाहता हूँ कि अब जबकि नया बम्बई राज्य बना है और नए बम्बई राज्य में विभिन्न विस्तार शामिल हुए हैं तो उन विस्तारों में, यह सही है कि अलग अलग ढंग से काम चलता रहा है, अब उन सब का एकीकरण करना है। पुराने बम्बई राज्य में जो कुछ अच्छा था, सौराष्ट्र में जो कुछ अच्छा था या मराठवाडा और विदर्भ में जो कुछ अच्छा था उन सब को हम लेने की कोशिश करते हैं। मराठवाडा से, हम पुराने बम्बई राज्य के पंचायत के शासन प्रबन्ध में कुछ क्यों स्वीकार करें, इसके बारे में माननीय श्री बरफीवाला ने जो विवाद उपस्थित किया है वह मेरी समझ में नहीं आया। विदर्भ, सौराष्ट्र या मराठवाडा में जो अच्छी बात है उसको स्वीकार करने में कौन सी हानि होती है। अगर वहां कोई बात अच्छी थी तो उसे स्वीकार करने से हम इन्कार कभी नहीं करेंगे।

[श्री रतुभाई एम. अदाणी]

पंचायत के मंत्री के बारे में आज जो ढाँचा बना है और पुराने जमाने में जो था, उसकी सारी तवारीख में जाने की माननीय श्री बरफीवाला जी ने कांशिश की और कहा कि पंचायत की स्थिति ऐसी है कि पंचायत के मंत्री को अनुभव नहीं होता क्योंकि किसी भी आदमी को शासन की ओर से मंत्री नियुक्त किया जाता है। दूसरी बात उन्होंने यह कही कि पंचायत लोकशाही ढंग पर चलती है इसलिए पंचायत के मामलों में शासन को कोई मतलब न रखना चाहिये। मैं एक अनुभव की बात उन्हें बतलाना चाहता हूँ। पंचायत के मंत्रियों से बात करने के बाद मैं इस नतीजे पर पहुँचा हूँ कि पंचायत का मंत्री सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त किया जाए। पुराने बम्बई राज्य के पंचायत के मंत्रियों का एक संगठन बना है। उसके अध्यक्ष मुझसे मिलने के लिए आए। वह मेरे पास पंचायत के मंत्रियों की माँग रखने के लिए आए थे। उन्होंने मुझसे कहा कि पंचायत के मंत्री को शासन की ओर से रखा जाए, उन्हें शासन का कर्मचारी समझा जाए और उनको शासन की ओर से तनखाह दी जाए। जब मैंने उन्हें बताया कि शासन ऐसा करने का सोच रहा है तो उन्होंने प्रसन्नता जाहिर की और इसे पसन्द किया। उन्होंने मेरे पास लिखित निवेदन भेजा और पंचायत परिषद में प्रस्ताव पास किया कि शासन की ओर से इस ढंग पर सोचा जाए तो कार्य में प्रोत्साहन होगा।

माननीय श्री बरफीवाला जी अच्छी तरह जानते हैं कि पंचायत के कार्यों में सलाह देने के लिए एक कौंसिल बनी हुई है। माननीय श्री बरफीवाला जी स्वयं उसके सदस्य हैं। शासन ने पूरे बम्बई राज्य के लिए क्या निश्चित किया है, पंचायतों के शासन के बारे में और हमारा जो कुछ ख्याल था, वह पंचायत कौंसिल के सामने रखा गया। मैं इस माननीय परिषद् के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ और उसकी जानकारी के लिए बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि इसके बारे में कौंसिल में काफी गहराई से चर्चा हुई। केवल माननीय सदस्य श्री बरफीवाला जी ही उसके विरुद्ध थे बाकी सब सदस्यों ने इसे सिद्धान्त की दृष्टि से स्वीकार किया। जब हमारे सामने वह पंचायत का विधेयक आया तब उसपर सिद्धान्त की चर्चा करेंगे। सिर्फ माननीय श्री मोरारजी यहां पर नहीं हैं इसलिए उनकी अनुपस्थिति का हम फायदा उठा रहे हैं, ऐसी बात नहीं है।

Shri C. D. BARFIWALA : I never meant that we are taking advantage of that. What I said was that he held the view.

श्री. रतुभाई एम. अदाणी : यदि यहां पर इस ढंग से ऐसी बात नहीं रखी जाती तो अच्छा होता। मैं इतना ही कहता हूँ कि सरकार पंचायत को राष्ट्र की एक बुनियादी संस्था समझती है, सिर्फ प्रशासनीय सुविधा की दृष्टि से ही नहीं किन्तु हमारे राष्ट्र में जो लाखों देहात हैं उनकी प्रगति के लिए और उनकी तरक्की के लिये भी हम पंचायत संस्था को एक बुनियादी संस्था समझते हैं इसलिये सिर्फ राजस्व का २५ प्रतिशत हिस्सा मदद के तौर पर इन पंचायतों को देना, इतना ही सरकार अपना कर्तव्य नहीं समझती, बल्कि उसका कार्य ठीक से चलता रहे, उसका विकास ठीक से हो यह देखना भी सरकार अपना कर्तव्य समझती है। आज पंचायत के मंत्री जिस ढंग से चुने जाते हैं, जिस ढंग से वे पंचायतों का काम चलाते हैं, उससे मैं कहूंगा कि उनपर आज हम अधिक भरोसा नहीं रख सकते हैं। शासन का इरादा है कि जितना अधिकार पंचायतों को हम दे सकते हैं उतना दिया जाय। मुझे यह कहते हुये खुशी है कि हम आहिस्ते आहिस्ते राजस्व का भी कार्य पंचायतों को देना चाहते हैं।

आज विकास का कार्य हो रहा है। आज तक कई देहातों के लिये विकास कमेटियां बनीं। अब ऐसा निश्चय कर लिया गया है कि जहां पंचायत स्थापित हो जाती है वहां हम दूसरे एजेंसी से यह काम न लें। उसी के द्वारा ही हम विकास का काम

[श्री. रतुभाई एम. अदाणी]

करना चाहते हैं। इस तरह हम उसका स्थान ऊंचा उठाना चाहते हैं, पंचायतों को विशेष महत्व देना चाहते हैं और आहिस्ता आहिस्ता विशेष अधिकार भी देना चाहते हैं। ऐसी परिस्थिति में, माननीय सभापति जी, यह सोचा जाय कि जिस पंचायत के मंत्री को ठीक शिक्षण न हो वह इस पंचायत का काम ठीक ढंगसे चला कर उसकी तरक्की कर सकेगा, गलत है। ऐसे मंत्री द्वारा उसकी तरक्की होना असंभव है। ऐसे मंत्रियों पर हम ज्यादा अधिकार देकर काम ठीक होगा ऐसा भरोसा भी नहीं रख सकते हैं। आज की परिस्थिति में सुशिक्षित नौजवान जिनको हम चाहते हैं वे इन पदों के लिये मिलें, वे मिल नहीं पाते क्योंकि आज मंत्रियों की तनखाह पंचायतों को ही देनी पड़ती है और पंचायतें आज की परिस्थिति में उन्हें ज्यादा तनखाह नहीं दे सकतीं। कहीं कहीं मंत्री को सिर्फ ५ से २० रुपये तक ही तनखाह दी जाती है। इस छोटी सी तनखाह पर क्या यह कल्पना की जा सकती है कि कोई नौजवान यह काम करने को तैयार हो जायगा। फिर भी आज देहातों में इन लोगों को काम करना पड़ रहा है। इसलिये वे ही इसका काम करते हैं जिनके यहां कोई छोटी सी दुकान हो या ऐसा ही कोई आमदनी का दूसरा जरिया उपलब्ध हो। ये लोग दुकान भी चलाते हैं और पंचायत का काम भी देखते हैं। ऐसे लोगों के काम से क्या कोई आदर्श ग्राम संस्था बन सकती है। पंचायतों के मंत्री अच्छे पढ़े-लिखे और लगन से काम करने वाले जब तक नहीं मिलते तब तक आदर्श पंचायतों का निर्माण नहीं हो सकता। यह सोचकर ही शासन ने इनकी नियुक्ति अपने हाथ में लेने का निश्चय किया है। इस संबंध में श्री बरफीवाला जी ने एक महत्व का सिद्धान्त हमारे सामने रखा है कि पंचायत का मंत्री उस संस्था का एक महत्व का आदमी होने से उसकी नियुक्ति यदि शासन की ओर से की जायेगी तो शासन का पंचायत के शासन में हस्तक्षेप ही होगा। मैं यह मानता हूँ कि मंत्री उसका एक महत्व का कर्मचारी है लेकिन यदि पंचायत में किसी का विशेष महत्व है तो वह सरपंच का ही है। वह शासन की ओर से नियुक्त नहीं किया जायेगा। वह तो देहातके लोगों द्वारा ही चुना जायेगा और फिर शासन द्वारा नियुक्त किये हुए मंत्री के दिल में ही कोई दूसरी भावना हो तो भी आखिर उसको इस चुने हुए सरपंच के कार्य में सहयोग देना ही पड़ेगा और उसी के नीति के अनुसार उस को पंचायत का करोबार चलाना पड़ेगा, इसलिये शासन द्वारा उसकी नियुक्ति होने से पंचायत के काम में किसी तरह का हस्तक्षेप होने की आशंका करना व्यर्थ है। उसकी नियुक्ति शासन द्वारा होने से पंचायत का काम ठीक से चलेगा और उसके अनुशासन का ढाँचा बनाने में ऐसे मंत्री सहायक भी होंगे। इनका और कई बातों में उपयोग हो सकता है। इन सब बातों को ख्याल में रखकर सरकार इस नतीजे पर पहुँची है कि उसके द्वारा ही पंचायत के मंत्री की नियुक्ति करना उचित होगा। यह नाज़कर सरकार इस संबंध का एक विधेयक भी प्रस्तुत करेगी और उस समय मैं इस सिद्धान्त पर और भी ज्यादा चर्चा करूंगा।

श्री. एम. बी. गायकवाड (महाराष्ट्र नॉर्थ—लोकल ऑथॉरिटीज) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, सभागृहासमोर असलेल्या १९५८-५९ सालच्या या अंदाजपत्रकावर अर्थसंकल्पावर चर्चा करीत असतांना सरकारी पक्षाच्या सदस्यांनी असा एक मुद्दा मांडला की या अर्थ संकल्पाच्या बाबतीत विरोधी पक्षाकडून विधायक सूचना येत नाहीत, विरोधी पक्षाला केवळ टिकाच करावयाची आहे. मला या बाबतीत एकच गोष्ट सांगायची आहे की मागच्या अर्थ संकल्पावर त्याचप्रमाणे या अर्थ संकल्पावर विरोधी पक्षाने केलेल्या विधायक सूचनांचा सरकार खरोखरीच कांहीं विचार करते किंवा नाही याहि गोष्टीचा विचार विरोधी पक्षास करावा लागतो. विरोधी पक्षाकडून करण्यात आलेल्या सूचनांचा आम्ही विचार करू अशा तऱ्हेचे उत्तर सरकारकडून येणे कठिण आहे एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी आपल्या भाषणात असे सांगितले की पैसा कमी पडत आहे

10-15 a.m.

[श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड]

म्हणून आम्हांला अर्थ संकल्प मांडावा लागत आहे, पैसा जर जास्त असता तर अर्थ संकल्प मांडण्याची कांहीच आवश्यकता नाही. त्यांच्या या विचारांचे मला खरोखरीच फार आश्चर्य वाटले. परंतु या बाबतीत जास्त खोलांत मी जाऊ इच्छित नाही.

अन्नधान्याची वाढ करण्याच्या बाबतीत आमचे सरकार अपेक्षी कसे झाले एवढेच मी आपल्या भाषणांत मुख्यत्वे करून सांगणार आहे. गेल्या ८-१० वर्षांपासून अन्नधान्याच्या मोहिमेकडे जनतेचे लक्ष केंद्रित करण्याची मोहिम भारत सरकारने आणि राज्य सरकारने चालू केलेली आहे. या मोहिमेचा परिणाम काय झाला? प्रत्यक्ष शेती उत्पादनाखाली असलेले ३८ हजार चौरस मैलांचे क्षेत्र ६१ हजार चौरस मैलाच्या परिघाइतके झाले. अन्नधान्योत्पादनाखाली असलेले क्षेत्र वाढण्याचा परिणाम काय झाला तर १९५४-५५ साली ५२ लाख टन धान्योत्पादन झाले होते तर १९५७-५८ साली ४५ लाख टन धान्योत्पादन झाले. याबाबत असे कारण देण्यांत आले की पाऊस कमी पडल्यामुळे उत्पादन घटले तंबाखू, ऊस अशासारख्या व्यापारी मालांचे उत्पादन वाढावे आणि पाऊस पडला नाही या कारणास्तव अन्नधान्याचे उत्पादन घटावे ही खरोखरीच विसंगती आहे. धान्याच्या लागवडीखाली असलेले क्षेत्र वाढलेले आहे असे असतांना ज्या वेळी धान्योत्पादन घटते त्या वेळी असे वाटावयास लागते की यामागे प्रचलित सरकारी धोरणच असावे. ऊस, तंबाखू यासारख्या शेतीविषयक धोरणच चुकीचे असले पाहिजे ही गोष्ट आपण लक्षांत ठेवली पाहिजे. सरकारच्या भांडवली नफ्याच्या धोरणामुळे धान्य उत्पादन करणारा कष्टकरी शेतकरी बाजारभावाने तोट्यांत येत आहे व त्यामुळे उत्पादन घटत आहे.

अन्नधान्य उत्पादन करणारा शेतकरी गरीब आहे. मध्यम वर्गीय आणि गरीब सामान्य शेतकरी मुख्य धान्य उत्पादक आहेत. प्रत्यक्ष शेतीवर राबण्याची त्यांची ताकद आज कमी झालेली आहे. आणि दिवसेंदिवस ती सरकारी धोरणामुळे कमी कमीच होत राहणार आहे जास्त धान्य उत्पादन करण्याची त्यांची (कुवत) शक्ति घटत चाललेली आहे. तेव्हा यावर कांही तरी उपाययोजना केली पाहिजे. आणि त्या उपाय योजना म्हणजे राज्यांतील धान्य उत्पादक कष्ट करणाऱ्या शेतकऱ्यांना शेती करण्यासाठी आर्थिक व सामाजिक परिस्थिती निर्माण केली पाहिजे.

१२० कोटी रुपयांची तरतुद या अंदाजपत्रकांत करण्यांत आलेली असून यांत १८८ आय-टेम्स असे आहेत की ज्यांचा उपयोग गरिबांना होणार आहे असे असूनहि या अंदाजपत्रकाबाबत विरोधी पक्ष ओरड करीत आहे असे सरकार पक्षांतील एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी सांगितले. एकट्या आपल्या राज्याचाच अर्थ संकल्प वाढत्या खर्चाचा होत आहे असे नसून संपूर्ण भारताचाच अर्थ संकल्प वाढत्या खर्चाचा होत आहे. एवढेच नव्हे तर जगांतील इतर लहान मोठ्या देशांत देखील वाढत्या खर्चाचेच अर्थ संकल्प तयार होत असतात. परंतु वाढत्या खर्चाचा अर्थ संकल्प आहे एवढ्याच एका कारणावरून या अर्थ संकल्पाला समाजवादी पद्धतीने तयार करण्यांत आलेला अर्थ संकल्प असे नांव देणे चुकीचे होणार आहे. आपल्या राज्यांत १८८ च आयटेम्स असे आहेत की जे गरिबांसाठी उपयोगी ठरणारे आहेत परंतु इतर देशांत ३००-३०० आयटेम्स असे असतात की, जे गरिबांच्या गैर आहे. देशांतील गरीब लोकांची उपासमार होत आहे तर भांडवलदारांना आणि मोठ्या खाजगी संस्थांना पैसे कमाविण्याची साधने कायद्याने पुरविली जात आहेत. सध्याच्या अर्थ संकल्पाद्वारे त्यांच्यावर कोणत्याहि प्रकारचे बंधन घालण्यांत आलेले नाही. पैसा कमावण्याचे त्यांचे सामर्थ्य या अर्थ संकल्पाद्वारे मोकाट सोडण्यांत आलेले आहे. म्हणून भांडवलदारांना अनिर्वध नफ्याचे अधिकार देऊन सरकारी धोरणाचा अंतिम परिणाम भांडवलदारांच्या नफ्यासाठी मुख्यतः होत आहे.

[श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड]

अर्थमंत्र्यांनी आपल्या भाषणांत सांगितले की मुंबई राज्य कल्याणकारी मार्गाच्या दिशेने वाटचाल करीत आहे, मुंबई राज्याची प्रगती होत आहे. परंतु जनतेला ही गोष्ट पटत नाही. मराठवाड्यांतील आणि विदर्भातील लोकांना असे वाटावयास लागलेले आहे की, नवीन राज्यांत आपण आल्यामुळे आपल्यावर नवीन करांचा बोजा वाढलेला आहे सामान्य लोकांचे जीवन अधिक कष्टमय करण्यासाठी ही करवाढ करण्यांत आलेली आहे नवीन प्रदेशावर अडीच पटीचे जास्त कर बसविण्यांत आलेले आहेत. नवीन अर्थ संकल्पामुळे समाज जीवनांत बदल होऊ शकणार नाही. इरिगेशनवर किती पैसा खर्च होणार आहे? एस. टी. मध्ये मऊ मऊ गावांची सोय करण्याकरिता एस. टी. चे दर किती वाढविलेले आहेत? इत्यादि दृष्टिकोनांतून आपल्याला या अर्थ संकल्पाचा विचार करून चालणार नाही. कल्याणकारी राज्याची स्थापना करण्याच्या दृष्टीने, समाजवादी समाज रचना स्थापन करण्याच्या दृष्टीने ह्या अर्थ संकल्पाची रचना करण्यांत आलेली आहे असे मला वाटत नाही. जनतेच्या गरजांचे उत्पन्न व जनतेची वस्तु विक्री घेण्याची क्रय शक्ति यावर अर्थ संकल्प आधारलेला नाही. कांही सन्माननीय सभासदांना या अर्थ संकल्पांत गुलाबाची फुले दिसली. त्यांनी पुढे असेहि सांगितले की ज्यांची दृष्टी बरोबर नाही त्यांना गुलाबाची फुले दिसत नाहीत केवळ कांटेच दिसतात. अर्थ संकल्पा-विषयीची त्यांची ही कल्पना शेख महंमदी थाटाची कल्पना आहे असेच मी म्हणून. परंतु झोपेतून जागे झाल्यानंतर जेव्हा ते सदस्य गुलाबाची फुले शोधण्यासाठी हात पुढे करतील तेव्हा त्यांना गुलाबाच्या फुलांऐवजी कांटे लागून त्यांचे हात रक्तबंबाळ झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाहीत. ज्या पद्धतीने सरकार शेती विषयक त्याचप्रमाणे औद्योगिक धोरण यांचा अवलंब करीत आहे त्या पद्धतीस आम्ही पाठिंबा देऊ शकत नाही. आपल्या राज्यांतील शेतकरी, कामगार वर्ग आणि सामान्य शिक्षक वर्ग व इतर लोकशाही जनता यांचे समाधान होईल अशा गोष्टी या अर्थ संकल्पांत करण्यांत आल्या असल्या तर आम्ही या अर्थ संकल्पाला चांगले म्हणू असे. परंतु सरकारच्या आर्थिक धोरणामुळे आपल्यासाठी सरकार कांही करील असा विश्वास राज्यांतील जनतेला वाटेनासा झालेला आहे.

मोटारीने प्रवास करणाऱ्या उताऱूंकडून ३ कोटी रुपयांचा कर वसूल करण्याचे या अर्थ संकल्पांत ठरविण्यांत आलेले आहे. या कराचा बोजा सामान्य लोकांवर पडणार आहे. तेव्हा सरकारने हा कर बसवू नये, त्याऐवजी मी एक दुसरा कर या ठिकाणी सुचविणार आहे. साखर चालविणाऱ्या मोठ मोठ्या कंपन्यांकडे ५-५ हजार एकर जमिनी आहेत त्यांना ७०० ते १,००० रुपये एकरी नफा मिळत असतो. या साखर कारखानदारांकडून एकरी १५० ते २०० रुपये नफ्यांतून कर वसूल करा. भांडवलदारांना जो निव्वळ नफा मिळतो त्यांतील १० टक्के पैसा सरकारला दिलाच पाहिजे अशा तऱ्हेचे बंधन भांडवलदारांवर टाकून सरकार पैसा का उभा करीत नाही? अशा तऱ्हेने पैसा उपलब्ध करण्याची सरकारची इच्छा दिसत नाही. अशा तऱ्हेने त्यांच्या नेट प्रॉफिटवर कर बसविण्यांत आला तर सरकारला पुष्कळसा पैसा मिळू शकेल. व सरकारला ५ कोटी रुपये मिळतील. सामान्य जनतेवर नवीन कर बसविण्याची जहरी भासणार नाही.

The CHAIRMAN : Two minutes more.

श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड : मला एवढेच सांगावयाचे आहे की हा अर्थ संकल्प भांडवल-शाही आहे. यांत केवळ रकमांचा भरणा दृष्टीस पडतो. परंतु यामुळे या राज्यांतील ६ कोटी लोकांच्या जीवनांत कांही बदल होऊ शकणार नाही. असे मला वाटते. या अर्थ संकल्पांत नवीन कर लादण्यांत आलेले असून भेदभाव निर्माण करण्यांत आलेला आहे. हा अर्थ संकल्प उत्साहवर्धक नसल्यामुळे त्याचप्रमाणे समाजवादाच्या दिशेने या अर्थ संकल्पाची रचना करण्यांत आलेली नसल्यामुळे सामान्य जनतेचे या अर्थ संकल्पांमुळे कांही कल्याण होईल असे मला वाटत नाही. एवढे बोलून मी आपले भाषण संपवितो.

Shri D. C. SHUKLA (Gujarat Graduates) : Sir, Hon. the Finance Minister has now become accustomed to present balanced Budgets, receiving approbation from all sections of the House. This year also he has succeeded in the former but he has partially failed in the latter because he has brought in certain proposals for taxation. I do not know why we have become so very allergic to taxation. The moment we hear about any new taxation we are all frightened. We do not pause to think what the incidence of the tax is or to what noble purpose the money derived from the tax is to be utilised. We say that ours is the highest taxed State but we forget, at the same time, that ours is one of the foremost States in the whole of the Indian Union. In health and housing programmes, we stand foremost and in the field of commerce and industry also our place is unique in the whole of the Indian Union. Then, even in the matter of general standard of living the position of our State is unique. We must consider that, when we pay higher taxes, we also enjoy a higher standard of life.

Now, Sir, what is the incidence of tax that is imposed by Hon. the Finance Minister? Last year almost all the people, including my hon. Friends from the Opposition, complimented Hon. the Finance Minister because he presented a Budget without any taxation. At that time the incidence of tax was Rs. 18.47 nP. *per capita*. Now this time, in spite of the new taxation proposal the incidence of tax *per capita* will be Rs. 18.68 nP., that is to say, only 21 naya paisa more *per capita* per annum, which means an addition of only three annas and some thing more. When an average citizen is asked to pay that much per annum, let us look at the immense benefits that are derived therefrom. My hon. Friends forgot to pay compliments to the Education Minister or the Finance Minister for improving the lot of the primary teachers, which we have been clamouring for the last so many years. The pay-scale of primary teachers here stands the highest in the whole of the Indian Union. I may mention that the pay-scale of trained secondary teachers given now by the Kerala Government, is less than what we were paying our secondary teachers a decade ago. Out of the passenger fare we will be realising about Rs. 1,80,00,000 out of that, we will be spending about Rs. 50 lakhs for improving the pay-scales of primary teachers. Last year we spent about Rs. 1,70,00,000 on dearness allowance to primary teachers, and all those teachers who came from the other areas were also paid D. A. at an equal rate as that of Bombay. Then there are also some other schemes which have got to be implemented. That being so, if one is asked to pay some four annas more *per annum*, I do not think he should grudge it.

Then, Sir, certain hon. Members criticised our approach towards a Welfare State. Their contention is that there are so many secretaries to Hon. Ministers, getting something like Rs. 3,000 per month, and there are also peons who are getting Rs. 100 per month. I should say that they have a vague notion of a 'Welfare State'. It does not mean that in a Welfare State people will not stay in a big house or that there will not be secretaries or peons of motor cars, etc. Our notion of a Welfare State has been that all citizens should get equal opportunities and that the progress of the State

[Shri D. C. Shukla]

should not be retarded due to want of such opportunities. We say that all citizens should be given proper chances to develop in every field. In the matter of food our State is not self-sufficient and, therefore, this time we have provided a large amount of money for improving irrigation. An amount of Rs. 18 crores has been allotted for large-scale and medium irrigation works. So in one breath hon. Members say that ours should be a Welfare State, while in another breath they say that our prohibition policy is bad since we are losing thereby a lot of revenue. So it pains one to think that even now, in the year of grace 1958, there are hon. Members who are criticising the Prohibition Policy of this Government. If such a policy is not to be adopted in a Welfare State, then I fail to understand what else is to be done for the welfare of the people. Due to our prohibition policy, so many villagers have improved their economic position; many of them have improved educationally also. If at all we take the consensus of opinion of all these poor people whose lot we are trying to improve, they will say that they are prepared not only to pay 4 annas but even 8 annas more and that we should come out with our schemes. It is no use simply pitying these people and saying that they will not be able to bear this burden. That is not at all a proper thing to do. We say that education is a necessity, that transport is a necessity. I would say that self-respect in an Indian citizen is equally a necessity. If, therefore, we go on merely pitying the Indian citizens, telling them that they are poor and not able to bear the burden, that does not add to one's self-respect. All citizens should bear that burden in view of the fact that Government has launched upon schemes for the welfare of all, and, therefore, it is our duty to stand up as respectable citizens, bearing the burden in an equal manner.

With these words, Sir, I congratulate the Hon. Minister for Education on his pressing the claims of primary teachers. I would also request him to press the claims of the secondary teachers and secondary schools. I would request him to revise the grants-in-aid code, because the schools are finding it difficult even now to make both ends meet.

Before I close, I would like to make one suggestion to Hon. the Finance Minister. If we want all our schemes to bear fruit and if we want the quality of our work to improve, we must pay more attention to family planning. That is one of the important points to which no hon. Member has paid adequate attention, and, therefore, even though I have got almost the last chance, I would bring this fact to the notice of Government and impress upon it that more we pay attention to this aspect of the problem, the more we are going to be successful in all the schemes that we undertake, thus taking the wind out of the sails of the Opposition. They will then have nothing to criticise but, on the contrary, to compliment Government for its achievements.

With these words, Sir, I resume my seat, complimenting Hon. the Finance Minister once again.

Shri DAVID FAKIRCHAND SHAW (Greater-Bombay-cum-Maharashtra West—Local Authorities) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a provision of Rs. 500 on account of the abolition of all hereditary systems, that is the

[Shri David Fakirchand Shaw]

system of inferior village servants in Marathwada and Vidarbha and to replace it by the statutory village servants. It would be better if Government would extend this system to all the regions of this State and abolish the hereditary system among the Police Patels and the Village Patels in the State.

Then, Sir, Government is receiving several crores of rupees from the Centre for the advancement and uplift of the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Castes. Some of these people have become Christians and, therefore, this grant is not given to them. The Scheduled Tribe Christians and the Scheduled Caste Christians are being given educational grants by the Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab and other Governments but such grants are not given to them by the Bombay State. I would request Government to consider this matter and to give educational facilities to the Scheduled Caste Christians and Scheduled Tribe Christians in the State.

Shri H. B. BHIDE : Is there any caste system in Christianity ?

Shri DAVID FAKIRCHAND SHAW : Yes, there is.

Several hon. Members have spoken in this House the other day about the uplift and advancement of Harijans and about inter-marriages between Caste Hindus and Harijans. It is a nice thing to have this system introduced among the Caste Hindus and the Harijans, but I wonder whether a high class Brahmin or Bania or Patel would ever prefer to give his daughter to a Harijan or to take a Harijan's daughter in marriage.

Then, Sir, an amount of Rs. 5,000 in 1958-59, Rs. 10,000 in the next year and another Rs. 10,000 in the third year is proposed to be spent for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes. This amount is very meagre, as we have got a big population of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes in Bombay State. Government is trying to eradicate untouchability by suggesting several measures, but I understand that Shri P. N. Rajbhoy, leader of the Scheduled Castes, is trying in the Rajya Sabha to get reservation of seats in Parliament and State Legislatures for a further period of ten years. In the 1955 Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Commissioner has said—

"I wish that more persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are returned to Parliament and the State Legislatures against un-reserved seats. This will show the confidence general public reposed in these people and will go a long way in removing the gulf that exists between these two communities and other people in the country since ages. This will also help in creating confidence in the minds of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes that after the expiry of the stipulated period, they would continue to be returned to Parliament and the State Legislatures from general constituencies."

The CHAIRMAN : That report has already been circulated and discussed by this House.

Shri DAVID FAKIRCHAND SHAW : Sir, I conclude with the remarks that if reservations of seats in Parliament and State Legislatures and Government services for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Anglo-Indians are to be continued for a further period of ten years, the same privileges should be guaranteed to Christians as well.

Shri P. N. KHODE (Vidarbha-Graduates) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a happy feature of this Budget that a revised and a better though not the best, pay-scale has been formulated for primary teachers. It is also good that a distinction has been made in that pay scale between untrained and trained teachers and two-years trained teachers, but in that respect I have to make one suggestion to Government. At the time of actually working out the pay scale and applying the same, it is unfortunately found that no consideration is given to the services rendered by senior teachers. I will make myself clear by giving one illustration. Suppose the basic pay of a teacher is Rs. 40 per month and the increment is Rs. 1-8-0 per year. A teacher who is appointed, say, in 1957 gets Rs. 40 per month and the teacher who has already served for 6 years gets Rs. 49 today. If you apply the new pay scale to these teachers, then the teacher who is getting Rs. 40 at present will get Rs. 50. Similarly, the teacher who is getting Rs. 49 also will get Rs. 50. It will thus be seen that both of them will get the same pay and there is no consideration shown for the services rendered by the teacher for 6 years, and he does not get any benefit of the new pay scale. I have, therefore, to request Government to formulate some scheme by which some consideration will be shown to the services of the senior teachers also. In this respect, on my part I will make one suggestion to Government and that suggestion is that Government may consider if it can give one increment for every three years' service of the senior teachers. That is likely to satisfy the senior teachers. I am not insisting that Government should accept my suggestion. This is only by way of a suggestion. I would, however, urge and request Government that, while making the new pay scales applicable to the teachers, it should take care to see that some benefit is given to the senior teachers also.

The CHAIRMAN : I am sorry I cannot give more time to the hon. Members to offer their remarks. So far 31 hon. Members, excluding the hon. Ministers, have taken part in the debate and out of them 15 hon. Members are from the Opposition. I will now request Hon. Minister for Finance to reply.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset I must apologise to the House for not being present all the time throughout the general discussion on the Budget, but this was due to the fact that there were simultaneous debates in both the Houses for some days which made my absence inevitable from either of them for certain periods. I have, however, kept in touch with the debates throughout their long periods through my colleagues and the reports of discussion. From the trend of the general discussion, I am glad to observe that the Budget proposals have found tacit approval from all sections of the House, in spite of some adverse criticism that has come from certain hon. Members. I am grateful to the House and the hon. Members for the kind compliments paid to Government for its financial programmes and policies outlined for the next year by the majority of the hon. Members who participated in the discussion. I am also thankful to the hon. Members for their various constructive suggestions which Government will bear in mind. I am also thankful to the hon. Members on the opposite side of the House even for the qualified support they have given me and for the appreciation they have expressed.

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

The main criticisms levelled against the Budget are broadly as follows :—

(1) Since the Budget estimates of 1957-58 expected a deficit on revenue account of Rs. 3.17 crores and since now the revised estimates indicate a surplus of Rs. 5.5 crores, the Budget deficit of Rs. 2 crores of 1958-59 will very likely turn out to be a surplus and, therefore, any additional taxation seemed to be unnecessary.

(2) Of the various taxation measures, while unification of taxation was considered by many as reasonable or understandable, the tax on passenger fares was most critically examined by several hon. Members opposite, as, according to them, the burden of it would fall on the poorer sections of the public. Further, since by the unification the rates of taxes prevailing in the former Bombay area have been made applicable to the other component areas of the State, it was argued that the backward and underdeveloped areas, where the taxation rates were lower, would be accordingly taxed more.

(3) The Budget on the expenditure side was not a Welfare State Budget because it was argued that it did not provide, according to some hon. Members opposite, adequate expenditure on the backward areas and for social services.

Now, Sir, I will deal with the criticism of the proposals for additional taxation which have to be viewed in the background of (1) current monetary and financial situation in the country as a whole and its bearing on financial policy to be followed by State Government, (2) our targets of the Five Year Plan which are not merely those of expenditure but also of raising the requisite resources, (3) the necessity to have unified tax laws in the new State after a lapse of one year and five months since reorganisation, and last but not the least important, (4) the inevitable necessity to introduce decimal coinage.

Under conditions of an inflationary potential, it is the duty of the nation as a whole, the Centre as well as the States as Governmental authorities, to frame, as far as possible, balanced and even surplus Budgets on revenue account. This is necessary in order to withdraw the pressure of growing purchasing power in the hands of the community expressed as aggregate effective demand on the supply of goods in general. Our budgetary policy has not merely to be a plan budgetary policy, it has also to be an anti-inflationary policy.

A recent review of the Planning Commission as well as the panel of economists has shown that prices at present are being held in check only by a substantial deficit in the balance of payments. Our cushioning indicated by our sterling balances shows that this source has its own limitations and that we are very near the dangerous limit of exhaustion. The remedy, therefore, is to mobilise, to the optimum, current internal resources. If this is the national policy, the policy of the Bombay State, which controls in spheres of agriculture, industry and trade, about one-third of the country's economy cannot be different from the national policy. That is to say, we have to plan

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for not merely a balanced but a surplus Budget on revenue account, not merely because we want to meet our commitments on revenue account, but also as a part of national policy, under growing inflationary conditions. Bombay's tradition of sound finance requires that we should have a balanced Budget.

As Hon. Members are aware, Sir, out of a total plan of Rs. 350 crores, we are dependent to the extent of Rs. 122 crores, or about 1/3rd, on Central grants and loans. To qualify for this Central assistance we are committed to fulfil our Plan target of additional taxation of Rs. 24 crores. This deficit has to be taken into consideration by the Planning Commission before they would agree to our development programmes.

Even in our own interest, the case for additional taxation this year—if I may so term it, the so-called additional taxation for reasons which I shall explain later—is unexceptionable. It is a faulty argument to say that, because we are likely to spend less than what we have budgeted, we should leave the deficit of Rs. 2 crores uncovered. I may mention that this deficit does not represent the full deficit as Budget estimates on the expenditure side do not include the cost to Government on account of equating of posts and equalisation of pay-scales of Government servants from the incoming areas. Principles of these have already been decided upon by Government and the orders will have to be implemented during the course of the next year. These orders will have to become effective from 1st November 1956 and, therefore,

the payment for 17 months, viz. from 1st November 1956 to 31st March 1958, will have to be made in lump sum in 1958-59 along with the payments for that year. I estimate this extra expenditure to be of the order of Rs. 1.5 crores. It is not possible to estimate at this stage the additional expenditure which each Department of Government will have to incur under the Major Head pertaining to it, under this item and it will have to be provided by way of supplementary grant later on when the break-up of the total figure of Rs. 1.5 crores is known department-wise.

The Hon. Members are also aware that the Government of India have not implemented the Finance Commission's Award with reference to the terms and conditions of debt owned to them by and liabilities of the States for the same. We have, therefore, kept an amount of Rs. 2.6 crores outside the revenue account to be paid from our balances. Ordinarily, under inflationary conditions, such charges should be met from the revenue account. These considerations indicate that we have to honour our commitments for additional taxation, however onerous the responsibility of the same might be.

As I have explained in my Budget speech, our annual committed expenditure has increased by Rs. 5 to 6 crores. The Finance Commission has not come to our rescue, as it has come to some of the States, facilitating surplus Budgets in their case, and we have to provide ourselves as much of the Five Year Plan phased expenditure as possible so that our target of Rs. 350 crores

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is reached. Revenues have not been under-estimated, as I shall show later, and they are becoming more and more inelastic. Thanks to the replacement of Sales Tax on certain paying commodities—paying from the Sales Tax point of view on account of their expanding use by the people—by the additional excise duty. Hence new avenues of resources have to be explored ; and as I shall now explain, some of the measures of the so-called additional taxation are not taxation really as such but are mere adjustments of tax amounts, leading to increased revenue to the State.

As Hon. Members are aware, the decimal coinage has come into existence and this has created numerous problems of adjustment of tax rates or charges which have got to be solved. For example, the BEST has represented that it is losing annually Rs. 16 lakhs because of its levying the old coinage rates of fares. Conversion of fares into decimal coinage is thus an absolute necessity. The same remarks also apply to changes in the diesel and motor spirit sales tax rates. Actually, of the total additional taxation of Rs. 3 crores, at least an amount of Rs. 1.5 crores is due to decimal coinage, which would have been inevitable whether or not there were the so-called additional taxation proposals. As a matter of fact, in the absence of changes in the Budget proposals, if the conversion into decimal coinage passenger fare rates were made by the operators in the transport companies as also by the dealers themselves in the case of petrol or diesel oil, they would have got substantial financial benefits at the cost of the community. By the unification and the so-called additional taxation arrangements, Government is mopping up such profits for the general benefit of the whole community. It is, therefore, wrong to refer to these proposals as impositions to the extent of Rs. 3 crores on the people for the sake of getting additional revenue.

A point was made by several Hon. Members that, in the current year, we had over-estimated our expenditure and under-estimated revenue, with the result that the deficit of Rs. 3.17 crores visualised in June last has been converted into a surplus of Rs. 5.57 crores in the revised estimate. Though the figures mentioned are correct, the presumption drawn from it is not so. The main increase in receipts is under Sales Tax. A part of the increase is accounted for by various measures of administrative efficiency adopted for tightening up loopholes of evasions. Besides, this year we will be getting practically the full year's receipts on intra-State Sales Tax on tobacco, mill-make cloth and commodities on account of composition charges to provide for the Sales of the stocks of these three commodities free of Sales Tax, which would have been otherwise received in the next financial year in addition to our share of Rs. 3 crores out of additional excise duties imposed by the Centre on the above commodities in lieu of the State Sales Tax. That is why we have been able to show a large increase in receipts on account of the Sales Tax but that side is pitched at Rs. 120 crores as compared to Rs. 117.34 crores for the revised estimate in spite of the fact that we will not receive Sales Tax inter-State as well as intra-States, on the above commodities but receive only our

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share in additional excise duties on those commodities which, according to our calculations, as explained in my Budget speech, is less than the former by Rs. 4 crores. The receipts for the next year are not thus at all under-estimated. On the expenditure side, the revised estimate, it will be seen, is only Rs. 84 lakhs less than the Budget estimate, i.e. by less than 1 per cent. of the budgeted expenditure. The expenditure is also thus not under-estimated as argued.

As regards the targets of additional taxation in the Second Five Year Plan of the various component units as provided for by the former respective Governments themselves, they are as follows :—

				Rs. in crores.
1.	Former Bombay State areas	...	...	12.00
2.	Vidarbha	...	...	5.40
3.	Marathwada	...	...	1.70
4.	Saurashtra	...	...	5.00
5.	Kutch	...	...	The target is not known.
Total				24.10

Now the proposals for unification of taxes and for additional taxation, which I made in my Budget speech, involve an aggregate additional incidence of Rs. 3 crores and the tax-wise impact on the various areas in terms of amount of additional taxation would be interesting to note. I have stated in my Budget speech that the tax on passenger fares would come to Rs. 180 lakhs. Out of this, Rs. 135 lakhs would be from nationalised transport and Rs. 45 lakhs from private transport. Again, if we analyse these figures regionwise, it would be found that, out of Rs. 135 lakhs which would be the revenue from the tax on passenger fares from the nationalised transport, Rs. 110 lakhs would come from the former Bombay State areas, Rs. 8 lakhs from the Saurashtra areas, Rs. 2 lakhs from Kutch, Rs. 8 lakhs from Vidarbha and Rs. 7 lakhs from the Marathwada areas. It would, therefore, be seen that the substantial part of the additional revenue would come from the former Bombay State and not, as is suggested, from the backward units. As regards the revenue from private transport, which would be Rs. 45 lakhs, Rs. 10 lakhs would come from former Bombay State areas ; Rs. 5 lakhs from Saurashtra ; nil from Kutch because there is no private transport service in Kutch ; Rs. 25 lakhs from Vidarbha and Rs. 5 lakhs from Marathwada. Thus, in this case, a large proportion of the revenue would come from Vidarbha areas because the transport service in Vidarbha is not nationalised and there is mostly the private service. As regards the stamp duty, out of the total income of Rs. 25 lakhs, Rs. 7 lakhs would come from old Bombay State areas ; Rs. 10 lakhs from Saurashtra ; Rs. 1 lakh from Kutch ; Rs. 6 lakhs from Vidarbha and Rs. 1 lakh

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from Marathwada. In the case of income from entertainment duty, out of the total income of Rs. 25 lakhs, Rs. 15 lakhs would come from old Bombay State areas ; Rs. 3 lakhs from Saurashtra ; Re. 1 lakh from Kutch ; Rs. 5 lakhs from Vidarbha and Re. 1 lakh from Marathwada. As regards the electricity duty, out of the total income of Rs. 25 lakhs, Rs. 14 lakhs would be from old Bombay State, Rs. 5 lakhs from Saurashtra, nil from Kutch, Rs. 5 lakhs from Vidarbha and Re. 1 lakh from Marathwada. In the case of the income from the Motor Vehicles Tax, the total income expected is Rs. 15 lakhs. In this case there would be an income of Rs. 17 lakhs from Saurashtra and Rs. 5 lakhs from Marathwada but out of this income we have made a provision to benefit Vidarbha to the extent of Rs. 7 lakhs because there the taxation being high, it has been reduced. In the case of the Motor Spirit and Diesel Oil tax, out of the total expected income of Rs. 30 lakhs, Rs. 17 lakhs would be from old Bombay State areas, Rs. 4 lakhs would be from Saurashtra, Re. 1 lakh from the Kutch areas, Rs. 6 lakhs from Vidarbha and Rs. 2 lakhs from Marathwada areas. In other words, out of the total expected income of Rs. 3 crores, an income of Rs. 173 lakhs would be from the old Bombay State, Rs. 52 lakhs would be from Saurashtra, Rs. 5 lakhs from Kutch, Rs. 48 lakhs from Vidarbha and Rs. 22 lakhs from Marathwada. Now it would be more interesting to compare the percentage of total expenditure in each component areas. In this connection, I might state that if the proposed taxation is expressed in terms of percentage of total taxation in each component area, it works out at 58 per cent. for former Bombay, 17 per cent. for Saurashtra, 2 per cent. for Kutch, 16 per cent. for Vidarbha and 7 per cent. for Marathwada. As against the figures which I gave just now, that is, Rs. 12 crores of additional taxation from the former Bombay area, Rs. 5 crores from Saurashtra, Rs. 5.40 crores from Vidarbha and Rs. 1.70 crores from Marathwada, which works out to Rs. 24.10 crores, under the new arrangement Bombay will get 50 per cent., Saurashtra 21 per cent. Vidarbha 22 per cent. and Marathwada 7 per cent. In the case of Kutch we have no figures. Therefore, out of Rs. 24.10 crores, Vidarbha, which was to provide Rs. 5.4 crores or 21 per cent., under the new arrangement it will have to provide 17 per cent. In the case of Marathwada, where it was formerly expected to provide 1.70 crores, that is 7 per cent., under the new arrangement also it will have to provide the same.

It will thus be seen from the statistical data which I have cited that, while the Five Year Plan additional taxation target of the former Bombay State areas is 50 per cent., the additional taxation to be raised in 1958-59 in these areas works out to 58 per cent. of this, or 8 per cent. more. It is, however, justifiable as compared to the other areas, the former Bombay State areas may be considered relatively advanced and, therefore, capable of bearing a somewhat larger proportion of the proposed tax burden. Obviously, the other backward areas, therefore, bear less than their proportionate share which was provided in their respective second Five Year Plan proposals. This will be clearly seen from the figures that I have given, as against the loud cries of several hon. Members opposite that the newer and relatively more backward areas were being taxed more.

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I may say here that, so far as the Vidarbha and the Marathwada areas, about which a particular reference has been made, are concerned I will dwell upon them a little more here. The additional taxation target of Vidarbha is 21 per cent., against which its share in additional taxation for the coming year is only 17 per cent. Hon. Members are aware that Plan provisions for Vidarbha have been increased to the extent of Rs. 5 crores which the Planning Commission was to absorb as part of the overall target of Rs. 350 crores. Then, due to integration, various benefits will accrue to this area which has added to the overall expenditure. The other benefits are, increased grants to local bodies, reduction of sales tax on cotton from 2 per cent. to 1 per cent. and the abolition of the tax on trades, professions, callings and employment. So this is the other side of the picture.

So far as Marathwada is concerned, while its taxation target in five years is 7 per cent., its share in the next year's taxation is also 7 per cent. But then it has also to be noted that relief in taxation has been granted in Marathwada by the removal of the sales tax on foodgrains, flour, atta, *maida*, paddy and fresh fruit, besides the reduction in sales tax on cotton from 2 to 1 per cent. Further, the tax on agricultural income in Marathwada is also going to be removed. To this may also be added the benefits of the several special welfare measures which have been referred to in my Budget speech, apart from the benefits to its staff from the integration proposals so far as the staff is concerned.

It will thus be seen, Sir, that the additional taxation measures will have an incidence and impact which is, more or less, just and fair to all the areas of the State and in no way high, as alleged by several hon. Members opposite, for the other areas of the State.

Hon. Members, not merely on this side of the House but also those belonging to the Opposition parties, have not taken any serious exception to Government's proposals for unification of taxes. The new tax on passenger fares has, however, been objected to and has raised some doubts which I should like to clear at this stage. The tax is not an innovation on our part ; it exists in some other States already. In introducing this tax we are converting the bus fares into the new decimal coinage which is absolutely necessary, and, at the same time, unifying the different tariff rates prevailing in the different areas. It has been assumed that the 10 per cent. tax on passenger fares would *ipso tanto* result in a 10 per cent. increase in the bus fares to be paid in the rural areas. This is not so. In the Marathwada area it would not be increased, nor in the Kutch area, where, the hon. Member Shri Devji Rattensay said, it would be 12 pies in the rupee. It is not so. As a matter of fact, the revised estimates and the trends of actuals of the State Transport Undertakings which will bear the major portion of the tax, indicate that they have been deriving some surplus. Government will, therefore, direct the State Transport Corporation to bear the tax on passenger fares to the maximum extent possible out of their present profits. My estimate is that about 40 per cent. of the tax

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will be paid out of their profits. Only the balance will have to be covered by increased fares due to decimal coinage arrangements. The present tariff rates in the different S. T. Undertakings are—

- (1) 9 pies per passenger mile in the former Bombay State areas and Saurashtra,
- (2) 12 pies per passenger mile in Kutch,
- (3) 8 pies per passenger mile in Vidarbha (it varies from 6 pies to 12 pies per mile ; the average being 8 pies),
- (4) 10.5 pies per passenger mile in Marathwada.

Converted into decimal coinage, these would be—

- (1) 4.68 nP. per passenger mile in the former Bombay State areas and Saurashtra,
- (2) 6.25 nP. per passenger mile in Kutch,
- (3) 4.17 nP. per passenger mile in Vidarbha, and
- (4) 5.44 nP. per passenger mile in Marathwada.

All this would be in terms of naya paisa per mile.

As hon. Members are aware, the decimal coinage system has come into effect from the 1st April last year, and from 1st April 1958 we want to introduce it in the tariff rates of the State Transports. When the decimal coinage tariff rates are fixed, the rate will have to be 5 nP. per passenger mile for all Transport Undertakings throughout the State. In Marathwada and still more so in Kutch, the tariff rates will, therefore, actually be brought down from 5.44 nP. and 6.25 nP. to 5 nP. only. In the former Bombay State areas and Saurashtra, the additional fare will be 5 nP. minus 4.68 nP., which is the equivalent of nine pies—or 0.32 nP. per passenger mile,—or, as the hon. Member Shri Shukla mentioned, it would come to one anna per 20 miles.

In the Vidarbha areas, the additional incidence of the tax will be more because the present tariff is lower than elsewhere. As against this increase, it may be noticed that the motor vehicles in Vidarbha area will get the benefit of the reduction in Motor Vehicles Tax to the extent of Rs. 2 lakhs in all or at the rate of Rs. 175 per passenger bus. I have already referred to what additional benefits the Vidarbha area will get as indicated in my Budget proposals, to which I have referred a little while ago.

While I have already indicated that the various areas will bear the additional taxation in relation to their targets of plan amongst the various sections of the population *inter se*, I must emphasise that the incidence of the taxation has been arranged to be borne on that section of the people best able to bear the same. This would be particularly noticed, I hope, by hon. Members in their examination of the unification of the taxation proposals.

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It will thus be seen that, so far as entertainment duty is concerned, the increase at the Bombay City rate has been proposed for cities with a population of one lakh and over. Similarly, there will be an increase in electricity duty on domestic consumption in all cities with a population of one lakh and over. The same remarks apply with reference to the stamp duties, where the main increase will be in conveyance rates on cities and towns which are industrial. It is but fair that urban areas similarly situated throughout the State, like Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Nagpur, Akola, Jalna and Aurangabad should bear the rates of tax similar to Baroda, Surat, Sholapur, Kolhapur, Nasik and Dhulia. It will thus be seen that the incidence of taxation in rural areas is thus considerably less than as feared by several hon. Members opposite.

An hon. Member—I think it was my hon. Friend Shri Page—has argued that the tax on diesel oil might adversely affect the use of diesel for agricultural pumps. The Bills for taxation have now been published. If the hon. Member will kindly see the definition of “motor spirit” which includes diesel oil, he will find that the tax has been imposed only on high-speed diesel oil which does not include the diesel oil used for agricultural pumps. Industrial power in Saurashtra and power used for agricultural pumps in Vidarbha will not bear any electricity duty for the time being, that is, during the remaining period of the present Five-Year Plan.

Sir, Government has also exempted dramatic performances and circuses from payment of entertainment duty and would be doing so in the case of Tamashas, Bhavais, Wrestling Tournaments and similar performances current among backward classes or in rural areas.

There has been some confusion regarding the rates of taxation mentioned in the Bills and in my Budget speech. I have specifically said that some of the rates proposed are the maximum rates, while the actual rates will be notified. They will be nearabout the present rates in the former Bombay State. For example, on buses in the former Bombay State the rate of taxation is Rs. 32 per seat and this rate will be imposed on all areas, though the maximum rate provided in the Bill per passenger seat is Rs. 80. Similarly, though the sales tax on high-speed diesel oil as well as petrol would be up to a maximum of 20 per cent., in practice the rates will be increased only to the extent necessary in rounding off the present rates to the nearest multiple of 5 nP. For example, in the case of petrol, it comes to 37 nP. at the rate of 6 annas per gallon. Under the new arrangements it would be 40 nP. per gallon. The additional three nP. is for decimal currency purposes, which would go to the State instead of to the dealers in this commodity.

I shall now deal with some of the queries raised in the course of the general discussion by hon. Members. I shall deal with the issues raised department-wise.

Taking the Home Department first, some hon. Members have suggested that, just as there are branches of the High Court at Rajkot and Nagpur, Circuit High Courts should be opened at Ahmedabad and Poona. So far as Ahmedabad is concerned, the Bombay High Court was consulted and Government

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has decided that there is no case for establishing the Circuit High Court there. The same would apply to the case of Poona. Incidentally, it may also be noted that establishment of High Courts under the States Reorganisation Act is to be undertaken by the President of India in consultation with the Governor and the Chief Justice of a new State.

As regards the Public Works Department, one of the hon. Members suggested that since scarcity and famine conditions visit the districts of Ahmednagar and Sholapur frequently, permanent improvement measures to check famine in these areas are necessary. So far as the Ahmednagar District is concerned, it may be noted that the Ghod Weir Scheme, estimated to cost about Rs. 4.84 lacs and likely to irrigate 44,000 acres of land in the Ahmednagar District and 17,000 in Poona District, is in progress. Another project, viz., Mula Dam Project, estimated to cost Rs. 9.12 crores, has also been sanctioned which will irrigate, when completed, 1.4 lac acres. Besides the benefit to the district from the Godawari Irrigation through Gangapur tank, hon. Members may also be aware that some medium irrigation schemes have already been completed in the First Five-Year Plan in this area. In Sholapur, apart from the Vir Project estimated to cost Rs. 5.41 lacs, there will be the Budhial tank likely to cost Rs. 50 lacs, and Kurnur Scheme estimated to cost Rs. 1.4 crores. In Marathwada, 8 projects estimated to cost Rs. 2 crores are in progress and 16 more schemes are being included. I have already referred to irrigation schemes in the Vidarbha area from the additional provision of Rs. 2.5 crores, out of which Rs. 75 lacs would be spent in 1958-59. In my Budget speech detailed references have been made to irrigation works in the other parts of the State. I, therefore, need not refer to them on this occasion.

As regards the Local Self-Government and Public Health Department, the hon. Member Dr. Sathaye complained that eye camps are being held at improper times and without consulting the State Council on blindness. It may be noted in this connection that eye camps are held under the supervision of Civil Surgeons and operations are carried out by Government and honorary ophthalmic surgeons. As regards the holding of such camps, it depends upon the availability of large-sized accommodation for the purpose. It is only when the large high schools are closed during vacation that eye camps could be conveniently held there in the months of March and October respectively without any heavy additional expenditure, if special accommodation had to be provided for that purpose.

There are in the State 7 cantonments and one more will come into existence at Dehu Road. The hon. Member Shri Agarwal has, therefore, argued that the State Government should give grants-in-aid to the cantonments and they should get the same benefits as Corporations. I admire the persistence with which my hon. Friend tries to uphold the cause of the cantonments in this House, session after session, but I might remind him once again that the cantonments are governed by the Cantonment Act of 1924 and they are administered entirely by the Central Government. It is for the Central Government to give the cantonments grants-in-aid and I hope that the hon.

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Member will make efforts for the amelioration that he wants for these areas with that Government through his friends in the Parliament, representing those cantonment areas.

It was urged by some hon. Members that Government gives grants-in-aid to private hospitals and colleges only if there is a deficit, without reference to the work done by these institutions. It may be stated here that the good work done by private institutions is always recognised and taken into account, but there is no reason why grants should be made when they have surplus budgets in any particular year.

The hon. Member Shri Patwari raised a point that the Bombay-Ahmedabad road should be completed soon. On this road mainly the Ghodbandar-Manor section remains to be completed. Plans and estimates amounting to Rs. 35 lacs have been technically approved. On funds being available, this work would be taken in hand. The same would apply to the bridge over the Bassein Creek, ultimately to straighten the National Highway between Bombay and Ahmedabad instead of through Vajreshwari. Further, the bridge across the Nashada river requires to be repaired to carry heavier loads. Plans and estimates amounting to Rs. 30 lacs have been forwarded to the Government of India on 31st January, 1955. The cost of construction of the road is borne by the Government of India and efforts are being made to obtain the necessary funds from that Government. It has been recommended that a bridge across the Sabarmati river for easier communication with Kalol and the rest of Mehsana District is necessary and the Sabarmati Gram Panchayat has offered a contribution of Rs. 1 lac. The Ahmedabad Municipality is also thinking of giving some assistance in this connection. This question is, therefore, under consideration.

A point was raised about Government policy regarding roads in the Konkan region. According to the Nagpur Plan, the requirements of these districts of Thana, Kolaba and Ratnagiri and the progress actually achieved at the end of the First Five-Year Plan are as follows: Thana District would have 1,530 miles. Actually roads constructed, old and new, at the end of the First Five-Year Plan was 842 miles. The requirements of the Kolaba District under the Nagpur Plan are 1,171 miles and the roads constructed, old and new, at the end of the First Five-Year Plan are 534 miles. The need of the Ratnagiri district would be 2,946 miles under the Nagpur Plan. The actual roads, old and new, constructed at the end of the First Five-Year Plan are 1,965 miles. It will thus be noted that the achievement so far as these three districts are concerned is over 50 per cent. of the requirements, whereas in various districts of the State the road shortage is often over 70 per cent. The Konkan Districts are not, therefore, unjustly treated as referred to by some of the hon. Members here. Moreover, more mileage of constructed roads will be available in these districts through the Second Five-Year Plan road-works in these areas. This does not mean that Government is not sympathetic to the provision for more roads in these areas, particularly when they have not the facility of railway transport which is available elsewhere.

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As regards the needs of personnel on various engineering works, to which a reference was made, it may be said here that the requirements of personnel like Engineers and overseers have already been assessed. Against an aggregate requirement of 1,141 Engineers, we have 812. Against the requirement of 4,860 overseers, we have 3,036. To meet this shortage the admissions to diploma courses have been increased from 670 to 1,550 and to degree courses from 435 to 970 with effect from the current academic year. It is true that it would take 4 years for these diploma and degree holders to come out. It may also be stated that since the year 1955, Government has started classes for training suitable matriculate students as technical assistants; on completion of theoretical and practical courses extending over a period of nine months, they are appointed as Technical Assistants against the vacant posts of overseers to carry out some of their duties. Thus it would be seen that steps are taken to make good the shortage which we really feel so far as the engineering personnel is concerned.

As regards education, the hon. Member Shri Ogale wanted to know as to why the National Discipline Scheme has been introduced when there are other schemes, such as scouting and A. C. C. for the development of character. National Discipline Scheme is ordinarily meant for children who have not joined either as scouts or the A. C. C.

A point was raised by my hon. Friend Prof. Karve about larger grants-in-aid to colleges. While this is no doubt desirable, it may be emphasised that so far as Government is concerned, its primary concern is with primary education. As regards secondary education, which was referred to during the discussion, the attention of the hon. House may be drawn to the fact that an Integration Committee is already reviewing the problems relating to it, including grants-in-aid. With heavy responsibilities for primary and secondary education and also for University requirements at the other end, it would be very difficult for Government to provide larger grants for Arts and Science colleges, however much Government ordinarily desire to do so. Moreover, so far as technical or professional colleges are concerned, Government bear the cost of such colleges either entirely or fairly liberally. So far as the problem of fees at colleges is concerned, to which an hon. Member made a reference, I must emphasise that there is some misunderstanding. These are regulated at the minimum level by the Universities and not by Government and the colleges are free to charge fees above these levels.

Then the hon. Member was good enough to point out a slight defect. He stated that at page 312, under the item "37-Education (C)—grants to non-Government Arts Colleges", the provision that was made for the year 1957-58 was Rs. 15,42,000 and the revised estimates showed the expenditure to be Rs. 26,53,000, i.e., a difference of Rs. 11,11,000. But as against that a supplementary demand for Rs. 13,16,000 had been made for the additional cost and this hon. House was good enough to sanction it. So there is a difference of Rs. 2 lakhs. In this connection I might state that, so far as the

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revised estimates are concerned, they are based on the eight-monthly expenditure, i.e., expenditure incurred from 1st April to 30th November. But so far as the supplementary demand is concerned, it includes the expenditure of two months more, viz., December and January, and, therefore, the figures show a slight variation to which the hon. Member had drawn our attention. No doubt, being a Professor of Chemistry, he would like that the figures should also be as precise as the chemistry formula is, that they should not differ even in minutest details. But I have already explained as to how this variation comes.

The hon. Member also made a reference to the delays in administration, such as the delays in granting pensions. He wanted to see that the performance is carried efficiently and it was perfectly a proper thing for him to expect. I do hope that, before the Second Five-Year Plan is finished, we shall be able to carry out most of the things in which this House and the public have set their hearts. He wanted to judge this performance from the point of view of the delay in the payment of pensions. He made a particular reference to that point, even though the day before I had given in detail the reasons for the delays in the settlement of pensions. I need not go into the question of delays in the disposal of pension cases here because the hon. Member has put in a question to which the House may have to hear something when we meet next.

Then, Sir, the hon. Member Shri Patwari wanted to know how it was that, while for 100 tenements of low-income group housing Rs. 7.5 lakhs were provided in the Supplementary Statement in 1957-58, the provision for 200 tenements in 1958-59 is Rs. 22.6 lakhs, that is, thrice as much against twice as much accommodation. This so-called higher expenditure during the next year is really not merely to cover the cost of 200 tenements but also for the completion cost of one hundred tenements taken up in 1957-58. A full provision for the latter was not made in the 1957-58 Supplementary Demand. The Supplementary Demand was only for the amount likely to be spent during the course of the year.

Then, Sir, this morning also some hon. Members were good enough to make certain observations. The hon. Member Shri A. R. Bhat wanted to insist on our representation that, so far as the excise duty is concerned, the payment should be on the basis of consumption. We are entirely of the same opinion and we do hope that the future Finance Commissions would be fair and just. We have no objection even to the population basis being adopted, provided the population basis is correctly calculated. The proper thing would be to combine the population as well as consumption, so that the country as a whole is treated on a fair basis.

As regards the hon. Member Shri Barfiwala's comments, my colleague Shri Ratubhai Adani has explained the position fully and I do hope that at least most of the doubts of the hon. Member Shri Barfiwala have been dispelled.

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

The hon. Member Shri Donde suggested that the tax on *tamashas* and public lectures should be abolished. I do not know what he meant by "public lectures" and I am not in a position to say whether there is any tax on public lectures or not; there may be such a tax. I have, however, already indicated in my speech that the tax on *tamashas* and *bhawai*, as also wrestling, would be removed. I did not really understand what the hon. Member meant.

Dr. D. D. KARVE: Lectures by tickets; there is entertainment tax on them.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA: Thank you for the information.

The hon. Member also made a reference to the distribution of excise duty on the basis of population, while the hon. Member Shri Bhat made a reference to the distribution of excise duty on the basis of consumption. I do hope that both these points would be taken into proper consideration in future.

Then, Sir, the hon. Member Shri Dongre made a suggestion regarding the creation of an Irrigation Fund out of the Provident Fund of Government servants. I do not think such a thing could be done. Provident Fund is meant for a particular purpose and, under the law, it cannot be diverted for any other use. I have made a reference to the fact that these funds are available to Government, which they are utilising in their ways and means position, but they cannot be utilised for any other purpose.

I hope, Sir, that most of the points raised by hon. Members have been dealt with either by my Colleagues, the Minister for Village Panchayats or the Minister for P. W. D. or by myself. If any point is left out, it is not because I was not impressed with the arguments raised by the hon. Members but because it would be impossible to cover, in a general reply, every particular point.

In concluding, Sir, I would once again thank hon. Members of this House for the general appreciation expressed regarding Government's plans and policies for the next year as envisaged in the Budget proposals. I even sense a similar appreciation from the Opposition Benches though, on account of their party tenets, some of them have fought shy of openly saying so, while some others have actually done so on parts of the proposals. The hon. Member Dr. Khair spoke of good points and also of weak points in the proposals of Government. I am, therefore, thankful to them also for their tacit or implied approval of the same. I am also thankful to the press and the public at large for the appreciative references made to the Budget.

In the end I would appeal once again to all the hon. Members to settle down to the great and noble task that is facing us, of building up a prosperous economy for our new State in the shortest time possible. Let us not waste time

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

by thinking in terms of breaking up our State but think constructively how best we can develop into a strong, united and prosperous State, for which it has immense potentialities. Thank you. (*Applause*)

The CHAIRMAN: The House now adjourns and will meet again on Friday, the 28th of March, 1958, at 2-30 p.m.

(*The House was adjourned at 11-30 a.m. till 2-30 p.m. on Friday, the 28th March, 1958.*)*

* Subsequently, the House met again on 26th March, 1958, instead of on the 28th March, 1958.

Wednesday, the 26th March, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 26th March, 1958. The Chairman, Shri BHOGILAL D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published.)

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sorry hon. Members have been put to certain inconvenience because of the change in the programme of meetings. The programme of meetings of the Legislative Assembly as originally settled has since been changed. The Legislative Assembly, after meeting on the 28th March, 1958, will adjourn till Monday, the 7th April, 1958. On 28th March, the Legislative Assembly will transact legislative business (Bills including Appropriation Bill) and from 7th to 11th April, 1958, the remaining Bills.

Two Bills, viz. :—

(1) L. C. Bill No. II of 1958 [Poona University (Amendment) Bill],

(2) L. C. Bill No. III of 1958 (Marathwada University Bill),

are being introduced in the Council. These two L. C. Bills have to be passed by the Council and sent to the Assembly to be passed during the current session. Besides, the Report of the Public Service Commission for the year 1953-57 and the Report of the Bombay Village Industries Board for the year 1953-57 have also been received for discussion in the Council.

With a view to transacting the above-said business in due time and also due to the change in time-table of the Legislative Assembly, it was necessary to call the meeting of the Legislative Council earlier on 26th March, 1958, and continue the meetings till 28th March, 1958, during which period it is expected that the Legislative Council will be able to pass the Appropriation Bill that may be transmitted by the Legislative Assembly and the two L. C. Bills and discuss the two Reports referred to above. Thereafter the Legislative Council may have to pass those L. A. Bills which may be transmitted after 11th April, Friday, to the Legislative Council. The Council will, therefore, adjourn on 28th March and meet again on 14th April, 1958.

L. C. BILL No. II OF 1958 (A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE POONA UNIVERSITY ACT, 1948).

Shri HITENDRA DESAI (Minister for Education): Sir, I beg to introduce L. C. Bill No. II of 1958 (A Bill further to amend the Poona University Act, 1948).*

The CHAIRMAN: L. C. Bill No. II of 1958 is introduced.

* (As published in the Bombay Government Gazette, dated 14th March 1958).
(a.c.f.) No. 3 Hb 1113—1

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I beg to move that L. C. Bill No. II of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Bill, to my mind, is a formal amending Bill. As the House is aware, one hon. Member introduced a non-official Bill in the same connection and I assured the House at that time that an official Bill will be brought before this House in this very session. In consequence of that I have brought this Bill. The Bill seeks to increase the number of members of Secondary Teachers of High Schools from 3 to 4 and reduce the number of Head Masters of High Schools from 4 to 3, as the number of Secondary School Teachers is larger than that of the Head Masters of High Schools. It is for that reason that we are bringing this Bill. At the same time, we have tried to introduce a clause in this Bill whereby this amendment will not affect the terms of the present sitting Members. I think so far as this Bill goes, the House will have no objection to passing the same.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers) : Sir, I support this Bill. It is true that the Head Masters are deprived of one seat and it is given to the teachers. Now four seats are given to the teachers and three seats are given to Head Masters. Whether the Head Masters are given three seats or four seats, it does not make much difference. Although they are Head Masters, I think all of them have been teachers and they have safe-guarded the interests of Secondary Education. I, therefore, welcome this Bill and support it.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has been explained by the Hon. the Minister for Education that the Bill is an amending Bill and that he did not think there will be any opposition to this Bill in this House. But I thought I would be failing in my duty if I do not stand to support this Bill and at the same time express my gratitude to Hon. the Education Minister for being so true to the solemn assurance that he gave on the floor of this very House when I had moved an amending Bill similar to this. The Bill is seeking to rectify the mistake and to undo the injustice that had been done to Secondary Teachers. As my hon. Friend Dr. Khair has explained, whether it is the Head Masters or the Secondary Teachers, they are all there to safeguard the interests of the teaching community in the University and I think that it was but proper that, after the Head Masters had enjoyed for the last two periods of 5 years each, the turn has now come for the Assistant Teachers to get what had been denied to them during the last 10 years. I am very glad that neither the hon. Member Dr. Khair nor the Hon. the Education Minister are in any way opposing this change in the original Bill. I do not want to add anything more, but I would like to say that Hon. the Minister for Education has tried his best to expedite the amending Bill, which could not have been brought a day sooner. Therefore, on behalf of the Secondary Teachers working in the schools under the jurisdiction of the University of Poona, I thank Hon. the Education Minister and support this Bill wholeheartedly.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE (Maharashtra—Graduates) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to offer a few remarks on the Bill which is before this Hon. House. At the outset I should like to congratulate the hon. Member Shri Ogale on his having brought this Bill in the last session. Secondly, I should again thank Hon. the Minister for Education for fulfilling the promise which he gave last time. The hon. Member Shri Ogale knows where the shoe pinches and, therefore, he brought a non-official Bill during the last session to correct a mistake that was left over in the Poona University Act. Here I would like to take the opportunity to bring to the notice of Government that the Poona University has appointed a Committee for suggesting certain amendments to the Poona University Act. Probably the work of the Committee would be expedited and before the next session begins most of the amendments would be ready. The next elections of the Poona University will be held in December this year and a subsequent amendment of the Act will not be of any effective use. I, therefore, request Government to see that these amendments are passed before the next election, if they are received in time from the Poona University.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I beg to move that L. C. Bill No. II of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I beg to move that L. C. Bill No. II of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. C. Bill No. II of 1958 is read a third time and passed.

L. C. BILL NO. III OF 1958 (A BILL TO ESTABLISH AND INCORPORATE A TEACHING AND AFFILIATING UNIVERSITY AT AURANGABAD TO BE KNOWN AS THE MARATHWADA UNIVERSITY).

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I beg to introduce L. C. Bill No. III of 1958 A Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating University at Aurangabad to be known as the Marathwada University)*.

I might also state that in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay has been pleased to recommend to this hon. House the consideration of this bill.

The CHAIRMAN : L. C. Bill No. III of 1958 is introduced.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I beg to move that L. C. Bill No. III of 1958 be read for the first time.

Question proposed.

* As published in the Bombay Government Gazette, Part V, dated the 14th March 1958, (G.O.F.) MO-3 Hb 1113-1a

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I consider it a privilege to move this Bill and I think that all the hon. Members of this House also will unanimously support the principle of this Bill. As the House might be aware, so far as the demand for a separate University for Marathwada was concerned, there had been a considerable agitation in the minds of the people there. There was some agitation even prior to the reorganisation of the States. Even the hon. Members of the Legislative Assembly there had thought that the University was absolutely necessary for satisfying the long aspirations of the Marathwada people and, therefore, the Council of Ministers passed a Resolution on the 27th October, 1956, to the effect that they consider it necessary to establish a separate University for the Marathwada area. It is stated in the Resolution that they were strongly of opinion that a separate University for Marathwada area should be established and, therefore, they decided to request the successor Government to take steps in that direction. That was all that the Hyderabad Government did so far as the question of establishment of a University for the Marathwada area was concerned. As this House is aware, this Government appointed a Committee on the 27th April, 1957, for going into the question of the establishment of the University in Marathwada and there were the usual terms of reference. Fortunately for all of us the members of the Committee took great pains and submitted their report in a short time. After the report was received by Government, though it is the usual belief that the wheels of democracy grind slowly, yet in this particular case Government saw that the wheels moved faster, with the result that it has been possible now for Government to bring this Bill before the House. I am also glad that the Bill has been introduced in this hon. House which consists of great many educationists and I have no doubt that it would be considered and examined here purely from the educational point of view. Now I do not think that I should make a very detailed speech for convincing this House about the need of a separate University for Marathwada area. Yet, Sir, I think that it would be better if I give a few facts to the hon. Members of this House.

As the House is aware, the area which is known as the Marathwada area comprises of 5 Districts, viz. Aurangabad, Parbhani, Nanded, Bhair and Osmanabad. The total area is 26,948 square miles and its total population is about 53 lakhs. In all there are 54 talukas and the number of villages in the five districts of the Marathwada area is about a little above 7,000. While we consider about the Marathwada area, I think the first thing which strikes us is the backwardness of the area in many matters and especially in the matter of educational facilities. For instance, if we consider the percentage of literacy, which has been mentioned in the very report, we find that it is 9.3 as compared to 16.7 for Maharashtra and 19.7 for Vidarbha. But the condition is worse in regard to the education of women, in which case the percentage is lower still, being only 2.6 as compared to 7.7 in Vidarbha and 8.3 in Maharashtra. If we take the case of the number of primary, middle and high schools, there also we shall find that the area compares unfavourably to the other areas of the State. For instance, the number of primary schools in the area is 3,686, which means that, for every two villages, there is one school for standards I to IV.

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So far as the number of Middle Schools is concerned, it is 231, which means that each taluka has about 4.4 schools. If we consider the question of the number of High Schools, the total number of High Schools in all these five districts of Marathwada area is 95, which comes to about 19 High Schools for each district. But, Sir, this is only an average. The schools are not distributed in these districts or in these villages in a uniform way; there is a disparity even in the distribution of these schools.

Sir, I do not want to take up much time of the House because the report of the Marathwada University Committee has given all the statistics relevant for the purpose. I shall only give a few figures which will clearly show how backward the Marathwada area is. Let us just compare the number of students in High Schools in each district in Standards VIII, IX and X with the number of students appearing for H. S. C. or S. S. C. Examinations in the different years. I do not want to give separate figures for each standard. In Aurangabad, the total number of students in these three standards is 4,628, in Bhair 2,829, in Parbhani 2,740, in Nanded 2,594 and in Osmanabad 5,702, and the total number of students in these three standards is 18,493. Now, if we just get an idea of the number of candidates who appeared and passed in the H. S. C. and H. S. C. Technical Examination from 1953 to 1957, we shall find that the number of students who appeared in the year 1953 is 3,756, whereas in the year 1957 the number of students who appeared is 6,465. In the year 1953, the number of students who passed is 1,065 and in the year 1957 the number of students who passed is 2,075. We may as well compare the enrolment of students in the various colleges in the Marathwada area. I shall not give to hon. Members minor details, but broadly speaking, so far as the total strength of students is concerned, I may mention that there are four colleges, viz. Government College of Arts and Science, Aurangabad, where the total strength is 517; M. L. Vidyalaya, Aurangabad, with a total strength of 911; Peoples' College, Nanded, with a total strength of 248 and Yogeshwari Science College, Mominabad, with a total strength of 135, and the total strength of students in all these colleges is 1,811. So far as the enrolment of students in professional colleges during 1957-58 is concerned, the total number of students in the College of Education, Aurangabad, Manikchand Pahade Law College, Aurangabad, Agricultural College, Parbhani and Medical College, Aurangabad, is 287. Therefore, so far as the total strength of students in the various colleges in the Marathwada area is concerned, it comes to 2,098, but, as I said, so far as the education of women in these areas is concerned, much requires to be done and even during my tour of these areas I could see that girls were quite willing to join the schools and even the colleges but much requires to be done in the matter of expansion of facilities for their education. It is for this very reason that, I think, a separate University for Marathwada is a necessity and I do not think that the hon. Members of this House will have any objection, in principle, to the establishment of a University in the Marathwada area.

So far as this Bill is concerned, I shall not take up the time of the House in giving all the details clause by clause because we are, at present, having a discussion on the principles of the Bill. I shall, however, give in brief a few features of the Bill which is before the House.

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This Bill seeks to establish a University in Marathwada, both an affiliating and a teaching University, which will also specialise in post-graduate teaching and research. So far as the powers of this University are concerned, they have been enumerated in clause 4 of the Bill. I shall only point out a few sub-clauses of clause 4 which, to my mind, are very important and essential for the House to know. For instance, sub-clause (14), "to make special provision for the spread of University education among classes and communities which are educationally backward"; then sub-clause (15), "to make special provision for disseminating knowledge and promoting arts and culture in rural areas"; then we have got sub-clause (17), "to establish, maintain and manage hostels"; then sub-clause (20), "to supervise and control the residence, conduct and discipline of the students of the University and to make arrangements for promoting their health and general welfare"; then sub-clause (22), "to institute and manage (a) a Publication Department, (b) University Extension Boards, (c) Information Bureaux, and (d) Employment Bureaux"; and, lastly, we have got sub-clause (23), "to make provision for (a) extra-mural teaching and other recognised activities, (b) physical training, and (c) sports and athletic clubs". These features are, to my mind, essential and the draft Bill embodies these principles.

Then, Sir, so far as the jurisdiction of the University is concerned, that has been mentioned in the Schedule, namely, five districts which I have already enumerated.

Clause 5 of the Bill empowers Government to enlarge the University area.
2.30 p.m. It reads:

"(1) The State Government may, by notification in the *Official Gazette* and with effect from such date as may be specified in such notification, enlarge the University area by adding any area to the Schedule:

Provided that, if the area to be so added is within the limits of the University area of any other University, such University shall be previously consulted....."

I was referring to the inadequacy of educational facilities to women in this area. In this connection, I think that the House will unanimously agree with the principle contained in clause 7 of the Bill. The clause reads:

"7. (1) No person shall be excluded from any office of the University, or from membership of any of its authorities, or from admission to any degree, diploma or other academic distinction or course of study on the ground only of sex, race, creed, class, place of birth, religious belief or political or other opinion:

Provided that the University may, subject to the previous sanction of the State Government maintain, affiliate or recognise any college or institution exclusively for women or reserve for women or members of classes and communities which are educationally backward, seats for the purposes of admission as students in any institution maintained by the University....."

Then, Sir, so far as the constitution of the various authorities of the University is concerned, clause 9 of the Bill deals with the officers of the University, namely, the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, the Deans of Faculties, the Registrar, etc. The Bill makes special provision with regard to the appointment of Vice-Chancellor. I should like to draw the attention of hon. Members to the provisions contained in clause 11. It reads:

"11. (1) For the appointment of a Vice-Chancellor there shall be a committee of three persons, two of whom shall be persons not connected with the University or any college or institution maintained or recognised by or affiliated to the University, nominated by the Executive

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Council, and one person nominated by the Chancellor, who shall also appoint one of the three as Chairman of such committee. The Committee shall select not less than three persons and shall report its selection to the Chancellor. The Chancellor shall appoint one of the three persons so selected, to be Vice-Chancellor. If the Chancellor does not approve any of the persons so selected, he may call for a fresh selection....."

Then, Sir, clause 15 lays down as to who shall be the authorities of the University. It says:

"15. The following shall be the authorities of the University, namely:—

- (i) The Court,
- (ii) The Executive Council,
- (iii) The Academic Council,
- (iv) The Faculties,
- (v) The Boards of Studies,
- (vi) The Board of University Teaching,
- (vii) The Board of Extra Mural Studies, and
- (viii) Such other boards or bodies of the University as may be declared by the Statutes to be the authorities of the University."

Clause 16 deals with the composition of the Court.

Shri BIDESH T. KULKARNI: On a point of information, Sir. The principle of giving recognition to registered trade unions has been accepted by other University Acts. Why does not the Bill recognise that principle?

Shri HITENDRA DESAI: Sir, we are now on the first reading of the Bill. The point that the hon. Member made just now can be considered at the time of the clause by clause reading of the Bill.

In a recent amending provision to the Poona University Act, we have provided for four members for secondary teachers and 3 members for Head Masters.

There are other provisions in the Bill dealing with Statutes and Ordinances and regulations, and I do not think I need take up the time of the House in explaining the details of the provisions. I shall refer to the provision regarding the medium of instruction and examination. Clause 41, which deals with it, says:

"41. The University shall endeavour to promote the development of the study of Marathi, and the use of Marathi as a medium of instruction and examination:

Provided that English or Hindi may be the medium of instruction and examination in such subjects, and for such period, as may from time to time be prescribed by the Statutes."

I do not think there is anything objectionable in the provisions contained in clause 41.

So far as the financial implications of this Bill are concerned, I may point out to hon. Members that that was one of the main considerations which weighed with Government. As a matter of fact, there has been no provision in the Second Five-Year Plan for the proposed University. Notwithstanding that, Government was convinced of the urgency of the problem. So far as the financial implications go, it is admitted that the total recurring expenditure

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would be Rs. 9,40,184. The total non-recurring expenditure would be to the tune of Rs. 45,50,000. The details have been given in the Report of the Committee and I do not wish to take the time of the House in giving all the details so far as the financial implications are concerned.

I have invited the attention of the hon. Members of this House to some of the special features of this Bill and I am quite sure that this Bill will go a long way, if it becomes a law, to satisfy the legitimate aspirations of the people of the Marathwada area. The establishment of a University in the Marathwada area may pave the way for further development and expansion of educational facilities in those areas and it may also pave the way for development of this area in all spheres of life. I, therefore, say that it is my privilege to move this Bill, and I am quite sure that it will have the unanimous support of the hon. Members of this House.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand, on behalf of the teachers of Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra, to congratulate Government and support this Bill for the creation of a new University for the Marathwada area. The Marathwada people may be congratulated on their fortune for having a new University, which is the fulfilment of their aspirations and demand. One thing that should be noted here is that, within a year practically of the appointment of the Committee to investigate the pros and cons of the problem of the University, this University Bill has come before this House and it is hoped that the working of the University will start in right earnest by the beginning of the coming academic year. There were arguments for and against the creation of such a University. These arguments were carried on on both the sides, not only outside the area of Marathwada, but also inside that particular area. One of the arguments that was advanced against the starting of a University was that the number of students and the number of colleges was rather small to warrant the creation of a separate and independent University, and it would be advisable, it was proposed, that the Marathwada people should associate themselves, for some time to come, with the existing Universities and wait for some time until the area was ripe for an independent University. On the other hand, there was a very strong opinion inside Marathwada, which was supported by people from outside also, that if the Marathwada people have an aspiration for having their own University, then they should have a University. I was one of those who held the opinion that the core of the Marathwada University should be made dependent upon the wishes, aspirations and plans of the Marathwada people themselves. If the people of Marathwada wanted a University, they should have a University because this is a region where the people have their own educational, cultural and academic aspirations and if they feel that they could fulfil the aspirations by having an independent University they should have an independent University. Personally I feel that this University will go a long way in creating among the people in that particular region an enthusiasm for education, not only higher education but also all types of education. It is conceded that the area is educationally backward. But this backwardness is not inherent and intrinsic in the situation. It is an outcome of certain political conditions

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under which that particular area was labouring for the last so many years. Otherwise, if it had been a part of other parts of Maharashtra or as independent and free in a limited sense as the other parts, then the educational progress of that area would have followed the same lines as in other areas of Maharashtra or Vidarbha or Gujarat or any other part of India. Therefore, it is but natural that the people of Marathwada should feel that they need special attention from Government and that they themselves need put some special efforts in order to bring their area upto the standard of other areas. They feel that this can be done by having an independent University and I agree with that view because, if the Marathwada Colleges become a part of the other Universities, they might be there in a minority, and they would have very little voice, whereas, in an independent University, the members of that region associating themselves with the various bodies and officers and authorities would be large and, therefore, they would be taking a greater interest and a greater part in the educational development and educational discussions of that area. From all these points of view I very strongly support the creation of this University and hope that the University will come into existence as soon as possible. At the same time I should like to give a warning to those who are at the helms of affairs of the University, that a University has its own responsibility, that such a University creates and establishes traditions which decides the status of that University, not only in the academic field of this country but in the academic field of international Universities also. The students of the different Universities seek admission when there is equivalence of degrees and courses of different Universities. The Marathwada University has to establish high and good traditions in the academic field not only in this country but in the academic field of international Universities as well so that the other Universities will have a respect for the standards of this University. Just as some other Universities in India have established their reputation not only in this country but in the international educational field also, similarly I wish and suggest that the leaders of the Marathwada University should place before themselves these ambitions of establishing and raising the status of this University; otherwise, it is not the University alone which will come into disrepute, but a large number of students of that particular area will also suffer. The students holding the degrees of this University will be denied admission not only to the academic courses but to the different services that are available to the graduates of the different Universities. With these general observations on the creation of the University, I shall now make some observations with regard to the constitution of the University as has been embodied in this Bill.

I find from the constitution that Government has tried to embody some of the good features of the different Universities, especially some good points from the Poona University and the Bombay University. One good feature that I find here is that the Court of the University consists of persons who will have a fairly good educational standing so that the considerations and the discussions in the University would be fairly on a high level. But while giving compliments to the framers of the constitution, I have certain suggestions to make and I have to point out certain drawbacks as I see them in

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the composition and the constitution of the University. I am making some suggestions so that, if time comes for the re-constitution or a revision or amendment of the Act, they may be considered by the framers of the Bill and in the light of the experience which the University will get and in the light of the suggestions which I am making the next amendments may be drafted.

In the first instance, I find that the degree of Government control tried to be brought in the University by different ways and provisions has been rather disproportionate. The Senate or the Court of the University will be very small. But in this small Senate or the Court of the University, there is going to be a proportionately large number of ex-officio members from the various Departments of Government. Similarly, the nominated element in such a small House is rather large. It is not necessary to have 15 nominated members in a small House or a small Court of 75 or 80 members. The nominated and ex-officio element in the University is an element which should receive some more consideration. From our experience we find that very few of the ex-officio members attend and take part in the discussions. There is a sort of aloofness in them and they feel that as Government persons, they should not take part in the discussions. Therefore, so far as the discussion value is concerned, the value of the ex-officio members is practically nil. But there is another value and that is the election value. When elections to the Executive Council and similar bodies have to take place, then these members attend in large numbers, give their votes and go away. Thus there are two values, viz. the discussion value and the election value, and it is only from the point of view of the election value that these members are useful and not the discussion value which, as a matter of fact, is of greater importance to the University. So from this point of view I suggest that the official element should be reduced as far as possible. Similarly, the nominated element should be reduced from 15 to at least 10. The people who are nominated by Government generally belong to one party and there creeps into the University a tendency to carry on the elections on party lines rather than on educational and academic lines. When a group of people belonging to a particular party is there in the University, naturally the working goes on, not on the academic lines but on the lines of the political party. Moreover, having a large number of nominated and ex-officio people is a sort of an indirect way for Government to influence the working of a University and from this point of view, in order to keep the University affairs aloof from Government control, either directly or indirectly, I propose that the official element and the nominated element should be reduced to as small a proportion as possible.

There is another indirect way by which it is possible for Government to control the working of the University and that is by nomination of the Vice-Chancellor. It is proposed here that a Committee of two people nominated by the Executive Council and one person by the Chancellor shall suggest a panel of names out of whom the Chancellor should nominate the Vice-Chancellor. As hon. Members must have realised, the post of the Vice-Chancellor is a paid post and, therefore, it is of importance. The Vice-Chancellor is generally at the helm of the executive affairs of the University and occupies an important executive post. From this point of view I suggest

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that, after the Executive Council has appointed two persons and the Chancellor has appointed a person to form a Committee, the Committee itself should be empowered to nominate the Vice-Chancellor and the power of nominating the Vice-Chancellor should not be given to the Chancellor, because, after all, although in theory the Chancellor does this appointment, in actual practice what we find is that the Chancellor consults the Cabinet or the Government—of course the opinion of Government is not binding upon him but the convention is that the Chancellor consults Government—and actually what happens is that the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor is the appointment of Government itself. Therefore, such a Vice-Chancellor will feel a sort of moral obligation to look to Government policy every time rather than the educational and the academic policy of the University. From this point of view, I feel that these ways in which Government is influencing the University should be reduced as far as possible. I would suggest one way of reducing the Government control in the nomination of the Vice-Chancellor. The Committee should propose a panel of names and if the Chancellor feels that one or two names are undesirable, those names may be removed and out of the remaining names the Committee itself should nominate anybody, so that, if there is any possibility of bringing in some undesirable person who is likely to harm the working of the University, then that possibility would be eliminated by this system. Such a system is in existence in certain countries. A panel of names is suggested to the higher authorities, then the higher authority removes the names of any person who might be undesirable and out of the other persons who are supposed to be equally capable, any person is selected by the Committee itself. This is one suggestion which may be kept in mind by Government.

Then coming to the composition of the Court, as I have said the Court consists of fairly educated people. I do not know what would be the nature of the nominated element, but so far as the teachers from the Universities, graduates and other things are concerned, there is a good plan to have graduates of different faculties so that there may be a representation of law, medicine, engineering and arts graduates. That is a very good and commendable feature which has been taken from the Bombay University Act.

Now, Sir, there is one thing that I should like to propose here. After having constituted a Court and after having taken care to see

3-00 p.m.

that the Court consists of people who have some experience in the field of education, who have got some University education for themselves, it is but proper that all those members of the Court, those of whom who are desirable should be associated with not only non-academic but also academic discussion of the University wherever it is possible. On the contrary, we find here that the members of the Court are concerned mostly with non-academic matters and they have nothing to do with such bodies as the Faculties or the Boards of Studies or similar other academic bodies. I suggest that some of the members of the Court should have experience in their particular professional fields. There are, for example, good lawyers; there are good engineers; there are good doctors. Some of the graduates may be men of literature, some of them may be good scientists. It is desirable that at least one person

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from the Court should be associated with each Board of Studies. The Board of Studies in Law or the Board of Studies in Medicine, for example, should be constituted not merely of teachers in that particular subject but they should have amongst themselves a person who is not connected with teaching but who is connected with the profession, that is the profession of law or the profession of medicine. If that is done, then probably, in making the courses of studies or in other matters, the experience of such a person is likely to be of use to the members of the courses of studies, and through the courses of studies that member may go to the Faculty. In this way, it is possible to associate with the Court educated people, those who are connected with the different professions and who have got some experience in the professions. They will themselves know what are the handicaps and difficulties in education which they have got and they will have certain ideas with regard to the improvement of the courses of studies and similar subjects. So the experience of such persons can be availed of if there is a provision to associate these people with the different Boards of Studies and Faculties and different academic bodies.

Similarly, there is a provision made for the establishment of a Board for Extra-Mural Studies. We find from the Bill that practically all the members of this Board are to be nominated by the Executive Council. Now, these are people who are likely to work in the different districts. They are likely to be in association with the different bodies that will carry on extra-mural studies. This is a Department which goes out among the people, in the taluka and district places. If the Board for Extra-Mural Studies is created by the Court itself and if those members who belong to the Court are associated with this Board, then they are likely to have greater enthusiasm and they are likely to take greater interest in the working of the Board. I would request the Hon. Minister for Education to bear this suggestion of mine in mind.

Then, Sir, I have a few observations to make with regard to the Tribunal or the Arbitration Board. There is a provision for arbitration, and if there is any controversy or some differences between the University or the teacher or any two bodies of the University, then the representatives of these two bodies, that is the representatives of the University and of the teacher and a third person form the Board of Arbitrators. Now, by such a constitution we find that persons who are nominated by the University and by the teacher are likely to take the side of the University and of the teacher and the third person would be the only person to give an independent decision and have an independent view. So the main purpose of having an independent view and an independent decision will not be served by having representatives of the University or of the party concerned but the matter should be considered by entirely different persons. These people should have the power to hear evidence, that is of the University and that of the teacher and then they can form an independent opinion and take an independent decision in the matter. There are likely to be Arbitration Boards for students as also for teachers where questions will have to be discussed on a different basis. The general consensus of opinion is that the different bodies who are connected with these cases should have the power to lead evidence, they should have the power

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to give their own statement and the decision should be taken by a committee of persons who are entirely of an independent standing and holding an independent view.

These, Sir, are some of the suggestions that I have to make with regard to the improvement of the constitution of the University. I should like to give my blessings to this University and I hope the other Members will also do the same.

Shri D. H. SAHASRABUDDHE (Vidarbha—Teachers) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand to congratulate the Government of Bombay on its taking this bold step of trying to found this University, in spite of the fact that the where-withal is not to be found in the Second Five Year Plan. Government wheels have moved faster than expected, and, therefore, the people of Marathwada deserve all the blessings from Government and from this House.

There are very many welcome provisions made in the draft Bill to which the Hon. Minister for Education has invited our attention. I would further like to state that there is a provision to make arrangements for training for competitive examinations for recruitment to the services under the Union and State Governments and any educational institution outside the University area or in other territories outside the State of Bombay can also be affiliated with the previous consent of the State Government and the University concerned. Then, inspection of colleges by the Executive Council has also been provided for. These are some of the welcome features which I for one would like to endorse. But there are certain other provisions which, it is held, are not to the liking of the academic bodies which are sought to be created. For example, under the functions of the University, which are embodied in clause 18, it is stated—“to recommend affiliation of colleges to the State Government”. Now, this is said to be making some power which the State Government is expected to exercise. If you will read some of the relevant provisions under clauses 38, 37 and 36, it will be found that an application for recognition, etc. has to be considered by the Academic Council, the Executive Council and also by the Board. So far as the Board is concerned, there are certain provisions to see that an application is passed with a thumping majority. In spite of all this, it has been stated that the Registrar shall send all the relevant papers, with the proceedings, to the State Government and it shall be for the State Government to accord affiliation or not. It has been further stated in the relevant section that Government can also state the faculties to be started in the particular colleges to be affiliated. After all the discussion that would have taken place in the Court, in the Executive Council and in the Academic Council, I for one fail to understand why the State Government should have such power and, secondly, why the State Government should have the power to state which faculty should be started and which should not be started. There is also a similar provision with regard to the withdrawal of affiliation. These are some of the powers which the State Government seems to take to itself, which, as a matter of fact, should be left to the University and the Court.

[Shri D. H. Sahasrabudhe]

Then, Sir, in very many places the Vice Chancellor has been put as an ex-officio member. It has already been pointed out by the hon. Member Dr. Khair that the Vice Chancellor's post is a salaried one and it is very likely, from the procedure that has been detailed here, that Government would like to have its own man as the Vice Chancellor, who may look to Government rather than to the educational policies of the University. The Vice Chancellor has been given ex-officio place in so many bodies to such an extent that even in the selection and appointment of examiners, he has been made the ex-officio Chairman of that body. I believe, if all the relevant powers of the Vice-Chancellor are considered *in toto*, the University might become the Vice-Chancellor's University only.

Then, Sir, it has been stated that the medium of instruction should be Marathi and that all attempts should be made to develop Marathi as the medium of instruction. But in the latter para. of clause 41, there is a provision, that English or Hindi may be the medium of instruction and examination. I do not know whether this is correct, and whether the intention is that English and/or Hindi may be the medium of instruction. It is very likely that, for some time to come, English will be the medium of instruction, and it might be that Hindi shall have to be developed as the medium of instruction in our colleges and universities, and, therefore, for the time being, instead of the provision "English or Hindi", it should be and it is desirable to have the provision that English and/or Hindi should be developed as the medium of instruction in the Marathwada university.

Then, Sir, in some of the clauses it has been stated that the consent of the State Government for starting an entrance examination has to be obtained by the University. I fail to understand why this power should be left with Government; in other words, why the power should be taken away from the University and vested in the State Government.

Sir, these were some of the observations I wanted to make on the first reading of the Bill before the House.

Dr. D. D. KARVE (Maharashtra—Graduates): Mr. Chairman, first of all I would like to mention that I am one of the hon. Members here representing the region—I represent the graduates of the Marathwada region also—and I am more intimately connected with the establishment of the proposed University, and I should like to congratulate Government, firstly, on their having taken this decision, and secondly, on moving with the speed with which they have moved. I only wish that the enthusiasm of the Hon. Minister for Education infects the other Departments of Government and that they also begin to move faster than the speed with which they do now.

Coming to some of the points that have been raised during the course of the discussion so far, I should like to say that the new procedure that has been embodied in this Bill for the appointment of the Vice Chancellor is a very salutary and desirable feature of the Bill and follows, as the Hon. Minister for Education mentioned, the present practice of the Delhi University and

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also follows the lines of the recommendations of the Central Advisory Board of Education and the Radhakrishnan Committee recommendations. I am afraid I cannot agree with my hon. Friend Dr. Khair in the point he made about the composition of the Court. He seems to have lumped together the ex-officio Members and the nominated Members. He has left out only the 35 elected Members. That is not correct. Among the ex-officio Members are, firstly, the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor, Vice Chancellors of other Universities, Deans of Faculties, the Registrar etc., who are really educationists and whom Government does not appoint on the Court. Such ex-officio Members are only 9, viz., the Chief Justice, the Hon. Minister for Education, the Director of Education and so on.

The CHAIRMAN: I should like to bring to the notice of the hon. Member that we are now considering the first reading of the Bill when only the principles underlying the Bill are considered. Therefore, this is not the stage to go into the details in which the hon. Member is going. This can be done at the time of the second reading of the Bill.

Dr. D. D. KARVE: I bow to your ruling, Sir. I just wanted to point out that ex-officio Members cannot be put in the same category as the nominated Members.

As regards the other features of the Bill, I think the Bill contains most of the provisions in the existing similar Acts. There are certain minor points on which some amendments are necessary, and I shall have occasion to refer to them when we come to the clause by clause reading of the Bill. In conclusion, I would say that the establishment of this University is to be definitely welcomed.

श्री. बच्छराज व्यास (विदर्भ—स्नातक): माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस सदन में जो बिल पेश किया गया है वह आगे बढ़ाने वाला कदम है। बघाई तो इसे सब ओर से मिलेगी ही और बघाई देने के कार्य में शामिल होना मैं अपना कर्तव्य समझता हूँ परन्तु स्नातकों के प्रतिनिधि के रूप में मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि क्या बात है कि सरकार को इतने अधिक प्रतिनिधियों को नामिनेट करने की आवश्यकता मालूम हुई। इतने अधिक नामिनेट प्रतिनिधियों को यूनिवर्सिटी पर लाने की सरकार को आखिर आवश्यकता क्यों प्रतीत हुई? अगर वे किसी डिपार्टमेंट में प्रमाणित हैं या अन्य कोई ऐसे ही कारण हैं जिनकी वजह से उन्हें प्रतिनिधित्व देने के लिये नामिनेट किया जा रहा है तब तो ठीक है वरना ऐसी जगहों पर तो चुने हुए प्रतिनिधियों को ही आना चाहिए विशेषकर ग्रेजुएट्स ही आने चाहिए जिससे आज जो शिकायतें पेश की गई हैं वे दूर हो सकें। इसके महत्व पर सरकार विचार करे। बाकी के जो भाग हैं उनसे मैं सहमत हूँ। इस बिल के लिए मैं सरकार को बघाई देता हूँ और इसका समर्थन करते हुए मैं अपनी जगह पर बैठता हूँ।

Shri S. L. OGAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, all the previous speakers have congratulated Government on its introducing this Bill today, which seeks to establish a University at Marathwada. The people of Marathwada also have to be congratulated on their efforts which have been crowned with success. Their clamour for a University has been met. But I wish to pay compliments to the Hon. Minister for Education for a different reason altogether, and that is for introducing this Bill first in this House. By doing so, I think he has created a precedent, and I think this will be followed in future.

[Shri S. L. Ogale]

Some HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ: It is but proper that a Bill connected with education should first be introduced in this House where there are special representatives of the teaching community.

With your permission, Sir, I may also pay my compliments to the Hon. Minister for Education for having moved the Bill amending the Poona University Act first in this House.

Going back to the Bill before the House, I have no doubt that the proposed University, when established, will do a great service to the Marathwada region, which has unfortunately for long been a neglected region, and therefore, undeveloped region of our country, and that too for no fault of it. As pointed out by the hon. Member Dr. Khair, it is not that the region lacks in intelligence or enthusiasm, but for certain political circumstances, it was labouring all the while under a great injustice. I do not mean to suggest that the ex-Hyderabad State was educationally backward. It professed to have a University which claims to be one of the leading universities in India and a University which, for the first time, introduced a regional language as the medium of instruction. Sir, all along the Osmania University was doing great injustice to the Marathwada region. The Marathwada region, as the report rightly says, comprises one-third area of the entire State, and it was contributing one-third of the revenue of the State, but still if you look to the money that was spent by the Osmania University for Marathwada, it was spending only 4 per cent of the Budgeted amount. With the advent of independence and the changed circumstances of 1947, the people of Marathwada were sure that their long felt aspirations would soon be fulfilled. This University Bill would have been a *fait accompli* at least six months back if not before, had not the problem of re-organisation of States cropped up, because the democratic Government of Hyderabad State had consented to the cause of creating 3 universities in Hyderabad, one for Marathwada, one for Telangana and the third for Karnataka part of the State. But still, I must congratulate the Government of Bombay on its having decided to create the Marathwada University. This University, I hope, will bring harmonious growth in Marathwada region not only in the economic sphere, but also in the educational, cultural and other spheres and it would bring about a development for the so-called backward region, by removing the backwardness and by raising it, as the report says, on par with the other developed component parts of the State and by carrying on research work in the main commercial crops, sugarcane, cotton and oil-seeds. I think it will contribute to the speedy all round development of the region.

Also, I have to congratulate the Marathwada University Committee because I find that it is perhaps the first Committee which has submitted the report within the stipulated period. It has signed the report on 1st December when it was asked to submit the report before the end of the year. After the report was submitted, Government also—as many hon. Members pointed out—has expedited the introduction of this Bill before this hon. House.

[Shri S. L. Ogale]

Sir, the Bill that is before us follows, to a very great extent, the pattern of the recommendations made by the Committee. Only here and there there are certain deviations. Some deviations are good and some are not good. One of the good deviations, as the Hon. Minister for Education has pointed out, is that the Committee had not allotted any seat out of the 4 seats to the Secondary Teachers. It had allotted 4 seats to the Head Masters only. The Hon. the Education Minister has allotted in this Bill 4 seats to Assistant Teachers and 3 seats to Head Masters. That is a deviation from the recommendations of the Committee and it is a good deviation.

As my hon. Friend Dr. Khair rightly pointed out, the functional representation given to the various Graduate Constituencies is also a praiseworthy deviation.

But, Sir, when I come to the number of nominated members, there the Bill deviates and deviates in a wrong way. We read from the Report that the Committee has recommended only 5 members to be nominated. The fact should not be ignored that in these days of what we call elected democracy, the number of nominated members should not be disproportionately big. Where they are *ex-officio* members, Government members or non-Government members, the fact remains that they are *ex-officio* members, and they walk straight to the Court of the University without getting elected. Therefore, it is but right to see what the proportion of the elected and non-elected members should be. Instead of doing that 15 members are being nominated. Thus, I think certain imbalance has been created. Therefore, I cannot support this deviation from the recommendations of the Committee.

I do not want to speak about the nature of the Vice-Chancellor's post and all that. But I only want to point out that one great injustice has been made to the teachers. Teachers of the University and teachers working in the affiliated colleges are debarred from getting elected to the Executive Council by the members of the Court. I do not understand why teachers working in affiliated colleges are not eligible for getting elected to the Executive Council. The last sentence in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill says that the provisions in the Bill generally follow the pattern of the Poona University Act. I would like to point out here that, in the Poona University, teachers working in affiliated colleges are allowed to contest seats in the Executive Council and recently one teacher working in Hon. Dr. Karve's College has been elected to the Executive Council by the members of the Court. Here, on the recommendations of the Committee, these teachers have been disqualified from getting a seat in the Executive Council. I think that is one of the greatest injustice that has been done to the teachers by this Bill. Except the above remarks, I have nothing to say against this Bill and, therefore, I strongly support this Bill.

श्री. एम्. एन्. काळे (विदर्भ-टीचर): अध्यक्ष महाराज, मराठवाड्यासाठी स्वतंत्र विद्यापीठ स्थापन करण्याबद्दल हे बिल सभागृहापुढे मांडल्याबद्दल नामदार शिक्षण मंत्र्यांचे अभिनंदन करण्यासाठी आणि ह्या बिलाचे स्वागत करण्यासाठी मी उभा आहे.

[श्री. एम्. एन्. काळे]

ह्या बाबतीत मराठवाड्यातील जनतेच्या आजपर्यंत ज्या आकांक्षा होत्या त्या ह्या बिला-मुळे पूर्ण होणार आहेत. आजपर्यंत आमचा विभाग शिक्षणाच्या दृष्टीने मागासलेला आहे असे म्हटले जात होते व वस्तुस्थिति तशी होती, पण हा शैक्षणिक मागासलेपणा दूर करण्याच्या दृष्टीने ह्या बिलाचा चांगलाच उपयोग होणार आहे. तेव्हा ह्या दृष्टीने विचार करता हे बिल आणल्याबद्दल नामदार शिक्षण मंत्र्यांचे मी अभिनंदन करतो.

वास्तविक पाहता, अशा प्रकारच्या विद्यापीठाची स्थापना यापूर्वीच व्हावयास पाहिजे होती. मराठवाडा हे मराठी भाषेचे उगमस्थान असल्यामुळे त्या ठिकाणी मराठी भाषेची जोपासना करणाऱ्या अशा विद्यापीठाची आवश्यकता होती, परंतु इतके दिवस तेथील राज्यसत्ता ह्या कार्याला अनुकूल नसल्यामुळे ही गोष्ट आजपर्यंत होऊ शकली नाही. पण आता इतक्या वर्षांनी का होईना, मराठवाड्यातील जनतेच्या आकांक्षा लक्षात घेऊन मुंबई सरकार हे विद्यापीठ स्थापन करीत असल्यामुळे आता यापुढे तरी आमच्या भागात मराठी भाषा संपूर्णपणे जोपासली जाईल अशी आशा करावयास काही हरकत नाही.

ह्या बिलाच्या बाबतीत मला सरकारच्या नजरेस एक गोष्ट प्रामुख्याने आणावीशी वाटते. ती ही की, ह्या बिलाप्रमाणे नवीन स्थापन होणाऱ्या ह्या विद्यापीठाच्या कारभारात सरकारी नियंत्रणाचे प्रमाण जास्त ठेवण्यात आले आहे. आवश्यक तेवढ्या प्रमाणात सरकारी नियंत्रण असले पाहिजे हे जरी खरे असले तरी ह्या बिलात सरकारी नियंत्रणाची बंधने जी जास्त प्रमाणात दिसून येतात ती जरा कमी करण्यात आली तर फार चांगले होईल. ह्या बिलात करण्यात आलेल्या तरतुदीप्रमाणे विद्यापीठाच्या यंत्रणेमध्ये लोकप्रतिनिधींची संख्या कमी असून सरकारनियुक्त प्रतिनिधींची संख्या त्या मानाने जास्त आहे. साहजिकच हे जे सरकारनियुक्त प्रतिनिधी आहेत त्यांची वृत्ति सरकाराभिमुख राहण्याचा संभव आहे व ती विद्यापीठाच्या एकंदर कारभाराच्या प्रगतीच्या दृष्टीने तितकीशी चांगली नाही. तेव्हा, सरकारी प्रतिनिधींची संख्या जर कमी करता आली तर सरकारने त्याचा विचार करावा, म्हणजे हे विद्यापीठ स्थापन करण्यामागे जो उद्देश आहे तो पूर्ण होण्यास जास्त मदत होईल असा मला विश्वास आहे. शेवटी, हे बिल तयार केल्याबद्दल मी सरकारचे आभार मानतो व हे बिल खय तितक्या लोकर सभागृहापुढे आणल्याबद्दल नामदार शिक्षण मंत्र्यांचे अभिनंदन करतो.

Shri M. V. DONDE (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra Teachers): Sir, I join all my friends in the House in welcoming the birth of this University in the area where such a step was long overdue. It has been correctly pointed out that Marathwada was so far treated with scant respect in the matter of educational facilities and it is a matter of congratulations that Government should take up the question and moreover take a speedy action. When a University is established in any particular area, it is definitely a step in the interest of the educational and cultural advancement of that locality and it does go a long way towards the development of that area. But, Sir, people want to see when a new University is started, whether it does in any way go farther than what the other Universities stand for. Particularly our ideas about University education are undergoing a fundamental change. We have now accepted the principle that University education should not be confined to a particular community or class of society but University education should be universal. So the people want to know whether this particular University is going to make any advance over the other Universities so far existing in the

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matter of University education or not. I will not go into the details, as you, Sir, have pointed out that this is not the stage to do so but I will particularly refer to the position of the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor of the University.

Now the time has come when Government should give a lead in the matter of establishing a new University in having a Chancellor who would be not necessarily the Governor of the State. I do not know as to what is the underlying principle in merely copying the provisions obtaining in the Acts of the other Universities, such as the Governor shall be the Chancellor of the University. I remember that, while speaking on the revision of the Bombay University Act, I had welcomed the suggestion made by Government in the case of the Baroda University where the Chancellor is other than the Governor of the State. There is also a legal provision in the Poona University Act for having a Chancellor other than the Governor. As regards the Vice-Chancellor, I do think that it is necessary that the right of appointing or electing the Vice-Chancellor should be given to an independent Committee and there should not be any kind of nomination as I consider these things to be quite unnecessary and if they are there they act as a kind of interference or hindrance. I would, therefore, like to know from the Hon. Minister in charge as to why is it that the system which is followed in the case of the Baroda University is not to be followed in this case also. By becoming the Chancellor of a University, the Governor has to play a double role. He is the head of the Government and in that capacity he has to act in a particular manner, particularly from the administrative point of view. There is also the Cabinet i.e. a body of the Ministers and the Governor carries on the administration of the State in consultation with the Cabinet. Now, Sir, as I have stated, the Governor is the head of the administration of the whole State and as such he is more concerned with the administrative things than with the academic things. But the moment the papers and files go to him from the University and he is called upon to take a decision as the Chancellor of the University, a conflict might arise. In one capacity he has to take one particular decision, in another capacity he has to take a different decision. I have got the experience of the Bombay University for the last so many years and I remember that, as the Bombay University had a very powerful Vice-Chancellor, a situation arose when there was a conflict between the Vice-Chancellor and the Chancellor. The policy of the Vice-Chancellor was generally followed by the Chancellor, i.e. the Governor. But when a conflict arose between the view of the Cabinet and the view of the Vice-Chancellor, the Governor was put in a fix. Therefore, we find that in the last Address which Dr. Mathai gave as the Chancellor of the University, he has clearly stated that the embarrassed position of the Governor has to be improved as far as possible. So I would insist that Government should consider the question of having a Chancellor other than the Governor. The Governor should not be the *ex-officio* Chancellor of a particular University. Only yesterday we read in the press a very illuminative Address given by Dr. D. R. Gadgil and the advice which he has given while criticising the Planning Commission has been blessed by no less a person than the Chairman of the University Grants Commission, Shri Chintamanrao Deshmukh also. Dr. Gadgil stated that

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we want the Planning Commission to be a dynamic institution. Now, if we want the Planning Commission to take a dispassionate view of the things, apart from removing any administrative difficulties that might be there, the next most important thing which we have to do is to see that the influence of the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister is not there on the Planning Commission. There is a point in making that suggestion. The point is that the Planning Commission is not free because of the presence of these two personalities. There is, what we call, the power complex and that is why the Planning Commission cannot be as effective and as fruitful as it should have been. The same line of thinking can be applied to the University. If the Governor is there, a Governor representing the interests of Government and the views of the Cabinet, then at least a substantial part of the academic freedom is taken away from the University. Let the University be free from any interference so far as academic matters are concerned. Sir, the Bombay University has very recently given three or four examples wherein such a situation has arisen and the conflict has been to the detriment of the interests of the University so far as academic freedom is concerned, and, therefore, as a matter of policy I should like to emphasise the view that, in the case of the Marathwada University also, utmost care should be taken of not having the Governor as the *ex-officio* Chancellor of the University. Fortunately in our country, and more particularly I would say about Bombay State, we have got many eminent educationists who have spent their whole lifetime in advancing the cause of education, who have international reputation and who are as good patriots as anybody else in the country. Should they not control the destinies of the newer Universities, instead of these newer Universities being a replica of the old Universities, without any new ideas or fresh thoughts so far as University education is concerned? I would, therefore, like that the Vice-Chancellor should be elected and he should not be nominated.

Now, in this Bill, we find a very, very complicated machinery being adopted for the appointment of a Vice-Chancellor. I do not know with what intention and for what purpose there should be such a complicated machinery. I would draw the attention of the House to Chapter III, clause 11, where it is stated—

“For the appointment of a Vice-Chancellor there shall be a committee of three persons, two of whom shall be persons not connected with the University or any college or institution maintained or recognised by or affiliated to the University, nominated by the Executive Council, and one person nominated by the Chancellor, who shall also appoint one of the three as Chairman of such committee. The Committee shall select not less than three persons and shall report its selection to the Chancellor. The Chancellor shall appoint one of the three persons so elected, to be Vice-Chancellor.”

Why this inter-locking system I cannot understand. It will be found that there is an element of election, some element of nomination and then again there is an element of election. I personally do not think that it is in any way a healthy system that is being followed. The straight course should have been to leave the matter to the Court, as is done in the case of the other Universities like Karnatak or Poona Universities.

I would, therefore, insist upon these two points, *viz.*, the election of the Vice-Chancellor, and also, instead of the Governor as Chancellor, there should be somebody else. I do not, of course, mean to suggest that I disqualify the

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Governor because of the fact that he is a Governor. There are many Governors in our country who are academicians. They are educationists as well, but the chancellorship should not go with the post of the Governor. That is the point which I want to make out.

As regards the other provisions, I do think that the preference that is given to the language of the area concerned as being the medium of instruction is really a very welcome step that has been taken, but in all other matters I find that it is more or less a replica of the existing Universities. I feel that time has come when some change to suit the changing times is absolutely necessary. This is the one observation which I would like to make in this connection.

श्री. एस्. एल्. बेनाडीकर (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंब्लीने निवडलेले) अध्यक्ष महाराज, ह्या राज्याचे माजी शिक्षण मंत्री श्री. दिनकरराव देसाई हे ह्या विधान परिषदेला शिक्षण परिषद म्हणत, याचें कारण ते असें सांगत कीं, ह्या विधान परिषदेमध्ये बरेचसे शिक्षण-तज्ञ असतात. माजी शिक्षण मंत्र्यांप्रमाणेच विद्यमान शिक्षण मंत्र्यांनी हें शिक्षणविषयक बिल ह्याच विधान परिषदेत पहिल्यानें मांडल्याबद्दल त्यांचेहि अभिनंदन केले पाहिजे. कारण त्यांनी ह्या महत्वाच्या विषयाबाबत माजी शिक्षण मंत्र्यांच्या पावलावर पाऊल टाकलेलें आहे.

आपल्या देशावर इंग्रजी राज्याचा अंमल सुरू झाल्यापासून आपल्या येथील लोकांना अनेक वाईट गोष्टी सहन कराव्या लागल्या. इंग्रजी अंमल सुरू झाल्याबरोबर त्या राज्यकर्त्यांमध्येच असा एक वाद निर्माण झाला होता कीं, हिंदुस्थानांतील लोकांना पाश्चिमात्य पद्धतीचें शिक्षण द्यावयाचें कीं, ह्या देशांतील पूर्वीच्या संस्कृतीला अनुसरून असलेल्या पद्धतीचें शिक्षण द्यावयाचें. शेवटीं मेकांलेनें असा निर्णय घेतला कीं, ज्या वाङ्मयामध्ये दह्या-दुधाचे सागर आहेत, कथापुराणांवर आधारलेलें साहित्य आहे अशा पद्धतीचें शिक्षण देण्या-ऐवजीं पाश्चात्य पद्धतीचें शिक्षण द्यावें. काहीं झालें तरी वाघिणीचें दूध प्यालेल्या ह्या देशांतील लोकांना शिक्षण देऊन राज्य करण्यांत मोठेपणा आहे असा त्या राज्यकर्त्यांनीं विचार केला. तेव्हां वाघिणीचें दूध प्यालेल्या लोकांचा हा महाराष्ट्र आहे. पण मराठ-वाड्यांत निजामाची सत्ता असल्यामुळे तेथील लोकांना महाराष्ट्रांतील वाघिणीचें दूध पिण्याची संधि मिळू शकली नाही व त्यामुळे तेथील जनता मागासलेली राहिली. ह्या भागाला पुढें आणण्यासाठीं आणि तेथील जनतेची उत्थिति करण्याच्या दृष्टीनें नामदार शिक्षण मंत्र्यांनीं स्वतंत्र विद्यापीठ स्थापन करण्याविषयीचें बिल सभागृहापुढें आणण्याबद्दल मी त्यांचें अभिनंदन करतो.

मराठवाडा परकी अंमलाखालीं बऱ्याच कालपर्यंत राहिल्यामुळे जरी मागासलेला भाग असला तरी मराठवाड्यामध्येच मराठीचा उगम झालेला आहे. इतकेंच नव्हे तर लेणी आणि विहार मराठवाड्यांत जितकी आहेत तितकी इतर कोठेहि दिसून येत नाहीत. त्या कालामध्ये हीं लेणी आणि विहार विद्यापीठांचेंच काम करीत असत. तेव्हां मराठीचा उगम असलेल्या ह्या मराठवाड्याला पुढें आणण्यासाठीं हें बिल आणल्याबद्दल नामदार शिक्षण मंत्र्यांचें अभिनंदनच केले पाहिजे. पूर्वीच्या कालांत लिहिण्याची भाषा संस्कृत होती व बोलीचालीची भाषा प्राकृत होती. त्यानंतर आपल्या देशावर मुसलमानी अंमल आल्यानंतर महंमदी धर्माचें राज्य सुरू झालें व सरकार दरबारीं उर्दू भाषा रूढ झाली. पुढें महंमदी अंमल जाऊन इंग्रजी अंमल आल्यापासून राज्यभाषा इंग्रजी व बोलणें चालणेंहि इंग्रजीत करण्यामध्ये मोठेपणा समजण्यांत येऊ लागला व मातृभाषा हळूहळू मागे पडू लागली. तेव्हां आतां ह्या बिलान्वये जे विद्यापीठ स्थापन होणार आहे त्यांत शिक्षणाचें माध्यमहि मराठीत असावें अशी तरतूद केल्याबद्दल नामदार शिक्षण मंत्र्यांचें अभिनंदन केले पाहिजे.

[श्री. एस्. एल्. बेनाडीकर]

यानंतर सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. दोंदे आपल्या भाषणांत म्हणाले की, विद्यापीठाचा चॅन्सेलर गव्हर्नर असावा ही जी तरतूद ह्या बिलांत आहे ती योग्य नाही. चॅन्सेलर हा निवडलेला आणि गव्हर्नरखरीज दुसरा कोणी तरी असावा. पण गव्हर्नर चॅन्सेलर असला तर त्यामुळे काय नुकसान होणार आहे हें मला समजत नाही. वास्तविक, गव्हर्नर ही एक उत्सवमूर्ति आहे. तेव्हा विद्यापीठाच्या कामकाजांत गव्हर्नर कांहीं अडचण निर्माण करील अशी भीति बाळगण्याचें करण नाही.

श्री. एम्. व्ही. दोंदे : शिक्षण हा उत्सव आहे असे सन्माननीय सभासदांना म्हणावयाचें आहे काय ?

श्री. एस्. एल्. बेनाडीकर : अध्यक्ष महाराज, मराठवाडा हा मागासलेला भाग असल्यामुळे तेथें प्रगति करतांना थोडेसे सावकाशीनें गेलें पाहिजे. लहान मुलाला नुकतेच चालावयाला येऊं लागल्यानंतर त्याच्या हातांत एकदम सायकल देऊन चालणार नाही, कांहीं दिवस त्याच्या हातांत पांगुळगाडाच दिला पाहिजे. त्याप्रमाणे इतर ठिकाणच्या विद्यापीठांच्या बाबतींतल्या कायद्यांत जरी कांहीं तरतूद असली तरी त्याचें अनुकरण ह्या मागासलेल्या विभागांतील विद्यापीठांच्या बाबतींत करणें योग्य होणार नाही. एकाद्या खोडाच्या बरोबर वांसरू बांधलें तर त्याची जशी अवस्था होईल तशी ह्या भागाची होईल अशी मला भिति वाटते.

तेव्हां, अध्यक्ष महाराज, शेवटीं मला एवढेंच सांगावयाचें आहे की, इतकीं वर्षे मागासलेल्या ह्या भागाची उन्नति करण्याच्या दृष्टीनें सरकारनें हें विद्यापीठ बिल आणलें आहे त्याबद्दल माझ्या आधीं अनेक सन्माननीय सभासदांनीं सरकारचें जें अभिनंदन केलें आहे तें योग्यच आहे व त्यांच्याप्रमाणें मीहि हें बिल शक्य तितक्या लौकर सभागृहापुढें आणल्याबद्दल नामदार शिक्षण मंत्र्यांचें अभिनंदन करून माझें भाषण संपवितों.

डॉ. बी. सी. लागू (नॉमिनेटेड) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, मराठवाड्यासाठीं स्वतंत्र विद्यापीठ स्थापन करण्यासाठीं नामदार शिक्षण मंत्र्यांनीं हें बिल सभागृहापुढें मांडलें आहे याबद्दल मी त्यांचें अभिनंदन करतो. शिक्षणासंबंधीची आणि विशेषकरून विद्यापीठांच्या स्थापनेसंबंधीचीं सर्वच विलें ह्या विधान परिषदेमध्ये पहिल्या प्रथम मांडली जाण्याची प्रथा फार पूर्वीपासूनची आहे. तेव्हां ह्या दृष्टीनें विचार केला तर सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. ओगले यांनीं म्हटल्याप्रमाणें ह्यांत कांहीं विशेष घडलें आहे असें म्हणण्याचें कारण नाही. विद्यापीठांबाबतच्या बिलांचा विचार प्रथम ह्या सभागृहांत करण्याचा ह्या विधान परिषदेचा एक हक्क होऊन असला आहे असें म्हणण्यास कांहीं हरकत नाही.

ह्या विशिष्ट विधेयकासंबंधानें बोलावयाचें तर, मराठवाडा शिक्षणाच्या दृष्टीनें अत्यंत मागासलेला आहे ही गोष्ट सर्वांना माहीत आहे. आजपर्यंत मराठवाडा हेंद्रावादेच्या विशिष्ट भागांत असल्यामुळे तेथील जनतेला इतकीं वर्षे शैक्षणिक प्रगतीच्या दृष्टीनें अंधारांत राहावें लागलें, पण आतां तो भाग मुंबई राज्यांत सामील झाल्यानंतर शक्य तितक्या लौकर मराठवाड्याला एक स्वतंत्र विद्यापीठ द्यावयाचें असें मुंबई सरकारनें ताबडतोब ठरवून त्याप्रमाणें एक कमिटीहि नेमली. ही कमिटी एप्रिल १९५७ मध्ये नेमण्यांत आली आणि आज एप्रिल १९५८ उजाडण्याच्या म्हणजे एक वर्षाच्या आंत या कमिटीनें सर्व प्रश्नांची छाननी करून आपला अहवाल सादर केला व सरकारनें त्यावर निर्णय घेऊन विद्यापीठ स्थापनेसंबंधीचें विधेयकहि ह्या सभागृहापुढें मांडलें आहे. एक वर्षाच्या आंत ही सर्व कारवाई झाली. तितक्या लौकर शिक्षणाच्या बाबतींत किंवा इतर कोणत्याहि बाबतींत आतांपर्यंत कारवाई झालेली नाही. ह्या दृष्टीनें ह्या बाबतींत नेमलेल्या कमिटीचें आणि नामदार शिक्षण मंत्र्यांचें अभिनंदन केलें पाहिजे. कारण त्यांनीं ह्या प्रश्नाचा पूर्ण विचार करून आणि मराठवाड्यांतील जनतेची गरज लक्षांत घेऊन हें बिल सभागृहापुढें मांडलें आहे.

[डॉ. बी. सी. लागू]

ह्या बिलाचा विचार करीत असतांना आपल्या राज्यांत याच्या आधीं जीं कांहीं प्रादेशिक विद्यापीठें स्थापन झालीं त्यांचा इतिहास लक्षांत घेणें उद्बोधक होईल असें मला वाटतें. आपल्या राज्यांत पहिल्यापासून फक्त एक मुंबई विद्यापीठ होतें. पण त्यानंतर पुणें विद्यापीठाची स्थापना होण्याला २५-३० वर्षांचा काळ लोटला लागला. त्यासाठीं लोकांना अनेक वर्षे चळवळ करावी लागली. १९३७ सालीं पहिल्या प्रथम काँग्रेसचें मंत्रिमंडळ अधिकारावर आल्यानंतरहि १० वर्षांनीं पुण्याचें प्रादेशिक विद्यापीठ स्थापन होऊं शकलें. त्याचप्रमाणें गुजरात विद्यापीठालाहि असाच कालावधि लागला. पण त्या मानानें मराठवाड्याचें विद्यापीठ स्थापन होण्याचें काम एक वर्षाच्या आंत होत आहे ही त्या भागाला अभिमानाची गोष्ट आहे. ज्यावेळीं पुणें विद्यापीठ व गुजरात विद्यापीठ स्थापन करणारा कायदा पास झाला त्या वेळींच ह्या विद्यापीठांच्या कारभारांत लोकशाहीचें तत्व ठेवलें असलें तरी निवडणुका शक्य तितक्या कमी ठेवून विद्वान व शिक्षण तज्ज्ञ लोकांना अधिकार परतवें विद्यापीठांत येतां याबें अशी तरतूद केली होती. ह्या बिलावर बोलतांना कांहीं सन्माननीय सभासदांनीं असें सांगितलें की, ह्या विद्यापीठाच्या कारभारांत सरकारनियुक्त प्रतिनिधींची संख्या लोकांनीं निवडून दिलेल्या प्रतिनिधींपेक्षा जास्त आहे. पण अध्यक्ष महाराज, लोकांमध्ये ज्ञानाचा प्रसार करण्याचें महत्वाचें काम ह्या विद्यापीठांना करावयाचें असल्यामुळे यामध्ये शक्यतो निवडणुकांचें तत्व कमी असावें हें तत्व पुणें व गुजरात विद्यापीठांचें कायदे पास झाले त्यावेळीं अंगिकारण्यांत आलें आहे, आणि त्याला अनुसरूनच ह्या मराठवाडा विद्यापीठाच्या कायद्यांत तरतूद करण्यांत आली आहे. विद्यापीठाच्या क्षेत्रांत योग्य आणि चांगल्या प्रकारचें कार्य व्हावयास पाहिजे असेल तर निवडणुकीमुळे एकमेकांत होणाऱ्या स्पर्धा शक्य तितक्या कमी करून विद्वान लोकांना, अॅकॅडेमिशियन लोकांना, विद्यादात करण्याकरितां, विद्या संपादन करण्याकरितां, भाषा समृद्ध करण्याकरितां आणि निरनिराळ्या शास्त्रीय विषयांत संशोधन करण्याकरितां भरपूर वाव दिला पाहिजे ही गोष्ट आपण लक्षांत ठेवली पाहिजे. विद्यापीठांतील लोकांना विद्येकडेच सर्व लक्ष केंद्रित करतां यावें यासाठीं विद्यापीठ कायदानुसार निवडणुकांना होतां होईल तितकें कमी स्थान द्यावयास पाहिजे. जनतेचें मत काय आहे हें विद्यापीठास समजावें एवढ्यापुरतीच लोक प्रतिनिधींची संख्या विद्यापीठांत असावयास पाहिजे. या सर्व गोष्टींचा विचार केला असतां या मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ कायद्यांत ज्या तरतुदी केलेल्या आहेत त्या सर्व योग्यच आहेत असें आपल्याला म्हणावें लागेल.

व्हाईस चॅन्सेलर निवडलेला असावा अशा प्रकारचा एक मुद्दा या ठिकाणीं मांडण्यांत आला. पुणें विद्यापीठ कायद्यांत व्हाईस-चॅन्सेलर हा निवडलेला असावा अशा प्रकारची तरतूद केलेली आहे. कार्यकारी मंडळानें निवडलेले दोन इसम आणि चॅन्सेलरनें निवडलेला एक इसम अशा तीन इसमांच्या समितीनें व्हाईस-चॅन्सेलरचें नांव सुचवावें अशा प्रकारची तरतूद व्हाईस-चॅन्सेलरच्या नियुक्तीसंबंधांत या कायद्यांत करण्यांत आलेली आहे. मुंबई विद्यापीठाच्या कायद्यांत व्हाईस-चॅन्सेलर सरकारनें नेमावा असवा अशा प्रकारची तरतूद करण्यांत आलेली आहे. व्हाईस-चॅन्सेलरसारख्या व्यक्ति निवडणुकी द्वारां नियुक्त करण्यांत याव्यात अशा प्रकारची जनतेची समजूत होत असल्याचें दिवसें दिवस प्रत्ययास येऊं लागलेलें आहे. ज्यांना शिक्षण संस्थेचा कारभार चालवावयाचा असतो त्यांच्या बाबतींत निवडणुकीच्या तत्वाचा पुरस्कार केला तर गटबाजी वाढून प्रत्यक्ष कार्य बाजूला पडण्याचा संभव असतो. मुंबई विद्यापीठ कायदानुसार व्हाईस चॅन्सेलरची नियुक्ति सरकारकडेच आहे. मराठवाडा विद्यापीठाच्या बाबतींत निवडणुकीचें तत्व आणि नेमणूक करण्याची पद्धत या दोन्ही गोष्टींचा समन्वय केला असल्याचें आपल्याला दिसून येईल. जनतेचा थोडा भाग असावा आणि चॅन्सेलरचा थोडासा भाग असावा अशा पद्धतीनें व्हाईस-चॅन्सेलरची नियुक्ति करावी अशा प्रकारची तरतूद या मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ कायद्यांत करण्यांत आली असल्याचें

[डॉ. बी. सी. लागू]

दिसून येईल. कार्यकारी मंडळाने निवडलेले दोन इसम आणि चॅन्सेलरने निवडलेला एक स्वतंत्र इसम अशा तीन इसमांच्या समितीने व्हाईस चॅन्सेलरच्या पदासाठी नावे सुचवावयाची आहेत. या सुचविलेल्या व्यक्तींपैकी एकाची व्हाईस चॅन्सेलर म्हणून चॅन्सेलरने नियुक्ति करावयाची आहे. म्हणजे नॉमिनेशन आणि निवडणूका या दोन्ही तत्वांचा समन्वय या ठिकाणी साधण्यांत आलेला आहे. माझ्या मते ही उत्तम पद्धत आहे. या पद्धतीमुळे लोकांना हवी असलेली माणसे पुढे येतील आणि निवडणुकीचे दुष्परिणाम टळून कारभाराच्या दृष्टीने एक चांगली गोष्ट होईल.

दुसरी एक चांगली गोष्ट म्हणजे शैक्षणिक दृष्ट्या मागासलेल्या वर्गांत व समाजांत विद्यापीठाच्या शिक्षणाचा प्रसार होण्यासाठी या कायद्यांत विशेष तरतूद करण्यांत आलेली आहे. ह्या विद्यापीठांत मागासलेल्या वर्गासाठी शिक्षणाची विशेष सोय करण्यांत येणार आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे या विद्यापीठांने ग्रामीण विभागांत ज्ञानाच्या प्रसाराकडे आणि कला व संस्कृति यांच्या संवर्धनाकडे विशेष लक्ष द्यावे अशा प्रकारचा स्पष्ट खुलासा करण्यांत आलेला आहे.

त्याचप्रमाणे केवळ बौद्धिक शिक्षण दिले म्हणजे विद्यापीठाचे काम संपले असे होत नाही. बौद्धिक शिक्षण, त्याचे संशोधन, शारीरिक शिक्षण, संस्कृतिसंवर्धन, विद्यार्थ्यांची निवासस्थाने या सर्वांचा मिळून माणसाच्या संस्कृतीवर परिणाम होत असतो. विश्व 4-00 p.m. विद्यालयांतून सर्वच पद्धतीचे शिक्षण मिळण्याची सोय असावयास पाहिजे. त्या दृष्टीने एका स्टॅट्यूटरी बोर्डाची स्थापना करण्याची जी तरतूद या विधेयकांत करण्यांत आलेली आहे ती योग्य अशीच आहे.

बहिःशाल अध्यापनाची म्हणजेच एक्स्ट्रा-म्युरल टीचिंगची तरतूद या विधेयकांत करण्यांत आलेली आहे. त्यामुळे या विद्यापीठांतील विद्यार्थ्यांना बाहेरच्या विद्यापीठांत जाऊन उच्च शिक्षण घेता येणार आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे विद्यापीठांतील उच्च शिक्षण खेड्यापर्यंत नेऊन पोहोचविण्याची तरतूद या विधेयकांत करण्यांत आलेली आहे. ही अतिशय महत्वाची गोष्ट आहे. पुणे विद्यापीठांने देखील बहिःशाल अध्यापन मंडळाचे कार्य पुष्कळ वाढविलेले आहे व जोमाने चालविलेले आहे. बहिःशाल अध्यापन व्यवस्थेद्वारे विद्यापीठांत मिळणारे उच्च शिक्षण, उच्च ज्ञान, मराठवाड्यांतील ५ जिल्ह्यांतील प्रत्येक ग्रामीण विभागांत पोहोचविले जाणार आहे. त्यामुळे उच्च शिक्षणाचा फायदा प्रत्येक सर्वसामान्य माणसास मिळणार आहे. ही अत्यंत चांगली गोष्ट या कायद्यांत करण्यांत आलेली आहे असे मी म्हणून.

कोर्टांत सदस्यांची नियुक्ति करण्यासाठी निवडणूकविषयक जे धोरण या मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ कायद्यांत स्वीकारण्यांत आलेले आहे ते एक चांगले धोरण आहे. कोर्टावर रजिस्टर्ड ग्रॅज्युएटची निवड करतांना शिक्षणाच्या सर्व शाखांतील लोक कोर्टावर निवडून यावेत या दृष्टीने जी तरतूद करण्यांत आलेली आहे ती चांगली आहे. शिक्षणाच्या प्रत्येक शाखेतील ग्रॅज्युएटस् कोर्टावर घेण्याची व्यवस्था करण्यांत आलेली आहे. कायद्याचा अभ्यास केलेला, वैद्यक शास्त्राचा अभ्यास केलेला, इंजिनिअरिंगचा अभ्यास केलेला म्हणजे शिक्षणाच्या प्रत्येक शाखेतील रजिस्टर्ड ग्रॅज्युएट या कोर्टावर घेण्यांत येणार आहे. या शाखांतील लोकांना कोर्टावर प्रतिनिधित्व मिळणार ही एक नवीन परंतु चांगली गोष्ट या कायद्यांत समाविष्ट करण्यांत आलेली आहे.

दुसरी गोष्ट पदव्युत्तर-पोस्ट-ग्रॅज्युएट शिक्षणासंबंधी. हे विद्यापीठ मुख्यतः ऑफिलिएटिंग युनिव्हर्सिटी म्हणूनच अस्तित्वात येणार आहे. टीचिक युनिव्हर्सिटी म्हणून नव्हे. प्रत्यक्ष शिक्षण देणारे हे विद्यापीठ नाही. या विद्यापीठांने किंवा त्यास संलग्न असणाऱ्या कॉलेजेसनीं फक्त पदव्युत्तर शिक्षण द्यावे अशा प्रकारची दतुतर करण्यांत आलेली आहे. माझे असे मत

[डॉ. बी. सी. लागू]

आहे की पदव्युत्तर शिक्षणाचे कार्य या विद्यापीठांने संपूर्णपणे आपल्याकडेच घ्यावे. संलग्न कॉलेजेसकडे ते सोपवू नये. मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ हे एक छोटेसे विद्यापीठ तयार होणार असून त्याच्या कार्यक्षेत्रांत केवळ ५ जिल्ह्यांचाच समावेश करण्यांत आलेला आहे. ज्या ठिकाणी हे विद्यापीठ स्थापन होणार आहे तेथे म्हणजे औरंगाबादलाच बहुतेक सर्व कॉलेजेस आहेत. औरंगाबादला ५ कॉलेजेस असून बाकीच्या ठिकाणी मिळून ४-५ कॉलेजेस आहेत. तेव्हा पदव्युत्तर शिक्षण जे द्यावयाचे ते विद्यापीठामार्फत व विद्यापीठांतच दिले जावे असे माझे स्पष्ट मत आहे. कॉलेजच्या ५ वर्षांच्या शिक्षणक्रमांनंतर पुष्कळसे संशोधनाचे कार्य करावयाचे असते. संशोधनासाठी लागणारी सर्व साधने आणि योग्य ते मार्गदर्शन सर्वच संस्थांतून मिळणे काही शक्य नसते. तेव्हा मी व्यक्तिशः अशी सूचना करू इच्छितो की पदव्युत्तर शिक्षणाचे कार्य विद्यापीठाकडेच देण्यांत यावे. औरंगाबादलाच पुष्कळशी कॉलेजेस असल्यामुळे सर्व प्रकारचे पदव्युत्तर शिक्षण औरंगाबादलाच म्हणजे खुद्द विद्यापीठांतच मिळण्याची सोय झाली तर फार उत्तम होईल. असे केले तर विद्यापीठाकडून संशोधनाकरिता लागणारी साधनसामग्री मोठ्या प्रमाणांत उपलब्ध होऊ शकेल आणि चांगल्या प्रकारचे मार्गदर्शन देखील विद्यार्थ्यांना मिळू शकेल. माझ्या या सूचनेचा सरकारने विचार करावा.

या विधेयकांतील सर्वांत उत्तम आणि महत्वाची गोष्ट कोणती असेल तर ती ४१ व्या कलमांत करण्यांत आलेली तरतूद होय. मराठी भाषेच्या संवर्धनासाठी हे विद्यापीठ स्थापन करण्यांत येत आहे हे त्या तरतुदीवरून दिसून येईल. मराठी भाषेच्या अभ्यासाच्या विकासास उत्तेजन देण्याचा आणि शिक्षणाचे व परीक्षेचे माध्यम म्हणून मराठी भाषेचा उपयोग करण्यास उत्तेजन देण्याचा प्रयत्न या विद्यापीठांने करावा असे यांत म्हटलेले आहे. या दृष्टीने पाहता ४१ वे कलम अत्यंत महत्वाचे आहे असे मला वाटते. आतापर्यंत निरनिराळ्या प्रादेशिक विद्यापीठांचे जे कायदे झाले त्यांत त्या त्या प्रदेशांमध्ये जी भाषा प्रामुख्याने प्रचलित असेल त्याच भाषेत शिक्षण दिले जावे, किंवा त्या भाषेचा जास्त अभ्यास करून तिची सर्वांगीण वाढ व्हावी असे तत्व घालण्यांत आलेले नाही. गुजरात विद्यापीठाच्या कायद्यांत ह्या तत्वाचा अंतर्भाव थोडासा करण्यांत आलेला आहे, पण ह्या बिलांत हे तत्व जास्त स्पष्ट शब्दांत अंतर्भूत करण्यांत आले आहे ही एक फार चांगली गोष्ट आहे. कोणतीही गोष्ट प्रत्यक्ष कायद्यांत घातल्याशिवाय घडून येत नसते. पुणे विद्यापीठाचा कायदा झाल्यानंतर गुजरात विद्यापीठाचा कायदा झाला, पण पुणे विद्यापीठाचा कायदा पास होण्यापूर्वी जी सिलेक्ट कमिटी नेमली होती तिचा मी एक सभासद होतो, आणि त्या कमिटीपुढे मी माझे म्हणणे असे मांडले होते की, मराठी भाषेच्या सर्वांगीण वाढीच्या दृष्टीने त्या बिलांतच एक स्वतंत्र तरतूद असणे आवश्यक आहे. पण त्या वेळीं असे सांगण्यांत आले की, विद्यापीठ ही अंटॉनामस बांडी असल्यामुळे त्या त्या विद्यापीठाच्या कोर्टाला किंवा अकॅडमिक कौन्सिलला योग्य वाटले तर त्यांनी तसे करावे. उशिरा कां होईना सरकारला मी त्या वेळीं केलेल्या सूचनेची जाणीव झाल्यामुळे ह्या तत्वाचा थोडासा नामनिर्देश गुजरात विद्यापीठ कायद्यामध्ये करण्यांत आला, आणि आता मराठवाडा विद्यापीठाच्या कायद्यांत हे तत्व अगदी स्पष्टपणे घालण्यांत आले आहे. याबद्दल सरकारचे आणि विशेषकरून नामदार शिक्षण मंत्र्यांचे मी अभिनंदन करतो. ह्या तरतुदीमुळे मराठवाडा इतर राज्याच्या बरोबरीला येईल आणि मराठी भाषेची आणि वाङ्मयाची सर्वांगीण वाढ होण्यास मदत होईल. सध्या विद्यापीठाचे शिक्षण सर्वत्र चालूच आहे, पण त्या त्या प्रदेशांमध्ये जी भाषा प्रामुख्याने प्रचलित असेल त्या भाषेचा विकास व्हावा हा जो आपला उद्देश आहे तो ह्या बिलांतील ४१ व्या कलमाने फलद्रूप होणार आहे मराठी भाषेबरोबरच राज्यभाषा इंग्रजी आणि राष्ट्रभाषा म्हणून हिंदीहि शिक्षविणे अपरिहार्य आहे, कारण सध्या एकदम सर्व व्यवहार मराठीत चालू करणे योग्य होणार नाही. अजून

[डॉ. बी. सी. लागू]

शास्त्रीय विषयांवरील मराठी पुस्तकें उपलब्ध नाहीत. तेव्हां आणखी कांहीं वर्षे तरी आपल्याला इंग्रजी आणि राष्ट्रभाषा म्हणून हिंदी शाळाकॉलेजांच्या अभ्यासक्रमांत ठेवाव्या लागतील. ह्या दृष्टीने ह्या बिलांत जरूर तो प्रोव्हिजो घालण्यांत आला आहे. पण हा प्रोव्हिजो सोडला तर ह्या कलमांतील मुख्य गाभा मराठी माध्यम हाच आहे.

तेव्हां ह्या सर्व दृष्टींनी विचार करूनहि हें बिल सभागृहापुढें कल्पनेपेक्षाहि अगोदर तर सरकारनें आणलेंच आहे, पण याशिवाय, मराठवाड्यांतील लोकांची शिक्षणाच्या दृष्टीनें उन्नति करण्याचें बीजहि त्यांत घातलेंच आहे. ह्या बीजाची योग्य काळामध्ये वाढ झाली तर पूर्वी पंढणला जसें विद्येचें केंद्र समजलें जात असे त्याप्रमाणें मराठवाड्याचीहि प्रगति झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही अशी मला आशा आहे. तेव्हां ह्या बिलामुळे स्थापन होणाऱ्या ह्या विद्यापीठामुळे मराठवाडा शैक्षणिक दृष्ट्या मुंबई राज्यातील इतर भागांच्या बरोबरीला येईल अशी आशा करून ह्या बिलाला मी पाठिंबा देतो.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, while welcoming the first reading of this Bill, I would like to make a few observations. It has been emphasised by the speakers that it is very fortunate that this Bill is being introduced in this Council and that is probably because atleast 20 to 25 members of this House are probably connected with various Universities.

I would like to bring to the notice of the House a few points that have been touched in the Report submitted by the Marathwada University Committee. While considering the composition of the Court it has been emphasised that the proportion of the academic and non-academic elements in the Court should be 50 : 50 and that is the policy that has generally been followed in the various Universities. Like the official nominated members in the Court, I would say that the members from the Local Authorities or local bodies take very little interest in the working of the University or the various debates of the University Court. That is the point which I wanted to bring to the notice of the House.

Then, Sir, there is a clause as regards the composition of the Court. If we compare the provisions of the present Bill with the provisions of the Acts of the four different Universities which are in existence in the Bombay State, we find that some discrimination has been made in this respect. But I have already given an amendment to this particular clause and I would like to reserve my remarks till that amendment comes before the House.

Then, Sir, on page 29 of the Report it has been stated that out of 198 persons who sent written replies to the questionnaire, 126 were in favour of continuing English as the medium of instruction in the Marathwada University. This is a point to which I wanted to draw the attention of the House.

Now I would refer to some of the provisions made in the Bill itself. Much has been said about the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor. So far as the Poona University is concerned, they are supposed to elect the Vice-Chancellor. But in actual practice, unless there is freedom in nominations, there would be no freedom in elections. Our experience of the Poona University is that

[Dr. V. D. Sathaye]

the Executive Council sends three names but out of them two names are dummy and so the two persons withdraw their names at the time of the election. So I would like to emphasise that it should be seen that the elections are free.

As regards the Executive Council, if we compare the composition of the different Universities and the seats given in the general elections, we find that, so far as the Poona University is concerned, 9 seats are allotted on the Executive Council by general election. In the case of the Gujarat University 8 seats are allotted but the teachers and the Heads of the University Departments are debarred from fighting the election because there are special seats reserved for the professors and the teachers from the Academic Council. As regards the Karnatak University, there were 8 seats which are open to all the members. So far as the Bombay University is concerned, we find that there are 8 seats and the principals and the teachers are debarred from participating in the elections and this very principle has been embodied in the present Bill where four seats have been reserved for members to be elected by the Court from amongst its members but they should not be teachers.

Then, a point was raised about the trade unions. We find that in the Poona University two seats are given to trade unions but so far as the Gujarat University is concerned, there only one seat is given. Now there are not as many trade unions in the area of the Poona University as there are in the area of the Gujarat University. But curiously enough two seats are given for the Poona University and one for the Gujarat University. The Bombay University has been given two seats and the Baroda University has been given one seat. There was no seat given for the Karnatak University and no seat has been given for the Marathwada University also.

Then I would go to the question of nominations. There also we find some curious things. In the case of the Poona University 25 seats are filled in by nominations, in Gujarat University 15 are filled by nominations, in Karnatak University 10 are nominated seats, in Bombay University 15 are nominated seats and the most curious thing is that, in the case of Baroda University, 30 seats are nominated. So far as the Marathwada University is concerned, 15 seats are to be filled in by nominations. Thus it would be seen that, so far as the principle of nomination is concerned, there is no relevance or proportion in all these figures. Even for the Bombay University, there are 15 nominated seats and for the Marathwada University also there are 15 nominated seats. This proportion is not quite fair, let alone 30 nominated seats which are there for the Baroda University.

Then, Sir, if we consider the question of representation to the local authorities, there also we find some curious things. So far as the Poona area is concerned, there are 23 seats for the representatives of the local authorities ; 13 seats are given for the municipalities and 10 for the District Local Boards. Then, so far as the Gujarat area is concerned, there are only 4 seats given to the local authorities and curiously enough these four seats are not open to the

[Dr. V. D. Sathaye]

municipalities themselves but they are only given to the School Boards; two for the teachers of the schools of the Municipalities and two for the teachers of the schools under the District Local Board. In the Karnatak area, one seat is given for schools under Municipalities and one for schools under the District School Board. In the Bombay Senate, there is only one seat. For Baroda University also, there is only one seat. So far as the Marathwada University is concerned, there are two seats for the representatives from the local authorities. I have already tabled an amendment in order to allot all these seats according to some proportion and, therefore, I shall not take much time of the House on this point.

These are some of the few remarks which I had to make.

(Shri M. B. GAIKAWAD rose).

The CHAIRMAN: There has been a lot of discussion on this Bill and the hon. Member should, therefore, be brief.

श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड (महाराष्ट्र नॉर्थ—लोकल अँबॉरिटीज): अध्यक्ष महाराज, सभागृहापुढे असलेल्या मराठवाडा विद्यापीठाच्या बिलाचे स्वागत करण्याचे काम माझ्या आधी काँग्रेस पक्षीय सभासदांनी व विरोधी पक्षाच्या सभासदांनी केलेले आहे. पण ह्या बिलाने मराठवाड्यासाठी स्वतंत्र विद्यापीठ स्थापन करून शैक्षणिक क्षेत्रामध्ये एक महत्वाचे पाऊल टाकण्याचा निर्णय सरकारने घेतला आहे असे जेव्हा जाहीर केले जाते त्यावेळी विद्यापीठाकडे पाहण्याचा सरकारचा दृष्टिकोन कसा असावा ह्या बाबतीत मतभेद व्यक्त केला जातो. हा मतभेद या बाबतीत होतो की, शिक्षणाचे नोकऱ्याहीकरण करण्याचेच काम जर ह्या विद्यापीठाकडून झाले तर त्यामुळे विद्यापीठाकडून जी अपेक्षा केली जाते ती पूर्ण होते काय? एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी नामदार गव्हर्नरसाहेबांना विद्यापीठाचे चॅन्सेलर म्हणून कां नेमण्यांत यावे याबद्दल बोलतांना असे सांगितले की, गव्हर्नर हे एक उत्सवभूति आहेत. तेव्हा चॅन्सेलर म्हणजे गव्हर्नरसाहेबांना एका गाड्यावर बसवून त्यांची मिरवणूक काढायची हेच काम आहे अशी त्यांची कल्पना आहे की काय? अशी विचारसरणी पुढे येत असल्यामुळे चॅन्सेलरच्या जागेवर गव्हर्नराना नेमण्याच्या बाबतीत जो विरोध आहे तो जास्त जोरदार होतो. चॅन्सेलरच्या जागी गव्हर्नर किंवा इतर कमिटीवर सरकारी प्रतिनिधि नेमण्यामागे सरकारचा हेतु एकच असतो, आणि तो म्हणजे विद्यापीठाच्या कारभारामध्ये आपल्या धोरणाप्रमाणे हस्तक्षेप करणे. वास्तविक, लोकशाहीचा आणि संस्कृतीचा विकास करणे हेच ज्या विद्यापीठाचे काम असते. त्याच ठिकाणी गव्हर्नरसारख्या अधिकाऱ्यांची नेमणूक केल्यामुळे विद्यापीठाच्या कामकाजात हस्तक्षेप करण्याची वाईट प्रथा सुरू होते. हे योग्य आहे असे मला वाटत नाही.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, ह्या बिलाचे समर्थन करण्यासाठी दुसरा एक मुद्दा येथे मांडण्यांत आला. विद्यापीठाच्या कारभारामध्ये निवडणुकीचे तत्व लागू केले तर शिक्षणाचे पवित्र काम बाजूला राहून तेथे पक्षबाजी माजेल म्हणून विद्यापीठाच्या कारभारात निवडणुकीचे तत्व मर्यादित प्रमाणात ठेवणेच योग्य आहे असे सांगण्यांत आले. अध्यक्ष महाराज, हे विधान मला समजू शकत नाही. राजकारणात निवडणुकांचे तत्व पवित्र ठरते आणि ते, विद्यापीठाच्या बाबतीत अमलात आणले तर त्यामुळे ते पवित्र कां ठरू नये? वास्तविक लोकशाहीच्या युगामध्ये प्रत्येक माणसाने स्वतः विचार करून दुसऱ्याचे प्रतिनिधित्व करावयास शिकणे आवश्यक असते, व नेमके हेच शिक्षण विद्यापीठातून द्यावयाचे असते. असे असतांना निवडणुका आल्या म्हणजे स्पर्धा आली आणि स्पर्धा आली म्हणजे पक्षभेद आला

[श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड]

असे विद्यापीठाच्या बाबतीत समजण्याचे कारण काय आहे? निवडणुकांचे तत्व जर राजकारणात हितावह असेल तर ते प्रत्येक क्षेत्रात हितावह समजले पाहिजे. हे तत्व फक्त विद्यापीठाच्या बाबतीत मर्यादित करून चालणार नाही. विद्यापीठात निवडणुकांना प्रामुख्य दिले तर विद्यापीठाच्या कार्यामध्ये दोष निर्माण होतो, हा नोकरशाही विचार ह्या लोकशाही युगात चालू देतां कामा नये. लोकांच्या विचाराने चांगले काम करण्याचा जनतेला व प्रत्येक माणसाला अधिकार आहे. तेव्हा निवडणुकांच्या तत्वामुळे विद्यापीठातील शैक्षणिक क्षेत्रातील पावित्र्य नाहीसे होतं ही विचारसरणी जर कायम ठेवण्यांत आली तर ही विद्यापीठ स्थापन करण्यामागे आपला जो उच्च हेतु आहे तो कितपत साध्य होईल, याबद्दल मला जबरदस्त शंका वाटते. निवडणुकांनी कार्याचे पावित्र्य कमी होतं हा दृष्टिकोनच मुळात चुकीचा आहे. तेव्हा निवडणुका न करता सरकारनियुक्त लोक विद्यापीठात घुसडण्याचे जे तत्व ह्या बिलात आहे ते कमी करण्याचे सरकारने मान्य केले तर ह्या बिलाला पाठिंबा देण्याला कांहीं हरकत नाही, एवढे बोलून मी रजा घेतो.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am extremely happy to see that this Bill has had the unanimous support of this House. All the hon. Members who have spoken on this Bill have unanimously supported at least the principles of the Bill. I am also happy that some of the hon. Members have made certain valuable suggestions. These suggestions have all been made from an educational point of view and hon. Members have not discussed this problem on any other level, except perhaps in the case of one or two hon. Members whom I found that, though on the surface it looked like an educational controversy, perhaps behind the surface there was a political mind. At least, I could not understand the suggestion of the hon. Member who is not here now as to who should be the Chancellor of the University. I have also had an occasion of touring certain areas of Marathwada and I found that the people there really wanted the University to come into being early and I could see at least one feeling of theirs, that whatever we might do about the University, they said, "please, for God's sake, do not experiment with us." That was the feeling of the people in the Marathwada area. I quite realise that, in matters of University legislation, as in all educational problems, we do not see eye to eye and it is bound to be so, because, after all, there are many problems of education where we may certainly differ, but now that we have received the unanimous recommendations of the Committee, we have also had the feelings of the Marathwada people and we have got the experience of working of many of the Universities, I for one would not like to experiment with this University with some novel schemes. I do not see any particular objection behind the Governor being the Chancellor of the University. There are many apparent advantages, and excepting one hon. Member, I do not think other hon. Members had any objection to that. But then, some suggestions were made about the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor. The hon. Member Dr. Khair, for instance, apprehended that Government control is disproportionate. He referred, in that connection, not merely to the question of the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor but also to the composition of the Court under clause 16. His apprehensions were all with regard to certain ex-officio members and nomination.

The CHAIRMAN: How much time will the Hon. Minister take?

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : I would take, Sir, about 10 minutes

The CHAIRMAN : The Hon. Minister may continue his remarks after recess, if he so desires.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I would prefer to complete my remarks now.

These, Sir, were the two or three main points which were raised by some of the hon. Members and I shall try to place my viewpoint about them before the House.

So far as the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor is concerned, it certainly means a departure from the provisions of the other Universities, but, as I said, it follows not merely the recommendations of the Committee but it also follows the provisions of the Delhi University, which, in turn, has been supported, as I said, and as the hon. Members also said, by the Central Advisory Board of Secondary Education and also by the Committee appointed under the Chairmanship of Dr. Radhakrishnan. Even in regard to that, I could understand the argument of the hon. Member Dr. Khair but I could not follow the argument of the hon. Member who is not here at present. Is it his view that, in order to have a complete democratic set up of the University, the Chancellor must be elected ? If that be his view, then he should really be elected on the basis of adult franchise. That should also happen in the case of the members of the Court. Is that really our idea ? Some compromise has to be made somewhere. I do not understand when it is said that every election has to take place on the basis of adult franchise. After all, this is not a legislature. Here we are thinking of a University and our concern is to

see, as is the concern of all the hon. Members here, that the University develops on a very high standard and lays down certain high traditions. That is the function of all of us here. Therefore, to my mind the provision which we have made about the appointment of a Vice-Chancellor is the best under the circumstances. I am glad that most of the hon. Members have really welcomed this step.

I also could not find much force in the arguments advanced in respect of nominations. There seems to be some difference of opinion even between different hon. Members. Now, it is true, Sir, that the Committee had suggested that the number of nominated members should be 5. I have a list of the provisions in the other Universities and I can say that, in the case of the Bombay University, the number of nominated members is 30, in Poona it is 25, in Gujarat it is 15, in Baroda it is 13 and so on. We have considered this point. After all, what is the object of this nomination ? Clause 16, which relates to the nomination of members lays down that there will be fifteen members nominated by the Chancellor on the advice of the Vice-Chancellor including distinguished educationists, women, and representatives of minorities and backward communities. This, Sir, is the main object of these nominations and I do not think, especially when the traditions in Marathwada have to be established, that the provision for having 15 nominated members on the Court is at all more. The reasons for the same is given in the report itself and I think that hon. Members should have no objection to 15 members being nominated by the Chancellor on the advice of the Vice-Chancellor. There was also a point raised by the hon. Member Shri Ogale in this respect.

[Shri Hitendra Desai]

I think, Sir, these are the main points raised by various hon. Members. With regard to the other points which were raised, we shall consider them at the second reading of the Bill. As I said in the beginning, I am indeed very happy that the Bill has found unanimous support of this hon. House and I hope it will be passed in its first reading.

Question put, and agreed to.

[Recess from 4.35 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.]

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I beg to move that L. C. Bill No. III of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : Now I shall take the Bill clause by clause. There are no amendments to clauses 2 to 10.

Clauses 2 to 10 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 11 (*The Vice-Chancellor*)—

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : Sir, I beg to move—

“In sub-clause (1) of clause 11, after the words ‘three persons’ where they occur for the second time insert the words ‘not above the age of 65 years at the time of selection.’” (No. 1)

Amendment proposed.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : Sir, my amendment is self-explanatory. If you see the Report of the Maharashtra University Committee, on page 52 of the Report they have discussed the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor. In that report it has been mentioned that the Vice-Chancellor may be a full-time stipendiary officer. It has been stipulated that the Vice-Chancellor of the new Marathwada University will be a whole-time salaried Officer. On page 52 of the Maharashtra University Report it is stated as follows :—

“It is desirable to keep open the possibility of occasionally getting an eminent man, from other parts of the Province or even of the country, who is not too intimately entangled in local affiliations, so as to bring a fresh mind to bear upon the affairs of the University. All these considerations point, in the opinion of some members, to the need of securing a whole-time salaried officer, with ample physical energy and mental vigour, who may not therefore be necessarily a retired man with a distinguished past.”

So, on this consideration, I would urge that, as we are appointing a whole time Vice-Chancellor, the age limit clause should be there. If we do not appoint a person within a specified age, I think the choice will not be happy one. I, therefore, request that this amendment should be accepted by Government.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : I really thought that some hon. Members will throw some more light on this point and I would have liked to know their view points about this. I do not know what experience the hon. Member had with persons above the age of 65 years of age. My experience has not always been unhappy. I do not think that it is a matter of the Vice-Chancellor

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himself, because after all the idea is to have a deserving person as the Vice-Chancellor of the University. I do not think that any useful purpose would be served by prescribing any limit on the age. I, therefore, oppose the amendment.

Amendment No. 1 put, and negatived.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Sir, I beg to move :

"In sub-clause (2) of clause 11 for the words beginning with 'for such period' and ending with 'at a time' substitute the words 'for a period of three years.'" (No. 2)

Amendment proposed.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would say that the provision made in sub-clause (2) of clause 11 is rather unusual. I do not think that there is any other University in the case of which the period of holding the office by each of the Vice-Chancellors is varied each time at the will of the Chancellor. By clause 64 Government is empowered to appoint the first Vice-Chancellor for a period of three years, which may be extended for a further period of three years, if the State Government considers it necessary to do so. This means that Government takes 3 years as the normal and desirable period for the appointment of one Vice-Chancellor. Therefore, I do not see what particular advantage would be secured by providing that the subsequent Vice-Chancellors shall hold office for such period as may be determined by the Chancellor not exceeding three years at a time. I, therefore, request that the House should accept my amendment that the period should be uniform viz., of three years for all the Vice-Chancellors.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I have no objection to accept the amendment.

Amendment No. 2 put, and agreed to.

Clause 11, as amended, ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 12 (*Powers of the Vice-Chancellor*)—

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Sir, I beg to move :

"In sub-clause (2) of clause 12—

(1) delete the word "and", and

(2) after the words "Academic Council" add the following words, viz., "the Board of University Teaching and such other Authorities of which he is the Chairman." (No. 3).

Amendment proposed.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, if a reference is made to the clause enumerating the authorities of the University, it would be found that the Board of University Teaching and other authorities are mentioned there. But, as in clause 12 (2) these authorities are not mentioned, I have added them. Thus my amendment is more or less of a formal nature and I hope that it would be accepted by the House.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I had personally thought it not necessary to add the names of these authorities in this clause. But any way, as this amendment is suggested, I have no objection to accepting it.

Amendment No. 3 put, and agreed to.

Clause 12, as amended, ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clauses 13, 14 and 15 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 16 (*Court*)—

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Sir, I beg to move that :

"In sub-clause (1) of clause 16, under the heading "Class II—Ordinary members" in sub-para (i) of para (A), after the word "Colleges" add the following :—

"other than Heads of University Departments, Principals of affiliated Colleges and Heads of recognised institutions." (No. 4).

Amendment proposed.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, my amendment seeks to remove, what is in my opinion, a double role given to the Heads of the University Departments, Principals of affiliated Colleges and Heads of recognised institutions who are themselves *ex-officio* members of the Court but who, in addition, become electors for electing 10 members to the Court. Of course, it can be argued that their number is small in comparison to the teachers but I think that it is a question of principle that a person who is himself an *ex-officio* member should not be allowed to act as an elector for electing other members and, therefore, I request the House to accept the amendment which I have suggested.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I oppose the amendment. We should not confuse a member who is an *ex-officio* member on the Court and a member who is to elect certain representatives. As the hon. Member himself has already pointed out, the number of these persons is also very small. I would, therefore, request the hon. Member not to press his amendment.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

Amendment No. 4, by leave, withdrawn.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : Sir, I beg to move that :

"In sub-clause (1) of clause 16, under the heading "Class II—Ordinary Members" in sub-para (iv) of para (A) for the item (b) substitute the following :—

"(b) ten members by registered graduates." (No. 5).

Amendment proposed.

(G.C.P.) MO-B Hb 1113—3

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : Sir, in support of my amendment I would submit that on page 19 of the Report of the Marathwada University Committee it has mentioned as follows :—

“ We recommend the procedure of the Karnatak University, viz. functional basis for the constituency of registered graduates. This will assure representation of lawyers, doctors and engineers, whose effect on public life is considerable.”

So in this Report it has been mentioned that a provision should be there to assure representation of lawyers, doctors and engineers. Now, if we take the various Acts of the Universities, we would see that so far as the Poona University is concerned, 25 seats are given to the graduates without any reservation. In the case of Gujarat University, 20 seats are given without any reservation. So far as the Karnatak University is concerned, there were 18 seats given by reservation. In the case of Bombay Senate, 20 seats are given by reservation and in the case of Baroda University, there are 5 seats but there is no reservation. Then again, if we take into account the actual working of these Universities, we find that the elections are held by proportional representation. In the case of the Poona University, we find that out of the 25 seats, the law graduates get 8 seats, the medicine graduates get 6 seats, engineering graduates get one seat, the arts graduates get 5 seats, the science graduates get 4 and the others get one seat. Thus it would be seen that, even without any reservation, the law and medicine graduates get not only their due share but even a better share of the representation. On the other hand, if representation is provided on faculty-wise basis, probably it will deprive some of the faculties of their due representation. I have, therefore, suggested this amendment.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : I regret, Sir, I cannot accept the amendment. The Committee has considered the peculiar conditions of these areas. I really fail to understand what injustice has been done in the matter of faculties. As a matter of fact, we have only reserved two seats for registered graduates in Law, one seat for registered graduates in Medicine and one for registered graduates in Engineering, and still six seats remain. I feel that the Committee has rightly considered all these conditions in Marathwada and, as such, I oppose the amendment.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : Sir, I withdraw my amendment.

Amendment No. 5, by leave, withdrawn.

Shri S. L. OGALE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, before we move to the next clause, I would like to seek some clarification. In clause 16, in sub-clause (A) (ii), it is mentioned as follows :—

“ Three members by head masters of high schools from amongst themselves, of whom one shall be a head mistress and one a head master or head mistress of a multipurpose high school.”

Now, Sir, some clarification of the word “ head master ” is necessary because, in the same clause, the word “ head master ” appears twice and in the two places it has two different meanings. In the first case, “ head master ” includes “ head mistress ”, and where it appears a second time, “ head master ” is different from “ head mistress ”. Some clarification is, therefore, necessary so that there may be no further confusion.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : When it refers to electors, it includes both the sexes.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : I think, Sir, the legal terminology is very clear.

Clause 16 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 17 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 18 (*Powers and duties of the Court*)—

The CHAIRMAN : There is an amendment to clause 18 in the name of the hon. Member Dr. Karve. He may move it.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Sir, I do not wish to move my amendments both to clauses 18 and 19.

Clause 18 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 19 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clauses 20 to 24 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 25 (*Boards of Studies*)—

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Sir, I beg to move—

In sub-clause (2)(ii) of clause 25, add the following proviso at the end :—

“ Provided they are Professors of at least five years' standing ”. (No. 8).

Amendment proposed.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, if the composition of each Board of Studies is examined, it will be found that each Board consists of (i) the Head of the University Department in the subject for which the Board is constituted ; (ii) Heads of Departments in the said subject in colleges and recognised institutions, and (iii) two experts nominated by the Vice-Chancellor, one of whom shall be from outside the University. It will be found that the Heads of Departments in the affiliated colleges will have to play a very important part in the work of the Board of Studies, which will consist of prescribing curricula, determining the standards of examination, advising the Academic Council in preparing all classes of examiners, and so on and we really want senior people, experts in their subjects, who have had at least some experience of teaching up to the degree standard as members of the Board of Studies. A similar provision is there even in the Poona University Act and we are finding that, as the number of colleges grows and new colleges come in, we get very junior people sometimes, who have passed their M.A. only a couple of years back, as Heads of Departments in these colleges. Fortunately, for the Poona University, there are a large number of old colleges, with senior teachers as Heads of Department, so that the Boards of Studies are not diluted by the coming in of these junior people. But I feel that some kind of a limit to their seniority and status is necessary in order to maintain the standard of work of the Board of Studies. It is, therefore, that I have suggested this in my amendment ; otherwise, many times it happens that a subject is taught only at a lower level ; the second language may be taught in the intermediate classes

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only and there is only one lecturer. That lecturer becomes the Head of the Department and he will be coming to the Board of Studies. I do not think that such a state of affairs is desirable. We must have senior people who are really experts on the Board of Studies and hence I have suggested the necessary modification in my amendment, which, I hope, the House will accept.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR : Sir, I support the amendment.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : I really appreciate the propriety of the hon. Members about the standard to be maintained. But the conditions in Marathwada are not such. I think the provision that is made in clause 25(2), sub-clause (2) is quite alright. In Marathwada area only a few colleges have been started and perhaps, if the amendment is accepted, the result may be that it will be very difficult to constitute Boards of Studies. Under the circumstances, I request the hon. Mover of the amendment not to press for it.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : I do not press my amendment.

Amendment No. 8, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause 25 ordered to stand part of the bill.

- Clause 26 (*Board of University Teaching*).—

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Sir, I beg to move—

"In sub-clause (1) of clause 26 :

(1) Delete the item No. (iv) and

(2) renumber items Nos. (v) and (vi) as (iv) and (v) respectively." (No. 9).

Sir, I also beg to move—

"In sub-clause (3) of clause 26, delete the words "instructions, teaching and training in affiliated Colleges and". (No. 10).

Amendments Nos. 9 and 10 proposed.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Sir, the two amendments which I have moved really stand together. It will be seen that the Board of University Teaching deals with post-graduate education only. Chapter VII of the Bill relates to Post-graduate Teaching. A reference to Chapter VII, clause 40, will show that within the University area, all post-graduate instruction, teaching and training shall be conducted either by the University, or by such affiliated colleges or institutions, and in such subjects, as may be prescribed by the Statutes. That means that the University is going to conduct post-graduate teaching and it is but proper that a Board of University Teaching should be constituted for controlling, regulating and co-ordinating post-graduate teaching. The under-graduate teaching is to be conducted by Colleges. I do not know whether this is a slip and the words "instruction, teaching and training in affiliated colleges" have been added or whether they refer to post-graduate instruction and training. If they have been included in post-graduate teaching, then it would have been alright. As it is worded, it differentiates between

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the two. Therefore, I have suggested these two amendments, one for dropping sub-clause (2v) Principals of affiliated Colleges and the other for deleting the words "instructions, teaching and training in affiliated colleges and". Then the Board of University Teaching will consist of the Vice Chancellor, Deans of Faculties, Heads of University Departments; one member elected by the Court from amongst its members, who shall not be a teacher in the University Departments or affiliated colleges; and two members elected by the Academic Council from amongst its members. Then it will be in charge of post-graduate teaching and instructions to be conducted by the University. I have explained the two amendments together and hope that the House will accept them. In fact, actually if a reference is made to the other section, there is no provision to empower the University to conduct or in any way regulate the under-graduate teaching more than by the normal powers of the Academic Council and Executive Council.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : So far as the Board of University Teaching is concerned, it is intended to control, regulate and co-ordinate all the under graduate as well as post-graduate instruction classes. With regard to this, the Marathwada University Committee Report itself, on page 27, says, that the Board shall have the powers of controlling regulating and co-ordinating instruction, teaching and training in the affiliated colleges and post-graduate instruction, teaching, training and research. Therefore, Sir, the Academic Council will not be the proper body. It is, therefore proposed that the members of the affiliated Colleges should be the members of the Board of University Teaching as recommended by the Committee. I, therefore, oppose the amendments.

Amendment (No. 9) put, and negatived.

Amendment (No. 10) put, and negatived.

Clause 26 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clauses 27 to 33, both inclusive, ordered to stand part of the Bill

Clause 34 (*Affiliation*)—

The CHAIRMAN : There are two amendments standing in the name of the hon. Member Dr. D. D. Karve. He may move them one after the other.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : I do not wish to move either of them, Sir.

Clause 34 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 35 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 36 (*Recognition of institutions of research and specialised studies*)—

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Sir, I beg to move—

"In sub-clause (1) of clause 36—

(1) for the word "Court" substitute the words "Executive Council", and

(2) delete the words "Executive Council and". " (No. 13).

(G.O.P.) MC-B Hb 1113—4

The CHAIRMAN: I think the amendment is inconsistent with the previous clauses which have already been passed. However, I shall propose it.

Amendment proposed.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI: The point for consideration would be, supposing the amendment suggested to clause 36 is accepted, whether there is any provision which empowers the Executive Council to have the powers.

The CHAIRMAN: That is the point which I was considering. The amendment is not consistent.

Dr. D. D. KARVE: As it is not consistent, I shall be bound by the decisions of the Chair, and so, I withdraw the amendment.

Amendment No. 13 by leave, withdrawn.

Dr. D. D. KARVE: Sir, I do not wish to move my amendments Nos. 14 and 15, as they are of a consequential nature.

Clause 36 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clauses 37, 38 and 39 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 40 (*Post Graduate Teaching*)—

Dr. D. D. KARVE: Sir, I beg to move that:

"In clause 40 for the word 'Statutes' substitute the word 'Ordinances'." (No. 16)

Amendment proposed.

Dr. D. D. KARVE: Sir, the object of this amendment is to confine the control of these purely academic matters, which come within the purview of the Ordinances made by the Academic Council and confirmed by the Executive Council rather than those which come within the purview of the Statutes Clause 40 as it is framed runs thus:

"Within the University area, all post-graduate instruction, teaching and training shall be conducted either by the University, or by such affiliated colleges or institutions, and in such subjects, as may be prescribed by the Statutes."

In my opinion, these are matters which should be prescribed by the Ordinances. Now, so far as the affiliated colleges are concerned, there is no question that they should have teachers of a certain standard to teach at the post graduate level and that they should have the necessary equipment for their libraries and laboratories. But these are matters which must be decided by Ordinances. If a reference is made to the matters which are to be decided by Ordinances, it would be found that these are essentially the matters which are to be decided by Ordinances and, therefore, I think that in Clause 40 the word 'Ordinances' should be substituted for the word 'Statutes'.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI: Sir, I have an open mind, but so far as this particular amendment is concerned I think it would be better to retain Clause 40 as it is drafted. I, therefore, oppose the amendment.

[Shri Hitendra Desai]

Amendment No. 16 put, and negatived.

Clause 40 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 41 (*Medium of instruction and examination*)—

Dr. D. D. KARVE: Sir, I do not wish to move my amendment No. 17 to Clause 41.

Clause 41 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 42 (*Qualifications for enrolment of students of the University*)—

Dr. D. D. KARVE: Sir, I beg to move:

"In sub-clauses (i) and (ii) of clause 42, for the word 'Statutes' substitute the word 'Ordinances.'" (No. 18).

Amendment proposed.

Dr. D. D. KARVE: Sir, this provision is copied from one University Act to another University Act, and it has caused the same trouble everywhere. I have the experience of two Universities where this provision has caused very great difficulties in the way of their working. If we refer to clause 31 (i) it lays down:

"Subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by or under this Act, the Executive Council may make Ordinances to provide for all or any of the following matters namely:—

(i) the conditions under which students shall be admitted to courses of studies for degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions;"

Now, Sir, the admissions to Universities cannot be distinguished from the enrolment of the students. A student cannot be enrolled unless he has been admitted simultaneously to some course. Clause 42(i) lays down that no student shall be enrolled unless he has passed the Secondary School Certificate Examination in such subjects and with such standards of attainments as may be prescribed by the Statutes. Then in sub-clause (ii) of Clause 42 also there is a reference to Statutes. These are the qualifications that the students will have to fulfil in order to be enrolled or admitted. But I cannot see the distinction between enrolment and admission and I fail to understand as to how the qualifications necessary for enrolment can be decided by Statutes and the qualifications necessary for admission to Courses can be decided by Ordinances only. There is a contradiction between the provisions of these two Clauses and it is necessary to remove it. There should be uniformity and, therefore, the qualifications to be prescribed under Clause 42 should also be allowed to be prescribed under the Ordinances because, after fulfilling the primary conditions, viz. passing of the Secondary School Certification Examination and the Entrance Examination, what additional qualifications can be there which cannot be prescribed by the Ordinances and which must be prescribed by the Statutes only especially when the Statutes have entirely different functions? The Statutes deal with more general matters and have different mechanism altogether. I, therefore, feel that, in clause 42, the word "statutes" ought to be replaced by the word "ordinances".

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I do not agree that admission and enrolment are one and the same thing. Admission is a matter which may be regulated by ordinances, but not so enrolment, and Statutes will deal with general matters of policy. As a matter of fact, the very same provision exists in the Bombay University and other University Acts, and, therefore, I oppose the amendment.

Amendment No. 18 put, and negatived.

Clause 42 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clauses 43 to 46 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 47 (*Committee of selection for appointment of Teachers of the University*)—

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Sir, I beg to move—

In sub-clause (1) of clause 47, for the word "Teacher" substitute the words "Professor, Reader or Lecturer". (No. 19).

Amendment proposed.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am moving this amendment in order not to make it necessary to go through all the elaborate procedure of having these committees with outside experts, nominated by the Chancellor, for junior appointments like demonstrators and tutor. If we refer to the definition of a "Teacher", it will be found that a teacher includes Professors, Readers and Lecturers, but with the help of statutes it can also include demonstrators and tutors. I may also state here that the word "teacher" is used in another context, namely, for electing representatives to the Court and it is quite possible for demonstrators and tutors to be included among "teachers". I think it would be a good thing if a certain type of demonstrators of a certain standing or certain qualifications are also included in the definition of a "teacher". In this particular context, in the matter of procedure for the appointment of teachers, it is not necessary that all this elaborate procedure of the committee should be gone through, for those appointments which are necessarily of a Junior Grade. That would also be economical because mostly experts from other Universities have to be brought and their T. A. and other allowances have to be paid. So I think it would be better if we restrict the procedure in this clause 47 to the appointment of Professors, Readers or Lecturers and exclude the other teachers by accepting my amendment.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no objection as such to the suggestion made by the hon. Member, but we have got to consider the definition of "Teachers of the University" as given in clause 2(12), which means "teachers appointed or recognised by the University for imparting instruction on its behalf," and probably that definition does not include tutors or demonstrators but only includes those teachers appointed or recognised by the University. Therefore, whatever the hon. Member has said is covered by the definition.

Amendment No. 19 put, and negatived.

Clause 47 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 48 (*Committee for recognition of Teachers of the University*)—

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Sir, I beg to move—

In sub-clause (2)(iii)(b) of clause 48, delete the words "from amongst its members". (No. 20)

Amendment proposed.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the object of this amendment is to remove the restriction on the Academic Council to appoint persons having a special knowledge of the subject on the Recognition Committee only from amongst its members. My reason for this is as follows : If we look to the composition of the Academic Council, there are not two experts in each subject on the Academic Council. We have been suffering under such a provision in the Poona University and I have myself been forced to become a member of the Recognition Committee in a subject in which I am certainly not an expert, but because the Academic Council is bound down to its own members, it has to appoint them and to pretend that they have special knowledge.

Now, Sir, the Academic Council consists of Deans of Faculties, Heads of Departments, and the Chairmen of the Board of Studies, but the Chairman of the Board of Studies will be one expert in that subject, if at all, because many times there are Boards of Studies which will have to deal with a group of subjects. Thus there may be one Board of Studies for modern European languages. For example, a person knowing French may be the Chairman of the Board of Studies and the question may be of recognising Spanish or German and he is certainly not an expert in those languages. The Academic Council has certainly not two experts in each subject according to the constitution which we have adopted, and in order to provide for people having a special knowledge of the subject, I think it is absolutely necessary to remove the words "from amongst its members" from sub-clause (2)(iii)(b) of clause 48.

श्री बच्चराज व्यास : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जो संशोधन अभी प्रस्तुत किया गया है उसका मैं समर्थन करता हूँ। इससे अकादेमिक कौंसिल के जो अधिकार हैं वे कम नहीं होते हैं। यह संशोधन अकादेमिक कौंसिल पर कोई निर्बन्ध नहीं डालता है। इसका मतलब केवल इतना ही है कि अकादेमिक कौंसिल पर जो प्रतिनिधि लाए जाएं वे चुने हुए हों। इस चीज को मान लेना चाहिए नहीं तो फिर "अन्धा बाटे शारीनी अपने अपने को दे" वाली कहावत चरितार्थ होगी। ऐसा नहीं करना चाहिए। अगर इस संशोधन को मान लेंगे तो हमारे जो प्रोफेसर्स हैं उन्हें ऐसे आदमियों को चुनने का मौका मिलेगा। उन्हें इसके लिए ज्वाइस मिलती है, अपने प्रतिनिधियों के चुनने का अवसर मिलता है। यह बात यूनिवर्सिटियों और विद्वद्विद्यालयों के दृष्टि से बहुत फायदेमन्द है इसलिए मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

Dr. G. S. KHAIR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also support this amendment because it makes the position of the Academic Council more elastic and gives it more freedom to appoint a member on the Recognition Committee who really knows that subject. From that point of view I support the amendment and request the Hon. Minister for Education to accept it.

श्री. बी. सी. लागू : सम्माननीय सभासदांनी आपल्या दुहेरी सूचनेत जे शुद्ध काढून टाकण्याची सूचना केली आहे त्यामुळे विशेष काही फरक होईल असे मला वाटत नाही. तेव्हा ही दुहेरी सूचना सरकारने स्वीकारावी असे मला म्हणावयाचे आहे.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is considerable force in the contentions of the several hon. Members, and as I understand, the difficulty that has been pointed out, as a matter of fact, has been experienced by both the Bombay and the Poona Universities. I, therefore, accept the amendment.

Amendment No. 20 put, and agreed to.

Clause 48, as amended, ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 49 (*Appointment of Examiners Committee*)—

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Sir, I beg to move—

In sub-clause (2) of clause 49, after the words "each Faculty" insert the words "or group of Faculties". (No. 21)

Amendment proposed.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the object of this amendment is to make it possible for one single Committee to function for more than one Faculty. If we refer to clause 23, it will be found that there will be Faculties of Arts, Science, Law, Medicine, Commerce, Agriculture and Education, and "such other Faculties as may be prescribed by the Statutes". So actually we are starting with seven Faculties, and at least three of them, viz., Arts, Commerce and Education, are Faculties which are closely allied to each other and which have many subjects in common. It happens that, many a time, for each Faculty there is a separate Committee to recommend the names for examinership, and then, very often, without knowing each other's decisions, the Faculties make common recommendations and ultimately it is found that a person gets an appointment in two or three examinations, and then, at the Academic or the Executive Council stage, we have to disentangle the whole thing. Now at least in the initial stages the practice should be that, if possible, we should have a Committee for each faculty or for more than one faculty. For example, Commerce and Economics are closely allied to each other ; so they can have a common committee for that. That would not prevent separate committees being appointed for each faculty if that is found desirable. This is a permissive amendment. If the authorities so think that one committee can deal with more than one faculty, they can do so. Otherwise, if they think that separate committees are necessary they can also have them. My amendment would enable a more economic and administratively more efficient way of appointing examiners and I hope the House will accept it.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : I was really watching for the reaction of the other hon. Members. I do not know how best we can appoint a committee for group of faculties. I can say that each faculty should have a separate

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committee as far as possible for the sake of efficiency. The amendment, as suggested, however, is more or less an enabling amendment and the discretion may be given to the University. Therefore, I do not oppose the amendment and I accept it.

Amendment No. 21 put, and agreed to.

Clause 49, as amended, ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clauses 50 to 63, both inclusive, ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 64 (*Appointment of first Vice-Chancellor*)—

Shrimati NIRMALA RAJE BHOSALE : Sir, I beg to move—

"In clause 64, for the words 'for a period of three years, which may be extended' substitute the words 'for a period of three years, on such terms and conditions as the Stat Government thinks fit, and the said period may be extended.'". (No. 22)

Amendment proposed.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : I support this amendment.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I accept the amendment.

Amendment No. 22 put, and agreed to.

Clause 64, as amended, ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 65 (*Appointment of Registrar*)—

Shrimati NIRMALA RAJE BHOSALE : Sir, I beg to move—

"In clause 65, for the words 'on such conditions' substitute the words 'on such terms and conditions'". (No. 23)

Amendment proposed.

Shri BACHRAJ VYAS : It is a mistake which has crept in while drafting the Bill. So, we support the amendment.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I accept the amendment.

Amendment No. 23 put, and agreed to.

Clause 65, as amended, ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clauses 66 to 69, clause 1, the Schedule and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Sir, I beg to move that L. C. Bill No. III of 1958, as amended, be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. C. Bill No. III of 1958, as amended, is read a third time and passed.

(The House was adjourned at 6-05 p.m. till 2-00 p.m. on Thursday, the 27th March, 1958)

Thursday, the 27th March 1958

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m., on Thursday, the 27th March 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(No Questions—Part I not published.)

DISCUSSION ON WORKING OF THE BOMBAY VILLAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD

श्री. रतुभाई एम्. अदाणी (ग्रामोद्योग तथा मद्यनिषेध मंत्री) : माननीय सभापति जी, सन १९५६-५७ वर्ष के बम्बई राज्य ग्रामोद्योग मंडल के प्रतिवेदन को विचार में लिया जाय, ऐसा प्रस्ताव मैं प्रस्तुत करता हूँ।

Motion put, and agreed to.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE (Maharashtra—Graduates) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to offer a few remarks on the Annual Report for the year 1956-57 of the Bombay Village Industries Board. It was in December last year that we discussed the two previous Reports and within a period of 3 months we are now getting an opportunity of discussing the Report for the year 1956-57.

At this stage, I think that it would not be out of place to see as to what is the purpose of the Village Industries Board. The Board has been established, firstly, to relieve unemployment, and secondly, to improve the village economy. So when we consider a Report of this kind, we have to see whether these two main objectives have been fulfilled or not by the working of the Board. If we look to the Report, we find that the activities of the Board have been divided mainly into three or four parts, viz., (1) clothing industries, (2) food industries which include producing honey, neera and palm gur industry, hand-pounding of paddy, etc., and (3) other subsidiary industries and schemes, such as hand-made paper industry, fibre industry, village leather industry, village pottery industry, cottage match industry, Ne-oil and soap industry, etc. These activities have been undertaken with a view to improving the village economy and also relieving unemployment. Last time when we considered the Report, the major portion of the criticism centred on the Ambar Charkha and today also I would like to emphasise a few more points about the Ambar Charkha activity.

The Government of India had appointed the Ambar Charkha Inquiry Committee and in the report which it has submitted, we find that three or four main points have been raised. There was also a dissenting minute to that Report and we find that the dissenting members of the Committee came to the conclusion that the Ambar Charkha yarn is neither even enough nor of the right strength for use on the hand-looms. So far as the target is concerned, the intention is to produce 300 million yards Ambar Charkha yarn cloth by the end of 1961. Now if we take the Second Five-Year Plan, it has been mentioned that the *per capita* requirement of cloth would be 18.5 yards and if we calculate the total production, we come to the conclusion that about 6,000 million yards would be given by the mill industry, about 1,200 million yards by the handloom industry and 300 million yards would be produced through Ambar Charkhas. On page 16 of the Report we have been

[Dr. V. D. Sathaye]

given the actual figures of production for 1955-56 and 1956-57 and there we find that, in the year 1955-56, the total production of Khadi woven in square yards was 8.67 lakh yards and this year the total yield is 7.48 lakh yards. It means that there has not been a material addition by the production of Ambar Charkha cloth. Then again, 300 million yards is the target set for the whole of India. So, for the State of Bombay it would be one-tenth of that. But actually we find that we are hardly making 7.48 lakh square yards. Thus the gap is 6 or 8 times. This was the point which I wanted to emphasise before the House.

So far as the question of relieving unemployment is concerned, there also the story is not very encouraging. If we take the employment figures from all the different activities, we find that in the Neera and Palm Gur Industry 949 persons were employed; in the Village Ghani Oil Industry 5,926 persons were employed; in the Gur and Khandasari Industry 220 persons were employed; and for hand-pounding of rice about 5,000 persons were employed. Similarly, so far as Khadi Industry is concerned, 4,222 persons got employment. We must remember that, out of these persons, some are doing part-time job. On the other hand, we are incurring an expenditure of Rs. 4 lakhs per year and that is why I would say that our objective of solving the unemployment problem has not been achieved by the establishment of the Village Industries Board.

There are one or two more points in connection with Ambar Charkha to which I would like to draw the attention of the House. It has been stated by experts of the textile industry that if we take 1 lb. of cotton, then the mill cloth that is woven is about 5 yards but with the same amount of cotton, the Ambar Charkha cloth comes to about 3 yards only. That means that there is a gap of nearly 50 per cent. in the production of the mill cloth and the Ambar Charkha cloth. Not only that but for getting the Ambar Charkha cloth we require a special kind of cotton and in that way we are really spending 50 per cent. more on getting good cotton.

Then, Sir, I want to say a word or two about the yarn produced on the Ambar Charkha. A weaver working for 8 hours a day is supposed to produce 14 yards of cloth on the mill yarn. As against that, if the yarn produced on the Ambar Charkha is used, the yardage covered is only 8 yards. It will thus be seen that, so far as cotton is concerned, through the Ambar Charkha we will be losing cotton to the extent of 50 per cent., and so far as yarn is concerned, by using the mill yarn we can produce 14 yards of cloth, while, by using the Ambar yarn, we can produce only 8 yards of cloth. One more point in this connection is that the Ambar yarn is difficult for use on fly-shuttle looms. That is the decision arrived at by textile experts.

Again, Sir, it has also been suggested that, so far as Ambar Charkha is concerned, if there is an improved type of Charkha which is power-driven, then probably the problem of having more production of cloth through the Ambar Charkha or that of supplementing the production by the mills, at the same time improving the village economy, would be solved. We postulate that, so far as the villages are concerned, the conditions there will remain just the same. That should not at all be the attitude taken by Government.

[Dr. V. D. Sathaye]

It should always think that the villages are going to be improved now, with the schemes for development including the production of electric power. At one time it was said that, after 8 or 10 years, electricity would be in anybody's pocket. I should say that cheap electricity should be made available which should change the phase of our mechanical inventions. For example, there should be an improved type of weaving mechanism and electricity should be made use of also in the case of cottage industries so far as the villages are concerned. We have now changed our idea as regards the traditional Charkha. Formerly, we were not willing to have any sort of mechanical improvement so far as the traditional Charkha was concerned, but I am glad that we have given a go-by to that idea, and now we are of the opinion that, even if the traditional Charkha is mechanised, there is no harm.

There is also one point in this connection. It was stated by hon. Members who spoke last time that a worker who works on the traditional Charkha would get 3 or 4 annas a day, whereas, in the case of the Ambar Charkha, the modest estimate was that a worker would get about 12 annas or a rupee per day. All that I would say in this connection is that it is high time that we revise our idea so far as this activity is concerned. I may mention here that the Government of India had appointed a committee to take stock of the entire situation by the end of 1957. That Committee had originally proposed that 1,00,000 Charkhas should be introduced during the first Five-Year Plan but that number was cut down in the next plan.

These were some of the remarks that I wanted to offer so far as this particular activity was concerned.

મો. છમીલાલ મી. મહેતા (સોરાષ્ટ્ર-લોકલ ઓથોરીટીઝ): માનનીય સભાપતિજી, આપણી સામે મુંબઈ રાજ્યના ગુલ-ઉદ્યોગ મંડળનો રિપોર્ટ ચર્ચા માટે આવ્યો છે. આ અંગે હું મારા મતથી રજૂ કરવા માગું છું. આપણા રાજ્યમાં આપણે ગુલ ઉદ્યોગો એટલા માટે ચલાવીએ છીએ કે રાજ્યમાં જે રોજગારી વિનાના બેકાર લોકો છે એને કામ આપી શકીએ. બીજી દ્રષ્ટિ એ પણ છે કે આપણાં ગામડાંનો જે કારીગર વર્ગ છે—લુહાર, મોચી, સુતાર વગેરે—એ લોકો પોતાના ઉદ્યોગોનો વિકાસ સાધી શકે એ માટે રાજ્ય તરફથી વિલેજ ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રીઝ બોર્ડની રચના કરવામાં આવી છે અને આજે આ બોર્ડ તરફથી લાખો રૂપિયા આને માટે ખર્ચવામાં આવી રહ્યા છે. રીપોર્ટની અંદર જોતાં લાગે છે કે આપણા રાજ્યમાં જુદા જુદા ગુલ-ઉદ્યોગો ચાલે છે, જેમકે, દિવાસળીનો, હાથ-કાગળનો, ચર્મ ઉદ્યોગ, મધમખી ઉછેરનો અને ખાદી અને ગ્રામ-ઉદ્યોગનો ઉદ્યોગ ચાલે છે. પણ આ રીપોર્ટની અંદર આપણને એવું જોવા નથી મળતું કે આ ઉદ્યોગોને કારણે આપણા રાજ્યની અંદર અમુક હજાર અથવા તો અમુક લાખ માણસોને કામ આપી શક્યા. અલબત્ત, આ રીપોર્ટમાં એમ બતાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે દિવાસળીના ઉદ્યોગમાં માણસો કામ કરે છે. પણ હું એ જાણવા માગું છું કે અમુક ઉદ્યોગ શરૂ કરવાને કારણે અમુક સંખ્યાના લોકોને બોર્ડ કામ આપી શક્યું છે એમ બતાવી શકે છે? અંબર ચરખાની વાત કરવામાં આવી છે. અંબર ચરખાની જે વર્ષ પહેલાં શોધ થઈ. ત્યારે આપણે એમ માનતા હતા કે ગામડાંના લોકોને રોજ પૂરી પાડી શકે એવું આ સાધન બની શકશે. આપણે જોઈએ છીએ કે આજે આ અંબર ચરખાની અંદર આઠ કલાક કામ કરનાર માણસ—માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રીએ પણ જવાબ આપ્યો છે એમાં કબૂલ કર્યું છે—બાર આનાથી વધારે કમાણી મેળવી શકતો નથી. બાર આનામાં એક માણસનું પૂરું થઈ શકે કે કેમ તે એક સવાલ છે. આજે અંબર ચરખાની અંદર જુના એક માણસે કામ કરવામાં આવે છે. એક માન્યતા એવી રાખવામાં આવે છે કે મશીનને

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

પ્રોત્સાહન ન આપવું જોઈએ. મારી તો સરકારને ભલામણ છે કે અંબર ચરખાને મોટી પાવર આપીને અંબર ચરખો ગામડાંના એકેએક ઘર ફરતો ફરતો જોઈએ. અને આને પરિણામે સૂતરનું મોટા પ્રમાણમાં ઉત્પાદન થશે અને એ ઉત્પાદન મારફત આપણે આપણને જોઈતું કાપડ મેળવી શકીશું અને મિલમાં ઉત્પન્ન થતું કાપડ પરદેશ મોકલીને આપણા દેશની નાણાંકીય મુશ્કેલીને કંઈક અંશે દૂર કરી શકીશું. એટલે મારું કહેવાનું એ છે કે આપણે જૂનવાણી ખાલો છોડી દેવા જોઈએ. આપણે વરસોથી રૅટિયામાં સંધારાવધારા કરીને અંબર ચરખા સુધી પહોંચ્યા છીએ. અંબર ચરખાને મોટી પાવર આપીને ગામડાંમાં ખાસ કરીને ને ખેતમજૂરો છે, જેઓ વર્ષની અંદર ૩-૪ મહિના રોજ મેળવી શકતો નથી એવા લોકોને રોજનું સાધન પૂરું પાડવું જોઈએ.

બીજી વાત રીપોર્ટ અંગે હું એ કહેવા માગું છું કે નવા મુંબઈ રાજ્યની રચના પછી સમગ્ર મુંબઈ રાજ્ય માટે ખાદી અને ગ્રામોદ્યોગ બોર્ડ એક રહે તે માટે મુંબઈમાં તારીખ ૧૭ મી નવેમ્બર, ૧૯૫૬ના રોજ એક મીટિંગ મળી હતી. એ મીટિંગમાં નક્કી કરવામાં આવ્યું કે નવા મુંબઈ રાજ્ય માટે ભવિષ્યમાં એક મંડળ હોવું જોઈએ. બીજી વાત એમ પણ એ મીટિંગમાં નક્કી કરવામાં આવી કે નવો કાયદો ઘડાય ત્યાંસુધી સૌરાષ્ટ્રના મંડળે એની પ્રવૃત્તિ ચાલુ રાખવી. માનનીય સભાપતિજી, હું નથી સમજી શકતો કે કઈ જાતનો નવો કાયદો વીલેજ ઈન્ડસ્ટ્રીઝ બોર્ડ કરવા માગે છે? અને ત્યાંસુધી સૌરાષ્ટ્રનું મંડળ શા માટે બીજી પ્રવૃત્તિ શરૂ રાખે, એ હું સમજી શકતો નથી. અલબત્ત, એની સાથે મારે બીજી નિસ્ખત નથી. સિદ્ધાંતની દૃષ્ટિએ હું એ પૂછવા માગું છું કે વીલેજ ઈન્ડસ્ટ્રીઝ બોર્ડ ખાદી અને ગ્રામોદ્યોગની સંસ્થાઓને કે બીજી સંસ્થાઓને જે મદદ આપે છે, દિવાસળીના કારખાના કે હાથ-કાગળના કે બીજા ગુહ-ઉદ્યોગના સેન્ટરો ઊભા કરીને સબસીડી આપે છે, તેવી સંસ્થાની અંદર કામ કરવા જે માણસોને વળગાડવામાં આવ્યા હોય છે એને એ સંસ્થાઓ તરફથી માસિક ૧૦૦ રૂપિયા કે ૧૫૦ રૂપિયા પગાર આપવામાં આવતો હોય છે. આ સંસ્થામાં કામ કરતા આ ભાઈઓ આજે સૌરાષ્ટ્રની અંદર ચૂંટણીઓમાં ભાગ લઈ રહ્યા છે. તો સિદ્ધાંતની દૃષ્ટિએ માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રી પાસેથી હું એ જાણવા માગું છું કે જે સંસ્થાઓને વિલેજ ઈન્ડસ્ટ્રીઝ બોર્ડ લાખો રૂપિયા સબસીડીના આપે છે અને એ પૈસા દ્વારા એ સંસ્થાઓ જે પગારદારો રોકે છે એ શું ચૂંટણી લડવા માટે રોકવામાં આવે છે? આજે જેવામાં આવે છે કે આ સંસ્થાઓના કાર્યકર્તાઓને ચૂંટણીના એક સાધન તરીકે રોકવામાં આવે છે. આ સવાલ એક મહત્વનો સવાલ છે. આ સવાલ નીતિનો છે. સરકાર વિલેજ ઈન્ડસ્ટ્રીઝ બોર્ડ મારફત લાખો રૂપિયાની મદદ આ સંસ્થાઓને આપે છે અને સાથોસાથ એના કાર્યકરો પાસેથી ચૂંટણીનું કામ કરાવતી હોય છે. અલબત્ત, હું એમ નથી કહેવા માગતો કે જે લોકોની રાજકારણમાં ભાગ લેવાની ઈચ્છા હોય એણે ભાગ ન લેવો. એમ કહેવાનો કોઈને અધિકાર નથી. પણ સવાલ એ છે કે સરકાર જે પૈસા આપે છે એ પૈસામાંથી રોકવામાં આવતા માણસો ચૂંટણીમાં ભાગ લઈ શકે કે કેમ? આ એક મહત્વનો સવાલ છે. સૌરાષ્ટ્રની અંદર રચનાત્મક સમિતિ ચાલે છે. એ સમિતિના કાર્યકર્તાઓ માટે મને માન છે.....

શ્રી રતુમાઈ એમ. અદાણી: માનનીય સભાપતિજી, જો રિપોર્ટ સદન કે વિચારાધીન હૈં વહ બમ્બઈ રાજ્ય કે ગ્રામોદ્યોગ મળ્ડલ કી રિપોર્ટ હૈં. સૌરાષ્ટ્ર કે ગ્રામોદ્યોગ મળ્ડલ કી યહ રિપોર્ટ નહીં હૈં.

The CHAIRMAN: We are discussing the Report of the Bombay Village Industries Board and its working and not the Report of the Saurashtra Village Industries Board.

શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા: ૧૯૫૬-૫૭ની સાલની કામગીરીનો રીપોર્ટ ૧૯૫૮ની સાલની અંદર થયો છે ત્યારે આ પોલિસીનો સવાલ હોઈને આ અંગે બોલવાનો અધિકાર છે એમ હું માનું છું.

The CHAIRMAN: If the hon. Member wants he can ask questions with regard to policy matters and not discuss about Saurashtra in detail.

શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા: બીજું, આ રિપોર્ટની અંદર મધમાખી ઉછેર, દિવાસળી, તાડગોળ, ખાદી અને ગ્રામોદ્યોગ અને સધન કૌશીનો ઉલ્લેખ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે. તાડગોળને માટેના આંકડા રિપોર્ટની અંદર આપવામાં આવ્યા છે. તાડગોળ જે બનાવે છે એની જે મુશ્કેલી છે તે તરફ સરકારનું હું ધ્યાન ખેંચું છું. આ લોકોને તાડગોળ માટે આજે માર્કેટ મળતી નથી. આ લોકોનો ગૃહ ઉદ્યોગ સારી રીતે વિકસી શકે એટલા માટે સરકારે સગવડ કરી આપવી જોઈએ. આ માટે સરકાર પ્રયત્ન જરૂર કરે છે. આ લોકોને એક તરફથી સબસીડી આપીએ છીએ અને બીજી તરફથી આ લોકોને એના માલને માટે માર્કેટ ન મળતી હોય તો સરકારે આને માટે કોઈ નક્કર યોજના વિચારવી જોઈએ એવી મારી ભલામણ છે.

ત્રીજી વાત ખાદી અંગેની છે. મુંબઈ રાજ્યની અંદર ૧૯૫૬-૫૭ દરમિયાન મુંબઈ સરકાર અને ખાદી કમિશને મંજૂર કરેલા અનુદાન અને લોન દર્શાવતું પત્રક જે આપ્યું છે એનો કુલ સરવાળો ૬૪ લાખ રૂપિયા લગભગ થવા જાય છે. વીલેજ ઈન્ડસ્ટ્રીઝ બોર્ડ મારફત આપણે આટલી જગીર રકમ ખર્ચીએ છીએ પણ એનું વળતર આપણને મળે છે કે કેમ? ગામડાંની અંદર જે પૈસા ખર્ચવામાં આવે છે એ પૈસાની મારફત આપણે ગામડાંની અંદર આ ઉદ્યોગોને વિકસાવી શક્યા છીએ કે કેમ? જો આ ઉદ્યોગોને આપણે વિકસાવી શક્યા હોઈએ, જો આને માટેના પ્રયોગ સફળ થયા હોય તો આ પ્રયોગને આખા સ્ટેટમાં વિસ્તારવા માટે આપણી પાસે કોઈ યોજના છે કે કેમ એ એક સવાલ છે. આજે આપણે જુદી જુદી જગ્યાઓએ અખતરાઓ કરીએ છીએ. જુદી જુદી જગ્યાએ લાખો રૂપિયા ખર્ચીએ છીએ. પૈસા ખર્ચીએ એની સામે કોઈને વાંધો હોઈ શકે નહિ. પણ એક્સ્પેરીમેન્ટ આપણે કેટલા વર્ષ સુધી કરવા માગીએ છીએ. આ સંસ્થાઓને જે ગ્રાન્ટ કે સબસીડી આપીએ છીએ એનો આશ્રય એ છે કે આ ઉદ્યોગો સેલ્ફ સફીસીયન્ટ થાય. હું માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રી પાસેથી એ જાણવા માગું છું કે આપણે આવી સંસ્થાઓને કેટલા વર્ષ સુધી ગ્રાન્ટ કે સબસીડી આપવા માગીએ છીએ. આ અંગે મધ્યસ્થ સરકારના અર્થમંત્રી માનનીય શ્રી મોરારજીભાઈએ જે બે શબ્દો કહ્યા છે તે તરફ હું સભાગૃહનું ધ્યાન ખેંચું છું. ખાદી બોર્ડના હિન્દી રિપોર્ટના પાના ૨૫ ઉપર કહ્યું છે કે—

“लेकिन यह बात भी ठीक है। एक सवाल हमारे सामने रहता है और वह सवाल है हर एक व्यक्ति को रोजी देना। अगर बड़े काम को उठाया जायेगा तो उससे मनुष्य का भला न होगा उससे उस व्यक्ति की भावना नष्ट हो जायेगी। वह गिर जायेगा। जिसकी रचना करनी होगी.....यह भी ठीक है कि ग्रामोद्योग को सबसीडी मिले लेकिन सबसीडी का हमेशा के लिए ख्याल न रहे। उन्हें ऐसा बनना चाहिए जिससे सरकार की सबसीडी की जरूरत न रहे.....”

આ સવાલનો રેફરન્સ મેં એટલા માટે આપ્યો કે આપણે કેટલા વરસ સુધી આ સબસીડ ચાલુ રાખશું? કેટલા વરસ સુધી સબસીડી આપીને કાર્યકર્તાઓ તૈયાર કરીને—ટ્રેનિંગ આપીને—આ ઉદ્યોગની અંદર ખર્ચ કર્યા કરીશું? વરસોથી આપણે આ સબસીડી પાછળ કરોડો રૂપિયા ખર્ચીએ છીએ અને પરિણામમાં એકાદ બે આપવાદ સિવાય ઘણી જગ્યાએ આપણે જેઈ શકીએ છીએ કે આપણે નિષ્ફળ ગયા છીએ. અને એને કારણે જે સાચા ગ્રામ ઉદ્યોગના કાર્યો કરે છે અને જે લોકો સાચા કાર્યકરો છે અને જે લોકો હુન્નર ઉદ્યોગ જાણે છે તેને સરકાર તરફથી સગવડતા આપવામાં આવતી નથી પણ એને બદલે આવી મોનોપોલી સંસ્થાઓને સોંપવામાં આવે છે અને તેથી સાચા કાર્યકરો ઉદ્યોગ માટે સાધન મેળવી શકતા નથી, અને જે માલ તૈયાર કરે તેને માટે બજાર મેળવી શકતા નથી. આજે આપણા ગામડાંઓમાં પણ એવા કારીગરો પડ્યા છે કે જે રેફ્રીજરેટરથી માંડીને મોટા મોટા અન્નનો પણ બનાવી શકે તેમ છે. પણ આવા લોકોને કોઈ સગવડતા આપવામાં આવતી નથી. આવા લોકોને સબસીડી આપવાનું અને લોન આપવાનું જે ધોરણ સરકારે અપનાવ્યું છે તે પણ સંસ્થા મારફત અપાતું હોય છે અને તેનો પ્રોસીજર એવો હોય છે કે આવા કારીગરો—સુતાર, લુહાર, મોચી

[શ્રી. છબીલદાસ પી. મહેતા]

અને કુંભાર તે પ્રોસીજર પ્રમાણે કામો પૂરા પાડી શકતા નથી અને પરિણામે આ લોકોને લોન કે સબસીડી પણ મળતા નથી. ધાંચી ભાઈઓને પણ સબસીડી અપાય છે પરંતુ તે લોકોને કેટલી મુશ્કેલી થાય છે તે જણાવું છું. તે લોકો સબસીડી માટે અરજી કરે તે પછી પણ દોઢ બે વરસ સુધી તેને સબસીડી મળતી નથી. આપણે આ અરજી કરનારા લોકોની તપાસ કરવા માટે જે ઈન્સપેક્ટરો અને બીજા સ્ટાફ રાખ્યો છે અને તેને આપણે રમ રૂપિયાથી માંડીને દોઢસો સુધીના પગાર આપીએ છીએ તે આપણે શું ધારણે કર્યા છે તે હું કહી શકતો નથી. પરંતુ મોટા ભાગે સગાવાદવાળા અને કોઈપણ ધોરણ વગરના તથા સ્ટેન્ડર્ડ વગરના લોકો ઈન્સપેક્ટરો હોય છે. એનું ક્વોલીફિકેશન પૂછવામાં આવતું નથી.

મુંબઈની અંદર જે ખાદી ગ્રામોદ્યોગની પ્રવૃત્તિ ચલાવવામાં આવે છે તેમાં જુદા જુદા વિભાગોમાં, જેવા કે મરાઠવાડા, વિદર્ભ અને કણ્ઠાટક અને બીજા વિભાગોમાં, એવા કાર્યકર્તાઓ છે કે જે લોકો આજે ગામડામાં કારીગરોને કામ આપવા માગે છે અને એ પ્રવૃત્તિને વિકસાવવા માગે છે. આપણે આર્થિક પ્રશ્ન છે તેનો આ રીતે આપણે ઉકેલ લાવવા માગીએ છીએ પરંતુ આવા કાર્યકરોને આ અથવા તો જે લોકો કામ કરે છે એનાં આજે માટેના જે સૂચનો છે તે સૂચનો પર સરકાર તરફથી લક્ષ આપવામાં આવતું નથી. આ અંગે સરકારને હું એટલી જ વિનંતી કરીશ કે ગામડાની અંદર જે કારીગરો છે એની કારીગરી જે આજે સુષુપ્ત અવસ્થામાં પડી છે એને વિકસાવવા માટે, એના કારીગરીને પ્રોત્સાહન આપવા માટેનાં પગલાં લે.

2-30 p.m.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ (વિધાનસભા તરફથી ચૂંટાએલા): માનનીય અધ્યક્ષ મહાશય, ખાદી અને ગ્રામોદ્યોગ બોર્ડનો જે રિપોર્ટ સભાગૃહ સમક્ષ રજૂ કરવામાં આવ્યો છે એ રિપોર્ટ વાંચતા જણાઈ આવે છે કે દર વર્ષે જે રકમ ખર્ચવાની હોય છે તેના કરતાં ઓછી રકમ ખર્ચાય છે. આ ઉપરાંત આ ગૃહ ઉદ્યોગના માલનું જે ઉત્પાદન છે એ પણ દિવસે દિવસે ઓછું થતું જાય છે. આજે મુદ્દાઓ રિપોર્ટ વાંચતા લક્ષમાં આવી શકે તેમ છે. ૧-૨ ધંધા ખુલે છે તો વળી ૨-૩ ધંધા બંધ થતા હોય છે. એટલે મંડળ શરૂ કરવાનો જે આખોય આશય છે તે આશય જળવાતો નથી. એક વખત ૧૯૨૧ની સાલમાં મહાત્મા ગાંધીજીએ જણાવેલું કે:—

“The problem is how to utilise these billions of hours of Nation without disturbing the rest.” (Young India, 6th April 1921).

મુખ્ય સવાલ લોકોની શ્રામ શક્તિને કામે લગાડી ગ્રામ્ય જીવનને જીવંત બનાવવાનો હતો કે જ્યાં સંગઠન અને સંગ્રામ શક્તિ ઉભી થાય. યંત્ર ઉદ્યોગના આક્રમણથી ગ્રામ ઉદ્યોગોને તે બચાવવા માગતા હતા અને એ સમયે બીજાં સંપત્તિ સંબંધ સાથે સંઘર્ષની તેમને જરૂર જણાઈ નહોતી. વરસો બાદ આજે પણ મીલીઅન્સ ઓફ અવર્સ વેસ્ટ થઈ રહ્યા છે એને કઈ રીતે ઉપયોગમાં લેવા એ સમસ્યા દિન પર દિન ઉગ્ર બનતી જાય છે. સરકાર તથા કોન્ગ્રેસનો ઉત્સાહ હોવા છતાં પણ સ્થિતિ કાંઈ સુધરતી નથી. જે પદ્ધતિ અપનાવવામાં આવી છે તેનાથી કામ અને પેટપૂરતી રોજી આ ઉદ્યોગો દ્વારા આપી શકાતા નથી. સત્તા હાથમાં આવ્યા બાદ એમ કહેવામાં આવે છે કે લક્ષ સમાજવાદી સોસાયટી અથવા તો સમાજવાદી પદ્ધતિએ રાજ્ય ઉભું કરવાનું છે. સમાજવાદી પદ્ધતિએ રાજ્ય ઉભું કરવાનો અર્થ આજના ઢાંચાવાળાં રીલીફ વર્ક ઉભું કરવાનો નહિ પણ લોકોના પોતાના પ્રયત્નથી ઉત્પાદન પદ્ધતિ અને સામાજિક સંબંધ નવા પાયા ઉપર મૂકવામાં આવે તે છે. આજે આપણે જેઈએ છીએ કે વરસોથી જે ગ્રામ ઉદ્યોગો ચાલતા હતા તેનો નાશ થતો ગયો છે. એનું કારણ એ છે કે આ ઉદ્યોગો યંત્ર ઉદ્યોગોની હરીફાઈમાં ટકી શક્યા નહિ. હવે આજે ફરીથી પાછા એ જ પૂરાણી પદ્ધતિએ આ ઉદ્યોગો ઉભા કરવામાં આવે છે. એટલે એનું પરિણામ કાંઈ જ આવતું નથી. એટલે કે જે રસ્તે તેનો પરાજય થયો છે તે રસ્તો ગ્રામ ઉદ્યોગોને છોડવો પડ્યો. અને મીલીઅન્સ ઓફ અવર્સ જે વેસ્ટ જાય છે એને કામ આપવા માટે નવી પ્રોડક્ટીવ સીસ્ટમ—

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

નવી ઉત્પાદન પદ્ધતિ—ઉભી કરવી જેઈશે. સમાજવાદી પદ્ધતિને લોકોના સામુહિક સહકારની સાથે સંબંધ છે એટલે કલેક્ટીવ પાયા ઉપર જે આ ઉદ્યોગોને મૂકવામાં નહિ આવે અને માત્ર જૂની પદ્ધતિ કે જે પદ્ધતિથી આ ઉદ્યોગોનો નાશ થયો છે એ જ પદ્ધતિએ ચાલુ રાખવામાં આવશે તો સમાજવાદી પદ્ધતિ તરફ હકીકતે જઈ શકાશે નહિ એટલું જ નહિ પણ ગામડાઓની આર્થિક ઉન્નતિ પણ નહિ થાય.

બોર્ડનો જે રિપોર્ટ રજૂ થયો છે એનાં માત્ર થોડાં આંકડા જેતાં જણાઈ આવે છે કે મુખ્ય લક્ષ તરફ તે કેવી પ્રગતિ કરે છે? મુંબઈ સરકારે આપેલી ગ્રાન્ટમાંથી ૧૯૫૬-૫૭માં ૨,૭૨,૫૭૪ રૂપિયા પડી રહ્યા (પાનું ૧૨૫). આ ઉપરાંત રિપોર્ટના પાનાં ૧૨૬ ઉપર બતાવ્યા પ્રમાણે ૧૦૮ બુનાઈ મંડળો રહ્યા છે અને ૭ ઓછાં થયાં છે. ઉત્તર ગુજરાતમાં મંડળોની સંખ્યામાં ૧૯૪૭માં ૯,૧૮,૦૬૨ પડી રહ્યા. પાના આઠમાં બતાવ્યા પ્રમાણે ૧૧૪ બુનાઈ મંડળોમાંથી ખર્ચા અને ૮,૧૮,૦૬૨ પડી રહ્યા. પાના આઠમાં બતાવ્યા પ્રમાણે ૧૧૪ બુનાઈ મંડળોમાંથી ૧૦૮ બુનાઈ મંડળો રહ્યા છે અને ૭ ઓછાં થયાં છે. મધ્ય ગુજરાતમાં દર ચોરસ વારે વણાટના વધારો થયો છે પણ ઉત્પાદન ઓછું થયું છે. બહુ ઓછા હોવાથી ઉદ્યોગ આગળ ધપતો નથી. દક્ષિણ માત્ર બે આના મળે છે એ બહુ ઓછા હોવાથી ઉદ્યોગ આગળ ધપતો નથી. દક્ષિણ ગુજરાતમાં સ્થિતિ-સ્થાપકતા છે. મહારાષ્ટ્રમાં કેન્દ્રો ચાલે છે પણ કાંતનારાની સંખ્યામાં ઘટાડો થતો જાય છે. મુંબઈ પ્રદેશમાં બુનાઈ મંડળો જે ૧૪ હતાં તે હવે માત્ર ૭ રહ્યા છે. પૂર્ણિકાવિક કેન્દ્રો ૧૧૭ માંથી ૧૧૨ થયાં. અને આંદોનાં કાંતણમાં ઘટાડો થયો. જુદા જુદા વિભાગોમાં જે બુનાઈ મંડળો છે એમાં કોઈ જગ્યાએ મંડળોની સંખ્યા વધે છે તો કામ ઘટે છે. આવું ચિત્ર રજૂ કરવામાં આવ્યું છે. અંશકાવિક કેન્દ્રો પણ જે આગળ વરસે ૨૮૭ હતાં તેમાંથી ૨૪૯ રહ્યાં છે. કાંતનારાઓની જે ૮,૫૦૦ ની સંખ્યા હતી તેમાંથી ૫,૨૭૧ની સંખ્યા રહી છે. I am not going into so much details. પાનાં ૧૩ ઉપર જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે ૧૯૫૫-૫૬માં ૨,૮૬,૮૧૬ આંદોનો કાંતવામાં આવી હતી જ્યારે ૧૯૫૬-૫૭માં ૨,૭૧,૮૦૭ આંદોનો કાંતવામાં આવી છે. દક્ષિણ ગુજરાતમાં કેન્દ્રોની સંખ્યા ૧૯૫૫-૫૬માં ૭૨ હતી તે ૧૯૫૬-૫૭માં ૭૭ થઈ છે. અને કાંતનારાની સંખ્યા ૧,૫૨૦માંથી ૮૫૭ ઉપર પહોંચી છે. ખાદીનું ઉત્પાદન ગયા વરસમાં ૧૫,૦૮૩ ચોરસવાર હતું તે ૧૯૫૬-૫૭માં ૧૦,૭૬૭ ચોરસવાર થયું છે.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member need not go into all these details because they have been given in the Report under discussion. It is not necessary to go into such details.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ : હાથ કાગળના ઉદ્યોગોમાં પણ મોટા ભાગની જે ખરીદી થાય છે તે સરકાર તરફથી થાય છે. સરકાર આ ઉદ્યોગોને ટકાવી રાખવા માટે મોટા ભાગની ખરીદી ન કરે તો આ ઉદ્યોગ તૂટી પડે એવી અવસ્થામાં છે. આ ઉપરાંત તાડગોળનો જે ઉદ્યોગ ચાલે છે તેમાં પણ ઘટાડો માલુમ પડે છે. ૧૯૫૫-૫૬માં તાડીનું ૪,૧૦,૨૧૦ ગેલન ઉત્પાદન હતું ત્યારે ૧૯૫૬-૫૭માં ૩,૮૪,૯૨૮ ગેલન ઉત્પાદન થયું છે. ૧૯૫૫-૫૬માં ૮૫,૫૮૬ રતલ ગોળ પેદા થયો હતો ત્યારે ૧૯૫૬-૫૭માં ૬૧,૧૮૨ રતલ ગોળ પેદા થયો હતો. એટલે આ રીતે તાડી અને તાડગોળના ઉત્પાદનમાં પણ ઘટાડો નોંધાયો છે.

બહુ વિગતમાં ન જતાં મૂળ મુદ્દા ઉપર આવું. આ જે ઉદ્યોગો ઓછાં થતાં જાય છે અથવા તો ઉત્પાદન ઘટતું જાય છે તે શા માટે ઘટતું જાય છે? એનું કારણ શું છે? એના કારણમાં મને લાગે છે કે આજે બજારમાં વ્યક્તિગત લાભની શોધમાં બીજા પુંજપતિ ધંધાઓની માફક ગ્રામ ઉદ્યોગોના ઉત્પાદનને રજૂ કરવામાં આવે છે. ભાવોમાં તે ઉંચા રહે છે અને લોકોની ઘટતી ખરીદ શક્તિને તે પોષાતા નથી. આ સિવાય યંત્ર ઉદ્યોગો ગામડાના એકેએક ખુણાને આવરી લેવા માંડ્યા છે. એને પરિણામે આજે ગામડાના વણકર, લુહાર, મોચી વગેરે કારીગરોના ધંધા તૂટતા ગયા છે. ઉપરાંત બીજું જે રસ્તે મૂળ આ ઉદ્યોગો તૂટ્યાં એ જ રસ્તે એને ટકાવવા માટેની પદ્ધતિ મંડળ અખત્યાર કરી રહ્યું છે. એટલે

श्री बच्छराज एस. व्यास (विदर्भ-स्तातक): माननीय सभापति महोदय, इस विषय पर अपने विचार प्रस्तुत करते समय यह जो बम्बई राज्य के ग्रामोद्योग मण्डल रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने हैं, मैं इस सन्माननीय सदन का ध्यान उसके पैराग्राफ (एक) की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। इसमें कहा गया है कि, खादी और ग्रामोद्योग के कार्य में देहात के लोगों को दिलचस्पी पैदा हो गई है। इसमें यह भी कहा गया है कि

हमारे देश में समाजवादी समाज रचना होनी चाहिए ऐसी बात समाचारपत्रों में आती है लेकिन वे इस बात को नहीं देखते कि समस्या का मूल यह है कि हमारे जो शासनकर्त्ता हैं उनमें इसके प्रति विश्वास नहीं है। मेरा यहां नम्र निवेदन है कि आज जो हमारे शासक हैं, हमारी जो सरकार है, उसका ग्रामोद्योगों पर बिल्कुल विश्वास नहीं है, ग्रामोद्योग में भरोसा नहीं है। जब मैं यह बात कहता हूँ तो इसलिए कहता हूँ कि आज आपका बनाया हुआ जो बजट का ढांचा है उसे आप देखें—इन दस वर्षों में आपने जो व्यवस्था की है उसपर अगर विचार करें—तो मालूम होगा कि ग्रामोद्योगों में क्रांति लाने के लिए कोई भी प्रयत्न नहीं किया गया है। ग्रामोद्योग के लिए, अकेडमिक, तांत्रिक या नाममात्र

[श्री बच्छराज एस्. व्यास]

के लिए व्यवस्था की जाती है। हमारे बम्बई राज्य का २०० करोड़ रुपयों का बजट है ग्रामोद्योग मण्डल का सालाना खर्च जो है वह करीब ६४ लाख रुपये का है। हमारे एक मित्र ने कहा कि यह कितना कम है। इसका अगर हम हिसाब लगाएं तो मालूम होगा कि यह कुल बजट का प्वाइन्ट जीरो जीरो जीरो पांच भाग होगा। इतना बड़ा आंकड़ा है जो ग्रामोद्योग के विकास के लिए रखा गया है। इस रकम से क्या विकास होनेवाला है? इससे मालूम होता है कि सरकार का इसपर कोई विश्वास नहीं है, सरकार इस बारे में कोई कदम नहीं उठाना चाहती है और न कदम उठाने के लिए वह सोचती ही है और केवल दिखावे के लिए नाममात्र कार्य कर रही है, और इसी नीति से यह अनुदान भी दिया गया है। हमारी सरकार नहीं चाहती है कि गांवों का, उनसे भी बड़े गांवों का, और उनसे बड़े शहरों का और उन शहरों से बड़े बम्बई सरीखे शहरों का नक्शा बदले, नहीं तो इन दस-बीस वर्षों में जो हालत हम देख रहे हैं कि लोग गांवों में रहने के लिए राजी नहीं, लोगों का जो प्रवाह शहरों की ओर चला आ रहा है वह बन्द होने को नहीं आता ऐसी हालत न होती। बम्बई में लोगों को रहने के लिए जगह नहीं मिलती है लेकिन देहात के लोग देहातों में नहीं रहते बल्कि बम्बई में सब भाग भाग कर आते हैं। इस प्रवाह को रोकने के लिए हमें उनकी आर्थिक ढाँचे को बदलना होगा इसके सिवा हम किसी और तरीके से उन्हें रोक नहीं सकते।

मेरा नम्र निवेदन है कि इस समाज में अगर हम समाज के ढाँचे को योग्य परिस्थिति लाना चाहते हैं, ग्रामों में अगर हम बापू का स्वराज्य लाना चाहते हैं, तो हमें इन चीजों को हाफहर्टेडली (आधे दिल से) नहीं करना चाहिए, इसतरह से प्रयोग करने का काम न करना चाहिए। मेरा ख्याल है कि हिन्दुस्तान की जो समस्या है वह अन्य देशों की समस्याओं से बिल्कुल अलग है। दूसरे देशों में जन-संख्या की कमी है, वहाँ हाथों की कमी है, इसलिए मशीन का उपयोग वहाँ किया गया लेकिन हमारे देश की समस्या बिल्कुल इससे उलटी है। हमारे यहाँ हाथ बहुत से हैं, जन संख्या बहुत ज्यादा है लेकिन उनके पास कोई काम नहीं है जिससे वे अपना जीवनयापन कर सकें, हमें उन हाथों को काम देने की जरूरत है, हमें उन हाथों को काम देनेवाला वातावरण इस देश में पदा करना है, केवल स्कीमों बना देने से उन्हें काम मिलनेवाला नहीं है, स्कीमों के साथ साथ साधारण उत्पादन सामग्री भी उपलब्ध करानी होगी। हमारे देश के बड़े बड़े विशेषज्ञ और देशों में काम करने की पद्धति देखने गए—जापान भी वे गए और उन्होंने जापान के उद्योगों को भी देखा। जापान इतने बड़े संहार के बाद भी आज फिर से दुनिया का सब से बड़ा समृद्धशाली देश बन गया है। वहाँ उन्होंने देखा कि हर गांव में हर एक आदमी अलग अलग पुरजे बनाता है, देहातों के लोग जब उन्हें तैयार करते हैं तो उनको यह मालूम भी नहीं होता है कि उनके वे पुरजे किस काम में आएंगे। जो आदमी एक नट बनाता है वह यह भी नहीं जानता कि यह नट किस काम आनेवाला है या जो आदमी स्पोक बनाता है वह नहीं जानता कि यह स्पोक साईकिल में काम आएगा, इन सामानों को इकट्ठा करके बड़ी बड़ी चीजें बनाई जाती हैं और उनकी वजह से लोगों का भी बहुत काम मिलता है और देश की उन्नति होती है। आज हमारे यहाँ यह बात नहीं है। सरकार ने इसके बारे में कोई बेसिक नीति अस्तित्व नहीं की है किस तरह से गांवों में स्थान स्थान पर लोगों से काम लिया जाये।

मेरे ख्याल से राष्ट्रीयकरण से बड़े बड़े उद्योगों की, उनके प्रोडक्शन की, उनके लिए मशीनें तैयार करने की जिम्मेदारी सरकार पर है लेकिन बाकी की जो कंज्यूमर्स गुड्स हैं, या ग्रामीणों द्वारा तैयार की हुई चीजें हैं उनका ठीक ढंग से वितरण करना, उनके लिए साधन जुटाना भी उसी का फर्ज है। आज जिस ढंग से काम हो रहा है उससे हमारे जो उद्योग हैं वे चलते फिरते अजायबघर

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सरीखे मालूम होते हैं। हम केवल प्रयोग चलाते हैं, हम बाहर क्या खाते हैं और अपने घर के अन्दर क्या खाते हैं, हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब जब घर से बाहर निकलते हैं तो कौन से कपड़े पहिनते हैं और घर में कौन से कपड़े पहिनते हैं, इस तरह से यह कुछ नमूने की चीजें सरीखी बन गई हैं। जब नमूने सरीखी चीजें बनी हैं तो उसमें प्रिन्सिपल ही क्या हो सकता है। इसलिए मेरा कहना है कि हमें इन रुचियों और प्रवृत्तियों को बदलने के लिए वास्तव में एक बड़े पैमाने पर काम करना होगा जिससे वातावरण बदल सके। हमें सोलहवीं या अठारहवीं सदी के मुआफिक नहीं चलना है। हम माचिस से बनाते हैं तो हमारे वह काम नहीं आती है और इस तरह से प्रयोग करने में हमारा समय बर्बाद होता है। हमारी पालिसी तो ऐसी होनी चाहिए कि जो बड़े बड़े उद्योगों को जो सामान चाहिए वह गृह-उद्योगों से मिले। अगर हम केवल कुलाचार के रूप में काम करते आएंगे तो हमारा काम होनेवाला नहीं है क्योंकि कुलाचार के अन्दर जो बातें होती हैं वे दिल में स्थान नहीं पाती हैं और केवल दिखावे की चीज हो जाती है। जब हमारे मिनिस्टर या बड़े नेता देहातों में जाते हैं या हमारे पार्लियामेंटरी सेक्रेटरी देहातों में जाते हैं तो वहाँ के दस बीस आदमी आते हैं और उनके साथ मिलकर बैठते हैं और कुछ प्रदर्शन भी होता है कभी कभी प्रदर्शनियां भी होती हैं, इन प्रदर्शनियों में पचास पचास और साठ साठ हजार रुपये तक खर्च होते हैं। इस तरह से हमारे ग्रामोद्योग आदि केवल प्रदर्शन मात्र के लिए रह गए हैं। केवल नाममात्र के लिए यह सब चलाया जा रहा है और उसी तरह से यह बोर्ड भी चल रहा है। पूरे बम्बई राज्य में १३ स्कीमें चालू करने की थीं उनमें से ५ स्कीमें चालू हो सकीं। इसलिए जैसा मैंने शुरू शुरू में कहा कि २५-२५ पन्ने की रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने आती है और जिस तरह उसके अपेंडिक्स होते हैं उसी प्रकार सरकार भी इस काम को अपेंडिक्स के समान मानती है, और इसे बड़े लोगों की शोभा का साधन बनाती है।

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member need not indulge in criticism like this. Let him continue his speech.

श्री बच्छराज एस्. व्यास: मैं कह रहा था कि बोर्ड जिस काम के लिए बना है उसी काम को करे न कि वह बड़े लोगों की शोभा की चीज हो जाय। राष्ट्र का हमें नवनिर्माण करना है लेकिन ऐसा करते समय हमें सतर्क रहना चाहिए। हमें ऐसा मार्ग ढूँढ़ना चाहिए जिससे हम समाजवाद-समाज रचना के बजाय तानाशाही की ओर न ले जायें जो हमारी व्यक्तिगत स्वतंत्रता को नष्ट करना चाहित है। हम इस बोर्ड से अपना आत्म निर्माण भी करें। जो लोग देहातों में रहते हैं उन्हें यदि हम कुछ काम सही तरीके से दिला सकें और उनका जो प्रवाह शहरों में आने का है उसे रोकने में यह बोर्ड सफल हो तो हम सचमुच ईमानदारी के साथ राष्ट्र का उत्थान कर सकेंगे और समाजवादी-समाज रचना के समीप पहुँच सकेंगे। अगर इस बोर्ड की सम्पूर्ण शक्ति और साधन गांवों की सेवा में लगा सकें तो प्रगति का कुछ अर्थ भी रहेगा और वहाँ का जीवनस्तर भी ऊँचा उठ सकेगा लेकिन जो रिपोर्ट हमें यहाँ मिली है, सभापति जी मुझे बड़े दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि उसमें मुझे आशा की नहीं बल्कि निराशा की ही झलक दिखाई पड़ती है। जिस समाजवादी-समाज रचना की हम कल्पना करते हैं उस तक पहुँचने में हमें परेशानी और मुसीबत दिखाई देती है उनका हमें मुकाबला करना होगा। शहरों में जो गांवों के लोगों का आनेवाला प्रवाह है उसे हमें रोकना है ऐसा हमें वातावरण बनाना है जिसमें जीने की आकांक्षा हो। जब यह सब कुछ हो सकेगा तभी हमारी योजनाएं भी सफल हो सकेंगी और तभी हमें समाधान होगा और इसके लिए हमें निकट भविष्य में अधिक से अधिक परिश्रम करना होगा। इतना कह कर मैं अपना स्थान लेता हूँ।

श्री. एम्. एन्. काळे (विदर्भ-टीचर्स) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, मुंबई ग्रामोद्योग मंडळाचा जो अहवाल ह्या सभागृहापुढे विचारासाठी मांडण्यांत आला आहे तो अनेक दृष्टींनी असमाधानकारक आहे असे सांगण्यासाठी मी उभा आहे.

खेड्यापाड्यांतील ग्रामोद्योग व गृहोद्योग यांना मदत करणे, त्यांचा विकास घडवून आणणे आणि बेकारांना काम देऊन बेकारी शक्य तों कमी करणे हा हे मंडळ स्थापण्यामागे सरकारचा उद्देश आहे असे म्हटले जाते. पण ह्या अहवालाकडे पाहिले तर सर्व दृष्टींनी निराशाच पदरांत पडते. अहवालांत सुरुवातीच्याच पानावर असे म्हटले आहे की, "खादी, मधुमक्षिकापालन, तेलाचे विविध ग्रामोद्योग यांच्या केंद्रांत गेल्या वर्षांपेक्षा वाढ झाली आणि अंबर-चरखा, गूळ-खांडसरी, काडीच्या पेट्या आणि अवाद्य तेलापासून साबण तयार करण्याचे उद्योग अशासारख्या नव्या उद्योगांत अधिक प्रमाणांत वाढ दिसून येत आहे. त्यामुळे उत्पादन वाढ होऊन अधिक बेकारांना काम मिळू शकले." येथे असे सांगण्यांत आले असतांना हा अहवाल पुढे वाचला तर यापेक्षा विपरीत गोष्टी दिसून येतात.

ह्या अहवालाच्या पान १० वर वस्त्रस्वावलंबन ह्या सदराखाली अ. म्हटले आहे की, विणई मंडळांत वाढ झाली आहे. विशेषतः उत्तर गुजरात विभागांत विणई केंद्रे १९५५-५६ साली ७ होती ती संख्या १९५६-५७ साली ११ झाली, पण खाणी उत्पादन. १९५५-५६ साली १५,२०१ चौ. वार होतें तें १९५६-५७ साली ११,६२२ चौ. वारझालें. महाराष्ट्र विभागामध्ये प्रगतीचा असाच चमत्कार दिसून येतो. त्या ठिकाणी कताई करणारांची संख्या १९५५-५६ साली १,६४५ होती ती १९५६-५७ साली ७१० इतकी झाली. खादीचे उत्पादन १९५५-५६ साली ७,०१४ चौ. वार होतें ते १९५६-५७ साली ६,२५२ चौ. वार झाले. तेव्हा ह्या सर्व दृष्टींनी पाहिले तर असे दिसून येतें की, कताई विभागामध्ये यत्किचित्ही वाढ झालेली दिसून येत नाही. त्याचप्रमाणे कताई उत्पादन १,८१,१३३ चौ. वार इतकें होतें तें १९५६-५७ साली २४,८८३ चौ. वार इतकें झालें. तेव्हा, हा जो प्रकार दिसतो याकडे सरकारने अधिक काळजीपूर्वक लक्ष दिलें पाहिजे. प्रत्यक्ष मुंबई सरकारच्या नांवाखाली जें मोठें खादी ग्रामोद्योग केंद्र चालत आहे तेथें १९५५-५६ साली केंद्रांची संख्या १४ होती ती ६ झाली, कताई करणारांची संख्या १,१६४ होती ती ८७५ झाली आणि खादीचे उत्पादन ७,०१४ चौ. वार होतें तें ६२५२ चौ. वार झाले. तेव्हा याला प्रगति कसे काय म्हणावयाचे हें मला समजत नाही. यापेक्षा खरी गंमत आपल्याला "खादीचे व्यापारी उत्पादन" ह्या हेडिंगखाली पाहण्यास मिळतें. १९५६-५७ साली खादीच्या उत्पादनाचे प्रमाण वाढलेले दिसतें. व्यापारी उत्पादनाचा अर्थ आपण समजू शकतों. ह्या सदराखाली दिलेल्या माहितीत असे म्हटले आहे की १९५६-५७ साली खादीच्या उत्पादनाचे काम व्यापारी दृष्टीने चालू राहिले. प्रांतांत एकूण ३१ केंद्रांत काम चालू होतें. मागील वर्षी ३६ केंद्रांचे काम चालू होतें. खादीचे एकूण उत्पादन ३,३१,३५२ चौ. वार झाले आणि कताई करणाऱ्यांची संख्या ४,२२२ होती. १९५५-५६ साली ४,४३,७३९ चौ. वार खादीचे उत्पादन झाले, आणि कताई करणारांची संख्या ८,७३९ होती. मध्य गुजरातमध्ये खादीची केंद्रे १९५५-५६ मध्ये ११ होती ती १९५६-५७ साली ९ झाली. कताई करणारांची संख्या ५,१७१ होती ती २,९२९ इतकी झाली आणि खादीचे उत्पादन २,१८,९७९ चौ. वार होतें तें ८०,११८ चौ. वार झाले. तेव्हा जरी आपण ह्यांना खादीच्या उत्पादनाची व्यापारी केंद्रे म्हणत असलों तरी मी आतां सांगितलेली एकंदर माहिती उत्साहकारक निश्चित नाही. ही प्रगति म्हणावयाचीच असली तर तिला पुच्छगति म्हणावे लागेल.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, आपण हा अहवाल चाळीत आणखी थोडे पुढे गेलों तर १८ व्या पानावर सर्वसाधारण खादी योजनेप्रमाणे झालेल्या कामाचा सारांश दिलेला आहे. हा सारांश फारच निराशाजनक आहे. ह्या पानावर जो तक्ता दिला आहे त्यावरून असे दिसून येतें की

[श्री. एम्. एन्. काळे]

१९५५-५६ साली केंद्रांची संख्या ५,६६५ होती ती १९५६-५७ साली ५०० झाली. १९५५-५६ साली कताई केलेल्या गुंड्या ४६,१६,०२२ इतक्या होत्या तर १९५६-५७ साली त्यांची संख्या १३,६९,०६४ इतकी झाली. तेव्हां हें प्रगतीचें लक्षण म्हणावयाचें की काय असा प्रश्न कोणाहि विचार करणाऱ्या माणसापुढें उभा राहिल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. सर्वसाधारणतः शाळेमध्ये एखादा विद्यार्थी एखाद्या विषयांत नापास झाल्यास त्याच्या प्रगतिपुस्तकावर "समाधानकारक" असा शेर मारण्यांत जो अर्थ भरलेला आहे तोच अर्थ एकंदर ह्या प्रगतिपुस्तकात प्रतीत होतो असें मला वाटतें. तेव्हां, ह्या सगळ्या गोष्टींकडे मुंबई ग्रामोद्योग मंडळानें अधिक लक्ष घातलें पाहिजे, असें मला सांगावयाचे आहे.

कामगारांचे जीवनमान सुधारण्याच्या दृष्टीने ग्रामोद्योग मंडळानें किती प्रगति केली हेहि पाहण्यासारखें आहे. सर्वसाधारणतः एकूण १,१०८ कामगारांना खादी योजनेनुसार काम धंदा मिळाला, व या कामगारांना एकूण रु. ३,३२,७६३ इतकें वेतन दिले. ही सगळी आंकडेवारी पाहिली तर ह्या योजनेनुसार कामगारांचे जीवनमान कितपत वाढलें यासंबंधीचे आंकडे स्पष्टपणे बोलके असल्यामुळे मी जास्त कांहीं सांगण्याचें कारण नाही.

यानंतर पान २५ वर विणकऱ्यांचे पुनर्वसन ह्या सदराखाली कांहीं आंकडे दिले आहेत. ह्यामध्ये एक सुरेख वाक्य आहे. त्यांत म्हटले आहे की, १९५५-५६ च्या अखेरीस विणकऱ्यांच्या पुनर्वसनासाठी ३३,५०० रुपयांचे साहाय्य मिळाले. त्यामुळे त्यांचा विनियोग त्या वर्षांत संपूर्णपणे होऊ शकला नाही. म्हणजे आज अशी परिस्थिति आहे की, जेव्हां पैसा मिळतो तेव्हां त्यांचा विनियोग होत नाही. आणि ज्या ठिकाणी पैसाचा विनियोग होतो त्या बळी तो विनियोग लोकांसाठी होत नाही. हें जें दुष्टचक्र आहे तिकडे ह्या मंडळानें लक्ष दिलें पाहिजे. आमच्या बाजूला नागपूर विभागामध्ये कोष्टी वगैरे लोकांची, विणकऱ्यांची जी जमात आहे त्यांची अत्यंत हलाखीची परिस्थिति आहे. तेव्हां मला असें म्हणावयाचें आहे की, ह्या मंडळाच्या हातांत इतका पैसा येऊनहि त्यांचा विनियोग होऊ शकला नाही, त्याऐवजी ह्या पैशांपैकी थोडसा भाग जरी ह्या लोकांची परिस्थिति सुधारण्यासाठी खर्च केला असता तरी यापेक्षा जास्त चांगलें कापड उत्पन्न होऊ शकलें असतें.

नंतर अंबर चरख्याचे काम ऑक्टोबर १९५६ पासून सुरू करण्यांत आले व त्यासाठी शिष्यवृत्त्या, कर्ज व खेळते भांडवल म्हणून १४,८५,५०० रुपये खर्च करण्यांत आले असें ह्या अहवालांत म्हटलें आहे. एवढ्या सगळ्या खटाटोपानंतर ३१ मार्च १९५७ पर्यंतच्या काळामध्ये एकंदर ८३,८१९ चौ. वार इतकी खादी ह्या अंबर चरख्याच्या योजनेमधून निर्माण झाली असें ह्या अहवालांत म्हटलें आहे. पैसा आणि उत्पन्न यांचा परस्परांशी संबंध लावू पाहिले तर याला वस्त्रस्वावलंबन म्हणावयाचें काय याचा विचार करावा लागेल. यांतून निव्वळ फायदा व्हावा असें मी म्हणत नाही, पण अशा रीतीने ह्या गोष्टीवर खर्च होऊ लागला तर त्यांतून वस्त्रस्वावलंबनाचा प्रश्न सुटणार नाही. विरोधी पक्षाला टीका करावयास जागा राहिल असें कळू नये असें मला म्हणावयाचें आहे.

मधुमक्षिकासंबंधी जी माहिती दिलेली आहे त्यावरून १९५५-५६ साली दोन मधुमक्षिका पालन केंद्रे होती त्याऐवजी १९५६-५७ मध्ये तीन झाली असें दिसून येतें. केंद्रांमध्ये वाढ झाली, पण उत्पन्नाच्या दृष्टीने पाहिले तर १९५५-५६ साली जें उत्पन्न १,०१४ पौंड होतें तें १९५६-५७ मध्ये ८३६ पौंड झाले आहे. केंद्रांची संख्या आणि उत्पन्नाचे प्रमाण गणिताच्या भाषेत सांगावयाचें तर मायनस आहे असें म्हणावे लागेल. महाराष्ट्रांत मधुमक्षिका पालन केंद्रे २७ होती ती ३० झाली आणि मधुमक्षिका पालन करणाऱ्या मंडळींची संख्या १,५८१ होती ती १,१७७ झाली. तसेंच मध्याचे उत्पन्न १९५५-५६ साली २४,३४३ पौंड होतें तें १९५६-५७ साली ११,१०२ पौंड झाले. अशा रीतीने आंकडे कमी होत असतांना हा प्रगतीपर अहवाल आहे असें आपण म्हणू शकाल काय ? हा महत्वाचा प्रश्न आहे म्हणून मी तो सभागृहापुढे ठेवू इच्छितों.

[શ્રી. એમ. એન. કાळे]

આગલી એકા ગોઠીસંબંધી મલા અસે મ્હાગવાચાં આહે કી, દારુબંદીમુઝે જ્યા લોકાંચ્યા વ્યવસાયાવર પ્રતિકૂલ પરિણામ જાલા કિવા તાડીબંદીમુઝે જે લોક બેકાર જાલે ત્યાંની ઉન્નતિ કરણ્યાચ્યા દૃષ્ટીને નીરા યોજના અમલાંત આણલી જાત આહે અસે સાંખ્યાંત યેતે આણિ હ્યા નીરેબરોબરચ તાડગૂઝ તયાર કરણ્યાંત યેતો. હ્યા દૃષ્ટીને સરકાર હી યોજના રાબતિતે પળ તી કોળત્યાહિ પ્રકારે આકર્ષક હોત નાહી. નીરા વિક્રીકેંદ્રાંની એકંદર સંખ્યા ૨૭૧ આહે આણિ નીરેની વિક્રી ૨,૬૪,૬૩૪ ગેલન આહે. સરાસરી કાઢલી તર પ્રત્યેક કેંદ્રાવર ૯૭૬.૫ ગેલન વિક્રી જાલ્યાંતે દિસુન યેતે. ૩૬૫ દિવસાલા ૯૭૬.૫ યા દૃષ્ટીને હિસોબ કોલા તર એકા દિવસાલા ૩ ગેલન વિક્રી પડત નાહી. ૩ ગેલન નીરા નિર્માણ કરુન દારુબંદીવા પ્રશ્ન મુઝેલ અસે મ્હળળે બરોબર હોણાર નાહી. તાડગૂઝાસંબંધીવા પ્રશ્નહિ અગાંચ સ્વરુપાવા આહે. યામધ્યે ૮૨૩ કામગારાંના રોજગાર દિલા અસે મ્હટલે આહે. પળ ગૂઝ કિતી તયાર જાલા, પેસે કિતી મિઝાલે, ફાયદા કિતી જાલા યાસંબંધી અહવાલાંત મુશ્વતા રાખણ્યાંત આલી આહે. તેજાં ત્યાકડે સરકારને લક્ષ દિલે પાહિજે.

તેલબિયાંવા સાંઠા કરણ્યાસાઠી, ગ્રામીણ તેલબંદા વાઢવિણ્યાસાઠી વ ત્યાકરિતાં ઘણે સ્તરેદી કરણ્યાસાઠી સરકારને પેસે દેઝ કોલે આહેત વ હી રક્કમ જવઝ જવઝ ૩ લક્ષ રૂપયાંની આહે. ગુજરાતમધ્યે એકા ઠિકાણી લોક યા યોજનેમધ્યે આકર્ષિત જાલે નાહીત અસે મ્હટલે આહે. જો વર્ગ પરંપરેને હેં કાર્ય કરીત આહે તો વર્ગ દેલીલ આકર્ષિત હોત નાહી, તેજાં યામધ્યે જો દોષ અસેલ તો લક્ષાંત ઘેઝત તો દૂર કરણ્યાવા પ્રયત્ન કોલા પાહિજે. પાન ૫૩ વર યા સંબંધી થોડાસા ઉલ્લેખ કેઝા આહે. દક્ષિણ ગુજરાત વિભાગામધ્યે કામ યોજાલે આહે વ યાંકે કારણ તેલી જમાતીને ફારચ ઉત્સાહ દાખવિલા અસે ત્યામધ્યે મ્હટલે આહે. કાગદ તયાર કરળે, આગપેટચા તયાર કરળે, કાપડ તયાર કરળે હ્યા સાંખ્યા માલાચ્યા શાવતીત અસે દિસતે કી, હા માલ બાહેર તયાર હોણાંચા માલાપેશાં સુગીરિઅર ઠરત નાહી. ડાકયાલા પૂર્વી ઉત્ક્રિષ્ટ મલમલ તયાર હોત હોતી પળ ત્યાંચ્યા પાસાંગાલા પુરેલ એવેહિ યોજાલે કાપડ તયાર હોત નાહી. આપલ્યા યેથે પૂર્વી હોતાંચ્યા નંજાંતુન મલમલ તયાર કરણ્યાંકે તંત્ર અવગત હોતે, પળ હલ્લી સાધા માલ દેલીલ યોજાંચા પ્રકારે તયાર હોત નાહી. બાજારામધ્યે જો માલ લપત નાહી અશા તજેચા માલ આપળ કાઢત આહોંત આણિ ત્યામુઝે પ્રત્યક્ષ જો પેસા લવે હોતો તોહિ પરત મિઝત નાહી. બેકારાંના મદત મ્હળન અશા તજેને પેસા દેણ્યાપેશાં ત્યાંના પ્રત્યક્ષ પેસા કાં દેત નાહી? તેજાં હ્યા સર્વ ગોષ્ટી લક્ષાંત ઘેઝત આપળ હ્યા પ્રશ્નાકડે પાહિજે પાહિજે અસે મલા સાંગાવયાંકે આહે.

અગરીં મુશ્વતાતોલા ૧૯૫૦ સાલીં તાડી ધંધાંતોલ કાંહીં લોક બેકાર જાલે આણિ દારુચ્યા ધંધાપાસુન ૧૫,૬૨૦ લોક વંચિત જાલે અસે સાંખ્યાંત યેતે. સરકારને ગ્રામોદ્યોગ સુરુ કરુન ૧૯૫૨ સાલીં ૨,૬૦૦ લોકાંના ૧૯૫૪ સાલીં ૨૮૦૩ લોકાંના આણિ હ્યા અહવાલાંચ્યા સાલીં ૮૦૦ લોકાંના કામ દિલ્યાંકે નમુદ કેલે આહે. હ્યા નવીન લોકાંના કામ દિલે અસલે તરી જે ૧૫,૬૨૦ લોક બેકાર જાલે ત્યાંની સરકાર કાય વ્યવસ્થા કરણાર આહે? મલા અસે મ્હાગવાચાં આહે કી, ગ્રામીણ જીવનાશી પ્રત્યક્ષ સંબંધ યેણાંચ્યા હ્યા ગોષ્ટી આહેત વ ત્યાંના લોકાંચ્યા જીવનાવર ફાર મોઠા પરિણામ હોણાર આહે. તેજાં, યા શાવતીત કાંહીં તરી કેલે પાહિજે હી ગોષ્ટ આપળ માન્ય કોલી પાહિજે અસે મલા વાટતે.

યાતંતર આગલી એકા લહાનશા ગોષ્ટીચા ઉલ્લેખ કરુન મી માસે ભાવળ સંપવિગાર આહે. આતાંપર્યંતચા સેડયાંતોલ રોજગારીચા આંકડા પાહું ગેલોં તર તો પ્રત્યેક ઠિકાણીં નિરનિરાઝા અસલ્યાંકે દિસુન યેતે. સર્વસાધારણપળે સેડયાંતોલ લોકાંના ૬ તે ૧૦ આળે પર્યંત મજુરી મિઝતે આણિ હે જે નિરનિરાઝે રોજગાર આહેત ત્યાંની માહિતી ઘેતલી તર અસે દિસુન યેતે કી, ૧૨ આળ્યાંચ્યા જવઝપાસ ત્યાંના મજુરી મિઝું શકતે. એકા બાજુને સરકાર અસે સાંખતે કી, આમંકે ધ્યેય કલ્યાણકારી રાજ્યાંકે આહે આણિ આમંક્યા રાજ્યામધ્યે આમ્હીં સર્વાંની વાસ્તપુસ્ત કરતોં આણિ દુસરીકડે માત્ર ૧૨ આળે મજુરી દિલી જાતે. હેં પાહિલે મ્હળજે

[શ્રી. એમ. એન. કાळे]

આશ્ચર્ય વાટતે. સેડયાંતોલ લોકાંના હ્યા ધવકાધવકીચ્યા મામલ્યાંત એવે પરિશ્રમ કોલ્યાંતર ૧૨ આળે મિઝતાત, તેજાં ત્યાંચ્યા મનાંત હ્યા સાંખ્યા ગોષ્ટીબદ્ધ વિશ્વાસ કસા નિર્માણ હોઈલ હેં પાહિલે પાહિજે. આજ જે કામગાર કામ કરતાત તે મિઝણાંચ્યા મજુરીમધ્યે સંતુષ્ટ નાહીત. તસેંચ જો માલ નિશ્ચતો તો ઉત્ક્રિષ્ટ આહે અસે મ્હળતાંયેત નાહી. તેજાં, એકંદર સર્વ દૃષ્ટીને વિચાર કરતાં હા રિપોર્ટ અત્યંત અસમાધાનકારક આહે અસે મલા સાંગાવયાંકે આહે.

ક્રીમતી જ્યોત્સનાબેન બી. શુક્લ (વિધાનસભા તરફથી ચૂંટાયેલા): માનનીય પ્રમુખશ્રી મુંબઈ રાજ્યના ખાદી અને ગ્રામોદ્યોગ બોર્ડના રિપોર્ટ ઉપર જે ચર્ચા ચાલી રહી છે એ સંબંધે હું થોડું કહેવા માગું છું. આ રિપોર્ટમાં જે આંકડા આપવામાં આવ્યા છે એ અંગે મારે કશું કહેવાનું નથી. પરંતુ અહીં જે ચર્ચા થઈ છે એ વિષે થોડું મારે કહેવાનું છે. મને લાગે છે કે અહીં જે ચર્ચા કરવામાં આવે છે તે કૃત આ રિપોર્ટ વાંચીને કરવામાં આવે છે. એ બધા ખાદી અને ગ્રામોદ્યોગ બોર્ડનું ગામડાઓમાં જે કામ ચાલી રહ્યું છે એના પ્રત્યક્ષ માહિતગાર હોય એમ લાગતું નથી. એમણે રિપોર્ટમાં આપવામાં આવેલા આંકડાઓ માત્ર વાંચ્યા છે. અને એના ઉપર ચર્ચા કરીને કહે છે ભૂલી જવાના છે અથવા તો બહાર જઈને પણ માત્ર ટીકા કરવાના છે. પણ ખરેખર ગુલોદ્યોગના કામને કેવી રીતે આગળ વધારવું, એના માલને ઉત્પન્ન આપવા માટે કેવી રીતે પ્રયત્ન કરવો, માલનું જે ઉત્પાદન થાય છે તેની ખપત કેવી રીતે કરવી તે માટે એ માનનીય સભ્યો પ્રયત્ન કરવાના નથી. એટલે મારે કહેવું પડે છે કે આ માનનીય સભ્યો જે કરે છે એનો કાંઈ અર્થ નથી. કારણ કે ગુલ ઉદ્યોગનું કામ કેવી રીતે ગામડામાં થાય છે એ હું જાણું છું. ગામડામાં જે કામ ચાલી રહ્યું છે એ ઘણાં વર્ષોથી હું પ્રત્યક્ષ નજરે નિહાળું છું. એક વાત તો અહીંયાં બધાએ સ્વીકારી છે કે ગ્રામોદ્યોગ બોર્ડ બેકાર લોકોને કામ પૂરું પાડવાનું છે. આપણા ગામડાઓને સમૃદ્ધ કરવાના છે. પણ આમ કરવામાં સરકારને અને બોર્ડને નિષ્ફળતા મળી છે એમ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે. પણ હું એ કહેવા માગું છું કે ખાદી અને ગ્રામોદ્યોગ બોર્ડ કે સરકારે કોઈ દિવસ એવો દાવો કર્યો નથી કે એકેએક બેકારને પૂરેપૂરું કામ મળી ગયું છે અથવા મળી જશે. બની શકે એટલા બેકારોને રોજ પૂરી પાડવા માટેનો આ પ્રયત્ન છે. અને આ માટે જેટલા બની શકે એટલા પ્રયત્નો સરકાર અને બોર્ડ કરી રહ્યું છે. આજે આપણે એ વિચારવું જોઈએ કે લોકોનું સામાન્ય વલણ સરતો માલ લેવા તરફ છે. એવા મુશ્કેલ સંજોગો વખતે આ બોર્ડ કામ કર્યું છે. જે લોકોને કશું કામ મળતું ન હતું, જે લોકો ભૂખ મરવાની સ્થિતિમાં હતા એવા લોકોને આઠ આના કે બાર આનાની રોજ આપીને ગ્રામોદ્યોગ બોર્ડ રાહત આપી છે. આવા મુશ્કેલ સંજોગોમાં બોર્ડે જે સુંદર કામ કર્યું છે એને માટે હું તેને ધન્યવાદ આપું છું. ખરી વાત તો એ છે કે આપણે જે સામાજિક કાર્યકર્તાઓ છીએ એમણે સૌએ આ જે ગુલોદ્યોગનો માલ ઉત્પન્ન થાય છે તે વાપરવાનો આગ્રહ રાખવો જોઈએ. એટલું જ નહિ પણ બીજા લોકો પણ વધુમાં વધુ આ માલનો ઉપયોગ કરતા થાય એ રીતે પ્રચાર કરવાની જરૂર છે. અને તો જ બોર્ડનું કામ દીપે. બોર્ડને પોતાનું કામ દીપે છે કે નહિ તેની ચિંતા નથી. સરકારને પણ એની પડી નથી. બોર્ડ અને સરકાર તો પ્રશંસા થાય કે ટીકા થાય તો એ કામ કરવા માગે છે અને તે માટે સતત પ્રયત્ન કરે છે. એ ઈચ્છે છે કે ગામડાના બેકાર માણસોને કેવી રીતે વધુમાં વધુ કામ મળી શકે. એ વાત ખરી છે કે આજે ગામડાના લોકોને પૂરેપૂરું કામ મળી શકતું નથી. કારણ કે માલ વધારે ઉત્પન્ન કરે તો એ માલનું કરવું શું? આપણે તો એ માલ ખરીદતા નથી અને લોકો આ માલ વાપરે એવો આપણે પ્રચાર પણ કરતા નથી. આપણે તો માત્ર ટીકા કરીએ છીએ. સરકાર માલ વધારે ઉત્પન્ન કરે અને એની ખપત પૂરતા પ્રમાણમાં ન થતી હોય તો લોકોને કામ લઈ રીતે આપી શકીશું? અહીં એમ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે હાથ કાગળની ઉદ્યોગ નિષ્ફળ ગયો છે કારણ કે મોટા ભાગના કાગળી સરકાર ખરીદે છે. સરકાર ન ખરીદે તો કરે શું? આપણે તો ખરીદતા નથી. એટલે સરકારે તે ખરીદવા પડે છે, કારણ કે એમાંથી બેકારોને રોજ મળે છે.

[શ્રીમતી જયોત્સનાબેન બી. શુક્લ]

એમ પણ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે ગામડાના સુતારોને કે એવા બીજા કારીગરોને કામ આપવામાં આવતું નથી. આ વાત સાંભળીને મને હસવું આવે છે. શું કાંતવાણુવાનું કામ સુતાર કરીઆને આપવું છે? સુતાર કાંતતા ન જાણતો હોય તો એને કામ ક્યાંથી આપવામાં આવે? એક માનનીય સભ્યશ્રી તરફથી કહેવામાં આવ્યું કે વ્યક્તિગત રીતે કામ આપવામાં આવે છે, જ્યારે બીજા એક માનનીય સભ્યશ્રી તરફથી કહેવામાં આવ્યું કે વ્યક્તિગત કામ આપવું ન જોઈએ. આમ પરસ્પર વિરોધાભાષી દલીલ કરવામાં આવી છે. આ અંગે વિશેષ મારે કહેવાનું નથી. હું તો એટલું જ કહેવા માગું છું કે આપણે માત્ર ટીકા ન કરીએ. ટીકા કરવી એ સહેલી વસ્તુ છે. આજના મુશ્કેલ સંજોગોમાં ગામડાના લોકો વચ્ચે કઈ રીતે કામ થાય છે એનો આપણે વિચાર કરવો જોઈએ. આ કામ કેમ થાય છે એ મેં નજરે જોયું છે. એનો મને ઘણો વર્ષનો અનુભવ છે. માત્ર ટીકાત્મક ટ્રિટ્ઝો નહિ જોતાં રચનાત્મક ટ્રિટ્ઝો આ પ્રવૃત્તિને આપણે જોશું તો આપણને એનો સાચો ખ્યાલ આવશે. જેટલી પ્રગતિ થવી જોઈએ એટલી પ્રગતિ નથી થઈ એમ કહેવામાં આવે તો હું એ વાતને સમજી શકું. પણ બોર્ડ કામ આપવામાં નિષ્ફળ ગયું છે અને માત્ર પોતાના પક્ષના માણસોને જ મૂકવામાં આવે છે એ રીતની ટીકા કદી કરવી જોઈએ નહિ.

એમ પણ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે નીરા કેન્દ્રો નિષ્ફળ ગયા છે. મારા જિલ્લામાં કેટલીયે જગ્યાએ નીરા કેન્દ્રો ચાલે છે. મારે કહેવું જોઈએ કે આ કેન્દ્રો સફળ થયા છે. આને માટેના ઘણાં દાખલા આપી શકાય એમ છે. સભાગૃહનો હું વધારે સમય લેવા માગતી નથી. ચર્ચામાં જે કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે એનો જવાબ માનનીય પ્રધાનશ્રી આપવાનાં છે. પણ મારે એટલું જ કહેવાનું છે કે આપણે બધા સભ્યો અહીંયાં ભલે ટીકા કરીએ, ટીકા કરવાનો આપણને સૌને અધિકાર છે, પરંતુ સાથોસાથ બહાર જઈને ગૃહ ઉદ્યોગના માલનું જે ઉત્પાદન થાય છે એનો આપણે ઉપયોગ કરીએ અને બીજાઓ પણ ઉપયોગ કરતા થાય એ રીતનો પ્રયત્ન કરીએ.

એક માનનીય સભ્યશ્રી તરફથી કહેવામાં આવ્યું કે માલ તદ્દન હલકી કોટીનો તૈયાર થાય છે. આજે આપણે જોઈએ છીએ કે સુંદર ખાદી તૈયાર થાય છે. છતાં કઈ રીતે કહેવામાં આવે છે કે માલ હલકી કોટીનો તૈયાર થાય છે તે મને સમજાતું નથી. સભાગૃહને હું એક વાત કહેવા માગું છું. આપણે ત્યાં રશિયા અને ચાઈનાની પ્રગતિની જુદી જુદી વાતો કરવામાં આવે છે. રશિયાની પહેલા પંચવર્ષીય યોજના અંગે એક પુસ્તક મેં વાંચ્યું હતું. એમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું હતું કે ત્યાં તૈયાર થતાં પગના જોડામાં એક પણ જોડો સરખો તૈયાર થતો ન હોતો. એક જોડો નાનો હોય તો બીજો જોડો થોડો મોટો હોય. આવી જાતનો માલ પહેલી પંચવર્ષીય યોજનામાં રશિયામાં તૈયાર થતો હતો. છતાં પણ એ જોડા ત્યાંના માણસોને વાપરવા જ પડતા હતા. કારણ કે ત્યાં સરમુખત્યારશાહી હતી. આપણા જેવી લોકશાહી ન હોતી. આ વાત ધ્યાનમાં લઈને આપણે આપણા ગૃહ ઉદ્યોગના માલનો પ્રચાર કરવો જોઈએ. આથી વિશેષ મારે કાંઈ કહેવાનું નથી.

Shri V. S. PAGE (Elected by Bombay Legislative Assembly) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are considering the report of the Bombay Village Industries Board for the year 1956-57. I must congratulate the Hon. Minister on his bringing this report before this House within a period of six to eight months. Last time we considered two reports, namely, for 1954-55 and for 1955-56, and this time we are considering the report for the next year, that is, for 1956-57. Last time the Board was criticised for not submitting its report to the House periodically, but this time we find that the Board has tried to bring its report up to date.

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I may mention here that last time there was hardly any criticism on the report. There was merely an expression of sympathy but very few hon. Members had spoken. This time I am glad to say that many of the hon. Members opposite have made a critical study of the report and have made remarks and placed their viewpoints before the House. That goes to show that they have taken a greater interest in the work of the Board.

One must remember that 1956-57 was the first year of the Second Five-Year Plan. The work of the Village Industries Board was not divided into normal work and developmental work under the First Five-Year Plan, but from 1956-57 onwards the work of the Board has been so divided. This created a sort of an unusual Procedure in the work of the Board, particularly in respect of budgeting. Quite in the beginning the Board had been told that the budget for this year had to be made twice. As I said, the work was to be divided into normal work and developmental work and there was no idea as to what grants the Board would get and what work it would be required to do. There was no idea about that at all and, therefore, a lot of budgeting, counting and recourting and other preparations with regard to the budget had to be done. In October, 1955, the Board demanded Rs. 12,84,000 under the normal budget and Rs. 4,87,000 for developmental work for schemes under the Five-Year Plan. The Board was informed, as late as June 1956, that it would get only Rs. 7 lakhs under the normal budget and Rs. 4 lakhs under the developmental budget, that means, from October to June the Board had no idea as to what it would get. Then in August, 1956, the Board sent in its proposals conforming to the grants that were made available. Thereafter sanctions were given. These were being received time and again, from 14th November to 8th March. Now, supposing the Board received certain grants on 8th March, when are they to be spent? A lot of criticism was levelled to the effect that the Board was not spending to the extent the money was given, but it will be seen that, if the schemes were sanctioned from 14th November to 8th March, it will be very difficult for any institution to spend the amount allotted. We have, therefore, to consider the impediment in the way of the Bombay Village Industries Board to implement the schemes. I hope that, from this year onwards, whatever might have taken place in the past, the grants would be made known to the Board as early as possible, at the latest in May. We pass the budget in February and it is not impossible for Government to let the Board know what schemes are to be implemented in April or May.

Now, Sir, according to me, this system of passing a G. R. or sanctioning each scheme each year is certainly redundant. It is not necessary at all. After working in this field for 10 or 12 years the patterns are settled now. If at all there is going to be any change in the pattern, then G. R. will be required to be issued; otherwise Government should normally sanction the grants on the basis of the said patterns that have been already formulated and sanctioned or approved. If this system is adopted there is no necessity of passing G. R. or of examination and scrutiny of schemes. If this is done then the work of the scheme would be easier.

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Then I want to say one thing more. Even last time I said that the work of the Board is expanding, particularly after the establishment of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. After the pattern has been set by them and they have accepted a policy of working out the schemes through the Bombay Village Industries Board, the work is expanding like anything. Due to the expansion of the work, as pointed out by me last time, there is an expansion of organisation which is well managed. Hon. Members would have found out from the various statements that the expenses under Office organisation are increasing. In the year under report, the expenditure on office organisation is Rs. 1,83,722. It would appear that the expenditure under this head is mounting up year after year. But if you look to the total grant placed at the disposal of this Board, it will be seen that it amounts Rs. 51,24,326 from the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, both by way of grant and loan and Rs. 13,41,806 from the Bombay Government, the total being Rs. 64,66,132. If the public money to such an extent is to be handled and if the difficult task spread over a vast area is to be carried out, there must as well be a vast organisation competent to do the office work commensurate with the task. The expenses under office organisation are not much, they come up to 3 per cent only. Nobody can say that the expenses are much. After having pointed out this I should say again that this is the first year of the Five-Year Plan.

Now I refer to the question that was raised by the hon. Member Dr. Sathaye about Ambar Charkha programme. I am referring to the programme that was implemented in the year under report. In 1956-57 it was only just a beginning of the programme. The Bombay Village Industries Board took up this work in October 1956 and 28 Parishramalayas were allotted to this Board. Some hon. Members remarked that the yarn that was produced was not commensurate with the expenditure that was incurred. Sir, the workers were only under training and they had not completed their training course. Only one set was completed in January. So, the yarn that was produced was produced by the people who were under training. That cannot be considered as a full quota. That is one aspect of the matter. In the note under Ambar Charkha section it is stated that much initial work was to be done. Therefore, I would say that in the year 1956-57 the programme of Ambar Charkha has not advanced so much. It was only a beginning.

Another thing which was mentioned on the floor of the House was about the Study Committee appointed by Government, which had given its opinion regarding this programme, and we are told that there is dissenting minute and all that and that the programme in Ambar Charkha is cut down in the Second Plan. That is true. Some defects were found out. Last time I have already said that it is a part-time job. There is no doubt that for many persons it is a part-time work, but the Study Committee has found out and said that instead of 300 days we should count for 200 days. They have as well said that the full-time spinners are few but there are some. To my mind, with the increase in the number of full-time workers, there would be an increase in production as well, but upto now experiments have not been

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carried out. They have been carried out in smaller towns and villages, especially where a good organisation exists. Many of the organisations are working particularly in the rich tract of Maharashtra. If you go to the Eastern part of Maharashtra also there are a few well organised centres. This is known as a famine tract. It was asked when twelve annas are paid for full-time workers, why should people be attracted towards this? If we compare that with the agricultural wages prevalent in that part, twelve annas is not a small thing. Many people do come to the Board for service and work. But we have not been able to give everyone a job and maintain the organisation because the chief difficulty in the Village Industries Organisation is the paucity of trained people. You cannot have trained people in a day. Secondly, we cannot have employment all over a night. All the workshops are working to the full. We have not got enough workshops. There are very few of such workshops. There are so many other difficulties, such as spare-parts and other things. Therefore, only when the organisation spreads and it stabilises that we shall see results. I have no doubt about it. From whatever experience we have today, we may say that Ambar Charkha has definitely succeeded and there is no doubt about it. A family can earn one rupee or twelve annas. If anybody has any doubt about it, I would invite him to a village in Kolhapur District where the Khadi centre is working. At Kadgaon about 60 to 100 spinners are working there. They are getting twelve annas and certain families are getting one rupee per day. I have pointed this out because we need not be disappointed about the potentiality of Ambar Charkha. It was suggested that electricity should be used in this respect. I do not know how electricity can be used in this respect and what would be the results, because no experiments have been made so far. But I can certainly say that there was a Conference of constructive workers at Poona and it was of the view that there could be no objection to the use of electricity in these village industries. If the workers who are working in these industries are distressed, then there will be no harm in using electricity. But so far no such pattern has been evolved.

Another defect that was pointed out was as regards the production of cloth from the yarn. More cotton is required to produce the same yardage. Ambar requires more cotton than mills for production of the same yardage of cloth. I should say that it depends upon the count of the yarn. It is a fact that Ambar Charkha yarn is one of coarse quality, and Khadi is certainly coarser than the fine mill cloth. There are a large number of persons using coarse cloth. It was said that there is no saving of cotton and the cloth also is not better and Mill-made cloth is cheaper. Mill-made cloth being fine cloth, it costs much and poor people cannot buy. It was said that, because of a particular count in Ambar Charkha yarn, the weaver is not able to weave in Ambar Charkha yarn as easily as Mill yarn. I differ here. In Mill yarn and Ambar Charkha yarn there is not much difference at all. I differ here very strongly with some hon. Members. In the mill they may be able to do it more easily, but an ordinary weaver, whether it is mill yarn or Ambar Charkha yarn, he can spin about 8 yards. There is not much difference in that respect according to me.

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The third thing was as regards the cost of production. This is one of the difficulties in the way of village industries. As I said last time, when I went into greater details, there are different mechanical levels at which we can produce goods, and that the lower the mechanical level, the greater is the cost of production. That is why the articles become costlier. But the main object of village industries is to provide employment to the most needy persons. This proposition has not been challenged by anybody. If we compare the employment potential of a mill and Ambar Charkha, we will find that the employment potential of the Ambar Charkha is much higher than that of a mill. The only thing that is needed is organisation, but it takes some time to organise. We are gaining experience day by day.

One hon. Member enquired about the matching qualities of the articles produced by the village industries. I should say, take the case of soaps sold in any of our centres. They compare favourably to any factory soap. On the contrary, some of the factory made soaps are inferior to our stuff. But, as I said, in the initial stages, we are meeting with some difficulties. An industry requires some time to settle down. Take, for instance, crushing neem oil. There are certain difficulties about it. Neem trees are not found at every place. Therefore, the oil has to be crushed only where neem trees are in abundance. In the initial stages certain difficulties have to be overcome and, therefore, village industries should not be looked at from the point of view of cost of production alone. Research work has to be done and experiments made. Vast experimental work is going on. Take, for instance, the case of horey. Much research work has been done in respect of that village industry, and we must be proud of it. Students from all parts of India do come to this State for training. As was pointed out by one hon. Member, it is true that the production of horey in the last year fell down as compared with the production in the year before that. There are four centres for the industry in Maharashtra, Kolhapur, South and North Satara districts comprising the southern region, Poona, Ahmednagar and Sholapur, the Central region and so on. The production in the Mahabeshwar centre has fallen down very heavily, and that is because of the heavy rain. The whole crop went and nobody could help it. Besides production of the मधोत्पादक Society, about 7,000 lbs., is not included in the figure. The Society was newly formed and it was not working in 1955-56. But in the southern region, the production went fourfold. In the Karnatak area, where bee industry is reared in the Karwar area, the production fell down very much. But, as I said, the production of horey is dependent upon the monsoon, the weather and the crop. Therefore, the only thing is we have to see how the work is going on. We have begun to train bee keepers. There is large scope for this industry, but there are no trained bee keepers. Out of the 1,300 people working in this industry in the Karnatak area, only 12 knew the industry well and were trained apiary keepers. Now, we have taken up training of the workers. It would therefore, not be quite correct to judge the industry only from the point of view of its production, and we need not be disappointed if the production went down in one year because of natural calamities.

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With reference to the neera and tadgul centres, it was said that the production went down, or the production was not appreciable. But I would point out in this connection that the centres do not work all the year round. They work only for six months in a year. The production of this stuff has not yet become an economic proposition. Our experiment with it has not yet proved a success. That is an accepted fact. But it is treated only as a by product in the neera centres. Neera centres are running well.

Sir, when the Report of the Board under discussion was criticised, I was hoping that some constructive suggestions would be made to improve further the working of the village industries. But none made any suggestion. We have been always thinking of improving the industries, but we should have welcomed some constructive suggestions from the hon. Members. Our pointed attention was drawn to the employment factor. Certainly, we have to look to that. The Planning Commission has accepted this programme because of the vast potential for employment in such industries. The very fact that, in this Report, figures of employment have been given more correctly and in greater details should prove that we are paying more and more attention to this aspect of the question. The Board is keeping a record as to how many people were given employment for how many hours and for how many days in the year. The aim is to see that employment is provided to the most needy. Our organisation is far-flung and it has spread itself into even jungles and it gives employment to the most needy hands. For instance, khadi work gives employment to widows burdened with the maintenance of their children and with no other means of livelihood. This work gives a morsel of food to the hungry and employment to the most needy hands. It helps many to supplement their meagre income from other sources. Therefore, we have to look at the whole work from that point of view. It was said that we should give them free money to the unemployed, a sort of dole. Our ration is not so rich as to give them free money. There is another moral aspect as well. I have read somewhere—the hon. Members can correct me if I am wrong—that in America about a crore and a half people are given pension, with the result that, when the elections come they tell the candidates and parties that if they assure them to continue their pension, then only they would vote for them. Do we want that such a situation should be created in our country also? We are not taught by Mahatmaji like that. Mahatmaji, the Father of the Nation, has taught us to work hard honestly and get whatever we can. Therefore, it is not proper to give free money to anybody. On the one hand we are saying that beggary should be stopped, while, on the other hand, some people are saying that free money should be given. That is not consistent with our policy. We are trying to have a society where everybody will have work. Thus, I would say that here is a challenge to those who criticise that they should point out any other method by which we can have more employment. We have an open mind and we are prepared to accept their suggestions. There is no greater sanctity in a particular production system than in another. The sanctity comes from the human factor. Be it a Charkha or a hand-mill, it gives food to the hungry belly and

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work to the needy hands and, therefore, they have sanctity behind them. Therefore, we have to look at it from the human factor which is the chief factor. There may be other aspects also, but this is the chief factor. The Board is encouraging these activities and, therefore, I wish that the activities of the Board should be spread all over the State. We should make the Board stronger and stronger every day. It will not be possible for any Government having any ideology to wash off this organisation without giving alternative employment. We, who are working for this organisation, are confident at our heart that no Government with any ideology can give alternative employment other than this. All the same it is our responsibility also to work and proceed on the right lines. Therefore, any criticism should be a guiding light to the Board, which is now going to be a bigger Board. Originally the Board had been established for the territories of the old Bombay State, which included the four Districts of Karnatak, and even today they are under the Bombay Village Industries Board as there is some technical difficulty in transferring them to the Mysore Board. Then, so far as Marathwada and Vidarbha are concerned, the expenditure incurred for these areas is not commensurate with the problem which is there. There is also the Saurashtra Board and now the suggestion is that both these Boards should be amalgamated into one Board. I hope that, when the Village Industries Board is expanded and it covers the whole territory of the State, the organisation would become still stronger. Of course the work would also increase, it would be twice or thrice, but I hope that the Board would be able to work more efficiently.

With these few words, Sir, I conclude.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL (Maharashtra South—Local Authorities): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I congratulate Government on its establishing the Village Industries Board and encouraging its activities. But we find that it has not succeeded as much as it ought to have. Now some of my hon. Friends have made some suggestions regarding the Ambar Charkha, Khadi, etc. I had also made some concrete suggestions in my speech, when the previous Report of the Board was under discussion, regarding hand-pounding of rice and I would like to know from the Hon. Minister what steps have been taken to give encouragement to the hand-pounding of rice. I would like to repeat the suggestion which I had then made. There are so many hotels and restaurants under the Municipalities and I had suggested that Government should give instructions to these Municipalities to give licences only to those hotels and restaurants which will agree to use hand-pounded rice. This is a very small thing and it can easily be done. It is said that hand-pounded rice is very healthy. Therefore, if Government is really sincere about this problem, it should implement the proposal which I have put before the House, especially when it is said that this rice is healthy.

The CHAIRMAN: What is the experience of the hon. Member?

Shri D. B. AGARWAL: I myself use the same rice and that is why I am recommending it.

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Then, Sir, I am surprised to find no reference to the industry of poultry in the Report of the Board. This is a very good village industry. It does not require any machinery. Only little knowledge of keeping the hens etc. is required. This is also a paying industry. In northern India this industry has been given due encouragement. I would, therefore, suggest that the Bombay Board should also give encouragement to this industry.

Recently, during our tour of Gujarat, we had gone to Anand and there we saw one Charkha invented by Shri Bhailal Patel. The cost of that Charkha would come to Rs. 1,000 but it can be operated by hand as well as power, and any villager working on it can earn about Rs. 4 per day. Government should see whether it can give encouragement to these Charkhas also.

Then, Sir, my hon. Friend Shri Dongre had referred to the housing problem. In this connection I would suggest that, instead of using cement, if we make use of lime mortar the buildings would be less expensive and we will be able to construct them quickly.

These are some of the concrete suggestions in brief which I wanted to make.

श्री. एस. एम. थोरात (मुंबई विधानसभेने निवडलेले): अध्यक्ष महाराज, ह्या सभा-गृहापुढे मुंबई ग्रामोद्योग मंडळाचा जो अहवाल चर्चेसाठी ठेवण्यांत आला आहे त्यातील आंकडे वारीचा मी फारसा अभ्यास केलेला नाही, तथापि ह्या अहवालावरील बाब्या आधीच्या सन्माननीय सभासदांनी केलेली भाषणे ऐकल्यानंतर त्यांनी केलेल्या टीकेसंबंधाने मला काही बोलावयाचे आहे. आपला देश उद्योगधंद्यांच्या दृष्टिने मागासलेला असल्यामुळे खेड्यापाड्यांमध्ये जे लहान लहान उद्योगधंदे चालत असतात त्यांना उत्तेजन देण्यासाठी व असेच काही नवीन धंदे स्थापन करण्यासाठी प्रामुख्याने ह्या मंडळाची स्थापना करण्यांत आली आहे.

खेड्यापाड्यांत जे उद्योगधंदे चालतात ते मूलोद्योग असून खेड्यातील प्रत्येक माणसाच्या जीवनाला आवश्यक आणि उपयुक्त असल्यामुळे ह्या धंद्यांची वाढ करण्यासाठी ह्या मंडळाची स्थापना करण्यांत आली आहे. अर्थात, प्रत्येक धंद्याकडे पाहतांना व्यापारी वृत्तीने आणि नफ्याच्या दृष्टिकोनातून पाहून चालणार नाही. हा अहवाल आपण संपूर्णपणे वाचला तर हे सगळे उद्योगधंदे फायदेखोर झाले आहेत असे आपल्याला म्हणता येणार नाही. खेड्या-पाड्यांत जो बहुसंख्य शेतकरी समाज आहे त्याला काही जोड धंदा मिळावा व त्याचे जीवन सुखी व्हावे हा ह्या धंद्यांमागील मुख्य हेतु आहे. मुलगा नुकताच शाळेत जाऊ लागला म्हणजे तो काही लगेच प्रगति दाखवू शकत नाही, सुरवातीला त्याच्या हातून किती तरी पाटध्या पेटिसली फुटतात, कागद शाईवर खर्च होतो, म्हणून ह्या खर्चाचा हिशोब करून त्या मुलाचे शिक्षण नुकसानीत आहे असे कोणतेच आईबाप म्हणत नाहीत. प्राथमिक अवस्थेत मुलाच्या काही गोष्टींकडे ज्याप्रमाणे दुर्लक्ष करावे लागते तीच गोष्ट खेड्यापाड्यांतील ह्या लहान सहान धंद्यांच्या बाबतीत आहे. ह्या दृष्टिकोनातून आपल्याला ह्या अहवालाकडे पाहिले पाहिजे.

आपल्या राज्यामध्ये खेड्यापाड्यांत विणकाम करणारे साळी, कोष्टी वगैरे जे लोक आहेत ते वैश्य म्हणून ओळखले जातात. ह्या लोकांच्या धंद्याचा विकास करण्याच्या दृष्टिने आणि त्यांना उत्तेजन देण्याच्या दृष्टिने सरकारने हे मंडळ स्थापन एक नवीन आणि क्रांतिकारक असा उपक्रम सुरू केला आहे असेच म्हणावे लागेल. ह्या अहवालावरून आपल्याला असे विसून

[श्री. एस्. एम्. थोरात]

येतें कीं, ह्या मंडळाचें कार्य गुजराथमध्ये जास्त चांगलें झालेलें आहे. ह्या मंडळाचेंच काय, पण हातीं घेतलेलें प्रत्येक कार्य गुजराथमध्ये यशस्वी होतें याचें कारण असें कीं, गुजराथ-मध्ये महात्मा गांधींच्या उपदेशाचें बीज जास्त खोलवर रुजलेलें आहे. त्या ठिकाणीं काँग्रेसच्या नीतीचीं आणि सेवाधर्माचीं अशी सर्वोदयवादी मंडळी जास्त असल्यामुळें तेथें प्रत्येक योजना यशस्वी होते. त्या लोकांचें अनुकरण महाराष्ट्रांनं केलें तर आपल्याकडेमुद्दां प्रामोद्योगा-सारख्या योजना यशस्वी होतील, आणि मग ह्या मंडळाच्या कार्यावर टीकेचा जो भडिमार होतो तो करावा लागणार नाही.

ह्या अहवालाच्या ५४ व्या पानावर 'गूळ व खांडसारीचा व्यवसाय' ह्या शीर्षकाखाली ७० वा भाग आहे. आपल्या राज्यांत शेतकरी गूळ तयार करण्याचा व्यवसाय अनेक वर्षे करीत आहे, पण परंपरागत ज्या पद्धती आणि साधनें चालत आलीं आहेत त्यांच्याच साहाय्यानें आजपर्यंत गूळ तयार करण्यांत येत असल्यामुळे त्या व्यवसायांत जितकी प्रगति व्हावयास पाहिजे तितकी होऊं शकली नाही. आपल्या मालाची प्रत सुधारून बाजारांत त्याला चांगला भाव कसा येईल हा दृष्टिकोन आमच्या शेतकऱ्याला अजूनपर्यंत नव्हता. पण ह्या ग्रामोद्योग मंडळाने गूळ तयार करणाऱ्या कोपरगांव, बारामती, कोल्हापूर उत्तर सातारा अशा निर- निराळ्या ठिकाणी सेंट्स काढून ते रासायनिक द्रव्ये व भेंडीचा पाळा वापरून गुळाची प्रत सुधारण्याचा प्रयत्न केला व त्यामुळे अनेक लोकांचा फायदा झालेला आहे. अर्थात ह्या फायद्याचे प्रमाण फार दिसून येण्याजोगें नसल्यामुळे कोणाच्या लक्षांत येत नाही. पण प्रत्येक बंगाली मणामागे ८-१२ आणि फायदा झाला तर लाखो बंगाली मणामागे शेतकऱ्याच्या पदरांत लाखों रुपये पडतात. तेव्हां गुळाची प्रत वाढविण्याची मूलगामी पद्धत अमलांत आल्यापासून ऊंस विभागामध्ये बरीच प्रगति झालेली आहे यांत शंका नाही.

हीं जीं ग्रामोद्योगाची कामे चालतात त्यांच्या बाबतींत मी माहिती मिळविली आहे. सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. पाणे यांनी ह्या बाबतींत सविस्तर माहिती सभागृहापुढे ठेवली आहे आणि त्यांचा व मला बराच परिचय असल्यामुळे त्यांच्याकडून ह्या बुध्दिवंध्यांबाबत मलाहि पुष्कळ माहिती मिळालेली आहे. श्री. पाणे हे ग्रामोद्योगाच्या चळवळीशी अत्यंत निकटचा संबंध असलेले गृहस्थ असल्यामुळे त्यांच्याकडे निरनिराळे लोक ह्याविषयी माहिती विचारण्यासाठी येतात, व त्यामुळे मलाहि ह्या विषयाबाबत बरीच माहिती मिळालेली आहे. आतांच अंक सन्माननीय सभासद मधुमक्षिका विभागाबद्दल बोलले, व ह्या विभागांत ह्या मंडळाला यश आलेले नाही याबद्दल यांनी आपली नापसंती दर्शविली. पण ह्या धंद्यातील खांचाखोंचा समजावून घेतल्याशिवाय असें कां होतें हें समजणार नाहीं. ह्या योजनेप्रमाणें शेतकऱ्यांना मधमाशा पकडण्याच्या पेट्या दिल्या जातात, पण हें काम आपलें आहे ह्या भावनेनं त्यांनीं काम न केल्यामुळे ही योजना व्हावी तशी यशस्वी होअू शकली नाही. मंडळामार्फत कांहीं लोक ह्या पेट्या साफ करण्यासाठी मधून मधून येतात तेव्हां हें काम त्यांचेंच आहे, आपल्याला त्यांशीं काय करावयाचें आहे, अशी तसडेपणाची वृत्ति शेतकऱ्यांकडून दाखविली जात असे. हा मनुष्य आपल्याला मार्गदर्शन करण्यासाठी येतो, तेव्हां ह्या धंद्यासंबंधीचें ज्ञान त्यांच्याकडून करून घेतलें पाहिजे अशी वृत्ति शेतकऱ्यांनीं दाखविली व हें आपलेंच काम आहे या भावनेनं काम केलें तरच मधाचें अुत्पादन वाढेल. तेव्हां, हा धंदा मागासलेला आहे म्हणून त्यांतील दोष नाहीसें करून हा धंदा अजितावस्थेस आणण्याचा सरकारनें चंग बांधला आहे. पुष्कळ कापूस देअूनहि त्या मानानें सूत निघत नाहीं, व कापडाचें अुत्पादन समाधानकारक नाही, असें म्हणून ह्या बाबतींत व्यापारी दृष्टिकोनांतून पाहून चालणार नाहीं. ह्या धंद्याची गेल्या १० वर्षांपूर्वी जी अनास्था आणि दूरवस्था होती ती लक्षांत घेअून तुलनात्मक दृष्टीनें किती प्रगति झाली आहे हें आपण पाहिलें पाहिजे. मला खात्री वाटत कीं, गेल्या १० वर्षांच्या मानानें आतां निघत असलेल्या कापडाचा

[શ્રી. એસ્. એમ્. થોરાત]

दर्जा निश्चितपणें सुधारला आहे. ह्या ग्रामोद्योगांचें स्वरूप आतां पूर्णपणें बदललें आहे व ते प्रगतीच्या मार्गावर आहेत. सर्वांना भाहीत असेल की, आपल्या देशांत जे परदेशीय पाहुणे येतात ते आपल्या देशातील ग्रामोद्योगाच्या वस्तू आपल्या हिंदुस्थान देशाच्या संस्कृति निर्देशक असल्यामुळें विकत घेऊन आपल्या देशाला घेऊन जातात. अशा रीतीनें परदेशी लोक आपल्या ग्रामोद्योगांचें कौतुक करीत असताना आपण ह्या घंटांकडे तसडे-पणानें पाहणें योग्य नाही.

यानंतर नीरा व ताडगूळ यांचाहि व्यवसाय ग्रामोद्योगांत मोडतो. आतां नीरेची योजना पुष्कळच यशस्वी झालेली आहे व समाजांत नीरेचा प्रसार पुष्कळ झाला आहे, पण त्या मानानें ताडगूळाची योजना तितकी किफायतशीर होअूं शकत नाही. पण मी आधींच सांगितल्याप्रमाणें ह्या ग्रामोद्योगांच्या बाबतींत प्रत्येक वेळीं फायद्याच्या दृष्टीनें पाहणें योग्य नाही. खुद्द महात्मा गांधींना ग्रामोद्योगांबद्दल जिव्हाळा होता व ग्रामोद्योग अजि- तावस्थेस आत्मनिर्वाय देणाऱ्या अल्पकालीन होणें शक्य नाही असें ते नेहमीं म्हणत असत. ग्रामी- द्योग यशस्वी होत नाहीत याचें अेक मुख्य कारण असें आहे की, आत्मीयतेनें व तळमळीनें कार्य करणारे कार्यकर्ते मिळत नाहीत, व त्यामुळेच हे धंदे नुकसानीत येतात. गेल्या १० वर्षांच्या नामाने ह्या मंडळांने जें कार्य केलें आहे तें मंडळाला अभिमानास्पद असेंच आहे. ग्रामोद्योग व मूलोद्योग हे खेड्यांपाड्यांतील जनतेच्या दैनंदिन गरजा भागविण्याच्या संस्था आहेत ह्या दृष्टीनें पाहिलें तर हा अहवाल प्रगतिपर आहे असें म्हणावें लागेल. एवढें बोलून मी आपली रजा घेतां.

श्री. बी. पी. बडवे (मुंबई विधान सभेने निवडलेले) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, हा अहवाल अत्यंत असमाधानकारक आहे अशा प्रकारच्या टीकेची झोड अठविण्यांत आली आणि याचें कारण असें सांगण्यांत आलें कीं खादी आणि ग्रामोद्योग यांच्या मार्फत जनतेला बुध्दोग- धंदा पुरविण्याचा जो हेतु ह्या अहवालांत सांगितलेला आहे तो यशस्वी झालेला नाही. ह्या अहवालांत नमूद केेल्याप्रमाणें या धंद्यांत गुंतविलेल्या लोकांचें आंकडे पाहिले तर ही टीका किती अवस्तव आहे हें घ्यानांत येतील. सर्व धंद्यांत मिळून ह्या अहवालांत जवळ टीका किती अवस्तव आहे हें घ्यानांत येतील. सर्व धंद्यांत मिळून ह्या अहवालांत जवळ टीका किती अवस्तव आहे हें घ्यानांत येतील. सर्व धंद्यांत मिळून ह्या अहवालांत जवळ टीका किती अवस्तव आहे हें घ्यानांत येतील.

जवळ १३ हजार लोकांना धंदा पुरविण्यांत आला असल्याचें दिसून येतें. याशिवाय जे कातणारे लोक आहेत त्यांची संख्या ४० हजार आहे. ह्या सर्व लोकांना भरपूर रोजगार मिळतो असें माझें म्हणणें नाहीं, पण त्यांना जी गरज आहे ती थोड्याकरिता प्रमाणांत भागत. आज शहरापासून दूरवर खंडयांपाड्यांत असलेल्या कित्येक शेतकऱ्यांना, शेतीवर काम कर- णान्या मजूरांना वर्षांतून अनेक दिवस बेकारीत राहावें लागतें ही माहिती टीका करणाऱ्या नसावी असें मला वाटतें. ह्या दृष्टिकोनांतून आपण जर ग्रामोद्योगाकडे आणि खादीच्या बाबतीत असें मला वाटतें. ह्या दृष्टिकोनांतून आपण जर ग्रामोद्योगाकडे आणि खादीच्या बाबतीत असें मला वाटतें. ह्या दृष्टिकोनांतून आपण जर ग्रामोद्योगाकडे आणि खादीच्या बाबतीत असें मला वाटतें.

धंद्याकडे पाहिलें तर ४० हजार लोकांना कताजीचें साधन मिळालें असून त्यांना एक वेळचें अन्न देणारा बुध्दोग मंडळांनी दिला आहे असें दिसून येतें व त्याबद्दल आपण ह्या मंडळाचें अभिनंदन केलें पाहिजे. कामगारांना १२ आणि रोजगार घरलेला आहे व त्यावर त्यांना सुष राहण्यास सांगणार काय असा प्रश्न विचारण्यांत आला आहे, पण आज १२ आणि रोज मिळणारे किती लोक आपल्या देशांत आहेत याची माहिती घेऊं लागलों तर निराशा पदरी पडते. आज लाखो लोकांना एक वेळचें अन्न मिळत नाहीं अथवा बेकार लोक आपल्या येथें आहेत. त्यांना ग्रामोद्योगाशिवाय दुसरा बुध्दोग देण्याचें साधन आपल्या देशांत नाहीं ही गोष्ट राष्ट्रपिता महात्मा गांधी यांनी ओळखून ती लोकांच्या नजरेस आणून दिली आणि अखिल भारतीय ग्रामोद्योग मंडळ स्थापन केलें. मुंबई राज्यांत ग्रामोद्योग मंडळ स्थापन होऊन तीन चार वर्षे झाली आहेत ही गोष्ट लक्षांत घेतां हा सर्व खटाटोप व्यर्थ आहे, तेव्हां, तो सोडून देऊन अन्य मार्गांनी सरकारनें गेलें पाहिजे या म्हण- ण्यांत काही अर्थ नाहीं. ही गोष्ट सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. पाणे यांनी योग्य रीतीनें

[श्री. बी. पी. बडवे]

भागूहाच्या निदर्शनास आणली आहे. मला असे सांगावयाचे आहे की खेड्यांत राहणाऱ्या लोकांना अद्योगधंदा देण्याचे कार्य ग्रामोद्योग मंडळ करित आहे. अर्थात् ही सुरुवात आहे, परंतु कांहीं गोष्टी ग्रामोद्योगाच्या विरुद्ध अट्टाहासाने सांगितल्या जातात आणि लोकांना ह्या व्यवसायापासून परावृत्त करण्याचा प्रयत्न ज्यांचा ह्या तत्वाज्ञानाशी विरोध आहे त्यांच्याकडून केला जातो व तसा प्रकार येथे झालेला आहे. जोपर्यंत २, २॥ किंवा ३ रुपये मजुरी मिळत नाही तोपर्यंत ह्या लोकांनी अद्योग न करता नुसते अर्ज करित राहावे असा अपदेश त्यांना करता येतील काय याचा विचार केला पाहिजे. ह्या लोकांच्या कल्पनेप्रमाणे त्यांना अद्योगधंदा मिळावा असे वाटत असले तरी आजच्या परिस्थितीत कोणतेही सरकार तो देऊ शकणार नाही अशी खात्री आहे. तेव्हा लोकांची जी अपासमार होत आहे ती कांही प्रमाणांत का होईना, कमी करण्याचे एक साधन या दृष्टीने आपण ह्या व्यवसायाकडे पाहिले पाहिजे व अपासमार थांबविण्यास साहाय्य देणाऱ्या ग्रामोद्योगाचे साहाय्य घेण्यास सरकारला सांगितले पाहिजे.

त्यानंतर ग्रामोद्योगाच्या अहवालातील पुष्कळसा पैसा ज्या संस्थांमार्फत वापरला जातो, त्याचा उपयोग खेड्यांतील जीवनवाढीकडे केला जात नाही, त्याचप्रमाणे धंद्याचे विकेंद्रीकरण करून समाजवादी सहकारी संघ राज्याकडे पाऊल टाकले जात नाही अशी टीका करण्यांत आली. परंतु मला असे सांगावयाचे आहे की यांतील बहुतेक पैसे सहकारी संस्थांच्या मदतीसाठी दिलेले आहेत व त्यामुळे खेड्यांतील सहकारी जीवनाची वाढ होत आहे. आपल्या येथे जो तेल घाणीचा धंदा आहे तो ग्रामोद्योग मंडळाच्या मदतीने विकसित झालेला आहे. १०-५ वर्षांपूर्वी खेड्यांमध्ये राहणाऱ्या तेल्यांचे घाणे कोपऱ्यांत पडले होते व ते सर्पण म्हणून अपयोगांत आणले जातील की काय अशी लोकांना भीति वाटत होती आणि त्यांच्यामध्ये अक प्रकारची निराशा निर्माण झाली होती. परंतु ग्रामोद्योग मंडळ स्थापन झाल्यानंतर त्यांनी तेल घाण्याचे कार्य हाती घेतले आणि तेल्यांची संघटना निर्माण करण्याचा प्रयत्न करून ५ हजार लोकांना अद्योगधंदा मिळवून दिला. आज त्या लोकांच्या जीवनांत स्थैर्य प्राप्त झालेले आहे. तेव्हा मला असे सांगावयाचे आहे की हा अहवाल प्रगतिपर आहे व जे तत्व अंगिकारले आहे त्या तत्वाचा विजय झालेला आहे. कांहीं गोष्टींचे उत्पादन कमी झाले आहे, पण त्या संबंधीची कारणे सन्माननीय सभासद श्री. पाणे यांनी सांगितली आहेत. तेव्हा ह्या अहवालाबद्दल सर्वसाधारणपणे सरकारचे अभिनंदन करून मी माझे भाषण पुरे करतो.

श्री रतुभाई एम्. अदाणी (ग्रामोद्योग तथा मद्यनिषेध मंत्री) : माननीय सभापति जी, इस माननीय सदन के सामने बम्बई ग्रामोद्योग मण्डल का जो प्रतिवेदन विचार करने के लिए मैंने पेश किया था उसके बारे में जो चर्चा हुई उसे मैंने बड़े चाव से सुना है। मुझे कहना चाहिए कि ग्रामोद्योग के बारे में जो विचार गांधी जी की ओर से हमारे सामने रखे गए वे जब से रखे गए उस समय से ही इसके बारे में लोग भिन्न भिन्न रायें रखते हैं। जब गांधीजी हमारे बीच में मौजूद थे तब से लेकर आज तक ग्रामोद्योग के बारे में लोगों की भिन्न भिन्न रायें रही हैं। ऐसा होना बिल्कुल स्वाभाविक भी है। यह भी स्वाभाविक है कि यहाँ जो माननीय सदस्य हैं वे भी इसके बारे में भिन्न भिन्न मत रखें। इस प्रतिवेदन पर जो चर्चा हुई उससे पता चलता है कि ग्रामोद्योगों के बारे में माननीय सदस्यों की भिन्न भिन्न रायें हैं। किन्हीं माननीय सदस्यों की ओर से इस प्रतिवेदन का स्वागत किया गया और किन्हीं माननीय सदस्यों की ओर से इसके बारे में सहानुभूतिपूर्वक आलोचना हुई और किन्हीं सदस्यों ने इसकी कुछ कड़ी आलोचना भी की लेकिन फिर भी माननीय सदस्यों ने जो बातें यहाँ रखीं उन पर यदि हम गहराई से सोचें तो उससे एक बात फलित होती है कि ग्रामोद्योग की आवश्यकता सभी महसूस

[श्री रतुभाई एम्. अदाणी]

करते हैं। हमारे देश में बेकारी को हटाने में ग्रामोद्योगों की आवश्यकता है। बेकारी को मिटाने के लिए ग्रामोद्योग मण्डल का कार्य और भी तेजी से चलना चाहिए और मण्डल को और अधिक सुविधाएँ देनी चाहिए, ऐसे कुछ बुनियादी सवाल भी उठाये गये और इस तरह का एक सुझाव भी यहाँ पेश किया गया। मुझे खुशी है कि ऐसे विधायक सुझाव माननीय सदस्यों की ओर से आए। जिन माननीय सदस्यों ने यहाँ विधायक सुझाव रखे, जिन माननीय सदस्यों ने विधायक दृष्टि से इसकी आलोचना की या जिन माननीय सदस्यों ने इसकी कड़ी टीका की, उस कड़ी टीका के बावजूद भी, मैं सबको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

(Recess from 4-35 p.m. to 5-00 p.m.)

श्री रतुभाई एम्. अदाणी : माननीय सभापति जी, चर्चा के अन्तर्गत जो सुझाव रखे गए उनमें से कुछ सवाल नीति विषयक थे और कुछ सुझाव आंकड़ों या कार्य विषयक थे। सर्व प्रथम मैं नीति विषयक सवालों के बारे में निवेदन करूँगा। कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने ऐसा सवाल उठाया कि ग्रामोद्योग के बारे में ग्रामोद्योग मण्डल ने जो योजनाएँ बनाई हैं और जिन योजनाओं को मण्डल द्वारा कार्यान्वित किया जा रहा है वे पुराने ढंग की हैं इससे यह मालूम होता है कि या तो यह बोर्ड विज्ञान से कुछ लाभ लेने की बात नहीं सोचता है या वह इस बात से सहमत नहीं है। एक माननीय सदस्य ने यंत्रवाद के बारे में भी प्रश्न उठाया। मैं इन बातों के बारे में साफ कहना चाहता हूँ, माननीय सभापति जी, कि गांधी जी ने जो विचार हमारे सामने रखे यदि उनका हम गहराई से अध्ययन करेंगे तो यह बात साफ हो जायेगी कि उनका ग्रामोद्योगों के यंत्रीकरण से कोई विरोध नहीं था लेकिन जिस तरह से यंत्रवाद का विकास हो रहा है वह उन्हें पसन्द नहीं था। उसके बारे में एक बात मुझे कहनी है। यदि हमारा यंत्रवाद से विरोध होता तो जो अनुसंधान कार्य इस मण्डल द्वारा हुए हैं वे कभी न होते, यह बात बिल्कुल जाहिर है। चरखे के कार्य में अनुसंधान हो रहा है। पुराने चरखे में अनुसंधान करते करते हमारे सामने अब अम्बर चरखा आया है। यह बात भी जाहिर है कि अम्बर चरखे से भी हमारा समाधान नहीं है। जिस आयोग द्वारा अम्बर चरखे का कार्य हो रहा है वह इस बात से सहमत है कि अम्बर चरखा अभी हाथ से चलता है लेकिन अगर आवश्यकता हुई या समय की अनुकूलता हुई तो इसे विद्युत से चालित किया जा सकेगा। इससे पता चलता है कि हमारा यंत्रवाद से कोई विरोध नहीं है लेकिन जिस ढंग से यंत्रवाद का उद्योग किया जा रहा है या जिस तरह से यंत्रवाद का विकास हो रहा है उसका विरोध अवश्य है। यह विरोध इस लिए है कि हमारे देश में बेकारी की समस्या प्रबल है उसे सुलझाना है। बेकारी की समस्या को हल करने में किसी ऐसी चीज का उपयोग न होना चाहिए जिससे हमारी बेकारी और बढ़े इसी दृष्टि से हमें सोचना है और इसी दृष्टि से, जिस मण्डल की ओर से ग्रामोद्योग का कार्य हो रहा है, वह मण्डल भी सोचता है।

कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने ऐसा कहा कि शासक-पक्ष की ओर से ग्रामोद्योग मण्डल द्वारा कुछ कार्य ऐसा हो रहा है जिससे ऐसा मालूम होता है कि शासनका इस मण्डल के कार्य में कोई भरोसा नहीं है। जो कुछ कार्य होता है वह केवल लोगों को दिखाने की दृष्टि से किया जाता है। मुझे दुःख है उनकी इस भावना पर जो उन्होंने यहाँ प्रदर्शित की। नियोजन की ओर से तथा हमारी ओर से जो कार्यक्रम रखा गया है या जो कार्य दिल्ली शासन की ओर से या राज्य शासन की ओर से हो रहा है उससे यह साफ पता चलता है कि छोटे छोटे ग्रामोद्योगों को मदद दी गई है, ग्रामोद्योगों को महत्व दिया गया है

[श्री रतुभाई एम्. अदाणी]

यह सब सिर्फ दिखाने की दृष्टि से नहीं किया गया है। हमारे शासन की ओर से और केंद्रीय शासन की ओर से जो कार्यक्रम बना है उसके अनुसार ही वह कार्य इस मण्डल द्वारा किया गया है। ऐसा नहीं कहा जा सकता कि जिस पक्ष के हाथ में राज्य का शासन है उसका ग्रामोद्योग के बारे में कोई भरोसा नहीं और जो कार्य किया गया है वह दिखाने की दृष्टि से किया गया है। मैं अपने पक्ष की ओर से और शासन की ओर से कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी इस कार्य में श्रद्धा है। कार्य करने में मुसीबतें हैं लेकिन उन मुसीबतों के बावजूद भी हम आगे बढ़ना चाहते हैं। एक माननीय सदस्य ने अभी यहाँ कहा कि बड़ी मुसीबतों के बावजूद भी मण्डल की ओर से इस क्षेत्र में बढ़ने की कोशिश की गई है। सभापति जी, मैं उन माननीय सदस्य को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ जिन्होंने यह कहा। बहुत सी मुसीबतें होने के बावजूद और ग्रामोद्योग के बारे में भिन्न भिन्न रायों होने के बावजूद भी हमारी ओर से और मण्डल की ओर से बड़े भरोसे के साथ, बड़ी लगन के साथ ग्रामोद्योग के कार्य को आगे बढ़ाने की कोशिश की जाती है। केवल दिखाने की दृष्टि से काम नहीं किया जाता है।

अम्बर चरखे के बारे में कुछ चर्चा हुई। गत समय भी इसके बारे में काफी चर्चा हुई थी। यदि इस प्रतिवेदन को गहराई से देखें तो पता चलेगा कि जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य श्री पागें जी ने कहा कि यह प्रतिवेदन १९५६-५७ वर्ष का है और अम्बर चरखे के कार्य के बारे में जो आँकड़े दिए गए हैं उनके आधार पर उसके कार्य का हम कोई अनुमान नहीं लगा सकते। गत समय भी मैंने कहा था और आज तक का हमारा अनुभव है कि अम्बर चरखे का जो कार्यक्रम है वह बहुत ही क्रान्तिकारी कार्यक्रम है। पुराने ढंग का जो चरखा था उसमें अनुसंधान कर के अम्बर चरखा आया है। पुराने ढंग के चरखे पर काम करने से प्रति मनुष्य को तीन आना या चार आना रोज मजदूरी मिलती थी लेकिन अम्बर चरखा पर काम करने से लोगों को बारह आने से लेकर एक रुपये तक मजदूरी मिल जाती है। एक सवाल ऐसा उठाया गया कि आयोजन ने हमारे राष्ट्र के नागरिकों का स्तर ऊँचा उठाने का निश्चय किया है तो उस स्तर को ऊँचा उठाने का क्या यही ढंग है कि हर एक आदमी को कम से कम बारह आने या एक रुपया रोज मजदूरी दी जाये। आम तौर से इस कथन (शिकायत) में कुछ तत्त्व हैं लेकिन जिस तरह से माननीय सदस्य ने इसे यहाँ पेश किया उससे मैं सहमत नहीं हूँ। जिन लोगों को विलकुल मजदूरी मिलती नहीं या जिन्हें तीन आने या चार आने मजदूरी मिलती थी उन्हें बारह आने या एक रुपया मजदूरी मिले तो यह कार्य हमें पीछे ले जाने वाला है या प्रगति का यह कार्य है, इसे हमें सोचना होगा। हमें यह बात भी न भूलनी चाहिए कि जो लोग इसमें कार्य करते हैं वे अपना पूरा समय नहीं दे पाते। वे केवल अपना थोड़ा सा ही समय देते हैं। हमारे देहातों में परिस्थिति ऐसी है, हमारे समाज की परिस्थिति ऐसी है कि लोग अपना अधिक समय कृषि के लिए देते हैं। बाकी का जो समय है जिसमें किसान बेकार रहते हैं उसमें हम उन्हें रोजगार देना चाहते हैं और यही ग्रामोद्योग का मुख्य उद्देश्य है। ग्रामोद्योग का उद्देश्य यह है कि जो लोग बेकार हैं या अर्द्ध-बेकार हैं—अर्द्ध-बेकारों की संख्या हमारे राष्ट्र में बेकारों की संख्या से बहुत अधिक है—उन्हें हम कुछ व्यवसाय दे सकें। इस तरह से राष्ट्र में जीवन स्तर को ऊँचा उठाने की बात हम मोच रहे हैं। जब यह हो सकेगा तभी राष्ट्र प्रगति कर सकेगा। इस तरह से हम अगर देखेंगे तो मालूम होगा कि केवल आँकड़ों से हम सही अंदाजा नहीं लगा सकते हैं। आज मैं इतना कह सकता हूँ कि इस मण्डल द्वारा बहुत ही अच्छा कार्य हुआ है। इस कार्य से ग्रामीणों के जीवन में फर्क अवश्य हुआ है। किसी चीज को देखने का अलग अलग ढंग हुआ करता है। किसी कार्य को हम आलोचना भी कर सकते हैं और उसी कार्य के साथ हम सहानुभूति भी रख सकते हैं।

[श्री रतुभाई एम्. अदाणी]

अम्बर चरखे के बारे में बहुत से सवाल उठाये गए। यह कहा गया कि इसके द्वारा उत्पादन कम हो रहा है। मैं माननीय सदस्यों का अधिक समय नहीं लेना चाहता हूँ। मैं केवल इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ उसका कार्य हो रहा है वहाँ वे जा कर देखें कि इस कार्य में किस प्रकार की प्रगति हो रही है, इसका कुछ अभ्यास करें, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि उनकी जो गलतफहमी है या जो संशय पैदा हो गया है वह अवश्य दूर हो जायगा। मेरी माननीय सदस्यों से प्रार्थना है कि जब उन्होंने इस कार्य में इतनी दिलचस्पी ली है तब यदि उन्हें कभी ऐसा मौका मिले जहाँ अम्बर चरखे का काम हो रहा हो या किसी परिश्रमालय में जाने का मौका मिले जहाँ खादी का उत्पादन हो रहा हो, तो वे अवश्य थोड़ा सा समय देकर उसका निरीक्षण करें और मालूम करें कि किस ढंग से प्रगति हो रही है, उसके कारण जनता में क्या असर हुआ है, उसका क्या प्रबन्ध है।

एक माननीय सदस्य ने यह सवाल उठाया कि पुराने जमाने में हमारे देश में जिस प्रकार से ग्रामोद्योग चलते थे और वे ग्रामोद्योग खतम हो गए उसी प्रकार से हमारे देश में आज फिर से ग्रामोद्योगों को पुनर्जीवित किया जा रहा है और वे उसी प्रकार खतम होंगे। सभापति जी, इसके बारे में मेरा केवल इतना ही कहना है कि यह स्थाल विलकुल गलत है। सिर्फ पुराने ढंग से कार्य करने के कारण ग्रामोद्योग नष्ट हुए ऐसा कहना ठीक नहीं है। उसके तो बहुत से कारण हैं। परदेशी शासन भी उन कारणों में एक प्रमुख कारण है। उसके और बहुत से कारण हैं। हम पुराने ग्रामोद्योगों को सजीव कर रहे हैं तो हमें देखना चाहिए कि संसार में क्या हो रहा है।

अपने देश में अनुसंधान के क्षेत्र में और भिन्न भिन्न प्रकार के क्षेत्रों में काम चल रहा है जो औद्योगिक सवाल एक दूसरे से संबंधित हैं उनकी सहाकारी सिद्धान्त पर हल करना चाहिये, सहाकारी सिद्धान्तों पर एक नये समाज की रचना करनी चाहिये ऐसा हमने तय किया है और उन सिद्धान्त के आधार पर हम आगे बढ़ रहे हैं।

फिर सब्सीडी के बारे में सवाल उठाया गया लेकिन प्रश्न यह है कि कुटीर उद्योगों से संबंधित सभी उद्योगों को सब्सीडी दी जानी चाहिये या नहीं। गत सत्र में भी इसके ऊपर काफी चर्चा हुई थी। अब मैं इसपर ज्यादा चर्चा करके सदन का समय नहीं लूँगा मैं सिर्फ एक ही बात स्पष्ट कर दूँगा और वह यह है कि जहाँ तक ग्रामोद्योग का संबंध है उसे जहाँ आवश्यक हो वहाँ पूर्ण संरक्षण देना तो आवश्यक समझा जाता है ही इतना ही नहीं जिस कार्यक्रम की वजहसे हम स्वतंत्र हुए और जिससे हजारों, लाखों मजदूरों को आज मजदूरी मिल सकती है ऐसे ग्रामोद्योगों की सहायता करने के लिये सब्सीडी देना शासन अपना एक कर्तव्य समझता है। फिर भी गलती से कहीं सब्सीडी नहीं दी गई ऐसा यदि शासन को बतलाया जाय तो शासन उस संबंध में आवश्यक कार्रवाई जरूर करेगा। हाथ करघे से बने हुए कपड़े के धंधे को सरकार की तरफ से सब्सीडी दी जाती है और इस धंधे को सब्सीडी दे कर उसे बढ़ाने की सरकार की नीति जाहिर हो चुकी है। सरकार इस तरह के हर उद्योगों को बढ़ाना चाहती है लेकिन उस संबंध में कुछ ठीक सी योजना बनाना बहुत आवश्यक हो गया है।

फिर इस मंडल के कार्य के संबंध में कहा गया कि जो पक्ष शासन करता है उस पक्ष की नैतिक विचारधारा से ही इस मंडल का कार्य हो रहा है लेकिन यह जो माननीय सदस्य कह रहे थे वह वे साराष्ट्र को ख्याल में रखकर ही बोल रहे थे और वे यह भूल गये थे कि यह प्रतिवेदन बंबई विलेज इंडस्ट्रीज बोर्ड का है। इस संबंध में सरकार की नीति पर भी कुछ कहा गया। कहा यह गया कि मंडल और सरकार उनके पक्ष के

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राजकीय क्षेत्र में काम करनेवाली संस्थाओं को ही अनुदान देती है और दूसरी संस्थाओं को मदद करने में बहुत सी रक़ावटें पैदा करती हैं। मैं यह स्पष्ट कर देना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसा कहना बिल्कुल ग़लत है। संस्थाओं को किस परिस्थिति में अनुदान दिया जाय उसके संबंध में आखिर कुछ नियम बने हैं और उनके अनुसार ही अनुदान दिया जाता है। अनुदान देने के समय फिर किसी दल विशेष का ह्याल नहीं किया जाता। इस तरह बहुत कुछ आधारहीन चर्चा भी यहाँ की गई। चर्चा करना तो बहुत आसान होता है लेकिन ऐसा करते समय उन्होंने हर सवाल की गहराई में जाने की भी तकलीफ़ उठानी चाहिये। यह भी कहा गया कि इस मंडल का कारोबार अपने अपने रिश्तेदारों के द्वारा ही चलाया जाता रहा है। यह भी फिर कुछ अधिकृत रूप से आधार देते हुये नहीं कहा गया। यदि कोई इस संबंध में आधिकृत जानकारी मुझे दें तो मैं उसपर ज़रूर विचार करूँगा। लेकिन आधार के बिना इस तरह के आक्षेप करना ठीक मालूम नहीं होता। फिर मंडली का भी काम इतना बढ़ गया है, हज़ारों संस्थाएँ काम कर रही हैं, कि कहीं पर किसी न किसी का कोई रिश्तेदार हो भी सकता है, लेकिन ऐसे कुछ थोड़े से उदाहरण लेकर इस तरह पूरे मंडल पर आक्षेप लगाना ठीक नहीं है। माननीय सदस्य को इस तरह किसी संस्था में कोई बात दिखाई भी दी होगी तो उनका यह कर्तव्य था कि पहले वे हमारे साथ बैठकर उसपर सोचते और पता लगाते कि आखिर वहाँ परिस्थिति है क्या। मुझे विश्वास है कि यदि माननीय सदस्य इस तरह करते तो उन्हें आक्षेप निराधार है, ऐसा ही मालूम हो जाता।

यह भी सवाल उठाया गया कि प्रतिवेदन में कहा गया है कि सारे बंबई राज्य के लिए एक ही मंडल इना चाहिए, लेकिन अब तक यह नहीं किया गया है। इसमें कानून की दिक्कत है इसलिये यह नहीं हो सका। रिआर्गनाइजेशन एक्ट जो हुआ है और उसके अंतर्गत जो परिवर्तन हुए हैं उससे यह काम अब आसान नहीं रह गया है इसलिये अब गड़बड़ कर के एक बनाना अभी योग्य नहीं होगा। हम जानते हैं कि पुराने बंबई में कुछ अलग व्यवस्था थी, वैसे ही सौराष्ट्र, मराठवाड़ा और विदर्भ में भिन्न भिन्न प्रकार की व्यवस्था थी। हम चाहते हैं कि सारे बंबई प्रान्त में एक ही मंडल, एक ही व्यवस्था हो लेकिन जबतक सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट से इस संबंध में स्कीम बनाकर हमारे पास नहीं आती तब तक हम कुछ भी नहीं कर सकते। वैसे तो शासन की ओर से इस संबंध में कार्यवाई हो रही है। हमारा कानून भी बिल्कुल तैयार हो गया है लेकिन केंद्र से जबतक हमें कोई सुचना नहीं मिलती तब तक हम कुछ भी नहीं कर सकते।

फिर एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि हर वर्ष कुछ रकम इस मंडल को दी जाती है लेकिन काम कुछ भी नहीं हो पाता और रकम लेंस हो जाती है। कुछ भी काम नहीं हो रहा है, ऐसा कहना मैं तो गलत समझता हूँ। आप यदि प्रतिवेदन को ठीक से देखेंगे तो आपको मालूम हो जायेगा कि बहुत सी अच्छी अच्छी योजनाएं बनी हैं और हैं वह यह कि आखिर यह सब आंकड़ों का मामला है इसके गहराई में जाकर मा. सदस्य सब बातों को देखेंगे तो उन्होंने जो आक्षेप किये हैं वे गलत हैं ऐसा ही उनको मालूम हो जायेगा। बहुत सी योजनाएं बंबई सरकार मंजूर करती हैं तो वे सारी पूरी होनी ही चाहियें ऐसा तो संभव नहीं। फिर भी मंडल की ओर से उन योजनाओं को जारी करने की कोशिश की जाती है और मैं यह स्पष्ट कर देता हूँ कि हर एक योजना जो मंडल ने हाथ में ली है उसमें आहिस्ते आहिस्ते प्रगति भी हो रही है। यह मैं मानता हूँ कि सरकार जो रकम मंजूर करती है वह पूरी उपयोग में नहीं लाई जाती। इसमें मंडल की ओर से भी कुछ ष्कावटें होती हैं और फिर मंडल का एक ऐसा ढांचा बन

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गया है कि मंडल को जो अनुदान दिया जाता है उसका उसी वर्ष में मंडल उपयोग नहीं कर पाता क्योंकि अनुदान की रकम बहुत ही देरी से उन्हें मिलती है। इसके ऊपर शासन ने गहराई में जाकर सोचा है और यह पाया है कि शासन की ओर से अनुदान की रकम हर वर्ष के प्रारंभ में ही यदि दी जायेगी तो मंडल उस रकम का पूरा उपयोग कर सकेगा। इसलिये यह सोचा गया है कि मंडल का जो बजट बनता है वह ठीक समय पर होना चाहिये जिससे उस वर्ष के प्रारंभ में ही शासन की ओर से उसे अनुदान की रकम मिल सके। मंडल से भी अब यह आशा की जा सकती है कि उसका जो कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वित किया जानेवाला है उसकी सूचनाएं वह वर्ष के प्रारंभ में ही शासन को दे तो शासन भी जल्दी से जल्दी उस कार्य के लिये अनुदान की रकम मंजूर कर सकता है।

फिर यह भी कहा गया कि मंडल की ओर से जो ग्रामोद्योग केंद्र चलाये जाते हैं उनमें जो माल पैदा होता है वह सिर्फ शासन के अधिकारी वर्ग और मंडल के अधिकारी ही खरीदते हैं। इस बात में मैं ममझता हूँ कोई तथ्य नहीं है। शासन का यही इरादा है कि इनका माल अधिक से अधिक खरीदा जाय जिससे देहात के जो मजदूर हैं उनको मजदूरी मिल सके। सरकार की तो यही इच्छा है कि ग्रामोद्योग केंद्र जितने जल्दी बढ सकते हैं उतने जल्दी वे बढाये जायें लेकिन आखिर भिन्न भिन्न राष्ट्रीय विचार-धाराओं के आधार पर हरएक की अलग अलग विचारधारा हो सकती है। मैं इसके बारे में इतनी स्पष्टता करना चाहता हूँ कि जो माल मंडल के द्वारा पैदा होता है उसका काफी प्रचार है। उसके बारे में मण्डल की ओर से कोशिश होती है फिर भी शासन का कर्तव्य है कि उसकी जो आवश्यकतायें हैं उन्हें पूरी करने में ग्रामोद्योग द्वारा उत्पादित वस्तुओं को प्राधान्य दे। सिर्फ कागज ही नहीं, हम बहुत सी चीजें जो ग्रामोद्योग द्वारा बने उनका इस्तेमाल करते हैं यदि हम ग्रामोद्योग में मानते हैं, यदि हम मानते हैं कि इससे किसानों को मजदूरों को काम दे सकते हैं इसके द्वारा हम उनका जीवनमान ऊँचा उठा सकते हैं तो शासन का कर्तव्य हो जाता है कि अपनी आवश्यकताओं को ग्रामोद्योग द्वारा बनी हुई वस्तुओं से पूरी करे। यदि इस दृष्टि से देखा जायेगा तो माननीय सदस्यों को इसके बारे में कोई भी शिकायत करने का कारण न होगा।

एक माननीय सदस्य नें यहां पर आंकड़े पेश करते हुए कहा कि हमारा जो योजना आयोग है उसकी ओर से राष्ट्रीय जीवनमान को ऊपर उठाने की कोशिश की जाती है लेकिन जो आंकड़े यहां दिए गए हैं उनके आधार पर २५० रु. तक की मजदूरी नहीं दी गई है। सभापति महोदय, मैंने शुरू में ही कहा कि मैं इसपर कोई विशेष समय नहीं लेना चाहता लेकिन मैं इतना कह सकता हूँ कि हिसाब लगाने का यह गलत तरीका है। सा. सदस्य श्री पागे जी ने कहा कि ग्रामीणों में जो काम करते हैं वे इसमें अपना पूरा समय दे कर काम नहीं करते हैं। वे अपना थोड़ा सा ही समय इसमें देते हैं और कुछ दिनों के लिए काम करते हैं। इस तरह से जों यह शिकायत की गई उसका कोई कारण नहीं है।

यह भी कहा गया कि पेड़ी वगैरह का काम भी मंडल को शुरू करना चाहिये और इसका सिद्धान्त स्वीकार करना चाहिए। लेकिन हमारी एक मर्यादा है। खादी का सवाल भी हमारे सामने है। मैं मानता हूँ कि यदि अधिक से अधिक जनता को रोजगार दे सकते हैं तो चरखे के द्वारा ही दे सकते हैं लेकिन खादी पहिनने के लिए हम किसी को मजबूर नहीं कर सकते। हम किसी को मजबूरन खादी नहीं पहिना सकते हैं, लेकिन एक बात हमने की है वह यह है कि शासन को जितने कपड़े की जरूरत होती है, वह खादी लेता है।

[श्री रतुभाई एम्. अदाणी]

पेडी के बारे में जो कहा गया उसके बारे में मैं इतना कह सकता हूँ कि शासन को जितनी चीजों की आवश्यकता होती है उनके लिए ग्रामोद्योग द्वारा उत्पादित चीजों को हम प्राथमिकता देते हैं। पेडी के बारे में भी यही चीज लागू होती है लेकिन इसके बारे में बाजार भाव आदि का मसला सामने आता है और हमें इसके लिए अधिक दाम देने पड़ते हैं। हमारी इच्छा है कि जो सरकारी केंद्र हैं या अस्पताल हैं वहां हाथ से कुटा हुआ चावल इस्तेमाल किया जाय। फिर भी बाजार भाव की दृष्टि से हमारे सामने दिक्कत पैदा होती है। मैं सदन के सामने इतना ही इस समय कह सकता हूँ कि इस चीज को शासन ने नीति की दृष्टि से स्वीकार कर लिया है।

ताड़-गुड़ के सम्बन्ध में भी यहां विधायक सूचना रखी गई। ताड़-गुड़ बहुत लोगों को भाता है फिर भी उसके लिए मार्केट नहीं है। हमारा जो अनुभव है वह यह है कि माननीय सदस्य ने इसकी जितनी दिक्कत बताई उतनी तो नहीं है। जहां जहां नीरा योजना और ताड़-गुड़ योजना साथ साथ चल रही हैं वहां इस प्रकार की कोई दिक्कत नहीं है। इस तरह किसी को कोई शिकायत नहीं है और जब कोई शिकायत नहीं है तो फिर उसपर विचार करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है।

तेल उद्योग के बारे में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि ग्रामोद्योग मण्डल द्वारा तेल के उद्योग को विशेष प्रोत्साहन दिया गया है। तेली लोगों की सहकारी संस्थाएं भी हैं। व्यक्तिगत संस्थाओं के बारे में कोई शिकायत हो सकती है लेकिन मण्डल की ओर से जो कार्य होता है उसके बारे में शिकायत की कोई सम्भावना नहीं है, अनुदान के जो नियम हैं उनके मुताबिक अनुदानें दी जाती हैं। एक शिकायत ऐसी रखी गई कि तेलियों को अनुदान के लिए दो दो साल तक ठहरना पड़ता है। माननीय सभापति जी, मुझे दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि सब नहीं तो कुछ संस्थाएं ऐसी हैं जिनके हिसाब किताब में गड़बड़ी रहती है और ठीक तरह से हिसाब नहीं रखा जाता है तो ऐसी संस्थाओं के बारे में मण्डल गहराई से सोचता है। ऐसा करने में देरी होती है जिसके लिए यहां शिकायत नहीं होनी चाहिए। व्यक्तिगत संस्थाओं के बारे में शिकायतों का होना सम्भव है। अगर नियम के अनुसार सब काम हो तो फिर जल्द से जल्द अनुदान प्राप्त करने में कोई दिक्कत न हो।

एक माननीय सदस्य ने पोल्डी के बारे में विधायक सुझाव पेश किया है और कहा कि इसपर भी ग्रामोद्योग मण्डल काम करे। इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि यह एक ग्रामोद्योग है लेकिन हमारे मण्डल की जो मर्यादा है उसके कारण ऐसे बहुत से काम हैं जो हम मण्डल के कार्यों में नहीं ले सकते। हमारी मर्यादा सीमित है। इसका मतलब यह नहीं है कि हमने इसके बारे में सोचा नहीं है। शासन का जो कुटीर उद्योग विभाग है उसकी ओर से बहुत से कार्य चलते हैं जो ग्रामोद्योग कहे जा सकते हैं। जहां तक पोल्डी का सम्बन्ध है वह कृषि विभाग से सम्बन्धित है। पोल्डी विकास के लिए कृषि विभाग की अपनी योजना है। पोल्डी विकास का काम चाहे मण्डल की ओर से हो या कृषि विभाग की ओर से आज उसकी परिस्थिति ऐसी है कि उसकी खूब तरक्की हो रही है। इसलिए इसकी शिकायत में कोई तथ्य नहीं दीखता है।

मण्डल के भविष्य के कार्य के बारे में भी शासन ने विचार किया है और अब मैं, सभापति जी, उसके बारे में थोड़ा सा निर्देश करना चाहता हूँ। हम एक ऐसा मण्डल बनाना चाहते हैं जो सारे बम्बई राज्य में कार्य कर सके। हमारे जो प्रशासनिक डिवीजन्स हैं उन डिवीजनों में एक एक विशेषाधिकारी के साथ साथ हम उप-समितियां भी बनाना

[श्री रतुभाई एम्. अदाणी]

चाहते हैं। आज जो हमारा मण्डल है वह तीन डिवीजनों का बना है। हमारा जो मण्डल अब बननेवाला है जब वह बन जायेगा तब हम अपना काम ठीक तरह से कर सकेंगे। बजट भी बढ़ाने की कोशिश हम कर रहे हैं। ठीक समय पर अगर बजट पेश किया जाय और उसकी समय पर जांच हो जाय तो समय पर ग्रान्ट भी मिल सकेगी।

एक दूसरा सवाल भी है जो यहाँ रखा गया। जितनी ग्रामोद्योग की योजनाएं हैं उन्हें मण्डल करें। मंडल के कार्य में यह भी एक उसका मुख्य कार्य है कि इस संबंध की भिन्न भिन्न क्षेत्रों में भिन्न भिन्न कार्य करनेवाली संस्थाओं का संघटन किया जाय, कोई संघटित संस्था न हो तो उसकी रचना कर, उसका निर्माण किया जाय। यह सब ठीक है लेकिन यह सब सहकारी सार्वजनिक संस्था के जरिये ही किया जाय ऐसी मंडल की धारणा है। ऐसी बहुत सी संस्थाएं हैं जो व्यक्तिगत तौर पर कार्य करती हैं,

6-30 p.m.

उन सब का संघटन कर सहकारी संस्था का निर्माण करना, यह शासन का और इस मंडल का साफ उद्देश्य है। जहाँ तक ऐसे व्यक्तिगत संस्थाओं का निर्माण सहकारी संस्थाओं में नहीं किया जाता, तबतक शासन का और इस मंडल का देहातों में सहकारी संस्थाओं का निर्माण करने का उद्देश्य भी पूरा नहीं हो सकता, इसलिए ग्राम में जो कारीगर हैं, जैसे कुम्हार, चमार आदि उन सब को सहकारी सिद्धान्तों पर संघटित कर के मंडल और शासन उन्हें सहकारी सिद्धान्तों पर चलाना चाहता है। यह कार्य एक गांव में करना मुश्किल होना है इसलिए तालुके के स्तर पर, भिन्न भिन्न कारीगरों का संघटन बनाना योग्य समझा गया है और फिर आगे जिले के स्तर पर ऐसे संघटनों का निर्माण किया जायेगा। आखिर शासन का यही उद्देश्य है कि सार्वजनिक संस्थाओं का सहकारी सिद्धान्तों पर जितना संघटन किया जा सकता है उतना किया जाय और इसी उद्देश्य को सामने रखकर मंडल सब योजनाओं को कार्यान्वित कर रहा है और देहातों के सभी उद्योगों का सहकारी सिद्धान्तों पर निर्माण करने की यह मंडल हर तरह की कोशिश भी कर रहा है। इससे यह स्पष्ट होता है कि सरकार की और मंडल की यह जाहिर नीति है कि जहाँ तक हो सके विकेंद्रीकरण के आधार पर ही हम अपना इस मंडल का कार्य आगे चलाए।

अब माननीय सभापति जी, इस चर्चा के अंतर्गत उठाये गये सवालों के उत्तर मैंने दिये हैं और बहुत कुछ बातें काफी स्पष्ट कर दी हैं फिर भी यदि कोई माननीय सदस्य को कुछ विधायक सूचना करना हो तो उसपर शासन हमेशा विचार करने को तैयार है, यह मैं स्पष्ट कर देना चाहता हूँ। अंत में जिन माननीय सदस्यों ने आलोचना की है और विधायक दृष्टि से कुछ सुझाव दिये हैं उनके लिये मैं उनका आभार मानता हूँ और यह स्पष्ट बता देना चाहता हूँ कि गत समय एक प्रथा जारी की गई कि जो जहाँ हम सदन में करते हैं उसकी शासन की ओर से मंडल को जानकारी दी जाय ताकि उसपर मंडल गहराई से सोच विचार करे। इतना ही नहीं कानून की मर्यादा के अंतर्गत जितना हो सकता है उतना दिये हुए सुझावों पर मंडल की ओर से अमल करने की कोशिश भी की जा रही है। यह भी मैं आपको बता देता हूँ कि जो चर्चा गत सत्र में सहकारी संस्थाओं के संबंध में की गई और सुझाव दिये गये थे उनपर मंडल की ओर से विचार किया गया है और मैं आश्वासन देता हूँ कि जो विधायक सुझाव दिये जाते हैं उनके बारे में मंडल से हमेशा प्रार्थना की जायेगी कि वह उन पर गहराई से सोचे, मुझे विश्वास है कि जो दूसरा प्रतिवेदन पेश होगा उस समय उसमें इन सब बातों पर अमल किया गया है, ऐसा ही आप देख सकेंगे। इन शब्दों के साथ जिन लोगों ने इस संबंध में दिलचस्पी बताई उन्हें धन्यवाद देकर मैं अपना कथन पूरा करता हूँ।

(a.o.p.) MO-B Hb 1114-3

**DISCUSSION ON THE REPORT OF THE BOMBAY PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION FOR THE YEAR 1956-57.**

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH (Minister for Labour and Law) : Sir, I beg to move—

“That the Report of the Bombay Public Service Commission for the year 1956-57, be taken into consideration.”

Motion put, and agreed to.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to congratulate the members of the Bombay Public Service Commission on the excellent Report which they have submitted, especially without any fear or favour. They have pointed out many irregularities in the administration of Government. Especially on page 9 of the Report it is stated that, in several disciplinary cases, all material documents were not sent along with the reference, and in some cases of appointments by promotion the appointments were not reported to the Commission when made. This is a very serious charge which has been levelled against Government. I do not doubt the *bona fides* of Government, but at the same time, I hope that Government will see that no opportunity is given to the Commission to make such remarks against Government. It is always said that Caesar's wife must be not only chaste but above suspicion. Similarly, even though we do not doubt the *bona fides* of Government, it should also be above any suspicion.

Then, Sir, on page 40 of the Report it is stated that the answers did not show a high degree of competence, so far as English is concerned. It is further stated :

“The vocabulary of the candidates was very limited, and they were weak in expression, particularly when writing an original composition.”

From this it seems that the Commission has been giving a lot of importance to English but actually that is not the policy of our Government. Yesterday also, while passing the Marathwada University Bill, both sides of the House welcomed the provision made by Government in that Bill regarding the introduction of Marathi as the medium of instruction. Thus, when the boys in our State are not being given education in English either at the high school level or at the higher level, how can the Commission expect a high standard of English from these boys ? Further, it appears that in the intelligence test, out of 412 candidates, 114 boys only were below the average standard or below the passing standard. That means about 75 per cent. of the boys were above the average standard so far as intelligence test is concerned. This shows the calibre of the boys, excepting that they were lacking in the knowledge of English. The boys did have good intelligence and knowledge, but merely because they were not able to express themselves in English, some of them failed. That is why the boys who receive education

[Shri D. B. Agarwal]

in Convent Schools or the Missionary Schools get an advantage and have better chances of securing Government service. I would, therefore, request Government that it should give a directive to the Commission that stress should be laid on the regional languages, such as the Marathi or the Gujarati language or the national language, i.e., Hindi, but not on English. We have already passed Bills allowing the Gujarat Vidyapith to have Gujarati as the medium of instruction. Similarly, we have allowed the Anand Vidyapith to have Hindi as the medium of instruction. Thus, when Government's policy is to encourage the regional languages and the national language, why should the Public Service Commission insist on having a high standard of English? Actually, I would say that a directive should be issued by Government to the Public Service Commission that it should not attach too much importance to English. That is what I want to bring specially to the notice of Government.

Then, Sir, my information is that, at the time when the boys appear before the Public Service Commission for an interview or when they go there for a test, importance is given to manners and etiquette of the boys and only those who are accustomed to English manners and etiquette are given a preference over others. This also should go on record and Government should see that such a thing does not happen. I am acquainted with a couple of members of the Public Service Commission of the Government of India. There I was told that, because a couple of boys had gone on dhoti and took recourse to *namaskar* at the time of interview, the members of the Commission formed a bad opinion of the candidates and remarked that they were not accustomed to good manners and customs. That sort of a thing should be deprecated. I am, of course, not aware of this so far as the Bombay Public Service Commission is concerned, but this is what I have come to know so far as the Central Public Service Commission is concerned.

Then, Sir, it has been mentioned in paragraph (5) at page 40 of the report that the translation of the English passage into Marathi was fairly satisfactorily done, but the rendering of the Marathi passage into English was exceedingly poor. Similarly, at page 41, in the case of essays in English, it has been remarked that the answers did not reflect a high degree of competence, that the English of the candidates was poor and that they were unable to keep to the point in their essays. So all along in the entire report the Commission lays too much stress on English. When we want Hindi to be our national language, the tests should be either in Hindi or in the regional languages, that is Marathi or Gujarati, and the importance that is attached to English should be done away with. If that is not done, then naturally it will give rise to all sorts of controversies and people are bound to complain about the policies of this Government.

These, Sir, were some of the suggestions that I wanted to make in connection with the report of the Public Service Commission.

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श्री. के. आर्. पाटील (विदर्भ-लोकल अँपोरिटीज) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, पब्लिक सर्व्हिस कमिशनचा १९५६-५७ चा अहवाल विचारासाठी सभागृहापुढे ठेवण्यांत आला आहे. भारताच्या घटनेनुसार राज्य सरकारने हे कमिशन स्थापन केलेले आहे. हे कमिशन स्थापन करण्याचा आदेश देण्यामागे घटनाकारांचा जो उद्देश होता तो कितपत सफल झाला आहे हे आपल्यापुढे ठेवण्यांत आलेल्या अहवालावरून दिसून येत आहे. हा अहवाल वाचल्यावर ह्या कमिशनवर जी जबाबदारी टाकण्यांत आली आहे ती ह्या कमिशनने योग्य प्रकारे पार पाडली आहे असे दिसून येत नाही. अध्यक्ष महाराज, आपल्या राज्य सरकारचा आणि मध्यवर्ती सरकारचा जो एकंदर रेव्हिन्यू असतो त्यापैकी बराच मोठा हिस्सा एस्टाब्लिशमेंटवर खर्च होतो. राज्य सरकारच्या कारभारामध्ये नोकरी करून पोट भरणारा फार मोठा वर्ग आपल्या समाजांत आहे. तेव्हा हा नोकरीचा प्रश्न समुपेतने हाताळला जावा यासाठी राज्य सरकारने पब्लिक सर्व्हिस कमिशन नेमावे अशी तरतूद घटनेच्या ३२० व्या कलमान्वये करण्यांत आली. घटनाकार एवढीच तरतूद करून थांबले नाहीत, तर ह्या कमिशनने आपला वार्षिक अहवाल कायदे मंडळापुढे ठेवला जावा व त्यावर जनमताने आपला कौल द्यावा अशीहि तरतूद त्यांनी करून ठेविली आहे.

अध्यक्ष महाराज, आपल्या समाजाची रचनाच विषमतेवर आधारलेली आहे. आपल्या समाजांत फार तर १० टक्के लोक सुधारलेले म्हणजेच सुशिक्षित आहेत. हे एक टॉक झाले. दुसऱ्या टोकाला शेतावर जणपारा आणि कपट करणारा खालच्या थरांतील वर्ग आहे. पब्लिक सर्व्हिस कमिशनने नोकरीकरिता अगदी खालच्या व अगदी वरच्या अशा दोन थरांनाच मान्यता दिलेली आहे. बाकी मधला जो ७०-७५ टक्के वर्ग राहिला तो खेड्यापाड्यांत विखुरलेला आहे. सध्याच्या प्रथेमुळे ह्या मधल्या थरावर अत्यंत मोठा असा अन्याय होत आहे. सरकारच्या राज्यकारभारामध्ये जिला एफीशियन्सी म्हणतात तिच्या नांवाखाली हा मधला वर्ग निर्दयपणे तुडविला जात आहे. पहिल्याने नोकरीसाठी अर्ज करावयाचा तर वयाची अट असते, त्यामुळे पुष्कळांमधल्या मुलांना नोकरीत शिरता येत नाही. याचे कारण असे आहे की, खेड्यापाड्यांत काय किंवा कोठेहि, २७ वर्षांचा असतांना मुलगा प्रॅज्युएट झाला म्हणजे तो एजवार्ड समजला जातो व तो नोकरीसाठी डिस्क्वालिफाय होतो. सरकारने कायदेच असे केले आहेत की, कोणत्याहि मुलाने वयाची ६ वर्षे पुरी केल्याशिवाय त्याला प्राथमिक शाळेत घेतले जात नाही. पुढारलेल्या वर्गातील लोक आपल्या मुलांना खासगी शाळेत घालून ७ व्या वर्षी एकदम पहिलीत किंवा दुसरीत बसवून घेतात. यामुळे ही मुले १२ किंवा १६ व्या वर्षी मॅट्रिक होतात आणि २० व्या वर्षी एम.ए. किंवा पी.एच.डी. होऊ शकतात. पण गरीब लोकांना हे शक्य होत नाही. शिक्षणाच्या बाबतीत विदर्भामध्ये पूर्वीपासून ज्या सवलती आहेत त्याहि काढून घेण्याच्या मार्गावर सरकार आहे. तेव्हा ह्या सगळ्या सरकारच्या धोरणामुळे समाजातील एका कोणत्याहि कारणास्तव समाजातील कोणत्याहि वर्गाला कोणतीहि ऑपोर्च्युनिटी मिळत नाही असे ठरविण्यांत आले आहे.

The CHAIRMAN : We are discussing the report of the Public Service Commission. The question of age limit does not arise so far as the Public Service Commission is concerned. The Public Service Commission has to do the work entrusted to it and we are now discussing its report. The hon. Member is going out of his way by referring to such details.

श्री. के. आर्. पाटील : With due respect to the Chair, माझी अशी तक्रार आहे की, ह्या ऑपोर्च्युनिटीज समाजातील काही वर्गांना माफासत्या जात आहेत, ह्या गोष्टीचा विचार झाला पाहिजे.

The CHAIRMAN : I do agree with the hon. Member. I do understand his complaint, but this is not the opportunity to voice that complaint. There are many other suitable opportunities for the hon. Member to voice his complaint in this House, say, at the time of General discussion on the Budget, etc. We are now discussing the report of the Public Service Commission and that report does not contain anything about age limit.

श्री. के. आर्. पाटील : With due respect to what you have ruled, Sir, I may submit that I am not concerned with the details at all. What I want to express here is the injustice that has been done. If it is not proper in the opinion of the Chair, I am prepared to withdraw my remark.

The CHAIRMAN : It is not a question of withdrawing the remark. All that I want to point out to the hon. Member is that the question about age limit need not be discussed while discussing the report of the Public Service Commission. There are so many other points which are pertinent to the report which the hon. Member may refer to.

श्री. के. आर्. पाटील : अध्यक्ष महाराज, एज लिमिटमुळे लोकांना ऑपोर्च्युनिटीज कशा नाकारल्या जातात हे मला दाखवून द्यावयाचे आहे. यानंतर, रेसिडेन्शियल क्वालिफिकेशनची अट असते. कांहीं प्रमाणांत ह्या अटीची जरूरी आहे हे मला मान्य आहे. ह्या रिपोर्टवरून असे दिसून येते की, कांहीं जागांसाठी मागासलेल्या लोकांना नोकरीत रिझर्वेशन ठेवलेले असते, पण प्रत्यक्ष अनुभव असा आहे ज्यांच्यासाठी हे रिझर्वेशन ठेवलेले असते, त्या लोकांना त्याचा फायदा मिळालेला नाही. माझे म्हणणे असे आहे, की मुंबई राज्यांत बँकवर्ड क्लासमधले इतर राज्यांतील उमेदवार मिळाले नाहीत म्हणून इतर जमातीतले उमेदवार घेण्याऐवजी बँकवर्ड क्लासमधलेच इतर राज्यांतील उमेदवार घेण्याला काय हरकत होती? पण तसे केले जात नाही, असा अनुभव आहे.

रेसिडेन्शियल क्वालिफिकेशनप्रमाणेच कोणतीहि जागा भरावयाची झाली तर मिनिमम एज्युकेशनल क्वालिफिकेशनस लागतात. उदाहरणार्थ, प्राथमिक शिक्षकाच्या जागेसाठी मिनिमम क्वालिफिकेशन व्हर्नाक्युलर फायनलची अट ठेवण्यांत आली आहे. आता शिक्षकांचा थोडासा प्रसार झाल्यामुळे पुष्कळ मागासलेल्या वर्गातील मुले व्हर्नाक्युलर फायनल पास झालेली आहेत. पण मॅट्रिक पास झालेले उमेदवार त्याच पगारावर काम करण्यास तयार असल्यामुळे ठरविण्यांत आलेली मिनिमम क्वालिफिकेशनस बाजूला राहतात आणि प्राथमिक शिक्षकाच्या जागांवर मॅट्रिक पास झालेल्या उमेदवारांना नेमण्यांत येते. याचा परिणाम असा होतो कपट करून मोठ्या आशने मागासलेल्या वर्गातील जी मुले भराठी सातवी पास होतात ती सरकारच्या ह्या धोरणामुळे नोकरी न मिळाल्यामुळे पुन्हा निराश होतात. त्यांच्याजवळ मिनिमम क्वालिफिकेशनस असूनहि त्यांना नोकरीची संधि मिळत नाही. व्हर्नाक्युलर फायनलपर्यंतचे शिक्षण शिक्षकाच्या जागेला पुरेसे नाही असेहि म्हणता येणार नाही, कारण इंग्रजांच्या काळात व्हर्नाक्युलर फायनल पास होऊन शिक्षक म्हणून ज. सी. के. लागलेले आहेत ते उत्तम शिक्षक म्हणून आज काम करीत आहेत.

श्री. व. एस. पार्से : This has nothing to do with the Public Service Commission, and it is not within the purview of the Commission.

The CHAIRMAN : I am sorry the hon. Member has not followed my point. There are certain limitations while discussing this report. The Public Service Commission has nothing to do with it. We should discuss the working

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of the Public Service Commission as contained in the report. There are other occasions, like Budget discussion, etc., when we can discuss about the point the hon. Member desires to raise, but not now on an occasion like the present when we are discussing a report of the Public Service Commission.

Shri K. R. PATIL : With due respect to the decision of the Chair, in my humble opinion, I have been gagged by the Chair.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : It is an insult to the Chair to say that the hon. Member has been gagged by the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN : I have been giving all reasonable concessions to all hon. Members. But, the hon. Member is going out of the purview of the discussion and, therefore, I have to intervene. I do not think it is advisable to take it in that light.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Whether the hon. Member can say that he has been gagged by the Chair?

Shri V. S. DONGRE : I am sorry, I have to say something, Sir. As soon as the Chair gave some ruling, has the hon. Member the right to question the decision of the Chair?

The CHAIRMAN : It is the concern of the Chair.

Shri K. R. PATIL : With due respect to the Chair, I did not mean to insult the Chair.

Shri D. H. SAHASRABUDDHE (Vidarbha—Teachers) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the report of the Public Service Commission makes a sad reading, not because Government failed to refer to the Public Service Commission a very large number of cases in time and the Public Service Commission had to point out to Government that it did not refer certain cases to them, not because the Public Service Commission had also to point out to Government time and again that they should send all complete records of such cases as were referred to them, but because, out of so many posts advertised, the Public Service Commission could not make a suitable recommendation in a large number of cases, and also could not supply adequate personnel. In certain cases the personnel fell far short of the required number.

Then about competitive examinations which were held, it has been said that the candidates could not express themselves in English. I wish to point out to the House that it is not the fault of the candidates who appeared for the examinations. In the educational sphere there is a great deal of confusion regarding the language that is being taught and the language that will be recognised hereafter. We are discussing this question here and elsewhere and it is not clear in the mind of the youth as to which language they should try to study and master. It will thus be seen that we are training all these children and young men of our country without giving them any clear idea as to which

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language they should master. I should like to say that Government should make up its mind and specify clearly the language in which the students have to be proficient and I am sure that, within a short time, our young men will be able to come up to the efficiency that is required of them. This confusion should end as soon as possible to enable our youngmen to show their merits.

Secondly, I wish to point out that in a large number of cases,—at least 91 such cases have been reported from pages 20 to 35 of the Report—the Public Service Commission could not recommend persons because they did not have adequate qualifications. One can understand the tremendous harm done to those institutions which are manned by such persons. Inefficient persons who man those institutions cause great harm to society and we find many of the technical institutions also working with persons who have not got adequate qualifications. When, therefore, the Indian Planning Commission tried to industrialise the country, the first thing that ought to have been done was to find out qualified personnel and to give them adequate facilities for training. That has not been done, and I would say that the cart was put before the horse. It is, therefore, that we do not find adequate qualified personnel. This is a question which cannot simply be answered by stating that there are at present a large number of institutions, viz. Polytechnic and Engineering Colleges, etc. which being out every year a large number of technical personnel. I find that greater stress is being laid on quantity, that is the number of youngmen coming out of these institutions, than on the quality. In our Indian life there is, at present, a struggle going on between quality and quantity and much stress is being laid on quantity. I for one, in the context of the Public Service Commission's Report, would say that we should try to lay greater stress on quality. Secondly, I would like to suggest that, in order to do away with this kind of dearth of adequate qualified persons, Government should try to see that all such posts which are lying vacant for a number of years for want of qualified hands, should be largely advertised especially among the youth organisations in this country. If young persons and college students know that, in particular lines, persons with adequate qualifications are not forthcoming, then it is likely that they will try to qualify themselves for those lines. This is one of the suggestions which I would like to make with all the strength at my command. With these words, I resume my seat.

6-00 p.m.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra Teachers) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Report of the Bombay Public Service Commission gives us some idea about the way in which recruitment to the services in the State is being done and I am pleased to note that the Commission has done its work in a spirit of independence. Commissions like these are instruments in the machinery of democracy, so that the employment of persons to the services may be made without any fear or favour; it should be done with a certain amount of freedom. The people need not be obliged to please the authorities in power in order to get any employment. From this point of view, institutions like these are of great importance to democracy and one is

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pleased to note that the spirit of independence with which such a Commission should report has been observed by the Bombay Public Service Commission also. This will be seen from the frankness and outspokenness with which the Commission has taken to task some of the Departments of Government which had failed to observe the procedure and regulations with regard to the appointments of some persons and the submission of some information to the Commission. So far as I remember, this is the first time during the last 6 years when we are discussing a report of the Public Service Commission. I do not know as to why, during the last 6 years, such reports were not brought before this House. Perhaps some such report might have come before this House in the past also, but at any rate I am not aware of that and so far as my knowledge goes, I think that every year such a report has not been brought before this House and I am speaking for the first time on such a Report. So some explanation is due to the House as to why every year such a report is not brought before the House.

Coming to some of points referred to in the Report, I shall refer to page 4 of the Report where the Commission says in the middle of the page, in item (iv) as follows :

‘The response to the advertisements for the following posts was very poor’.

and then names of some posts are mentioned. Looking to the nature of these posts, the reasons for the poor response will be perfectly clear. These posts are : The Chief Engineer (Electrical), Koyna ; the lecturer in Physical Metallurgy ; the Lecturer in Electronic Engineering ; the Lecturer in Civil Engineering ; the Lecturer in Electrical Engineering ; and the Assistant Director, Department of Virus Diseases including Rabies, Haffkine Institute. It would be found that, out of the six posts, five are in the field of education. The technically trained persons are required to fill in the posts of lecturers or teachers in different colleges and institutions and it has not been possible for the Commission to get a sufficiently large number of applications to enable them to select the best people. The reason, to my mind is, not that there are not sufficient number of technically trained persons but they are unwilling to go in the educational line. They are more in demand in the industrial field and the emoluments offered by the industrialists are far greater and far more sumptuous than those offered by the Education Department of Government. Therefore, it is for Government to consider whether it is necessary and desirable to raise the salary and the emoluments of these teachers and lecturers in the technical lines so that really efficient people would be available. In fact, the Government will have to compete with the existing industries in order to get the best type of people.

Then, Sir, on page 6 of the Report, there is a reference to the recruitment of candidates from the backward classes. There is a big paragraph there running over half of page No. 6 and half on page No. 7 and the sum and substance of the whole para. is that, in spite of the fact that a certain number of posts have been reserved for the backward class people, it has not been possible for these candidates to come up to the expectations of the Commission. It is a very

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sad thing and one gets disappointed after reading this. It is a bad luck for the backward class people. It is the duty of Government and of society as a whole to see that the backward class people progress and they get the best posts in the society. Government is trying its best to educate these classes by offering them scholarships for education in the primary, secondary and higher stages but in spite of that it has not been possible for these candidates to come up to the standard expected of them. I think that this particular result of the competitive examinations should be made known to the backward class students in hostels and wherever they might be learning, so that it may be possible for the future aspirants to know why the other candidates were not accepted. Also, if they want to compete for any examination they may know, how they can prepare themselves best for the examinations and be admitted to the services. Here I would like to say a word to the leaders of the backward class communities. They should try to impress on the minds of their younger generation that the facilities, the concessions and the other things that Government and the society is offering to them would be only for a certain period and it is their duty to make best of these opportunities and put in their best efforts. All these concessions and facilities are not given to them in order that they should remain backward in their standard and that their standard in education should always remain lower but the object is that they should stand equally well in competition with others. It is for the Government and the society to give them some opportunities and it is in the hands of the younger generation of the backward classes to make best use of these opportunities and come up to the standard in the different subjects and faculties in which they are studying. From this point of view, it is necessary that the conclusions and findings of the Commission are made known to the Directors of the Backward Class Department and other departments which are concerned with the welfare, education and uplift of the Scheduled and Backward Classes.

On pages 9 and 10 of the report, a reference has been made to some of the procedural irregularities. We find that every Department has one or two cases of a similar character and the Commission has made a reference to them with frankness. I hope that Government will warn these Departments that, as far as possible, not a single case of procedural irregularity occurs, so that the report of the Public Service Commission next time makes a very good reading.

Then, Sir, I come to the reports on examinations on pages 40 and 41 of the report. Several hon. Members who spoke before me have made a reference to the failures of students in English and the criticism that the Commission has made with regard to the standard of English of these students. This is a question which intimately concerns the language that is used in the administration, and the policy of Government and the Education Department with regard to the teaching of English. As I have said several times in this connection, Government has placed the cart before the horse. It ought to have changed the language of the administration first and then made a change in the language of teaching ; instead of that, the language of the administration gives importance to English, and, therefore, the Public Service Commission,

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in their competitive examinations, have attached importance to English. It is not their fault, because they know that all these officers and others will be called upon to carry on their work in English, and if they have to select the best, they have to see that the selected candidates are up to the mark in English. It is not the Public Service Commission at fault but it is Government which is at fault because it has not made up its mind in this respect and the language of the administration and the language of teaching are not going hand in hand. This, therefore, is the result of maladjustment. Government has two minds in this respect and that is why this has occurred.

If we refer to paragraph (2) on page 40 with regard to general knowledge, it will be found that the Commission has some good points to speak about the students. They say that the standard of the students, as far as general knowledge is concerned, is satisfactory. They may not be able to express themselves properly in English, but the possession of knowledge is there. The Commission says—"The answers showed that, though the candidates were not deficient in general knowledge,....." which shows that they were sufficient in general knowledge, ".....they were not able to express themselves correctly," and that is the fault of English teaching. Similarly, at page 41, under "General Knowledge" it has been mentioned that the answers given by a majority of the candidates reflected a high degree of competence. Now, general knowledge reflects the general education of the students, and from this point of view the general conclusion that can be drawn is that, as far as general knowledge is concerned, the general reading of the students is concerned it is satisfactory, but as far as expression through English is concerned, it is not satisfactory because it has not been possible for them to give sufficient time to this subject during their scholastic career.

Then, Sir, if we go down to the other remarks, viz. translation from Marathi into English and *vice versa* and translation from Gujarati into English and *vice versa*, it will be found that, as far as translation of an English passage into Marathi and Gujarati was concerned, the students were up to the mark, but when it came to translation of Marathi and Gujarati passage into English, the students fumbled. It is really not possible for them to come up to the mark.

I would point out, in this connection, the comment on the translation from Urdu into English and *vice versa*. It is said there, "The answers were generally satisfactory." I do not know how only Urdu students were satisfactory with regard to translation either from Urdu into English or from English into Urdu. It arouses one's curiosity as to how it is so, because, so far as translations from Marathi, Gujarati, Kanada and Hindi into English and *vice versa* were concerned, the students were found to be deficient, whereas in the case of translations from Urdu into English and *vice versa*, the students were found to be up to the mark. I do not know whether the Urdu schools pay special attention to translation of passages into English. Any way, that remark of the Commission causes some surprise and arouses some sort of curiosity, as to the nature of the examiner and the nature of the examination, not that I doubt the honesty of the examiners. I am merely expressing my curiosity.

[Dr. G. S. Khair]

In passing, I would just like to enquire as to how far the plan of Government with regard to the establishment of an institution for imparting training in administration has progressed and what kind of product is expected from such an institution.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH (Minister for Labour and Law): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member Dr. Khair expressed surprise as to why this report comes for discussion only this time article 323(2) of the Constitution lays down—

".....the Governor shall, on receipt of such report, cause a copy thereof together with a memorandum explaining, as respects the cases, if any, where the advice of the Commission was not accepted, the reasons for such non-acceptance to be laid before the Legislature of the State."

Therefore, ever since the Constitution came into operation, the report of the Public Service Commission has to be laid before the Legislature of the State, and it has been, in fact, laid before the House. The misfortune is that the House did not take notice of the report presented every year. The omission, if at all, is, therefore, due to the fact that the House did not take notice of the report, not that the report was not presented.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR: But it did not come up for discussion and was not included in the agenda before.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: As to the inclusion of this item in the agenda, Government is not responsible. It is the Legislature Department that sees to this matter, and if it is not included in the agenda, it is for the Members to press for it. Any way, all that I can say is that Government is not responsible for it.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR: Is it not a fact that the report is being discussed in this House for the first time?

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: It may be so, but that is because the House was not pleased to do so earlier.

It is true that the employers in the private sector do in some cases, pay and can afford to pay higher salaries, and, therefore, a certain type of candidates is attracted to private service, but Government service has its own compensations. Moreover, if we are to raise the salaries of employees it will be a question of raising the total administrative expenditure of the State. Shall we raise the salaries in the case of technical teachers in engineering colleges, polytechnics or technical schools? If we do so in the case of engineering colleges, shall we not have to raise the salary of a person with similar qualifications who is working as an Engineer in the Public Works Department? If we raise the salary of a doctor in the Medical College, shall we not have to raise the corresponding salary in the civil medical service also? And if we are to raise the salaries of persons in the Public Works Department and of the doctors,

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who join the Medical Colleges, why not raise the salaries of the other graduates? It is, therefore, a matter which will entail very heavy expenditure upon Government. All that one can, therefore, say is that time alone can work it out. In course of time more and more people will come out of the present institutions and the need will be satisfied. It is true that Government is not able to get the best and we are short of funds, but I do not see any short cut to these difficulties.

The hon. Member Shri Patil made a remark which was factually wrong. He said that persons with residential qualifications were not taken. I do not know what made him say so. All that I can say is that he has made a remark without any factual basis. The hon. Member Shri Sahasrabudhe said that Government has put the cart before the horse and we must have trained the teachers before having trained men. I should like to know as to who must have trained the first graduate who passed in the University. The first man who passed must have been by one, who was not a graduate. It is a question of hen and the egg. The first post-graduate has been given instruction by somebody who is not a post-graduate. If one can produce post-graduate teachers from the very beginning it would be a very happy thing, but it cannot be done.

The rest of the remarks of the hon. Member Shri Patil are irrelevant and I do not think that I should take the time of the House by referring to them. The hon. Member and the hon. Member Shri Sahasrabudhe are both new to the House and I would only suggest that in future, whenever a report or an item is being discussed, it is better to be relevant and discuss the issue because, in course of time, every issue comes before the House. That is why I am saying that the hon. Members were going a little beyond the point, which may be for given in the beginning, and I hope it will not occur again.

The hon. Member Dr. Khair and some other hon. Members referred to the language question. I do not think that this is the proper occasion to take the time of the House in discussing the implications and policy of Government about this.

I shall now come to the point raised by some hon. Members about the backward classes. As mentioned in the report, Government has not only laid down a percentage but it has also stated that even when a proper percentage has been laid down candidates belonging to backward classes should be given preference. On page 6 of the Report the relevant sentence reads as follows—“Even when there was no outright reservation the Commission was generally asked to give preference to candidates belonging to the backward classes.” This is apart from the reservations. It is true that backward class persons have little of their own to fall back upon. It will take time and Government is trying to give them as much encouragement and as many facilities both in regard to the percentage of marks to be obtained and in the matter of age, but a certain standard of efficiency has got to be maintained.

[Shri Shantilal H. Shah]

There was a suggestion based on the report of the Public Service Commission by the hon. Member Shri Agarwal. As to his suggestion that we should issue a directive to the Public Service Commission against English language, it is beyond our powers. Nor have we the right to issue directives to the Public Service Commission. If the hon. Member will read the Chapters in the Constitution about the official language, he will be able to know the rights of the High Court and how the Bills have to be drafted and in what language. The hon. Member should seek within the Constitution to do as much as we can. Therefore, giving a directive to the Public Service Commission is out of question. As regards the Union Public Service Commission, its members and their manners and their likes and dislikes are not before this House and I cannot say anything about them. Perhaps the hon. Member Shri Agarwal will say what will be good manners. It will not be fair for me to say anything about them.

The other point that was referred to by some hon. Members is that all relevant documents were not sent in all the cases of disciplinary action and the cases where Public Service Commission has said that reports were not made to them in time. It is true that, in some cases, all the relevant documents were not sent and mistakes have happened. The 8 cases which are referred to relate to services and posts under the Government of Bombay. There the Commission has said :—

“The Commission are glad to record that the rules and orders relating to references of the Commission were generally observed by the Secretariat Departments. Procedural irregularities and delays in making references to the Commission continued to occur”.

Therefore, Sir, Government must content itself by saying that the rules are generally observed. In cases of appointments which are for less than a year, hundreds of appointments are made and in all those appointments it is impossible to foresee whether the appointment will last for more than one year. As soon as Government knows that an appointment is likely to last for more than a year, a reference ought to be made. In such cases 8 mistakes have been committed. I do not consider that this is a bad record. I wish that no mistake should happen, but I will not make any promise. The Secretariat officers who are working there are as much human as we are. In this hon. House we do not know what is relevant. If the Officers make a mistake, is it not a human mistake? Eight mistakes in the course of the whole year is not a bad record. I can promise that hereafter a mistake will not occur only assuming that the secretariat staff is super-human, which it is not. Let us try to improve. If 8 becomes nil, Government will be happy. We have a system whereby every Department has been asked to maintain records of cases where temporary appointments are made which will not continue for more than a year. As soon as it is found that the appointment is to last for more than a year, the person in charge has got to notify it for further action. As I mentioned, there are hundreds of cases. In hundreds of cases 8 cases were overlooked. I have got the explanations of each Department regarding each case. In some cases it was beyond their control. In one case a reference

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was made to the Public Service Commission to find a new competent man and a new competent man was not available. Therefore, they are asked to re-advertise. Therefore the clerk or officer finds that, as soon as they are asked to find another man within a year, is it possible to do it. As I said, these are mistakes which are human.

On the whole, I am glad that the hon. Members of this House have taken interest in this report and have agreed that there has not been a single case reported by the Public Service Commission where the Commission's advice has not been accepted by Government. The test laid down by the Constitution is that in cases where the Commission's recommendations have not been accepted, Government should place before the House a statement as to why Government has not accepted the recommendations. But there is not a single case where the Commission's recommendation has not been accepted. Bombay Government can say that, between them and the Public Service Commission, they have been able to carry out all the recommendations of the Public Service Commission. That is a matter for satisfaction.

(The House was adjourned at 6-30 p.m. till 3-00 p.m. on Friday,
the 28th March 1958.)

Friday, the 28th March, 1958

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 3-00 p.m., on Friday, the 28th March, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(For Questions—see Part I)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- (1) Shri Maganbhai P. Desai, and
- (2) Shri C. N. Bhadlawala.

The CHAIRMAN: I have received two leave applications. One application is from the hon. Member Shri Maganbhai P. Desai. He is unable to attend the session and he has asked for leave of the House. The second application is from the hon. Member Shri C. N. Bhadlawala. He is engaged in some business and is unable to attend the session and he has asked for leave of the House. Have they got the leave of the House? (After a pause) The leave is granted.

PRESENTATION OF FINANCE ACCOUNTS FOR 1955-56 AND THE AUDIT REPORT, 1956, OF THE FORMER GOVERNMENT OF HYDERABAD

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance): Sir, I beg to present to the House Finance Accounts for 1955-56 and the Audit Report, 1956, of the former Government of Hyderabad.

The CHAIRMAN: The Finance Accounts for the year 1955-56 and the Audit Report for 1956 of the former Government of Hyderabad are presented to the House.

L. A. BILL No. XXV OF 1958 (A BILL TO AUTHORISE PAYMENT AND APPROPRIATION OF CERTAIN SUMS FROM AND OUT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FUND OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY TO THE SERVICE OF THE YEAR ENDING ON THE THIRTY-FIRST DAY OF MARCH 1959)

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance): Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXV of 1958 (A Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Bombay to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March 1959), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 28th March, 1958, be taken into consideration.

While doing so, I may inform the House that, in exercise of the power conferred upon him by clause (1) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay has been pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay Appropriation Bill, 1958.

Question proposed.

(G.O.P.) मो-ब हब 1165-1

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

As regards the School Health Service, I am sure that, in course of time, it will be extended, but we must realise that, in all these extensions, we should have certain priorities. It is not possible to carry out everything necessary at the same time in all parts of the State. I can assure the hon. Member that this is a matter which is dear to the heart of Government, and whenever it is possible, the School Health Service will be extended.

As regards the location of the site for a hostel for M.L.As. and M.L.Cs., which the hon. Member Shri Agarwal referred to, I may mention that the hostel is situated in the best part of the City. He said that it was situated in a slum area.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL : I said that it should be on the sea-face.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : That is a different matter. What I understood was that, since it was surrounded by commercial buildings, one might call it a slum area.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL : No, not that way.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : The hon. Member forgets that, on one side of it will be the great Secretariat. Evidently he thinks of commercial houses coming in his way. I think the hon. Member was, once upon a time, keen that it should be as near the Sachivalaya as possible and also that it should be at a place which would be convenient to the hon. Members to attend this House. However, the site has been selected, well designed and approved by both the Houses of the Legislature. I wish the hon. Member had raised this question at the time the relevant item was included in the Budget Estimates. He did not raise his voice, then. One sometimes becomes wiser after the event.

Then, Sir, the hon. Member Shri Subhedar referred to the question of a Milk Colony at Vidarbha. I quite sympathise with him that Nagpur has not got a Milk Colony. One must realise that, simply because Vidarbha or Saurashtra or Marathwada or Cutch have merged with the State of Bombay or formed a part of the new Bombay State, it would mean that, just like Allaudin's lamp, everything would be provided for these places in the course of a day. That is not possible. But Vidarbha was not forgotten by Government, I should like him to know. The Department had made a proposal for a milk colony there. We had progressed some distance, but the great difficulty of foreign exchange came in our way. If the hon. Member can find some foreign exchange, then Government will take up the idea of having a Milk Colony not only at Vidarbha but even one at Ahmedabad. The hon. Member need not have a wrong notion that everything is going wrong by the association of the different areas with the new State of Bombay.

Lastly, Sir, a question was raised by the hon. Member Shri Chhabildas Mehta about the mills in Saurashtra. If any of the mills wants to stop working, Government cannot help it. Government can take over a mill only if it goes into liquidation. The Narsinghirji Mill was taken up by Government through

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

the liquidator. That was the only mill which Government was in a position to take up; otherwise, Government cannot run a mill. Any now, the mill-owners in Saurashtra will be sufficiently keen to see that the mills over there do not go into liquidation. If the hon. Member is prepared to persuade them to go into that state, then it is a different matter.

Shri CHHABILDAS P. MEHTA : I am not prepared to do so.

The CHAIRMAN : Rather force them to do it ! (laughter)

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Then, Sir, as regards subsidy for pumps for agricultural purposes, Government has already taken up that question and that subsidy will be continued.

I think that these were the only points that were raised and I hope the House will agree to the consideration of this Bill.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : The House will now consider the clauses of the Bill and the Schedule. (After a pause) The Bill will be returned to the Assembly with the message that the House has no recommendations to make.

The business before the House is over. The House will now adjourn and meet again on Monday, the 14th April, 1958, at 2-00 p.m.

The House was adjourned at 3-28 p.m. till 2-00 p.m. on Monday, the 14th April 1958.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE (Maharashtra—Graduates) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to offer a few remarks on the Bill which is now before the House. We have already had an opportunity of discussing the Budget in detail. But this Bill gives us one more opportunity for the purpose, howsoever limited the scope, and I want to emphasise two points for the consideration of the House.

I wish to re-emphasise our demand for the introduction of English from the fifth standard in the Marathi-speaking areas especially, or at least, its teaching should be permitted on a voluntary basis. We feel very strongly on this point, and, therefore, I take this opportunity to lodge our emphatic protest against the present policy of not giving permission to those schools in the Marathi-speaking areas that want to teach English from the fifth standard.

The second point that I wish to raise before the House is about the school health service. During the course of the general discussion on the Budget, it was noted that School Health Service would be continued in the Marathwada area. I would, therefore, emphasise that the service should be introduced in the whole of the State. I may inform the House that I have read in a report of March 4 that the Kerala Government has proposed to introduce the system of medical inspection and the follow-up medical care for school children on the lines of the recommendations of the Secondary Education Committee. I wanted to bring this point to the notice of the House.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL (Maharashtra South—Local Authorities) : Sir, I would like to refer to demand No. 51 regarding Civil Works. At the time of the general discussion of the Budget, I forgot to bring to the notice of Government my view that the selection of the site to build hostel accommodation for Members of the Legislature behind the Sachivalaya in Bombay is not a happy one. It is encircled by all sorts of commercial buildings like the Mafatlale House, the K. C. College etc. The work has not yet started, and it would be better if Government selects another and a better site, facing sea-face. It would have been better if Government had taken into confidence the Members of the Legislature who stay in hostels here and consulted their opinion in the matter. There is so much open space near the sea-face. It is neglected and not so far put to any use. Therefore, instead of having the hostel in a congested area, it would be better if the building, which would cost a huge amount, is located at a place facing sea.

श्री. व्ही. एम्. सुभेदार (विदर्भ—ग्रॅज्युएट्स) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, ह्या बिलामध्ये ५४ नंबरची जी मागणी आहे तिच्यासंबंधी मला थाडेसें बोलावयाचे आहे. मिल्क स्कीमसाठी यात जी तरतुद करण्यांत आली आहे त्या बाबतीत मला असे म्हणावयाचे आहे की, मुंबईला आरे मिल्क कॉलनी काढल्यामुळे मुंबईतील जनतेची दूध पुरवठ्याच्या बाबतीत पुढीलच सोय झाली आहे यात शंका नाही, पण आतां हें राज्य वाढलेलें असल्यामुळे जे बराठवाडा, विदर्भ, सोराष्ट्र व कच्छ हे विभाग ह्या राज्यांत आले आहेत त्यांच्यासाठीहि अर्थात आवश्यक आहे. ह्या नवीन विभागांमध्ये मुंबई एवढी मोठी नसली तरी मोठाली शहरं आहेत व तेथें दूध पुरवठा योग्य प्रकारें होत नाही. उदाहरणार्थ, विदर्भात नागपूर हें एक मोठें शहर असून कालपर्यंत तें एक राजधानीचें शहर होतें. मुंबई शहराची लोकसंख्या वाढली असल्यामुळे त्या शहराचा दूध पुरवठ्याचा प्रश्न सोडविण्याच्या दृष्टीने

[श्री. व्ही. एम्. सुभेदार]

आरे कॉलनीशिवाय दुसरी एक जोड स्कीम काढणे आवश्यक आहे ही गोष्ट खरी आहे व त्या बाबत मला काही म्हणावयाचे नाही. पण ही सोय मुंबई शहरासाठी करीत असतांना नागपूरसारख्या मोठ्या शहराला दूधपुरवठा करण्यासाठी आरे कॉलनीच्या धर्तीवरच एकादी स्कीम काढण्यासाठी ह्या वर्षीच्या बजेटमध्येच तरतुद करण्यांत आली असती तर फार चांगलें झालें असतें. अशी तरतुद ह्या वर्षी करण्यांत आली नसली तरी निदान पुढच्या वर्षी तरी विदर्भाय जनतेची दूधपुरवठ्याची ही गरज लक्षांत घेऊन सरकारने तेथेंहि अशीच एकादी दूध कॉलनी काढण्याचा विचार केला पाहिजे. नागपूरवरील जमरावती, जकोला यांसारख्या शहरांत दूधपुरवठा योजनेची अत्यंत आवश्यकता व्यक्त आहे. आम्हीं जेव्हां नव्या मुंबई राज्यांत सामील झालीं त्या वेळीं आमच्या भागातील जनतेची अशी कल्पना होती की, मुंबई राज्यांत ज्या ज्या प्रगतिशील गोष्टी आहेत त्या सर्वांचा फायदा मिळेल, पण प्रत्यक्ष परिस्थिति मात्र अशी आहे की, फायदा मिळण्या-एवजी, ह्या राज्यांत सामील झाल्यापासून विदर्भाय जनतेवर नवीन नवीन कर मात्र बसविण्यांत येत आहेत, पण त्या मानाने फायदे मात्र मिळत नाहीत. तेव्हां ही परिस्थिति बदलण्याच्या दृष्टीने ह्या वेळीं जमलें नाहीं तरी पुढच्या वर्षीच्या बजेटमध्ये तरी विदर्भासाठी एकाद्या दूध पुरवठा योजनेची तरतुद करण्यांत यावी असें मला म्हणावयाचें आहे. नागपूर शहराच्या दूधपुरवठ्याच्या बाबतीत सरकारने शक्य तों लोकर लक्ष घातें अशी तेथील जनतेची मागणी आहे व ती सरकारने शक्य तितक्या लोकर पुरी करण्याचा प्रयत्न करावा, एवढें सांगून मी रजा घेतों.

The CHAIRMAN : I may point out that, under the rules, only the principles of the Bill are to be discussed, and not the details.

श्री. छत्रीदास भी. भंडार (सोराष्ट्र—बोका ओशरीटील) : माननीय सभापति, श्रीमान १६ अंशे वुं थोडुं कडेना मागुं छुं. सोराष्ट्रनी अंशर आले ओवा धम्रां कडेमानाओ छुं. ते कडेना पड्या छुं. तेमके धोवा भांडुं कडेमानुं तेमका अंशर भेटन मिळ आले अंध कडेना छुं. छेकार अनेबा बोकोने शेलगारीनी तक पुनी पाडवा माटे सरकारने तेन सोबापुशनी दखिनादिक मिळ पोताना छथमां वीथी ओम सोराष्ट्र माटे पलु सडकारी धोरले मिळ उनी कडेना किर्नि छे छुं.

बीजुं, सोराष्ट्रमां ओश्रीकथरने माटे ते छेड्छूक भोटशे वापरवामां आवती ओने शीरां सरकार तरड्छी सभसीडी आपवामां आवती छती. आ सभसीडी हवे नंध करवा माटे सरकारे दुकम क्यो छे. आ दुकम तांकाविक पाछे जेथीने जेथीने ते सभसीडी अत्यारमुधी आपवामां आवती छती ते आबु सभवा माटे सरकार विचारला करे ओवी भारी विनंती छे.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I should like to deal with the few questions which had been raised by the hon. Members opposite one by one.

The hon. Member Dr. Sathaye referred to the teaching of English only in Maharashtra, as if he was keen on partitioning the State. So far as the teaching of English is concerned, that matter was thoroughly discussed in the Assembly down below as also here and a decision was arrived at in full consultation with all the Members of both the Houses. However, the matter is always open to discussion and even at the present moment it is being discussed in Delhi. We too have taken the advice of experts in this matter, and, at the present moment, it has been decided that we should continue with the existing arrangement.

Monday, the 14th April, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m. on Monday, the 14th April, 1958. The Deputy Chairman, Kumari JETHI T. SIPAHIMALANI, presided.

(For Questions—See Part I.)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE—(1) Dr. K. A. HAMIED, (2) Shri G. D. AMBEKAR

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have before me two leave applications. One is from the hon. Member Dr. K. A. Hamied who has proceeded to Europe for about 4 months and he has asked for leave from this hon. House. The other hon. Member is Shri G. D. Ambekar. He had also gone to attend one Conference and there he has fallen ill and has been admitted into a hospital. So he has written a letter saying that he will not be able to attend the Session for about 4 months. Has the House any objection to the leave being granted to any of these hon. Members? *(After a pause)*. The leave is granted to both the hon. Members.

L. A. BILL No. VII OF 1958 (A BILL TO FIX THE LIMIT UP TO WHICH THE EXECUTIVE POWER OF THE STATE SHALL EXTEND TO THE GIVING OF GUARANTEES)

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH (Minister for Labour and Law): Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. VII of 1958 (A Bill to fix the limit up to which the executive power of the State shall extend to the giving of guarantee), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 28th March 1958, be taken into consideration.

I may also mention that in exercise of the powers conferred on him by clauses (1) and (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay has been pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of this Bill.

Question proposed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Madam Chairman, under Article 293 of the Constitution of India, the State Legislature has power to fix the amount up to which the State can give guarantee which shall be a charge on the Consolidated Fund of the State. The figure was Rs. 30 crores up to now. But that Act has lapsed and on the reorganisation of the new State it is necessary to fix another figure and pass a legislation in that respect. Now we have fixed the higher figure of Rs. 50 crores as the limit as required by Article 293 of the Constitution of India. I commend the Bill for the acceptance of the House.

(G.C.P.) MO-B Hb 1167—1

Shri M. V. DONDE (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers) : On a point of information, Madam. The limit has been raised from Rs. 30 crores to Rs. 50 crores. I would like to know the basis on which this figure has been fixed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : It is an *ad hoc* figure.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : As there are no recommendations by this House, the Bill will be returned to the Assembly with a message that this House has no recommendations to make with regard to this Bill.

L. A. BILL No. III OF 1958 (A BILL TO AMEND THE BOMBAY MINISTERS' SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES ACT, 1956).

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Madam Chairman, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. III of 1958 (A Bill to amend the Bombay Ministers' Salaries and Allowances Act, 1956), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 28th March 1958.

While doing so, I may mention that in exercise of the powers conferred on him by clause (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay has been pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of this Bill.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. III of 1958 is introduced.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. III of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Madam Chairman, the original Bill which fixes the salaries and allowances of the Hon. Ministers and Deputy Ministers contains a provision about conveyance. In the case of the Ministers they are given a car at the expense of the State. But there is no similar provision for the Deputy Ministers. It is, therefore, proposed to amend the Act to enable the State Government to give a loan to the Deputy Ministers who wish to buy a car of their own. Then, loan will be given on the same terms on which loans are given to Government officers and the car purchased will be a security for the money advanced. That is the purpose of this Bill.

Dr. D. D. KARVE (Maharashtra—Graduates) : Madam Chairman, I wish to oppose the consideration of this Bill, because, I think, it runs counter to the very fundamental principles of parliamentary democracy. The Ministers and Deputy Ministers hold office on two conditions, one is that they enjoy the confidence of the Legislature and the other is that, in the case of Ministers and Deputy Ministers, they also enjoy the confidence of the Chief Minister.

[Dr. D. D. Karve]

We have had occasions, I suppose not in this State but elsewhere, of Ministers or Deputy Ministers being asked to resign when they had differences of opinion on certain fundamental principles. Now, if a Deputy Minister takes a loan of an amount up to Rs. 10,000 considering the salary and allowances that he gets, I think this entanglement with Government will certainly deprive him of the liberty that he should enjoy of sticking to his opinion and when the difference of opinion continues between himself and the Cabinet or the Legislature he will have to submit his resignation. Now, if you make a very simple calculation, normally if the Deputy Minister is appointed right at the beginning on the formation of the Cabinet, he will have five years of office. If the recovery of the amount is spread over five years together with interest, it would mean that he will be paying roughly Rs. 200 per month. Specifically after a year or so, if a Deputy Minister finds that on a certain principle he differs from the official policy, it will be very difficult for him to submit his resignation and maintain his independence. We have had in the Bombay Government during the last Legislature, I think, the case of a Deputy Minister who resigned from Government on account of the difference of opinion which he had with the Cabinet on the question of the bilingual Bombay State. If that Minister or Deputy Minister was owing to Government a few thousand rupees, naturally he will think twice before he resigns. Perhaps he will not be able to resign at all. In Parliamentary democracy this kind of financial entanglement and financial help to the Deputy Minister is not correct and, therefore, I think Government should make some other provision for enabling Deputy Ministers to use cars. Either Government should maintain a few cars or hire them out to them, or place cars at their disposal or Government may pay some car allowance in addition to the conveyance allowance of Rs. 200 or may make some other arrangement enabling them to hire taxies or private cars. But advancing a loan of money is fundamentally wrong. The very fact that the conditions under which such loans are given to the Deputy Ministers are to be identical with those on which Government servants obtaining loans clearly shows that Government has not looked at this question from the proper perspective. After all Government servants are not concerned usually with policy matters. They are concerned with matters of execution and, therefore, the possibility of a Government servant wanting to resign on a question of principle is very small. I do not think that temporary Government servants are given loans for purchasing cars. Only permanent Government servants are given loans and there is a formal procedure for Government servants to be dismissed from service or for Government servants to resign. But here the Deputy Minister is there at the pleasure of the Chief Minister and the Legislature and, therefore, to place him under such financial obligations is, I think, wrong. I recall a case when the Montagu Chemsford Reforms were first brought in and specific rules in this connection were not made. I know a particular case of a Minister who borrowed quite a large sum for building a house. At that time there was no joint responsibility and naturally the particular Minister was more or less forced to sign on the dotted lines, because he was a Minister who was at the pleasure of the Governor and having taken a loan of such a large magnitude he had lost his independence of action.

[Dr. D. D. Karve]

I think, Sir, this Bill is wrong in principle and should not be accepted and that some other arrangement for enabling the Deputy Ministers to use cars for their official duties should be made. But this kind of giving loan is, in my opinion, entirely against the basic principles of parliamentary democracy which we have accepted in our Constitution. I hope that the House will report to the Assembly that they are not in favour of this Bill.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Madam Chairman, I have tried to follow the argument of the hon. Member and in spite of democracy being stressed by him, I must confess I have not been impressed by the arguments of the hon. Member. An example was given of a Minister in the old days who had borrowed a loan and was compelled to sign on dotted lines and could not show independence of action. That must be very derogatory to the Minister concerned and for those who took signature under compulsion. I can assure that how neither a Minister nor a Deputy Minister signs on dotted lines and there is no Government which can compel any Minister or Deputy Minister to sign on dotted lines. So that analogy is out of place. It was stated that if a Deputy Minister takes a loan he will sign on the dotted lines. Well, Sir, if he does not agree with the Cabinet colleagues, loan or no loan this position would not arise. The analogy of the hon. Member with regard to the set up in those days and the set up in democracy is out of place. In those days there was no Cabinet responsibility. In these days of democracy there is joint responsibility of the Cabinet. I am sure the House must have seen the circumstances then and now. In the present day set up, for example, in this case, we have come to the House for the approval of the Bill. In those days it was not necessary to go to the House. All these things come to the notice of the House and that is how democracy functions. Here is a House representing democracy. If the House thinks that a particular measure is necessary, it approves it. I do not know how it is not democracy. I can only say that it is our opinion that the Deputy Ministers in Bombay State should be given loans for the purchase of cars. The Ministers get free cars, but the Deputy Ministers should not be deprived of these facilities. *(Interruption.)* I do not see any reason why a Deputy Minister should not be given a car loan while the Minister can run a car, and resign, but the Deputy Minister cannot. I do not think that that analogy is correct. That is all I can say.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. III of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clause 2, Clause 1 and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. III of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. III of 1958 is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL No. V OF 1958 (A BILL TO EXTEND THE BOMBAY PLEADERS ACT, 1920, TO THE REST OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY, AND FURTHER TO AMEND THE SAME).

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Madam Chairman, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. V of 1958 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Pleadors Act, 1920, to the rest of the State of Bombay, and further to amend the same), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 28th March 1958.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Bill is introduced.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. V of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Madam Chairman, this is one of the measures for unifying legislation in the various areas of the State. This legislation covers the practising pleaders in courts in the Bombay State, except the High Court. As regards the practitioners in the High Court, under item 79 of the Union List in the Seventh Schedule, persons entitled to practice before the High Court are subject to legislative jurisdiction of the Parliament, and as to the persons who are to practise in courts other than the High Court, the State Legislature has jurisdiction. Therefore, the law which is now before the House does not touch the practitioners who practice in the High Court but touches the rest.

The position of the law up to now has been something like this: In the State of Bombay, the Legal Practitioners' Act, 1879, was in force, but it was only limited to four sections and those four sections were sections which referred to control and prevention of touting and the punishment to be meted out to those lawyers who tried to accept business through touts. As to the rest, we had in Bombay the Pleadors Act of 1920 which regulated the practitioners in the State, but outside the High Court, as already mentioned. In the Vidarbha and Hyderabad areas, the Legal Practitioners Act of 1879 was in force. In Saurashtra, the same Act, along with the High Court of Judicature Ordinance for the State of Saurashtra, 1948, is in force and in the Kutch area, the Kutch (Courts) Order, 1948, made under sections 3 and 4 of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1947, is in force. What is now intended to be done is to see that the Bombay Pleadors Act, 1920, is uniformly applied to pleaders practising all over the State. The main change would be in the case of Marathwada, or perhaps in the case of Saurashtra, Marathwada and Vidarbha. There are persons who are not graduates of law and yet they are allowed to practise there. In Saurashtra, the practitioners inherited certain rights and Mukhtars were allowed to practise in the various States, but certain other conditions were imposed. Other restrictions were laid down in Marathwada. In the time of the Nizam the condition of practice was not the possession of a degree of law and persons with various qualifications were allowed to practise. What is now proposed to be done is this: In the case of Marathwada, where the main change occurs and where persons who are not graduates in law are entitled to practise in the whole of the Marathwada area, this Act now requires

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that they shall confine themselves to a particular district or to a particular court. That is so in the rest of the State of Bombay also, but if, instead of one district they want to go to another district, almost as a matter of course, the High Court will give them a transfer of Sanad from one district to another. Therefore, in the case of Marathwada practitioners, their right to practise will hereafter, that is when this Act comes into force, be limited to such districts of their choice, but if they wish to change from one district to another, they will be at liberty to do so. If, when a practitioner practises in one district, for a stray case or two he wants to practise in another court, then the Court will normally grant him permission. The restrictions that are proposed to be imposed are embodied in clause 6(2) of the Bill. They relate to Mukhtars in the former State of Madhya Pradesh who have been admitted as pleaders under the rules framed by the former High Court of Nagpur under the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, then to pleaders of the III Grade admitted under the rules framed by the former Hyderabad High Court under the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, and Mukhtars of Class II admitted under the rules framed by the former Saurashtra High Court under the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, and the High Court of Judicature Ordinance for the State of Saurashtra.

It has also happened that, when certain States were merged in the State of Bombay, the Bombay High Court issued restricted Sanads. That was done in the case of Baroda State or Palanpur or various other States. There was a doubt raised as to whether the High Court had validly issued the Sanads, and it is, therefore, intended by the addition of clause 8A to clarify the position in this respect.

After this Bill is passed into law and when it comes into operation, a period of six months will be given to everybody to obtain new Sanads and, within that period, everybody must change over and obtain new Sanads. In respect of getting new Sanads, those who have paid an amount of Rs. 50 or more already will not be required to pay anything more, but those who have paid less than Rs. 50 will have to pay a fee which will bring the total of the fee already paid and the fee now to be paid to Rs. 50.

These, Madam, are the main provisions of the Bill. The other changes are minor ones and I do not think they need be brought to the notice of the House, except referring hon. Members to the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

I may also state, Madam, that this Bill has been drafted after consultation with the High Court of Bombay, and the provisions now incorporated by Government in this Bill have the approval of the High Court of Bombay.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Madam, Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. V of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 10, Short title and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. V of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. V of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. X OF 1958 (A BILL TO AMEND THE BOMBAY LEGISLATURE MEMBERS' SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES ACT, 1956.)

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Madam Chairman, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. X of 1958 (A Bill to amend the Bombay Legislature Members' Salaries and Allowances Act, 1956) as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 28th March, 1958.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. X of 1958 is introduced.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. X of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Madam Chairman, there has been a difference in practice as to the date from which a Member of the Assembly and also of the Council should draw his salary. Three dates are possible. One is the date on which immediately after the election, votes are counted and the Returning Officer declares a particular person as successful. That is under section 66 of the People's Representation Act. Another possible date is under section 73, where the names of all persons elected to the Assembly are published in the Gazette. The third possibility is the date on which the member takes his oath. There has been a difference in the practice in the various States in the country and the Auditor General of India has suggested that it would be desirable to have a uniform practice all over India. In this connection, we have to consider two things. First, the date must be so adjusted that two sets of members do not draw their salaries at the same time, particularly because the life of a State Assembly is limited by the Constitution to five years. Now, formally speaking, when general elections are held, the old Assembly continues to exist and do work till the new Assembly comes into existence. Therefore for purposes of drawing the salary, to take the date on which the count is held and the result declared by the Returning Officer will put the State to a loss. It would not be proper that two persons should simultaneously draw salary for one seat. Now, if we take the second possible date, namely, publication of the successful candidates names in the Gazette, it may create the same complications. Therefore, it has been suggested by the Auditor General of India that Members should draw their salary from the date on which they take their oath and not earlier. In the case of the present Members of the

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Assembly of this State, who began to draw their salary even before they took the oath of office, the Bill provides that the relevant provision in the Bill will apply to those who become members hereafter. Therefore, those who have become members heretofore, will be allowed to draw their salary.

A point was raised as to what will happen if the House is not sitting when a member is elected, and if he has to wait till the House meets to take his oath, will he lose his salary for the period. It will depend upon the member. Whether the House is in session or not, a Member can appear before the Speaker or the Chairman, as the case may be, and take the oath if he wishes to draw his salary immediately. He will begin to draw his salary from the day he takes his oath. His only possible loss would be his travelling allowance from his place to Bombay and back. That cannot be helped. That difficulty would arise normally in a by-election. Since we are trying to have uniformity all over India in this respect, I think that difficulty will not be minded. That is the purpose of this Bill, and I commend it for the acceptance of the House

Shri M. V. DONDE: Madam Chairman, the position, to my mind, is not quite clear, and I want further clarification on a point. The Hon. Minister has put before the House three contingencies, and he said there was a difficulty as to which date should be taken for the purpose. The first contingency is that the result of an election has to be declared by the Returning Officer; the second is that the name of the declared candidate should be gazetted, and the third contingency is that the member has to take oath either before the Chairman of the Council or the Speaker of the Assembly, as the case may be. Now, supposing the Chairman allows such a member to take oath before his name is gazetted. In such a case, is there any legal obligation on the Chairman, or for the matter of that on the Speaker, to see that the member should be allowed to take oath only after his name is gazetted? In other words, is the gazetting of the name a condition precedent for allowing such a member to take the oath? I think, therefore, there is some kind of lacuna in the provision. I would also seek clarification on the point as to what would happen if the Chairman—or on the Speaker—decides to allow a particular member to take his oath even if his name is not gazetted. I should like to know what will happen if such a thing happens.

श्री. अ. बी. मिश्र: माननीय स्पीकर किंवा चेअरमन हे सुटीच्या कारणामुळे किंवा जितर कोणत्याही कारणामुळे मुंबईला नसेल आणि अकादा सभासद शपथ घेण्यासाठी येथे आला तर काय व्यवस्था राहील याची तरतूद ह्या बिलांत करण्यांत आली आहे काय असे मला माहितीसाठी विचारावयाचे आहे. अशी तरतूद ह्या बिलांत नसेल तर ती करण्याचा सरकारचा विचार आहे काय?

श्री. बच्छराज अ. व्यास (विदर्भ स्नातक): उपसभापति महोदया, आज जो विधेयक इस सदन के सामने माननीय विधि मंत्री द्वारा प्रस्तुत किया गया है, उस पर मैं अपने कुछ विचार प्रदर्शित करना चाहता हूँ। जब कोई अम्मीदवार इस सदन में चुनकर आता है तब सदस्य के नाते शपथ लेना उसका कर्तव्य हो जाता है। यदि कोई सदस्य विधान

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सभा या विधान-परिषद् का अधिवेशन शुरू होने के पूर्व अध्यक्ष या सभापति के समक्ष शपथ लेना चाहे तो उसे ऐसी हालत में शासन की ओर से प्रवासभत्ता तथा अन्य भत्ते न दिये जायें जिस तरह की व्यवस्था इस विधेयक में की गई है। अब हमारे सामने भत्ते न दिये जायें इस तरह से शासन की ओर से प्रवास भत्ता तथा अन्य भत्ते न मुख्य प्रश्न यही है कि जिस तरह से शासन की ओर से प्रवास भत्ता तथा अन्य भत्ते दिये जाना न्याय तथा सुसंगत होगा या नहीं? माननीय सदस्य विधान-सभा या विधान-परिषद् के अधिवेशन के लिये आते हैं तब उन्हें फर्स्ट क्लास का रेल्वे का किराया दिया जाता है अतः ही नहीं लेकिन सदन द्वारा निर्मित किसी समिति के सदस्य के नाते वे यदि उस समिति की बैठक के लिये यहां आते हैं तो उन्हें प्रवास भत्ता तथा अन्य भत्ते दिये जाते हैं। चुनकर आया हुआ आदमी जबतक सदस्य के नाते शपथ-गृहण न करे तबतक उसे वेतन नहीं मिल सकता। कोई व्यक्ति चुनकर आने के बाद यदि तीन-चार माह तक विधान-सभा या विधान-परिषद् का अधिवेशन नहीं तो क्या किया जाय? यह हमारे सामने एक सवाल है। मैं समझता हूँ कि नूतन निर्वाचित सदस्य यदि अधिवेशन के पूर्व यहां आकर शपथ-गृहण करना चाहे तो उसके आने-जाने का तथा अन्य भत्ते, जिस तरह से दूसरे सदस्यों को दिये जाते हैं, वैसे ही उसे भी दिये जाना, न्यायसंगत होगा।

मैं समझता हूँ कि इस विधेयक के यहां प्रस्तुत करने के पूर्व इस सम्बन्ध में राज्य सरकारों तथा केन्द्र सरकार की भी राय ली गई होगी। माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने भाषण के दौरान में कहा कि इससे पूर्व जिन सदस्यों ने ऐसा प्रवास भत्ता या अन्य भत्ते लिये होंगे, शपथ-गृहण करने के पूर्व, वह रकम उनसे वसूल नहीं की जायेगी। पुराने सदस्यों से जिस तरह से रकम न ली जाकर सिर्फ नये सदस्यों से ही यह रकम लेना ठीक तथा न्यायसंगत न होगा। इसमें से कुछ न कुछ मार्ग निकालना शासन का कर्तव्य हो जाता है। मैं अम्मीद करता हूँ कि मैंने यहां पर जो सूचनाएं प्रस्तुत की हैं उसपर शासन गंभीरतापूर्वक विचार करने के पश्चात् इसमें से कुछ मार्ग निकालने की कोशिश करेगा इतना कहते हुए मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ।

श्री. अ. अ. काळे (विदर्भ—टीचर्स): अध्यक्ष बाजीसाहेब, मैं जें बिल सभागृहापुढें मांडण्यांत आलें आहे त्या बाबतीत माहिती मिळविण्याच्या दृष्टीने मला एक मुद्दा उपस्थित करावयाचा आहे. रिटर्निंग ऑफिसरने अकाद्या अमेदवाराचे नांव तो निवडून आला असे जाहीर केल्याबरोबर तो अमेदवार लग्ने दुसऱ्या गाडीने आपल्या गावाहून सभासदत्वाची शपथ घेण्यासाठी मुंबईला आला तर येथे जे कोणी अधिकारी असतील त्यांच्या जवळ शपथ घेण्यासंबंधीचे सर्व साहित्य तयार असेल काय? आणि तशी व्यवस्था असली तरी अशा रीतीने शपथ घेणे हे कायद्याच्या दृष्टीने योग्य ठरेल काय, ह्या बाबतीत मला नामदार मंत्र्यांकडून माहिती मिळाली तर बरे होईल.

Dr. D. D. KARVE: Madam Chairman, I have to point out only one difficulty. Of course in the case of the Council there is no question of dissolving the House but in the case of the Assembly, as we know, it is dissolved after the five years' term and then, if new elections are held and if the new hon. Members do not begin to draw their salary until they take oath, there will be a gap between the date of the dissolution of the Assembly and the date from which the hon. Members will begin to draw their salary and allowances. It is possible, in fact probable, that a large number of hon. Members might be re-elected and they will be continued as members from the old Assembly to the new Assembly. But in spite of that there will be a period in between for which they will not be able to draw their salary and allowance. I think that

[Dr. D. D. Karve]

this is not fair. What the Hon. Minister for Law has stated might be true in the case of the new hon. Members but the old Members who continue from the old Assembly to the new Assembly will have a period during which they will not be able to draw their salary and allowances. I, therefore, think that a further provision must be made giving the definition of the new hon. Members and providing for some kind of exception in the case of old hon. Members who might technically be new hon. Members.

डॉ. जी. असे. खैर (ग्रेटर बाँवे-कम-महाराष्ट्र-टीचर्स) : अध्यक्ष बाजीसाहेब, कोणत्या तारखेपासून मिळावे या संबंधी सर्व देशांत आणि सर्व राज्यांत एकसूत्रीपणा असावा ह्या हेतूने हें बिल आणलेले आहे ही गोष्ट खरी आहे, परंतु ही नवी योजना ह्या राज्यांतील सभासदांना बरीच गैरसोयीची होईल असे मला वाटते. ह्या दृष्टीने विचार करतां, ह्या बाबतीत पूर्वीची जी योजना होती तीच अधिक चांगली होती, असें मला वाटते. आतां मुंबई राज्याचा विस्तार जेवढा मोठा झाला आहे की, अकाद्या सभासदानें निवडून आल्यानंतर आपल्या ठिकाणाहून मुंबईला यावयाचें आणि सभासदत्वाची शपथ घेऊन आपली जागा सभागृहामध्ये घ्यावयाची ह्या गोष्टीला बराच वेळ लागतो. पूर्वीच्या योजनेप्रमाणें सभासद निवडून आल्याचें जाहीर झाल्याबरोबर त्याला सभासदत्वाचे सर्व अधिकार प्राप्त होत असत. कायद्याच्या दृष्टीने सभासद म्हणून निवडून आल्याचें जाहीर होणें आणि प्रत्यक्ष सभासद म्हणून शपथ घेऊन सभासदत्वाचे संपूर्ण अधिकार प्राप्त होणें ह्या दोन वेगवेगळ्या गोष्टी आहेत. आतां जी नवीन योजना ह्या बिलान्वये सभागृहापुढें मांडण्यांत आली आहे त्याप्रमाणें कोणत्याहि सभासदानें निवडून आल्यानंतर सभासद म्हणून शपथ घेतल्याशिवाय त्याला सभासद म्हणून पगार घेतां येणार नाही. मी मघाशी दृष्टीने ही नवीन योजना अतिशय गैरसोयीची होणार आहे. माणसाच्या सदसद्विवेक बुद्धीच्या दृष्टीने आपण ह्या प्रश्नाचा विचार केला तर फार चमत्कारिक परिस्थिति निर्माण होणार आहे. सभासद म्हणून निवडून आल्याचें जाहीर झाल्याबरोबर वेतन सुरू व्हावें असें ज्याला वाटत असेल त्याला भावनगर, नागपूर, नांदेड किंवा त्याचें जें राहण्याचें ठिकाण असेल त्या ठिकाणाहून ताबडतोब शपथ घेण्यासाठी मुंबईला निघावें लागेल. दुसऱ्या कोणाला काय वाटेल हा प्रश्न जरी बाजूला ठेवला तरी केवळ आपला पगार ताबडतोब सुरू व्हावा म्हणून आपल्या ठिकाणाहून मुंबईला जायला निघायचें हा विचारच सदसद्विवेक बुद्धि असलेल्या माणसाच्या मनाला कसासाच वाटतो. साहजिकच असा मनुष्य पगारासाठी अंढी धडपड करणार नाही. पण जो मनुष्य असा विचार करणार नाही, व ताबडतोब घाभी करून शपथ घेतील त्याचा पगार ताबडतोब सुरू होईल. याचा थोडक्यांत अर्थ असा आहे की, सदसद्विवेकबुद्धि असलेल्या सभासदाचें नुकसान होणार आहे. ही अडचण आणि गैरसोय होऊ नये म्हणून मला असें सुचवावयाचें आहे की, अकाद्या सभासद निवडून आल्याचें गॅझटमध्ये जाहीर झाल्याबरोबर त्या तारखेपासून अधिवेशन सुरू होईल त्या वेळी त्या सभासदानें मुंबईला यावे ही जी पूर्वीची योजना होती ती तशीच चालू ठेवावी. आतां नवीन सुचविण्यांत आलेली योजना अनेक दृष्टींनी गैरसोयीची आहे, अवेढेच मला सांगायचें होतें.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, I must confess that this House has shown more interest in this Bill and has expressed more doubts than even the hon. Members of the lower House.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : This is the House of the elders.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, I might further confess that the hon. Members of this House have put some questions to me which had hardly occurred to me when the Bill was drafted.

The first question which the hon. Members have raised is about Gazette Notification. The fact is that any act of Government or any event which might happen is officially taken cognizance of only when it is notified in the Gazette and I am sure that the Chairman and the Speaker will always show their good sense and will not allow anybody to take oath unless his name is declared as having been elected in the Government Gazette.

Sir, the next point that has been raised is as to what would happen if the Hon. Chairman is not here.

Shri B. S. VYAS : On a point of order, Madam Chairman. When you are occupying the Chair, while addressing you, the Hon. Minister is addressing as 'Sir'. Is this correct?

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : The hon. Member does not know the parliamentary practice. I am correct.

I was saying that a point was raised as to what would happen if the Chairman is not there or if he is not elected or what would happen if the Assembly is dissolved and the Speaker is not elected. I might mention that the question of dissolution of the Council does not arise. Only the Assembly is dissolved but some temporary Speaker is appointed. Of course we can think of even a worse case of the Speaker not being in existence. But these are very rare cases and we need not provide for such contingencies. In such a case the hon. Members can wait for a few days till the Speaker is elected.

श्री. असे. बी. भिडे : अकाद्या सभासद तीन चार दिवसांसाठी मुंबईला आला आणि त्याला शपथ घ्यावयाची असली, पण माननीय स्पीकर किंवा चेअरमन मुंबईला नसले तर काय करावयाचें या संबंधी कांहीं तरतूद करण्यांत आली आहे काय ?

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : He can write to the Chairman that he proposes to come to him for taking oath. If the Chairman is not in Bombay, he will arrange a meeting. One need not assume that only wrong things would happen and the right things would not happen. The Chairman can even see the hon. Member and arrange to administer his oath whenever he pleases. We need not worry about it.

Then a question was raised as to whether it would be legal for a man to exercise his rights if he has not taken oath. There is no difficulty on that score. Article 188 provides that an hon. Member shall not sit in the House unless he has taken an oath but the Article does not deprive him of any other rights. He can enjoy the other rights given to him by law, even if he does not take oath, e.g. he can exercise his right of voting for elections of Council

[Shri Shantilal H. Shah]

Members even before he has taken his oath, as did happen this time. The elections to the Council were held before the session of the lower House was called and those hon. Members who were declared elected did vote for the candidates who had stood for the Council elections. Thus it would be clear that they do not lose all their rights but the only right which they lose is the right to draw their salary.

Then, it was argued that it would be hard upon the hon. Members either to lose the travelling allowance or to lose the salary for some days because, if they come here to take oath when the House is not sitting, they would not get the travelling allowance and if they would not take oath, they would not get the salary. I presume that all the hon. Members who come to this House as well to the other House will be able to weigh these small and minor considerations. If I am called upon to decide one way or the other in such a case, I would see as to what would be the expenditure which I would be required to incur for coming to Bombay and what would be the loss of salary if I do not come to Bombay for taking oath and I would accept the way which is beneficial to me. But such of the hon. Members who might come to Bombay in public interest can certainly come here to take oath and begin to draw the salary from that date. There is nothing wrong or derogatory in that. I do not subscribe to the view or I would not feel compunction to which a reference was made by one of the hon. Members. It is true that such small considerations do arise in the human mind. But as I said the main object of the Bill is to achieve uniformity. This Bill has been drafted on the lines of the definition of that term obtaining in the Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament Act, 1954 (Act 30 of 1954). Now, Sir, a question was raised as to what would happen if the Assembly were to be dissolved. If the Assembly were to be dissolved the old members will certainly cease to draw salaries. Then a point was raised that, if the same Member is re-elected, what would happen to the interim period. On the assumption that there is continuity between the old member and the new member, there is the continuity of the man and it is a continuity of the representation of the Constituency which has elected him. Supposing if A is elected today and B is elected tomorrow, there would be no continuity. But it was said that, if the same person is elected tomorrow, then though all the other members would not be entitled to draw salary during the interim period, he should be entitled to get his salary and allowance. Now, we can either say that all the members would continue to get their salaries or that only the new members will begin to draw their salaries. But to say that those who are re-elected only can get the salary will be paying more only to them. I do agree that these small points arise when we are trying to have a new enactment to achieve uniformity bearing in mind that the Members are here on public duty as elected representatives. Considering the pros and cons of the difficulties, it is desired to achieve uniformity in this matter. Therefore, I request the House to accept the Bill.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. X of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 and 3, Clause 1 and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. X of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. X of 1958 is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL No. VI OF 1958 (A BILL TO PROVIDE, IN THE INTERESTS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC, FOR THE CONTROL AND REGULATION OF THE PRODUCTION, MOVEMENT, SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION OF, AND TRADE AND COMMERCE IN, CERTAIN COMMODITIES, AND THE MAINTENANCE AND MOVEMENT OF CATTLE).

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK (Minister for Agriculture including Aarey Milk Colony) : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. VI of 1958 (a Bill to provide, in the interests of the general public, for the control and regulation of the production, movement, supply and distribution of, and trade and commerce in, certain commodities, and the maintenance and movement of cattle) as passed on the Legislative Assembly on 28th March 1958.

While doing so I may state that in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Assembly the consideration of the Bombay Essential Commodities and Cattle (Control) Bill, 1958.

The Bill also requires the sanction of the President which has also been obtained, which reads thus :—

“Your letter dated December 3rd. President's sanction accorded to introduction in State Legislature, Bombay, Essential Commodities and Cattle (Control) Bill, 1958, subject to conditions that (1) specific provision should be made in Bill rendering legislation in applicable to any commodity to which Central Act applies or may be applied and (2) State Government will act on advice of Central Government before declaring any article as essential.”

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. VI of 1958 is introduced.

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. VI of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

डॉ. जी. असे. खैर : अध्यक्ष बाजीसाहेब, हें बिल मी वांचलें तेंव्हांपासून माझ्या मनांत अक शंका आहे. ह्या बिलाला जें शिडचूल् जोडण्यांत आलें आहे त्याच्या पाट १ मध्ये असेन्सिअल कमोडिटीजमध्ये अकच वस्तू आहे आणि ती म्हणजे घरबांधणीसाठी लागणाऱ्या विटा ही आहे. त्याचप्रमाणें शिडचूल्च्या पाट २ मध्ये आठ प्रकारच्या जनावरांचा बुल्लेख करण्यांत आला आहे. हीं जनावरें म्हणजे बुल्स, बुल्डॉग्स, काजूज, काफस, बफोलीज अशीं आहेत. ह्या वस्तूंचीं सगळीं नांवां वाचल्यानंतर माझ्यासारख्या अनभिज्ञ माणाला ह्याच वस्तू ह्या शिडचूल्मध्ये कां घालण्यांत आल्या आहेत, यामागें सरकारच्या कोणता हेतु आहे, हें समजणें कठीण जातें. तेव्हां शिडचूल्च्या पहिल्या भागांत विटा ही अकच वस्तू आणि दुसऱ्या भागांत आठ जनावरांचीं नांवां कां आणि कोणत्या हेतूनें घालण्यांत आलीं आहेत याबद्दलचा खुलासा नामदार मंत्र्यांनीं कला तर बरें होअील.

श्री. बी. असे. व्यास (विदर्भ-प्रंजुअटस). अध्धक्ष बाईसाहेब, ह्या बिलाबाबत माझे विचार सभागृहापुढें मांडण्यासाठी मी शुभा आहे. माझ्या आधीच्या माझ्या सन्माननीय मित्रांनी, ह्या बिलाच्या शिडचलमध्ये ज्या काहीं वस्तूंचा निर्देश करण्यांत आला आहे त्यांकरिता ह्या सभागृहाचें आणि सरकारचें लक्ष वेधलें आहे, ह्या वस्तूंचा निर्देश करण्यामागे सरकारचा काय उद्देश असावा हें कदाचित त्यांच्या लक्षांत आलें नसावें. गेलें महायुद्ध सुरू झालें तेव्हां तत्कालीन परिस्थितीचा विचार करून त्या वेळच्या अंग्रज सरकारने जीवनावश्यक अशा काहीं वस्तूंचा आणि खाद्य पदार्थांचा निर्यात घालून त्याप्रमाणें अक कायदाहि केला होता. त्यालाच आपण फार विस्तृत असे अधिकार घेतले होते. पण आश्चर्याची गोष्ट अशी की, युद्ध संपून पंधरा वर्षां झाली तरीहि त्या काळीं ज्या स्वरूपांत हा कायदा करण्यांत आला होता त्याच स्वरूपाचा कायदा आजपर्यंत तसाच चालू आहे, अवघेंच नव्हे तर सरकारच्या कल्पनेप्रमाणें दुरुस्ती बिल ह्या सभागृहापुढें सरकारने मांडलें आहे. ह्या बिलाच्या शिडचलमध्ये विटा ही अकच वस्तू जरी नमूद करण्यांत आली असली तरी वेळोवेळीं सरकारला वाटेल त्याप्रमाणें नोटिफिकेशन काढून ह्या वस्तूंमध्ये भर घालण्याचा अधिकार सरकारने आपल्याकडे ठेवला आहे. ह्याचा अर्थ असाच आहे की, जर सरकारला ह्या वस्तूंची संख्या वाढवावीशी वाटली तर जनतेतर्फे निवडून आलेल्या प्रतिनिधींना विश्वासांत घेण्याची सत्ता सरकारला आवश्यकता राहणार नाही. अशा प्रकारें नेहमीं जीवनावश्यक वस्तूंचा सरकारने निर्यात आणावयाची, त्यांसाठी लोकांनीं परमिट्स किंवा लायसन्सेस काढावयाची ह्या सगळ्या गोष्टींचा जनतेला आजपर्यंत फार वाजीट अनुभव आलेला आहे. अशा परिस्थितीत जनतेच्या प्रतिनिधींना विश्वासांत न घेतां वाटेल त्या वस्तूंचा निर्यात घालण्यासाठी नोटिफिकेशन काढावयाची ह्या गोष्टींचा लोकांना वाजीट अनुभव आलेला आहे. आज

ह्या बिलांत विटांचा अल्लेख केलेला आहे, पण अद्यां सरकाराला वाटलें तर धान्य, कापड किंवा अशाच अितर कोणत्याहि वस्तूवर सरकार नियंत्रण घालूं शकेल. सरकार लौकरच सगळ्या कायद्यांचें अकत्रीकरण करणार आहे असें सांगितलें जातें, पण अकत्रीकरणासाठीं अशाच प्रकारचें कायदे आधीं घेण्यांत येतात कीं ज्यामुळें सरकारचा फायदा होशील, आणि जनतेची गैरसोय होशील. राज्यपुनर्रचना होण्यापूर्वीं विदर्भ किंवा मराठवाडा ह्या भागांत अशा प्रकारचे नियंत्रण घालणारे कायदे अस्तित्वांत नसतांना तेथील सर्व व्यवहार सुरळीपतणें चालत होते, तेव्हां वास्तविक हीं नियंत्रणें त्या भागांना लावण्याची काहीं जरूरी नव्हती. पण पूर्वींच्या मुंबई राज्यांत हीं जीं नियंत्रणें लागू होतीं तीं अितर भागांना लागू करण्याचें हें बिल म्हणजे अक मागचें दार आहे असें म्हणावयास हरकत नाही. ह्या बिलान्वयें सरकारनें आपल्याकडे किती व्यापक स्वरूपाचे अधिकार घेतले आहेत हें सर्वसाधारण जनतेला समजत नसले तरी त्या कायद्याची प्रत्यक्ष अंमलबजावणी सुरू झाली म्हणजे जनतेला त्याची कल्पना आल्याशिवाय राहत नाही. हे अधिकार अगदीं डिकटेरीयल स्वरूपाचे आहेत. वास्तविक, प्रजातंत्र राज्य व्यवस्थेंत सरकारचें असें धोरण असलें पाहिजे कीं, लोकांच्या दैनंदिन व्यवहारांमध्ये कमीत कमी अडथळे येतील. परंतु ह्या बिलांत म्हटल्याप्रमाणें जर सरकार मनाला वाटेल तेव्हां नोटिफिकेशन काढून वाटेल ती वस्तू नियंत्रणाखालीं आणणार असेल तर त्यामुळें लोकांच्या दैनंदिन व्यवहारांमध्ये कृत्रिम अडचणी निर्माण होण्याची भीति आहे. तेव्हां, नोटिफिकेशन काढून कोणतीहि वस्तू नियंत्रणाखालीं आणण्याचा जो अधिकार सरकारनें घेतला आहे त्यासाठीं मी ह्या बिलाला विरोध करून रजा घेतों.

श्री. अंम. अंम. काळे (विदर्भ-शिक्षक) : अध्यक्ष वाईसाहेब, हें जें बिल सभागृहापुढें मांडण्यांत आलें आहे त्याचें जर थोडक्यांत निरीक्षण केलें तर असें दिसतें की, आधींच नियंत्रणाखाली असलेल्या अनेक वस्तूंमध्ये आणखी कांहीं वस्तूंची भर घालण्यासाठींच हें बिल सरकारनें आणलें आहे. अकादी वस्तू नियंत्रणाखाली आली म्हणजे जनतेची सोय होते असें सरकारकडून सांगितलें जातें, पण प्रत्यक्ष अनुभव मात्र असा येतो की, त्यामुळें लोकांची सोय होण्याऐवजीं मराठींत अकाद्याचें " कोटकल्याण झालें " असें अपरोधिकपणें म्हणतात त्याप्रमाणें कोटकल्याण मात्र होतें. अकादी वस्तू नियंत्रणाखाली आली म्हणजे ती वस्तू मिळविण्यासाठीं लागणारे मोठाले क्यु. वस्तू प्रत्यक्ष हातांत पडेपर्यंत लागणारा वेळ ह्या मिळविण्यासाठीं लागणारे मोठाले क्यु. वस्तू प्रत्यक्ष हातांत पडेपर्यंत लागणारा वेळ ह्या त्रासाच्या अनेक गोष्टी जमेल धरल्या म्हणजे नियंत्रणें नकोत असेंच कोणीहि स्वाभाविकपणें म्हणतो. नियंत्रणाचा अनुभव आपल्या देशांतील जनतेला कांहीं नव्यानें व्यावयाचा नाही. गेल्या युद्धापासून जनतेला नियंत्रणांचा अत्यंत वाईट अनुभव आलेला आहे. असें असतांना सरकार ह्या बिलानें पुन्हां जनतेला त्याच नियंत्रणांच्या जीवनाकडे ढकलीत आहे. युद्ध संपून १५ वर्षे झालीं तरी अन्नधान्य व अीतर जीवनावश्यक वस्तूंच्या बाबतींत आपल्या देशांत सुगीचा काळ आला नाही. ही परिस्थिति कोणत्याहि सरकारला भूषणावह नाही. म्हणून मला असें सांगवयाचें आहे की, ज्या वेळीं सरकार असे नियंत्रणाचे कायदे आणतें त्या वेळीं ह्या नियंत्रणांमुळे जनतेवर किती विपरीत परिणाम होतात याचा विचार करून त्याप्रमाणें सरकारनें त्या कायदांची अंमलबजावणी केली पाहिजे.

सध्यां आपल्यासमोर जें बिल आहे त्याप्रमाणें पहिल्या शिडचूलमध्ये विटा आणि दुसऱ्या शिडचूलमध्ये काही जनावरांची नांवे घातली आहेत. विटा आणि शिडचूलमध्ये नमूद करण्यांत आलेली जनावरें जीवनाला अत्यंत आवश्यक आहेत ही गोष्ट खरी आहे. अेका बाजूने सरकार असें म्हणतें की घरांचा प्रश्न अत्यंत बिकट झालेला आहे व तो सोडविण्यासाठी काहीं तरी केलें पाहिजे. पण सरकार ज्या मार्गानें हा प्रश्न सोडवूं पाहात आहे त्या मार्गानें खरोखरी हा प्रश्न सुटणार आहे की अधिक गुंतागुंतीचा होणार आहे

[श्री. अम्. अम्. काळे]

याचा आपण विचार केला पाहिजे. आधीच घरबांधण्यासाठी सीमेंट मिळत नाही, लोखंड मिळत नाही, आणि आता त्यांत भर म्हणून की काय ह्या विलामुळे विटाहि मिळणे कठीण होऊन बसणार आहे. जी माणसे वरच्या थरांत वावरत असतात त्यांना कसलीच पंचाशीत पडत नाही, त्यांना सर्व गोष्टी सहजामहजी मिळू शकतात, पण अडचण येते ती सर्वसाधारण लोकांना. तेव्हा आपण हा जो कायदा करीत आहोत त्याचा सर्वसाधारण लोकांवर काय परिणाम होईल याचा विचार सरकारने केला पाहिजे. आतापर्यंतच्या अनुभवावरून मला खात्री आहे की, ह्या विलामुळे लोकांच्या दैनंदिन व्यवहारांत अस्थिरता आणि त्रास निर्माण झाल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. अजून सांगून मी रजा घेतो.

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK : Madam Chairman, the hon. Member Shri Deshmukh wished to know as to why the Act was allowed to lapse necessitating the legislation before the House. Before reorganisation of States there were different Acts on the subject—one in Vidarbha, another in Saurashtra and so on, which embrace different commodities in different numbers. So, it was thought not proper to allow the Act to continue to remain in force and give room for complications. So it was considered best to allow the Act to lapse and bring in another and a new comprehensive Bill.

It was said that the Bill, when enacted, would interfere with the activities of the people. In this connection, I may read out the provisions of clause 8 to show that the fears are unfounded. The clause reads :

"8. Any authority or person acting in pursuance of this Act shall interfere with the ordinary vocations of life and the enjoyment of property as little as may be consonant with the general interest of the public."

Then it was enquired as to why only one commodity had been mentioned in Part I of the Schedule to the Bill. As hon. Members are aware, there is already the Central Act, called the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, in which are enumerated most of the essential commodities. Therefore, it is not necessary to repeat those commodities in the Schedule to this Bill. For any change or changes in the list, we have to obtain the sanction of the Government of India.

One hon. Member expressed the fear that the prices fixed may be less and thus there would be an interference with the earnings of the people. In this connection also, the provisions of clause 4 (3) are clear wherein it is provided :

"(3) Where any person sells any essential commodity in compliance with an order made with reference to clause (d) of sub-section (2), there shall be paid to him the price therefor as hereinafter provided:—

(a) where the price can consistently with the controlled price, if any, fixed under this section, be agreed upon, the agreed price;

(b) where no such agreement can be reached, the price calculated with reference to such controlled price, if any;

(c) where neither clause (a) nor clause (b) applies the price calculated at the market rate prevailing in the locality at the date of sale."

In view of this provision, there need be no fear that any injustice will result in the matter of fixation of prices. I have already explained why only one or two commodities have been mentioned in the Schedule, and not many others.

[Shri Vasant Rao P. Naik]

The Bill is intended to have an effective control over the supply of essential commodities when things take an unexpected and rapid course, and the control will be exercised in the interests of the public, and not in the interests of Government, as one hon. Member said. When Government does everything in the interest of public, I do not know what Government interest there is except the interest of the public. When this misunderstanding is removed, there is no reason why there should be any opposition to this Bill. Madam Chairman, I commend the Bill for the unanimous acceptance of the House.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. VI of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 21, clause 1, the Schedule, short title and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri VASANTRAO P. NAIK : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. VI of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. VI of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. VIII OF 1958 (A BILL TO ENABLE THE STATE GOVERNMENT TO EXTEND THE GAS COMPANIES ACT, 1863, TO THE REMAINING PART OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY AND TO EXTEND THE BOMBAY GAS SUPPLY ACT, 1939, TO SUCH REMAINING PART).

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE (Minister for Planning, Development, Electricity and Industries) : Madam Chairman, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. VIII of 1958 (A Bill to enable the State Government to extend the Gas Companies Act, 1863, to the remaining part of the State of Bombay and to extend the Bombay Gas Supply Act, 1939, to such remaining part), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 28th March 1958.

While doing so I will place before the House the recommendation of the Governor, which reads thus :

"In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (3) of article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Gas Companies Act, 1863, and the Bombay Gas Supply Act, 1939 (Amendment) Bill, 1958."

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. VIII of 1958 is introduced.

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. VIII of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

(G.C.P.) MO-B Hb 1167-2

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Madam Chairman, this is a very simple Bill. The Gas Companies Act, 1863, and the Bombay Gas Supply Act, 1939 at present apply only to the pre-reorganised State of Bombay. The Bill, has been introduced simply for the purpose of unification of laws, so that we may have a comprehensive law throughout the State of Bombay. I commend the Bill for the unanimous acceptance of the House.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. VIII of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 4, short title and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. VIII of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The Bill is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XLIX OF 1957 (A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE BOMBAY PRIMARY EDUCATION ACT, 1947).

Shri HITENDRA DESAI (Minister for Education) : Madam Chairman, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XLIX of 1957 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Primary Education Act, 1947) as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 28th March, 1958.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XLIX of 1957 is introduced.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XLIX of 1957 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Madam Chairman, so far as this Bill goes, the main purpose is to amend sub-clauses (2) and (4) of section 24 of the Bombay Primary Education Act 1947. The hon. Members will see that, so far as the present scheme of the Act goes, there are certain provisions contained in section 24 of the Bombay Primary Education Act with regard to the powers of the Administrative Officer over the staff of the District and Municipal School Boards. Against the order of the Administrative Officer an appeal is provided to the Tribunal consisting of the Chairman of the District School Board and the Educational Inspector of the District. In case of difference of opinion between the two, there is a provision for reference to the

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Director of Education. As the section stands today, there is a provision which empowers Government to exercise power of revision when the order is passed by the Administrative Officer but there is a lacuna or defect in the present section viz. while Government can exercise power of revision over the order of the Administrative Officer, it cannot exercise the power of revision over the order passed by the Tribunal or the Director of Education in case of difference of opinion. According to the section as it stands today, Government cannot exercise revisional power over the order passed by the Tribunal. The object of the present Bill is to remove this anomaly. I believe that there is no controversy so far as the powers of revision are concerned. I commend the Bill for the acceptance of the House.

Shri M. V. DONDE : Madam Chairman, I am sorry that I cannot agree with the Hon. Minister that there is nothing controversial so far as the amendment to the present Primary Education Act is concerned. On the contrary, I find that the amendment makes the present position worse. Now, I would like, first of all, to read to the House the section and the sub-section referred to in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. The title to that section is 'Power of Administrative Officer over the School Board Staff'. The Administrative Officer is an officer of Government. He is a representative of the Government party in that unit of administration. Now the section says that the Administrative Officer shall have power, subject to general instructions as may be issued from time to time by the Director, to promote, transfer and take all disciplinary action including removal or dismissal against the staff maintained under Section 20. So far, the administrative authority, though in a restricted form, rests with the Administrative Officer. Then in sub-section (2) of this particular section it is stated that any person aggrieved by an order of dismissal, removal, reduction or any other order involving disciplinary action made under sub-section (1) which I have read just now, may submit an appeal to the Tribunal consisting of the Chairman of the School Board and the Educational Inspector of the District. The Tribunal shall follow the prescribed procedure for the disposal of the appeal and further it is stated that, in the case of a difference of opinion between the members of the Tribunal the appeal shall be referred to the Director whose decision shall be final etc. Now what is the position ? The Administrative Officer is the representative of Government. He works under the general instructions, directions and supervision of the Director. That means that practically the Administrative Officer is a delegate of the Director. Now he passes an order. Then if any appeal is to be made, it is to be made to the Tribunal. Madam Chairman, I have complained on hundreds of occasions on public platforms that the idea of the Tribunal under this Act is a mere farce. As a matter of fact a Tribunal should be such where we could have a reasonable opportunity to get our grievances redressed. Here there is absolutely nothing of that sort so far as this Tribunal is concerned. This Tribunal consists of two persons. One is the Chairman of the School Board and the other is, instead of the Administrative Officer against whose order the appeal is made, the Educational Inspector, again a representative of the Director. Now, I have not come across a Tribunal which consists

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of even number 2. It may consist of an even number, but in case they disagreed, they have a right to choose a third one, an umpire, whose decision becomes final as the decision of the Tribunal. Really speaking, if the Tribunal is intended to be really democratic and is to give an impartial and, I must say, unbiased judgment, then the Tribunal should have consisted of a representative of the authority, and a representative of the person who has

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got a grievance. I cannot conceive of a Tribunal where the party who has got a grievance is not represented in any way. The Chairman of the School Board and the Educational Inspector, who, as I said, is a man delegated with the powers of a Director, if they agree among themselves and say ditto to everything then that is a farce. Then there is no possibility of any difference of opinion. But if they differ, that means if the Chairman is a different person from the party which is in power which is Government, then there is the possibility of difference of opinion. If the Chairman belongs to the ruling party, party of the Government, then there is no possibility of any difference of opinion, but suppose the Chairman comes from different party altogether, then there is possibility of difference of opinion. Now what is the next step? The next step is that the matter will be sent to the Director. The Director is a representative of Government. In all the previous stages the Administrative Officer, is a representative of the Director. The Educational Inspector is a representative of the Director. When there is some difference of opinion with the Inspector of that Division, then the matter goes to the Director. It is all a farce. Why not straightaway say that the matter be sent to the Director? Why this intermediary of this Tribunal, which has absolutely no meaning from the point of view of a democratic ideal? Further, the thing is made worse if the Director takes a decision and if Government finds that there is something wrong. Suppose the Director takes the view of the Chairman of the Education Committee, then Government does not want anything else to be done except to accept the view that is upheld by the Director. So far, as it has been stated the only reason or object for the amendment of the present Act is that there is a lacuna. Lacuna in what? Government has no power of Revision. Revision means protecting what the Director or somebody else has stated. Therefore, this is nothing but retaining the bureaucratic control on education. I have been complaining all these years on different platforms that the Education Department has been completely bureaucratised. There is less of education and more of bureaucratism. The present form of administration so far as the Education Department is concerned, is more or less a medieval form of Government which existed in medieval goes. Therefore, I would like to say that even the present position of having a Tribunal is absolutely useless. Now, by taking the whole penal power to Government, Government means Secretariat. The Director has been completely divested of all powers. Therefore, why not straightaway say that an appeal against the order of the Administrative Officer should directly be sent to the Minister? That would be a straight forward way and Government may take a decision. Why all these 4 or 5 stages which are redundant, which complicate the matter and which put untoward hardship on the teacher? Then again, in the case of the

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Administrative Officer, Government Inspector and Chairman, there is Government stranglehold. Then on the Director also there is Government stranglehold, and finally there is the Secretariat. Now the Director is not expected to go against the views of Government. It is all the more so in the case of subordinate Officers like the Educational Inspector and the Administrative Officer. I do not, therefore, see any point in making this position worse than what it is at present. If at all any amendment is necessary, it should be in the direction of improving, what is called, the Tribunal. Let there be a representative of the person, the aggrieved party, on the Tribunal. He may even represent himself. I will go a step further, but I know full well that the present Government is not in a mood to accept that suggestion. I would say that there should be a representative of the Teachers' organisation as it is done in the case of trade union. It may not be a Tribunal exactly in that sense, but it may be an organisation, organisation recognised by Government. Government has already given the privilege of having a joint Council of Primary Teachers. On that joint Council there are 6 members appointed by Government and 6 representatives are elected by the Teachers' Organisation. That means a full recognition is given to the Teachers' Organisation. Therefore, why not straightaway say that there will be a Tribunal, on which there will be a representative of the aggrieved party as well as a representative of the Teachers' Organisation? If there is such a provision, then the Bill can be said to be a progressive one. Sir, the Administrative Officer, the Education Officer, the Government Officer, the School Board etc., are for "NAM KE VASTE". They have absolutely no power and nothing to do with the Organisation. etc. Therefore, I am very sorry to find that Government has not applied its mind all these years to this aspect of the question. Election is one thing and the elected members to be effective is another thing; elections will be of little use if the members elected have absolutely no power. But I am not going into that part of the discussion. The administration after all rests with the Administrative Officer who has got the powers. For all these reasons I necessarily oppose this Bill. I request Government to withdraw this Bill because it is certainly going to deteriorate the educational system of this State. I very strongly oppose this Bill.

Shri D. H. SAHASRABUDDHE (Vidarbha—Teachers): Sir, I did not, as a matter of fact, want to make a speech when this Bill was introduced by the Hon. Minister for Education. I am sure the House would have been glad if detailed reasons had been given for bringing this Bill before the House, and also if Government had quoted the number of instances of illegal or invalid decision by the Tribunal or the Director that had occurred which compelled Government to bring in this amendment to the Original Act. The original Act has been in existence for the last 10 years and there would have arisen a number of occasions when such a power was thought to be necessary. We have not been informed of any such circumstances and the nature of instances that may have taken place. As I read the Bill, I find that the remedy is not sought where it ought to have been. The provision, as some hon. Members of this side said, for the constitution of the Tribunal itself is very bad. I also

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submit that the Tribunal need not be constituted in the way it is done in the old Act. It has been proposed that a representative of the aggrieved party and of the Department should be on the Tribunal, and if that is acceptable to Government, I think that would be very good. But if that is not acceptable to Government, I would suggest that a third person with a judicial training and experience should be appointed as a sole member of the Tribunal. The remedy, therefore, lies in the proper constitution of the Tribunal. I would, therefore, submit that Government should withdraw this Bill and bring in another Bill, providing for a proper constitution of the Tribunal.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH (Maharashtra South—Local Authorities): Madam Chairman, this Bill appears to be apparently very innocent, as it seeks to bring in an amendment to give powers of revision to Government in respect of an order passed by the Administrative Officer under section 24 of the Act. In other words, what is sought to be done is this: Under the original provision, an appeal against the order of the Administrative Officer was limited only to the Tribunal, and in case there was any difference of opinion between the members of the Tribunal, the appeal could be made to the Director whose decision was final. As a matter of fact, it is true that there is obviously a very grave defect in this Act, and I am surprised to see how that defect was allowed to remain in the Statute Book for the last so many years.

Now, Madam Chairman, as has been rightly suggested by my hon. Friend Shri Donde, the time has come when it is necessary for Government to reconsider the whole matter and redraft this Act itself. I would like to limit my observations only to the question of disciplinary action against the servants of the District School Board. I am not talking about the other provisions in the Act. What we find is this: There are various servants of the District School Board, who are mentioned in section 20 of the Act. It will be found that there are Supervisors, Attendance Officers, clerks, and so many other categories have been mentioned there. These, in fact, are all servants of the District School Board, and, therefore, of the Local Board, and they are thus supposed to be appointed by the Local Board. If at all, any disciplinary action is to be taken, it has to be taken by the local body, but merely because Government contributes towards the Provident Fund Government is having control over those persons who are, in fact, not their servants. According to the Act, and also it has been held as such by the High Court, all these servants are servants of the School Board and, therefore, of the local body, but what we find is that, even though they are servants of the School Board and consequently of the Local Board, they are controlled by Government, as Government does not seem to be having any confidence in the local bodies. That is the complaint that has been made by the hon. Member Shri Donde. As a matter of fact, as he rightly said, the Administrative Officer is the Chief Officer to whom the appeals lie. I would say that this is merely a farse. I say this from my own experience. I was a member of the Poona School Board and I personally know that the School Board has no rights at all. It is only because it wants to show that democracy exists, that Government has provided for certain elections. Look at the scheme of the

[Shri V. B. Deshmukh]

Act! The lowest qualification that is required for a person to become a member of the School Board is that he has to pass the IV Standard examination. What an educational qualification for a member of the School Board! Government ought to have brought in some amendment in this regard. The members of the School Board are not concerned with the policy at all. They have also no hand so far as the servants or employees of the School Board are concerned. I, therefore, say that a sort of farse has been made by Government in bringing in this amendment. These were the general observations that I wanted to make.

Now, Madam, coming to the actual amendment, what I find is this: As an annexure to the Bill, we have been given extracts from the Primary Education Act. If we refer to section 24, we will find that the proviso reads as under:

"Provided that a primary school teacher who is a guaranteed teacher on the date of the coming into force of this Act, may make a further appeal to the State Government against any order of removal or dismissal."

Then, a "guaranteed teacher" has been defined as follows:

"A guaranteed teacher means a primary school teacher who was holding a permanent appointment as such teacher on 30th June 1923."

Now, the position is this: When the Administrative Officer removes a person from service or passes some order which is illegal, the appeal is to be made to the Tribunal, of which the Chairman of the School Board is one of the members and the other member is a Government man. Now, the right of appeal has been provided only for a guaranteed teacher. Is this not discrimination? What about the rest of the staff of the School Board, consisting of Attendance Officers, Supervisors, Clerks, etc.? The position under the Act is that only those who are guaranteed teachers get the right of second appeal and that right is not given to any other staff of the School Board. Why this preferential treatment? I would like to know whether such a discrimination can be made at all. The grant of right of second appeal only to a particular type of persons appears to me to be *ultra vires* and quite unfair. Looking at it from a practical point of view, I would say that these are small people, these supervisors, clerks and other inferior staff. If the right of second appeal in the matter of dismissal, etc. is to be provided for one servant of the School Board, then it should be equally provided for the other staff as well. Not only that, but the power that Government seeks to take by this amendment is limited merely to the question relating to punishment. The amendment proposed runs as follows:

"Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, the State Government may call for and examine the record of any order made by the Administrative Officer under sub-section (1) or of any order made in appeal by the Tribunal or Director under sub-section (2) involving disciplinary action against the staff, maintained under section 20 for the purpose of satisfying itself as to the correctness or propriety of the punishment awarded under the said order."

After all these are revisionary powers, but the scope of these powers is limited only to the question of punishment, as to whether a man has been rightly punished or not; there is no scope for reopening the whole case, and finding out whether a man has been rightly punished or not, because, after all, supposing

a man is punished, his whole record of service is spoilt. Therefore, even today, Government is not coming forward with an amendment to enable it to reopen the whole case. That right has been given only in regard to a guaranteed teacher. If, as a matter of fact, the words "for the purpose of satisfying itself as to the correctness or propriety of the punishment awarded" were deleted, then Government could have examined whether the staff is rightly punished or not and then that power would be very effective. My contention, therefore, is that, by this amendment, what really should have been done has not been done, and secondly, Government is allowing the provision as it is and merely giving a right to the guaranteed teachers to file a second appeal, whereas, in the case of the other poor servants, even if they are dismissed they have no right of second appeal. Such a right of second appeal ought to have been given to the other servants of the School Board also.

००. एम्. एम्. काळे (विद्वन्—शिक्षक) : अध्यक्ष बाईसाहेब, एका अत्यंत सौंदर्यामानत्या जाणाऱ्या विलासवंशी मला बोलावयाचें आहे. प्राथमिक शिक्षण कायद्यांत कांही सुधारणा करण्याच्या हेतूने आणि त्यामध्ये जो थोडासा लॅक्यूना राहिला होता तो दूर करावा एवढ्याचसाठी हें विधेयक आणलें आहे असें माननीय मंत्र्यांनी आपल्या सुचवातीच्या भाषणांत सांगितलें. मला याबाबतींत असें म्हणावयाचें आहे की एवढाच उद्देश यामध्ये दिसत नाही. आज शिक्षण खात्याच्या कारभाराचा एकंदर जो सेट-अप आहे त्यामध्ये शिक्षकांच्या अपिलांचा निर्णय लागण्यासाठी लागणारा कालाविधि भयंकर आहे. शिक्षकांनी एखादें अपील दाखल कल्यानंतर, दहा वर्षे झाल्यानंतर आम्ही त्याचा निकाल देऊ, असें म्हणणारे कांही महत्वाचे अधिकारी माझ्या पाहण्यांत आहेत. "जस्टिस डीलेंड इज जस्टिस डिनाईड" हें सूत्र मला या बाबतींत सरकारच्या निदर्शनास आणावयाचें आहे. ४०-५० वर्षांपासतका तुटपुंजा पगार मिळविणाऱ्या गरीब शिक्षकांना ५-७ वर्षे तसेंच लटकत ठेवणें बरोबर नाही. शिक्षकांना लवकरांत लवकर न्याय मिळण्याच्या दृष्टीने या बिलाचा मुळीच उपयोग होणार नाही. उलट तो न्याय मिळण्याच्या बाबतींत आणखी विलंब लागणार आहे. यामध्ये ज्या नवीन गोष्टींचा अंतर्भाव सरकार करूं इच्छितें त्याचा अर्थ काय आहे? यापूर्वी अपोलेट अँथॉरिटी दोन माणसांची होती, ती त्यांच्यानंतर आणखी एका सरकारी नोकराला आपण देत आहांत. लाल फिकीचें महत्त्व अद्याप कमी झालें नाही. इंग्रज येथून गेले असले तरी सरकारी लालफीत अद्यापहि न कापतां येण्यासारखी बळकट आहे. सध्याच्या सरकारी यंत्रणामुळे शिक्षकांच्या अपिलांचा निकाल लागण्यासाठी जो अतिशय जास्त वेळ लागतो तो लक्षांत घेतां यापेक्षा कांहींतरी वेगळी यंत्रणा माननीय अपिलाचा निकाल २-३ महिन्यांच्या आंत लागला पहिजे. तशा तऱ्हेचें बिल सरकारने आणावें. समाजवादी समाजवचनेचें जें ध्येय सरकारने घोषित केलें आहे तें साकार होण्याच्या दृष्टीनें गरीब शिक्षकांच्या अपिलांचा निकाल जास्तीत जास्त दोनतीन महिन्यांत लागेल अशा तऱ्हेचें बिल सरकारने आणणें आवश्यक आहे. हें बिल शिक्षकांच्या हिताचें नसून सर्व सत्ता आपल्या हातांत घेण्यासाठी सरकारने तें आणलें आहे असें मला वाटतें.

श्री. गुलाम हैबर बलीमोहम्मद (विधान सभा द्वारा निर्वाचित) : माननीय अयुक्तभाषित महोदया, यहां पर जो बिल पेश किया गया है वह बिल्कूल साफ है। प्रायमरी टीचर के किसी अपील पर यदि अडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव्ह ऑफिसर ने कुछ फैसला किया हो उसमें दस्त-अंदाजी करने का अख्तियार गव्हर्नमेंट को था, लेकिन आज जो कानून मौजूद है उसमें

[श्री गुलाम हदर वलीमाहमद]

ऐसा कोई प्रोविजन नहीं था, जिसके जरिये यदि किसी केस में ट्रिब्युनल ने कोई फैसला किया हो तो उसमें गव्हर्नमेंट कुछ दखल कर सके। मुरते हाल यह है कि आज का जो प्रायमरी अंज्यूकेशन अक्ट है उसमें ट्रिब्युनल के किसी फैसले पर गव्हर्नमेंट को आज़ की हालात में रिविजनरी पॉवर्स नहीं हैं। ट्रिब्युनल के फैसले के खिलाफ यदि कोई शक्स अपील करना चाहे तो वह गव्हर्नमेंट के पास कर सके तथा उस फैसले के बारे में गव्हर्नमेंट को रिविजनरी पॉवर्स रहनी चाहिये, इसी ब्याल से पुरान कानून में यह अमेन्डमेंट लाया जा रहा है। यदि इस तरह के रिविजनरी पॉवर्स गव्हर्नमेंट को न दीये जायें तो और किससे दी जा सकती है? मैं मानता हूँ कि जिस तरह की रिवाइजनेरी पॉवर्स दी जाने के लिये गव्हर्नमेंट ही कॉम्पेटेंट अथोरिटी है। अडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव्ह ऑफिसर या ट्रिब्युनल ने यदि कोई फैसला किया हो तो उसके खिलाफ यदि कोई अपील करना चाहे तो वह गव्हर्नमेंट के ही पास की जानी चाहिये और इसी ब्याल से गव्हर्नमेंट को रिविजनरी पॉवर्स दी जाना ज़रूरी थी जो आज तक इस कानून के जरिये से नहीं दी गयी थी। सब देखा जाय तो Government is sovereign body और उसे जिस तरह का अस्तिवार दिया जाना चाहिये। इक्विब्युटिव्ह ऑफिसर या ट्रिब्युनल ने जो फैसले किये हैं, Which is found to be illegal and invalid उसके बारे में गव्हर्नमेंट को रिविजनल पॉवर्स दी जाने के लिये प्रोविजन करने के ब्याल से यह बिल यहां पेश किया गया है। जो अग्रेण्ड पार्टिज हैं अन्हुं जिनसाफ मिलन के ब्याल से यह पॉवर्स गव्हर्नमेंट को देना आवश्यक है। मैं समझता हूँ कि मिनिस्टर साहब की बजाहत के बाद माननीय सदस्य अब इस बिल को मान लेंगे, ऐसी उम्मीद करते हूंगे मैं अपना भाषण खतम करता हूँ।

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Madam Chairman, I am afraid the whole discussion on this Bill has gone on a complete misunderstanding of the main object and purpose of the Bill. Certain issues were confused, and I think deliberately. So far as the present School Boards, constituted under the Bombay Primary Education Act, are concerned, I can understand hon. Members saying that the powers of the Boards may be enlarged. I would not quarrel with that view if expressed. It may be that many hon. Members may be holding the view. But, Madam Chairman, if I may be allowed to dilate a little, I would state that the administration of the Primary Education in Bombay has been praised by many. There are many States, and there are certain regions in this State where primary education is completely controlled by Government. Under the Primary Education, 1947, we have accepted in principle that the administration of primary education may be left to the elected School Boards—of course, on the basis of indirect election by members of District Local Boards. Our idea has been that the administration must be entirely left to the various District School Boards and the unit must be a district unit. In Marathwada today, for instance, the whole administration is in the hands of Government. If we take the Vidarbha area, it is the Janapada Sabha, which is not a district unit, but a little lower unit. I quite realise the anxiety of some hon. Members here that if we really want to democratise the administration of primary education, we must empower the School Boards with more powers. That is certainly one aspect of the matter. As the House is probably aware, the Primary Education Integration Committee has been appointed by Government which will examine this aspect

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and our effort has all along been to see how best we can make the School Board or other units more effective. That is certainly one aspect of the matter. But I really could not understand what objection hon. Members could have to the proposed Bill. Perhaps some hon. Members are under the impression that it is for the first time that Government is seeking revisional powers. Now if we see the provisions of section 24(4) of the Act, we would find that the revisional powers are there with Government. These powers are at present only with regard to the order passed by the Administrative Officer and what the present Bill contemplates is to remove that defect. If Government today 4-00 p.m. can revise the order passed by the Administrative Officer, logically it follows that it should be empowered to exercise revisional powers over the order of the Tribunal and the Director of Education also. That is the main object of the present Bill. It is not, therefore, that for the first time Government is asking for a revisional power both against the order of the Administrative Officer and against the order passed by the Tribunal. There was a lot of criticism against the scheme of section 24 itself. All along the hon. Members complained that the whole administration is running only on party lines. I really fail to understand what objection they can have if the Chairman of the School Board is allowed to be there on the Tribunal. The hon. Member Shri Donde said that he was surprised to see that the Tribunal consisted of only two members. He said that he has not come across any Tribunal of this type anywhere else. We have got the experience of the Tribunals working under the Industrial Disputes Act or the Bombay Tenancy Act, but there is nothing novel in the idea of having a Tribunal consisting of two members. As a matter of fact there are Divisional Benches of the High Court consisting of two Judges. I thought that this is a very simple matter and I really fail to understand as to how the hon. Member could not conceive of a Tribunal consisting of two members. But what was worse was that probably the provisions of power of appeal and power of revision were utterly confused. Here what Government is trying to take is only the power of revision. I really fail to understand as to how the hon. Member could object to it. If it is brought to the notice of Government that a particular order is contrary to law or illegal, how can it be urged that the Government should not assume the power to them and should not set right the matter? In this particular case, may I point out that as a matter of fact it is in the interest of the teachers themselves that the power of revision should really vest with Government? In one case it was brought to the notice of Government that the order of the Tribunal had worked against the teacher and when Government wanted to set right the matter, Government were confronted with the fact that they had no power of revision over the order of the Tribunal. That was how the whole Bill came to be originated. Some of the hon. Members feel that all the powers, even of taking disciplinary action, should vest with the Local Boards. But perhaps they are not knowing the mind of the primary teachers. Some of the primary teachers are really of the view that their security and safety is more in the hands of Government than in the hands of the local bodies. That feeling may not be perhaps proper but that feeling is there.

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Shri M. V. DONDE : On a point of Order. The Constitution of India definitely lays down that the local authorities and the local bodies and the local self-Government institutions form a third line of administration. Therefore, can it lie in the mouth of a responsible person like the Minister for Education to say that the people have no confidence in the local self-Government institutions and that they have more confidence in Government alone? I think that this is derogatory to the very spirit of the Constitution.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : What the Hon. Minister said was only his opinion.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Madam Chairman, it seems that the hon. Member did not want to listen to me. I merely stated as to what was the mind of some of the primary teachers. I have also stated that that feeling might not be proper but the fact remains that that feeling is there. We are also making the various School Boards more effective in order that the people should not entertain such a feeling. But I really fail to understand as to how hon. Members can really object to this Bill when they have an interest or at least when they claim to have an interest in the primary teachers. The object of the Bill is that even the aggrieved primary teacher should get an opportunity of redressing his grievance. I, therefore, hope that the House will accept this Bill.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XLIX of 1957 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2, 1 and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri HITENDRA DESAI : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XLIX of 1957 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XLIX of 1957 is read a third time and passed.

As the business before the House is over, the House will now adjourn and meet tomorrow at 2 p.m.

(The House was adjourned at 4-10 p.m. till 2-00 p.m. on Tuesday, the 15th April, 1958.)

Tuesday, the 15th April 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay at 2-00 p.m. on Tuesday, the 15th April 1958. The Deputy Chairman Kumari JETHI T. SIPAHIMALANI, presided.

(For Questions—See Part I.)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have to place the report of the Business Advisory Committee before the House. The Business Advisory Committee met yesterday and made the following recommendations.

“From amongst the Bills remaining undisposed, the following Bills should be taken up on 15th April 1958—

1. L. A. Bill No. XI of 1958, Bombay Electricity Duty Bill.
2. L. A. Bill No. XII of 1958, Bombay Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Bill.
3. L. A. Bill No. XIV of 1958, Bombay Sugarcane Cess (Extension) Bill.
4. L. A. Bill No. XVII of 1958, Bombay Entertainments Duty (Extension and Amendment) Bill.
5. L. A. Bill No. XXVIII of 1958, Indian Partnership (Registration of Firms in Kutch Validation) Bill.
6. L. A. Bill No. XXIX of 1958, Bombay Motor Vehicles (Taxation of Passengers) Bill.

The remaining seven Bills should be taken up on 16th April 1958—

1. L. A. Bill No. XV of 1958, Bombay Local Boards (Amendment) Bill.
2. L. A. Bill No. XVI of 1958, Bombay Merged Territories and Areas (Jagirs Abolition) (Amendment) Bill.
3. L. A. Bill No. XVIII of 1958, Bombay Stamp Bill.
4. L. A. Bill No. XX of 1958, Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax Bill.
5. L. A. Bill No. XXI of 1958, Bombay Legislature Members (Removal of Disqualifications) (Amendment) Bill.
6. L. A. Bill No. XXVI of 1958, Bombay Requisitioned Property (Continuance of Powers) (Saurashtra Area) Bill.
7. L. A. Bill No. XXVII of 1958, Madhya Pradesh Public Trusts (Amendment and Validation) Bill.

Thereafter, the Legislative Council should meet either on Friday, the 18th or Saturday, the 19th, as may be necessary to finish the Bills that may be passed by the Legislative Assembly from 16th to 18th April 1958.

Shri CHANDRAKANT C. MEHTA (Gujarat-Graduates) : Madam Chairman, under rule 130-D of the Bombay Legislative Council Rules, I beg to move that this House agrees with the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee as read out by the Chairman.

Motion put, and agreed to.

L. A. BILL No. XII OF 1958 (A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR A UNIFORM LAW FOR THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF TAX ON THE SALES OF MOTOR SPIRIT IN THE STATE OF BOMBAY).

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance) : Madam Chairman, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XII of 1958 (A Bill to provide for a uniform law for the levy and collection of tax on the sales of motor spirit in the State of Bombay), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 8th April 1958.

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While doing so, I beg to state that, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clauses (1) and (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Bill, 1958.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. XII of 1958 is introduced.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA: Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XII of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA: Madam Chairman, I beg to state in this connection that this Bill is intended to replace the various laws prevailing in the State of Bombay, in so far as they relate to the taxation on the sales of motor spirit, aviation spirit and high speed diesel oil. For this purpose, the definition of "motor spirit", given in clause 2 (f), has been devised in such a way as to cover these three types of oil. Arrangements have been made in the Bill to empower Government to appoint taxing authorities and an Appellate Tribunal. The arrangement, so far as the Tribunal is concerned, does not exist in the previous Bill. So this is an improvement to that extent.

Clause 5 of the Bill empowers Government to levy a tax on the three oils mentioned before, at such stage and at such rate not exceeding 20 per cent. of the sale price as may be prescribed. It should not, therefore, frighten hon. Members that, just because mention has been made of the levy of tax to the extent of 20 per cent. of the price, Government will automatically raise the price limit. As a matter of fact, it is intended that the price should be in decimal coinage, approximate to the amount charged at present. Take, for example, the case of petrol. The tax at present is As. 6. It will correspond to 37.5 naye paisa. So the nearest approach in terms of the unit of 5 naye paise would be 40 naye paisa. To that extent one may say that there is an additional taxation, but the change is necessary because we have not got a unit in terms of half or a quarter paisa. So it is necessary to bring it to a uniform level.

Clauses 6 and 7 of the Bill provide for assessment and refund of tax. Clause 8 provides for the transfer of a part of the proceeds of the tax to the Bombay State Road Fund, established under section 9 of the Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax, 1958. The importance of this clause is this: It is now proposed to have a State Road Fund for the whole State. At the present moment it exists in the former Bombay State territories. In the case of Marathwada, it is now proposed that, so far as the tax on motor is concerned, a particular percentage of it, not exceeding 50 per cent., should be credited to the State Road Fund. So this will enable more funds to be provided for expenditure on roads in all the parts of the State, not merely in the former areas of Bombay State.

So far as clauses 9, 10, 11 and 12 are concerned, they provide for licences to traders, renewal of licences, cancellation and suspension of licences of traders under certain circumstances. Clauses 13 and 14 provide for maintenance of

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accounts and their inspection by the Collector. These are routine clauses so far as the procedure is concerned. Clauses 15 to 21 provide for application to be made for revision against any assessment or order. So far as clauses 22 to 35 are concerned, they are the usual clauses relating to procedure and they are self-explanatory, and clause 36 provides for power to make rules for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of the Act. Clause 37 provides for the recovery of arrears of the tax as arrears of land revenue and clause 39, read with the Schedule, provides for repeal and amendments of the existing laws in so far as they relate to the tax on motor spirits, aviation spirit and high speed diesel oil.

These, Madam Chairman, are the important features of the Bill. I have tried to explain some of the important clauses of the Bill and I do hope that this measure, which has been approved by the Assembly, will also be approved and passed by this House.

The additional revenue collected by this measure, I believe, will be about Rs. 25 lakhs.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH (Maharashtra South-Local Authorities): Madam Chairman, I want to ask only one question. I want to know as to what would be the qualifications of the members of the Tribunal.

श्री बच्छाराज एस्. व्यास (विदर्भ स्नातक): माननीय उप-सभापति महोदया, आज माननीय वित्त-मंत्री द्वारा मोटर-स्प्रिट टैक्सेशन संबंधी जो विधेयक इस सदन के सामने प्रस्तुत किया गया है उसपर प्रथम वाचन के वक्त मैं अपने विचार प्रदर्शित करना चाहता हूँ इस विधेयक की दफा २६ में यह कहा गया है कि राज्य सरकार जिस व्यक्ति को खास अधिकार देगी कि वह व्यक्ति, यदि उस ऐसा शक आये कि इस कानून से बचने के लिये किसी जगह मोटर-स्प्रिट छिपाया गया है और गलत तरीके से उसका व्यापार किया जा रहा है, तो किसी भी घर में, किसी भी जहाज पर, किसी भी वाहन में, किसी भी अन्य स्थान पर या किसी भी वक्त जाकर तलाशी ले सकता है। मेरा सुझाव इस सम्बन्ध में यह है कि सेल्स टैक्स या इन्कम डिपार्टमेंट में इस तरह का अख्तियार सेल्स टैक्स इन्स्पेक्टर को या इसी तरह के किसी ऊँचे पदाधिकारी को दिया जाता है कि जरूरत पड़ने पर तलाशी ले इस तरह का अधिकार एक बड़े अधिकारी को इसलिये दिया जाता है ताकि वह अधिक जिम्मेदारी से अपने कर्तव्यों का पालन कर सके। जब सरकार इस कानून के द्वारा इस तरह का तलाशी का अधिकार देना चाहती है तो कम से कम वह अधिकार किसी ऊँचे पदाधिकारी को ही दिया जाना चाहिये ताकि वह उसके कर्तव्य का पालन ठीक तरह से कर सके। सेल्स टैक्स इन्स्पेक्टर से जिसका पद निम्न श्रेणी का हो, ऐसे किसी व्यक्ति को इस तरह का अधिकार न दिया जाय। मैं समझता हूँ कि शासन इस पर सोच समझ कर निर्णय करेगा।

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA: Madam Chairman, I would answer the two points that have been raised. The first point is as regards the Tribunal, I might state that the Tribunal will be of the same calibre as in the case of the Bombay Sales Tax on general commodities. It would be presided over by a person who has experience of the High Court Judgeship or he would be a District Judge of several years' standing and very likely the same Tribunal which looks after the Sales Tax on general commodities, will be the Tribunal under this Act also.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, I quite appreciate the point of view expressed by the hon. Member. It is only an enabling provision that is sought to be made. That does not mean that when Government gets the power to raise the cess, Government would immediately or without sufficient justification raise the cess. In the existing Act, there has been the power with

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Government to raise the cess to Rs. 10, but Government has not raised it for a number of years now. Similarly, there is the power to raise the sales tax on petrol up to 20 per cent. But Government has not increased the tax to that extent. Therefore, I do not think there need be any fear in the mind of my hon. Friend that because the House is pleased to give the power to Government to raise the cess to a certain extent, Government would automatically do so without taking the various relevant factors into consideration. Supposing, for the sake of argument, a considerable profit is made on the commodity by the persons concerned, then I see no reason why, in that case, Government should not be in a position to raise the cess.

Question put, and agreed to.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XIV of 1958 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Sugarcane Cess Act, 1948, to the rest of the State of Bombay and to repeal the Hyderabad Sugarcane Cess Act, 1953) be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 and 3, the short title and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XIV of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XIV of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XXVIII OF 1958 (A BILL TO VALIDATE THE REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN PARTNERSHIPS IN THE KUTCH AREA OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY).

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXVIII of 1958 (A Bill to validate the registration of certain partnerships in the Kutch areas of the State of Bombay), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 11th April 1958.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The Bill is introduced.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXVIII of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, this Bill has been moved with a view to validating certain actions of Subordinate Judges in the Kutch area of the State. Under section 5 of the Indian Partnership Act, 1932, these Subordinate Judges were authorised to exercise powers and perform duties of the Registrars of Firms within their jurisdiction up to 31st January 1957. But by a notification issued under section 122 of the States Reorganisation Act,

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the Registrar of Firms, Bombay, as the Officer competent, was to exercise the functions formerly exercisable by the Subordinate Judges in Kutch as the Registrars of Firms within their areas. But in spite of this notification, the Subordinate Judges continued to exercise the powers and perform the duties of the Registrars of Firms within their respective jurisdictions. It is, therefore, necessary to validate the acts of such Subordinate Judges in relation to the registration of firms within their area during the period from 1st November 1956 to 31st January 1957. I may mention for the information of the House that the total number of such irregular registrations was 17 in the Anjar Taluka, 2 in Mandvi, 9 in Bhuj and a few elsewhere. It is really for the purpose of validating the acts of registration done by these officers that Government has come forward before the House with this Bill.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : Will the Hon. Minister tell the House how many officers were involved, and whether any steps were taken against them for acting against the specific orders of Government?

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : There was a Subordinate Judge in each of the five talukas. Administratively, the Subordinate Judges are under the High Court, and it is entirely for the High Court to take action against them, and not for Government. I take it that the High Court has taken suitable action against them.

श्री बच्छराज एस्. व्यास : माननीय उप-सभापति महोदया, रजिस्ट्रार ऑफ फर्मस का जो ऑफिस बम्बई में है उसे पुराने बम्बई राज्य में फर्मों को रजिस्ट्रार करने का अधिकार था, स्टेट रिऑर्गनाइजेशन के बाद, विभिन्न पुराने राज्यों के जो हिस्से बम्बई राज्य में समाविष्ट किये गये हैं, उन विभागों में जो फर्मों रजिस्ट्रार करानी हो तो उन्हें रजिस्ट्रार करने का भी अधिकार रजिस्ट्रार ऑफ फर्मस को, जिसका ऑफिस बम्बई में है, उसे दिया गया है। रजिस्ट्रार ऑफ फर्मस का जो ऑफिस पहले नागपुर में था उसे बाद में बम्बई में लाया गया और नागपुर में जो दरखास्ते ली गई थीं उन्हें बाद में बम्बई भेजा गया, इससे वहाँ के लोगों को काफी नुकसान उठाना पड़ा है।

कच्छ एरिया में राज्य की पुनर्रचना के पश्चात् वहाँ के सबॉर्डिनेट जजसे पहले की ही तरह १ नवम्बर, १९५६ से ३१ जनवरी, १९५७ तक उस विभाग के लिये रजिस्ट्रेशन ऑफ फर्मस का काम करते रहे हैं, उस दौरान में हुये फर्मों को वैलिडेट करने के ब्याल से यह बिल यहां प्रस्तुत किया गया है। मुझे आश्चर्य इस बात का होता है कि सन १९५६-५७ में हुई गलती को सन् १९५८ के अप्रैल में सुधारा जा रहा है। उस जमाने में जो ट्रस्ट या फर्म रजिस्ट्रार हुई हैं उनको वैलिडेट करने की कार्यवाही इतनी देरी से करने के कारण उन्हें काफी नुकसान उठाना पड़ेगा। इसकी जिम्मेदारी किस पर आती है? यहां पर यह कहा गया कि इस दौरान में जो एक छोटीसी गलती हो गई थी उसे सुधारने के लिये यह विधेयक यहां लाया जा रहा है। लेकिन मैं इस गलती को छोटीसी गलती नहीं मानता। शासन जिसे छोटीसी गलती कह रहा है उससे काफी लोगों का नुकसान हुआ है। सन् १९५६-५७ के जिन मामलों में वैलिडेशन की कार्यवाही की जाना आवश्यक था वह आज सन् १९५८ में विधेयक लाकर की जा रही है। इस काम में इतनी देरी क्यों हो रही है यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता।

उप-सभापति : जो विधेयक सदन के सामने विचारार्थ है उसी पर आपको बोलना चाहिये।

श्री बच्छराज एस. व्यास : उप-सभापति महोदया, मैं विधेयक पर ही बोल रहा हूँ। इस विधेयक को यहाँ प्रस्तुत करने में जो देरी की गई उसके बारे में मैं अपने विचार यहाँ रख रहा हूँ। मैं इतना ही बताना चाहता था कि इस विधेयक को यहाँ सदन के सामने प्रस्तुत करने में जो देरी हुई उसके कारण जिन फर्म्स या ट्रस्ट का रजिस्ट्रेशन उस दरमियानी मुद्दे में कच्छ में किया गया था वह अब नुकसान होगा। इतना कहते हुये मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ।

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, this irregularity happened only during the period of three months from November 1956 to January 1957. So far, I know that no harm has been done to any of the litigants by such an irregularity. The purpose of regularising this Act is that no harm is done to any party concerned. I hope the hon. Member will be satisfied. I can understand the fears in the mind of the hon. Member is that there has been delay in getting this validated. This irregularity extending over a period of three months is not such a long period, by the important thing is that no harm is done to anybody. If the actions of the Subordinate Judges are validated, then no harm will come to anybody.

Question put, and agreed to.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXVIII of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clause 2, clause 1 and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXVIII of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXVIII of 1958, as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 11th April 1958, is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XXIX OF 1958 (A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF A TAX ON PASSENGERS CARRIED IN CERTAIN CLASSES OF PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES IN THE STATE OF BOMBAY).

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXIX of 1958 (A Bill to provide for the levy of a tax on passengers carried in certain classes of public service vehicles in the State of Bombay).

In this connection, I may state that in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clauses (1) and (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay Motor Vehicles (Taxation of Passengers) Bill, 1958.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXIX of 1958 is introduced.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXIX of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, so far as this Bill is concerned it provides for the levy of a tax of ten per cent. on the amounts collected by way of fare plus tax by operators of stage carriages in respect of all passengers carried by them. This tax is not to be levied in respect of stage carriages which ply exclusively in the municipal areas or on such routes serving municipal and adjacent areas as may be approved by the State Government. This particular provision is made because so far as big cities like Bombay, Poona, Ahmedabad or Nagpur or such other places are concerned, the passengers have to make use of the State Buses—whether they are run by the State or by the Corporation—several times during the day and if such a taxation was to be put on all passengers it would mean a heavy burden on them. Therefore, the municipal areas or areas adjacent to municipal areas have been exempted by Government from such a levy. It will thus be seen that from every rupee received by an operator he will have to pay 10 naye paise as Tax to Government. I want to make the position perfectly clear that there is no additional surcharge of 10 per cent on the fare as imagined by some people. Whatever amount is collected by the operators, ten per cent of such amount will be paid as tax to Government. It would also be necessary to clarify the position here that in view of the necessity of converting the existing fares in terms of decimal coinage, certain variations in the currency of the fare are necessary. I may mention, for the sake of argument, that so far as the mofussil areas are concerned the charge is 3 annas for every 4 miles. At 3 annas it would amount in decimal currency to 18.68 naye paise, and as the aim has always been to try and see that this collection is in terms of a unit of five naye paise, the nearest approach to this amount of 20 naye paise; that means, if 10 per cent. of the realisation was not to be effected, then the additional 1.32 naye paise as a result of fixing the fare in decimal currency, would go to the coffers of the transport organisations. Government feels that, instead of those organisations benefiting, the amount so realised should be taken over by Government as tax. Otherwise, what would happen? With the larger income of these corporations and the corporations being commercial organisations, they will have to pay a larger share out of their profits for income tax purposes. It is better, when we need funds for our own second Five Year Plan, that the additional amount is realised by the operators for the purpose of the State. The idea is that money is to be reckoned in terms of 5 naye paise per mile. So 10 per cent. of 5 naye paise would be .5. So .5 naye paise will go to the State and 4.5 naye paise will be credited to the various corporations as their charge per mile. So, so far as the .5 naye paise which will go to the State is concerned, a certain proportion of it will be realised from the decimal coinage and a certain amount, which comes to 40 per cent. of the amount, will be taken from the profits of these corporations, so that, to that extent, the measure would be helpful as an anti-inflationary measure to a certain extent.

This is the main purpose of the Bill. It would be applicable throughout the State.

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

So far as the various clauses of the Bill are concerned, clause 3 relates to the levy of tax on passengers carried by stage carriages. So far as the other clauses are concerned, they provide for the submission of returns, the payment of tax to be made by the operators, the assessment and recovery of the tax or distraint proceedings in the case of stage carriages in respect of which tax is not paid or periodical returns have not been submitted. Clause 10 provides for prohibition of the use of a stage carriage on a public road when the tax due in respect of it is not paid or if returns required to be submitted by the operator have not been submitted. Clauses 11 to 21 make miscellaneous provisions for the administration and enforcement of the tax, which are self-explanatory, and clause 22 empowers Government to make rules for the purposes of this Bill. The rules are required to be published one month in advance, except on the first occasion.

These are the various important provisions of the Bill and I would commend it for the acceptance of the House.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE (Maharashtra-Graduates): Madam Chairman, I wish to oppose the first reading of this Bill.

When we were discussing the Budget, hon. Members on this side were of the opinion that the proposals of Government for any new taxation were not justified. We already know that Bombay is a very heavily taxed State, and, therefore, any new addition to the existing taxation would not be welcomed by any section of the House.

So far as the levy of this tax is concerned, I believe Government has not taken into consideration the reports on this subject by the two Committees which were appointed by Government. One report is that of the Taxation Enquiry Commission and the second one of that of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Enquiry Committee. At pages 87-88 of the Taxation Enquiry Commission report, a reference has been made to the tax on passengers and goods. There a table has been appended and it has been stated there that in Assam, Bihar and Madras, some sort of tax on passengers and goods is being levied. It has been mentioned there as follows:

"The proposal of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Enquiry Committee that carrier taxes of this kind should be abolished has been opposed by the States concerned....." and later on, in the same report, it has been stated,

"Ultimately the burden of both the motor vehicles tax and the tax on passengers and goods falls on the user of the motor vehicles and neither tax can be considered in isolation."

It will thus be seen that, from whatever angle you look at the tax, there will definitely be an increase of nearly 6 per cent. in the actual fare to be paid by the passengers, as a result of the conversion into the new decimal coinage. That is because the present rate is 9 pies per mile, and it has been pointed out that, by converting it into naye paise, it would come to 4.67 naye paise. The proposal of Government is to round off that figure, which means that it would be 5 naye paise per mile and the difference would actually be .33 naye paise per mile.

Another point is that the S. T. stage is ordinarily a four-mile stage or a two-mile stage at present. So, if Government wants to stick to the old stage

[Dr. V. D. Sathaye]

structure, even in the case of the two-mile stage the rate should not be more than 9 naye paise for 2 miles.

Then, Madam Chairman, apart from the increase in the passenger fare, I would bring to the notice of Government that, so far as these two reports are concerned, it has been stated that the taxes on motor vehicle in India are the highest in the world. It has been estimated that India is paying the highest taxes on motor vehicles. Not only that, the petrol tax and price of petrol so far as India is concerned is the highest in the world. Therefore, so far as motor transport is concerned, the price of petrol as well as that tax on vehicles are very heavy, and, there is no case made out by Government for any additional taxation on the industry. It has also been stated that, out of the 10 per cent. tax, 6.5 per cent. will fall on the passengers themselves and 3.5 per cent. will be taken out from the income of the transport organisations, and, therefore, there will be an indirect taxation on the passengers to the extent of 6.5 per cent.

When we were discussing the report of the State Transport organisation, we all felt that 9 pies fare structure was rather high and we have urged that, so far as the mileage rate is concerned, it should be brought down to 7½ pies per mile. Now Government proposes to raise this rate from 9 pies in the old coinage to 5 naye paise, that means, instead of bringing down the rate and consequently the passenger fare, the passengers are asked to pay nearly 6.5 per cent. more than the old fare.

Then, Madam Chairman, according to the present calculation, the fare is 5 naye paise, 4.5 naye paise will go to the Corporation and .5 will go to Government. Actually we find that, as against 5 naye paise which will be collected under the present fare structure, the Corporation will be collecting 4.5 naye paise, which means that the Corporation will have to pay at least 1.2 per cent. to Government extra from their own funds. Today we find that the taxation is sufficiently high and Government has not made out a case that the motor industry or the passengers will be able to bear the additional burden, even if it is taken that the new burden would be only 6 per cent. It has also been pointed out here that ultimately it would be the passengers who would be hit very hard by this measure.

Then, Madam Chairman, it has been mentioned in the Report also that before we come to the conclusion as regards the proper fares, there should be alternative lines side by side to make a comparison. But we find that in the Bombay State 99 per cent. of the motor transport business has been nationalised and therefore, we have no scope to compare whether the 9 pies structure or scope to compare whether the 9 pies structure or the 5 naye paise structure is proper or not. We do not accept the Government view that the present structure is the minimum possible one under the working of the State Transport Corporation.

Then, Madam Chairman, in that Report it has also been mentioned that any increase in the passenger fares or any increase in the tax on the motor vehicles is bound to affect the other industries also in the State. Therefore on these various points I oppose the Bill.

Dr. D. D. KARVE (Maharashtra Graduates) : Madam Chairman, I want to raise a point of order. In the Preamble of the Bill it is stated :

“Whereas it is expedient to provide for the levy of a tax on passengers

Then again in line 3 of clause 3 it is stated that there shall be levied and paid to the State Government a tax on all passengers. But the Hon. Minister in charge of the Bill has just now explained that really speaking this would not be a tax on the passengers. The Bill is mis-named.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : This is no point of order. What I said was by way of explaining the position to the House as to how the tax measure will operate. But the Bill makes it clear in the Preamble that there would be a levy of tax on passengers and this has also been made clear in clause 3 of the Bill. I have merely explained the procedure of recovering the tax. There would be a tax to the extent of 5 per cent. which would be included in the fares to be charged to the passengers.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I hold that the point raised by the hon. Member is no point of order. What the Hon. Minister has said is by way of an explanation only.

શ્રી. છમીલદાસ પી. મહેતા (સોશલ લોકલ ઓથોરીટીઝ) : અધ્યક્ષશ્રી, બસ ફેર વધારવા માટેનું જે બિલ સભાગૃહ સમક્ષ આવ્યું છે તેનો હું વિરોધ કરું છું. સૌથી પ્રથમ તો આ લેવી દ્વારા ટેક્સ નાખવાનો સરકાર જે પ્રયત્ન કરે છે તેનો સૈધ્ધાંતિક રીતે આ હાઉસ વિરોધ કરે તેમ હું ઈચ્છું છું. બસના ફેરની અંદર સમાનતા લાવવાના નામે અને દર્શાવે ચલાવે પદ્ધતિના નામે બસમાં મુસાફરી કરતી વ્યક્તિઓ ઉપર કરનો બોજે આ બિલ દ્વારા વધારવામાં આવી રહ્યો છે. આ કરનો બોજે મુસાફરો સહન કરી શકે તેમ નથી. આજે એવો કોઈ પ્રસંગ નથી કે જેને કારણે રાજ્ય સરકારને કર નાખવાની જરૂર પડે. ખાસ કરીને બસની અંદર ગામડાના લોકો મુસાફરી કરતા હોય છે. એવી સ્થિતિ પણ હોય છે કે ઘણાં ગામડાઓને સ્ટેશન નજીક પહોંચી નથી અથવા તો રેલ્વે સ્ટેશન જ હોતું નથી એટલે મોટા ભાગની ગ્રામજનતા બસ મારફત મુસાફરી કરે છે. રાજ્યના થોડા ભાગમાં સ્ટેટ ટ્રાન્સપોર્ટની બસો ચાલે છે જ્યારે થોડા ભાગમાં ખાનગી કંપનીઓની બસો ચાલે છે. સામાન્ય રીતે હું જાણું છું ત્યાંસુધી જુદા જુદા વિભાગોની અંદર સ્ટેટ ટ્રાન્સપોર્ટની જે બસો ચાલે છે ત્યાં માર્ઈવે નવા પાઈ મુસાફરો પાસેથી ઉઠાવે છે. જ્યારે ખાનગી કંપનીઓ જ્યાં પોતાની બસો ચલાવે છે ત્યાં સાડા છ પાઈ માર્ઈવે લે છે અને સહકારી ખાનગી માલિકોની સરખામણીએ સ્ટેટ ટ્રાન્સપોર્ટ માર્ઈવે વધારે દર લે છે. હિસાબમાં ૪૬૮ નવા પૈસા આવે છે એને બદલે પાંચ નવા પૈસા નક્કી કર્યા. સામાન્ય રીતે લોકો એમ માનતા હતા કે વધારાનો જે આ નફો કોર્પોરેશન અથવા તો ખાનગી કંપનીઓ ઘટાડો કરીને શહત આપશે. કારણકે જુદી જુદી રીતે બધી જાતના સાધનો મારફત સીધા એટલે આ વધારાનો કરબોજે અન્યાયી છે અને ગેરવ્યાજબી છે. બસમાં મુસાફરી કરતા પેસેન્જરોને વધારે સગવડતા આપવા માટે તેમજ બસના દરમાં શહત આપવા માટે સરકારે આ દરખાસ્ત છે એ વ્યાજબી નથી. એટલે આ ગૃહના માનનીય સભ્યશ્રીઓને વિનંતી કરું છું કે તેઓ આ બિલનો વિરોધ કરે અને આ બિલને નીચલા ગૃહને પાછું મોકલીને ભલામણ કરે કે આ લેવી નાખવાનો જે સિધ્ધાંત છે તેને આ ગૃહ સ્વીકારનું નથી.

શ્રી. જી. એમ. સુભેદાર (વિદર્ભ ગ્રેજ્યુએટ્સ) : અધ્યક્ષ બાઈસાહેબ, અંદાજપત્રકાવર જેવ્હાં હ્યા સભાગૃહાંત ચર્ચા જ્ઞાલી તેવ્હાં સરકારચ્યા કરવિષયક ધોરણાવર બરીચ ચર્ચા હોબૂન મોટારીને પ્રવાસ કરણાચ્યા પ્રવાશાંવર વ ત્યાંચ્યા બરોબર અસલેલ્યા સામાનાવર જાસ્ત કર આકારણી કરળેં હેં અન્યાયાચેં આહે અસેં મત વિશેષતઃ વિરોધી પક્ષાચ્યા સન્માનનીય સભાસદાંનીં વ્યક્ત કેલેં હોતેં. અશા રીતીનેં અંદાજપત્રકાવર વિરોધી પક્ષાંનીં આપલેં મત વ્યક્ત કેલ્યાનંતર આમ્હાંલા અશી આશા વાટત હોતી કીં, સરકાર હ્યા ગોષ્ટીચા પુનર્વિચાર કરૂન હા કર માગેં ઘેઝીલ. પળ જ્યાઅર્થી હ્યા બાબતીંત કોળત્યાહિ પ્રકારેં પુનર્વિચાર ન કરતાં તો કર બસવિખ્યાસાઠીં સરકારનેં હેં બિલ સભાગૃહાપુઢેં આળલેં આહે ત્યાઅર્થી હ્યા બિલાલા અત્યંત તીવ્રતેનેં વિરોધ કરળેં હેં હ્યા સભાગૃહાંતીલ પ્રત્યેક સભાસદાચેં કતંવ્ય આહે અસેં મી સમજતોં.

હેં બિલ માંડીત અસતાંના નામદાર અર્થ મંચ્યાંનીં સારવાસારવી કરૂન હ્યા કરાવા બોજા સર્વસાધારણ જનતેવર પડગાર નાહીં અસેં ખાસવિખ્યાચા પ્રયત્ન કેલા. ત્યાંનીં અસેં સાંગિતલેં કીં, અકંદરેં જો ૧૦ ટકકે કર બસનાર આહે ત્યાપૈકી ૫ ટકકે કર સરકાર પરસ્પર કોર્પોરેશનકડૂન વસૂલ કરનાર આહે વ બાકીચી જી વાઢ આહે તો પ્રત્યક્ષ કરવાઢ નસૂન નવ્યા નાખ્યાંમુઢેં પડગારા તો ફરક આહે. અધ્યક્ષ બાઈસાહેબ, નામદાર મંચ્યાંનીં જરી અશા પ્રકારેં સારવાસારવી કરણ્યાચા પ્રયત્ન કેલા અસલા તરી આતાં જનતા યામુઢેં ફસનાર નાહીં. હા કર સરકાર કોળાકડૂનહિ વસૂલ કરનાર અસલેં તરી હ્યા કરાતૂન જનતા સુદૂં શકત નાહીં. મલા સરકારલા અસેં સાંગાવયાચેં આહે કીં, મુંબઝી રાજ્યાંતલી જનતા આઘીંચ કરાંચ્યા બોજાલાલીં ઝિતકી વાંકૂન ગેલી આહે, વિશેષતઃ ગરીબ શેતકરી આળિ મજૂર વર્ગ યાંતા આર્થિક પરિસ્થિતિ ઝિતકી દુઃસહ જ્ઞાલી આહે કીં, યાચ્યાપુઢેં એક પૈચાહિ કર દેખ્યાંની ત્યાંચી કુંવત રાહિલી નાહીં. નામદાર મંચ્યાંનીં અસેં સાંગિતલેં કીં સરકાર હા જો કર બસવીત આહે ત્યાંતૂન જનતેચ્યા ફાયદાચ્યા અશા ચાંગલ્યા ગોષ્ટી કરનાર આહે. સરકારનેં આજપર્યંત જીં આશ્વાસનેં દિલીં ત્યાપ્રમાળેં સરકાર વાગત આલેં અસેં તર જનતેચા સરકારચ્યા હ્યાહિ આશ્વાસનાવર વિશ્વાસ બસલા અસતા, પળ આજપર્યંતચા જનતેલા આલેલા અનુભવ ફાર વાઝીટ આહે. દિલેલ્યા આશ્વાસનાંપ્રમાળેં સરકાર આજપર્યંત વાગલેલેં નાહીં. વિદર્ભામધ્યેં અજૂનહિ કિત્યેક ખાસગી મોટાર વાહતૂક કરનારે લોક કિવા કંપન્યા આહેત. યાંચ્યાકડૂન હા કર વસૂલ કરણ્યાચેં સરકારનેં કિતીહિ ઠરવિલેં તરી કર ચુકવિખ્યાચેં અનેક માગેં હ્યા કંપન્યા અવલંબિતાત અસા આજપર્યંતચા અનુભવ આહે. વિદર્ભામધ્યેં સધ્યાં જાસ્તીંત જાસ્ત ખાસગી મોટારવાલે અસલ્યામુઢેં હ્યા કરામુઢેં વિદર્ભાંતીલ જનતેચેં જાસ્તીંત જાસ્ત નુકસાન હોનાર આહે. વિદર્ભામધ્યેં ૧૪ ટકકે મોટાર વાહતુકીચેં રાષ્ટ્રીયીકરણ જ્ઞાલેલેં આહે આળિ બાકીચી ૮૬ ટકકે વાહતુક ખાસગી કંપન્યાંચ્યા માર્ફત ચાલવિલી જાતે. તેવ્હાં હા જો ૧૦ ટકકે કર વાઢનાર આહે તો પ્રવાશાંકડૂન વસૂલ કેલ્યા-શિવાય હે મોટારવાલે રાહનાર નાહીંત. વિદર્ભામધ્યેં ખાસગી કંપન્યાંચ્યા મોટારીતૂન પ્રવાસ કરણ્યાચા જ્યાંના યોગ આલા અસેલ ત્યાંના હા પ્રવાસ કિતી ત્રાસદાયક આહે યાંચી કલ્પના અસેલ. હ્યા મોટાર કંપન્યાંકડૂન પ્રવાશાંના અત્યંત અમાનુષપળેં વાગવિલેં જાતેં. કાપા નસતાંના શઠ્ઠા મેંઢઘાંપ્રમાળેં હ્યા મોટારીંત પ્રવાશાંના કોંબલે જાતેં વ ત્યાંચ્યાશીં અરેરાવીચી વાગણૂક કેલી જાતે. વિદર્ભાંતીલ લેંઢઘાપાઢઘાંતીલ જનતેલા એકા ગાંવાહૂન દુસચ્યા ગાંવાલા જાણ્યાચે પ્રસંગ વારંવાર યેતાત, તેવ્હાં ત્યાંના મોટારીચ્યા પ્રવાસાલેરીજ દુસરેં સાધન નાહીં. તેથે રેલ્વેચી સોય નાહીં. ત્યાંચપ્રમાળેં મુંબઝીપ્રમાળેં નેશનલાઇઝ્ડ ટ્રાન્સપોર્ટસુઢાં ફારચ કમીં પ્રમાણાંત અસલ્યામુઢેં તેથીલ જનતેલા ખાસગી મોટાર કંપન્યાંવરચ અવલંબૂન રાહાંવેં લાગતેં. અશા પરિસ્થિતીંત તેથીલ પ્રવાશાંવર હા કર લાવળેં હા વિદર્ભાંતીલ જનતેવર અન્યાય નાહીં તર દુસરેં કાય આહે ? અસા સવાલ મલા નામદાર અર્થ મંચ્યાંના વિચારાવાસા વાટતો. તેવ્હાં હેં જેં વિધેયક સભાગૃહાપુઢેં માંડણ્યાંત આલેં આહે ત્યાલા પ્રત્યેક સન્માનનીય સભાસદાંનીં કડકડૂન વિરોધ કેલા પાહિજે. જર હેં બિલ પાસ જ્ઞાલેં તર વિદર્ભાંતીલ જનતા હ્યા બિલાચ્યા વિરુદ્ધ આવાજ બુઝવિલ્યાશિવાય રાહનાર નાહીં વ ત્યાચ્યા અંમલબજાવળીલા

[श्री. व्ही. अम्. सुभेदार]

विरोध केल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही अेवढें सांगून मी ह्या बिलाला कडकडून विरोध करतो व माझे भाषण संपवितो.

श्री. के. आर्. पाटील (विदर्भ-लोकल ॲथॉरिटीज) : माननीय अध्यक्ष बाईसाहेब, ह्या वर्षाच्या अंदाजपत्रकांत जी तूट आली आहे ती भरून काढण्यासाठी सरकारने जी काही मेझसे घेण्याचे ठरविले आहे त्यापैकी ह्या कराच्या रूपाने सरकार १ कोटी २० लक्ष रुपये भरून काढणार आहे, असे नामदार अर्थ मंत्र्यांनी सांगितले आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे ह्या कराचा बोजा सर्वसाधारण जनतेवर न पडता १० टक्के जो कर वाढणार आहे त्यापैकी ५ टक्के कर सरकार परस्पर अेस्. टी. व जे कोणी खासगी मोटारवाले असतील त्यांच्याकडून वसूल करणार आहे असेहि त्यांनी सांगितले आहे.

अध्यक्ष बाईसाहेब, हा कर बसविण्यामागे सरकारची असलेली वृत्ति पाहिली म्हणजे असे आश्चर्य वाटते की, स्वतःला रूरल वायस्ड म्हणवून घेणाऱ्या ह्या सरकारने शहरी जनतेला ह्या करातून मुक्त ठेवले आहे, व बहुतेक सगळा कर खेड्यापाड्यांतील जनतेवर बसणार आहे. शहरांतील व म्युनिसिपल ॲरियामधील लोकांना त्या ॲरियामध्ये नेहमीच प्रवास करावा लागतो म्हणून जर त्या लोकांना ह्या करातून मुक्त ठेवावयाचे, तर मी नामदार अर्थ मंत्र्यांना असा सवाल विचारू अिच्छितो की, खेड्यापाड्यांतील जनतेवर कर बसवायला तेथे काय सुबत्ता लागून राहिली आहे काय? आज खेड्यापाड्यांत अशी परिस्थिति आहे की, तेथील शेतकरी समाज कर्जबाजारी झालेला आहे, त्याची क्रयशक्ति घटलेली आहे, आधीच द्याव्या लागणाऱ्या करांच्या ओझ्याखाली ती जनता वांकून गेली आहे, अशा परिस्थितीत अेक नवे पण अर्घ्या पैचाहि जास्त कर देण्याची कुवत त्या जनतेमध्ये आज राहिलेली नाही. वास्तविक, शहरांतील जनतेचे राहणीमान बरेच अंभ आहे, तेथील लोकांची आवक जास्त असून क्रयशक्तीहि पुष्कळ आहे, असे असतांना सरकार हा कर शहरांतील जनतेवर बसवावयास तयार नाही. यावरून अेकच गोष्ट सिद्ध होते की शेतकरी वर्ग अशिक्षित आणि असंघटित आहे ह्या गोष्टीचा फायदा घेवून सरकार ह्या गरीब लोकशाहीच्या आणि समाजवादाच्या कितीहि घोषणा केल्या तरी अेक गोष्ट कधीहि लपून मजुरांवर राज्य करीत आहेत आणि शहरे खेड्यांच्या हक्कांवर आक्रमण करीत आहेत.

यानंतर ह्या करांतील कांही भाग जो वाढणार आहे तो नव्या पैशांमध्ये हिशोब केल्यामुळे वाढणार आहे असे नामदार अर्थ मंत्र्यांनी आपल्या भाषणांत सांगितले. यावरून हेच दिसून येते की, ही नवी नाणीं गरीब शेतकऱ्यांच्या आणि कामगारांच्या मुळावरच आली आहेत. नव्या नाण्यांमुळे असो किंवा प्रत्यक्ष करांत वाढ केल्यामुळे असो, अेक गोष्ट सूर्यप्रकाशाअितकी स्पष्ट आहे की, हा कर खेड्यापाड्यांतील प्रवाशांवर पडणार आहे.

यानंतर हा जो १० टक्के कर बसविला जाणार आहे त्यापैकी ५ टक्के कर सरकार परस्पर मोटारमालकांकडून वसूल करणार असल्यामुळे त्याचा बोजा प्रवाशांवर पडणार नाही हे जे नामदार अर्थ मंत्र्यांनी सांगितले आहे त्याबाबतीत मध्यप्रदेशमध्ये आम्हांला फार वाईट अनुभव आलेला आहे. मध्यप्रदेशमध्ये जेव्हा त्या वेळच्या सरकारने पेट्रोलवर कर बसविला त्यावेळी मोटारमालकांनी तो कर प्रवाशांवर ढकलला. याला अेक प्रकारे सरकारहि जबाबदार होते. ग्यालनमार्गे ४ आणे कर वाढविण्यांत आला होता. जळगांव ते खामगांव ह्या अंतराला पेट्रोलसाठी जास्तीत जास्त १२ आणे खर्च येतो, असे असतांना जळगांव ते खामगांव ह्या प्रवासाला पूर्वी १ रु. १ आणा पडत असे त्याअेवजी करवाढ झाल्यानंतर मोटारवाले १ रु. ५ आणे लावू लागले. हा जो अनुभव आम्हांला मध्यप्रदेशांत आला तोच अनुभव ह्या कराच्या बाबतीत येथेहि येणार याबद्दल मला मुळीच शंका वाटत नाही.

[श्री. के. आर्. पाटील]

यानंतर, अध्यक्ष बाईसाहेब, करवाढीच्या बाबतीत मला सरकारला अेक सूचना करावीशी वाटते. सरकारचे अेक स्वतंत्र स्टॅटिस्टिक्स डिपार्टमेंट आहे व त्या खात्यामार्फत प्राजिस अिडेक्स, कॉन्स्ट ऑफ लिव्हिंग अिडेक्स तयार करण्यांत येत असतात त्याप्रमाणे आपल्या राज्यांतील जनतेवर सरकारने आजपर्यंत जे कर बसविले आहेत त्यांत कसकशी वाढ होत आहे याबद्दलचाहि अेक अिडेक्स तयार करून घेण्याची सरकारने व्यवस्था केली पाहिजे. असे केले म्हणजे खरोखरी सरकार बसवीत असलेले कर देण्याची जनतेत ताकद आहे की नाही हे समजण्यास सोपे जातील. हा अिडेक्स तयार केला तर मला खात्री आहे की, आपल्या राज्यांतील जनतेने कर देण्याच्या कुंवतीचा संच्युरेशन पॉअिट केव्हाच ओलांडला आहे. ही गोष्ट आंकड्यानिशी सिद्ध व्हावी म्हणून हा अिडेक्स करण्याची सूचना मी केली आहे. ह्या आंकड्यावरून जर असे दिसून आले की, करांचे प्रमाण आणि जनतेची कर देण्याची कुवत ही संच्युरेशन पॉअिट ओलांडून गेली आहे, तर यापुढे अेका पचाहि कर बसविण्याचा नैतिक अधिकार ह्या सरकारला राहणार नाही. ह्या बिलान्वये सरकार प्रवाशांवर जो कर बसवीत आहे तो खेडूत जनतेवर घोर अन्याय आहे असे मला सरकारला सांगायचे आहे. नामदार मंत्र्यांनी सांगितल्याप्रमाणे हा वाढलेला कर प्रवाशांवर पडणार नाही असे आश्वासन सरकार देणार असेल तर त्यांत कांही तथ्य आहे, पण असे आश्वास जरी सरकारने दिले तरी ज्या भागांत अजून वाहतुकीचे राष्ट्रीयीकरण पूर्णत्वाने झालेले नाही अशा विदर्भासारख्या भागांत मोटारवाले त्याच मोटारीत जास्त प्रवासी कोंबून शबटी हा कर जनतेकडून वसूल केल्याशिवाय राहणार नाही. आजच विदर्भात अशी परिस्थिति आहे की, ४० सीटर मोटारीत १२० माणसे गुरांसारखी कोंबण्यांत येत असल्यामुळे चांगल्या घरंदाज बायकांना मोटारीने प्रवास करण्याची सोय राहिलेली नाही. जे सरकार आम्हांला घरंदाज बायकांना मोटारीने प्रवास करण्याची सोय राहिलेली नाही. जे सरकार आम्हांला सॅक्रिफाईस करावयास सांगते त्या सरकारनेच हा कर न बसवितां जर सॅक्रिफाईस करून दाखविला असता तर ते सरकारला शोभून दिसले असते.

ह्या बिलाबाबत माझे मुख्य आक्षेप असे आहेत की, पहिल्याप्रथम ह्या बिलान्वये शहरांतील जनता आणि खेड्यांतील जनता यांत फरक करण्यांत आला आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे नव्या नाण्यांच्या हिशोबामुळेहि ह्या करांत कांही वाढ होणार आहे. ह्या नव्या करामुळे जनतेला त्याच्या बदल्यांत कोणत्याहि प्रकारचा मोबदला मिळेल असे खात्रीलायक आश्वासन न देतां सरकारने हा कर बसविण्याचे ठरविले आहे. ह्या सरकारच्या कारभारांमध्ये हा जो अनागोदी व्यवहार चालू आहे तो पाहून कोणीहि लाजेने मान खाली घालील.

तेव्हा वर दिलेल्या कारणांस्तव मी ह्या बिलाला कडकडून विरोध करतो आणि अशी सूचना करतो की, ज्याप्रमाणे सरकारने अितर बाबतीत अिडेक्सेस तयार केले आहेत त्याप्रमाणे करांचाहि संच्युरेशन पॉअिट वर्क ऑट करण्यासाठी करांचाहि अेक अिडेक्स तयार करण्याची व्यवस्था करावी. अेवढें सांगून मी रजा घेतो.

श्री तिलावत अली (बम्बई विधान सभा द्वारा निर्वाचित) : उप-सभापति महोदया, इस हाउस के सामने आज जो बिल लाया गया है उसे देखने से मालूम होता है कि टैक्स पर टैक्स बैठाने के ख्याल से यह बिल लाया जा रहा है और यह चीज बड़ी अजीब है। जो पैसिजर आज मोटर से सफर करते हैं वे पहले से ही टैक्स दे रहे हैं। इस बिल के जरिये आज पहले से ही जो टैक्स अदा कर रहे हैं उन्हीं से और टैक्स लिया जानेवाला है। उसूल-कानून यह है कि टैक्स पर टैक्स वसूल नहीं किया जा सकता। उस लिहाज से देखा जाय तो यह बात उसूल-कानून के खिलाफ की जा रही है कि टैक्स पर टैक्स वसूल किया जा रहा है। इस तरह से डबल टैक्स नहीं लिया जा सकता ऐसा मैं समझता हूँ। लेकिन शायद इस उसूल को पेशे-नज़र नहीं रखा गया है।

[શ્રી તિલાવત અલી]

દ્વિતીય વાત એ છે કે ટેક્સ, ગરીબ કિસાન તથા મજદૂર, જો મોટર સે સફર કરે છે, તેમના માટે બેઠકવાળા છે. જો લોકો મ્યુનિસિપલ ઇરિયાજીના ક્ષેત્રમાં રહે છે, તો તેમને આપ એમિનિટીજી તો દેવામાં નથી, પરંતુ તેમને ટેક્સ બરાબર વસૂલ કરવામાં આવે છે. મ્યુનિસિપલ ઇરિયાજીના ક્ષેત્રમાં રહેતા લોકો પાણી, તાલીમ, અસ્પતાલ, આદિની સહાયતા નથી લેતા, પરંતુ જો કોઈ ટેક્સ વસૂલ કરવામાં આવે છે તો તેમને બરાબર ટેક્સ વસૂલ કરવામાં આવે છે. જો ગવર્નમેન્ટના ક્ષેત્રમાં રહેતા લોકો ટેક્સ વસૂલ કરતા હોય તો તેમને ટેક્સ લેવામાં આવે છે અને તેમને સહાયતા નથી મળતી. સિવિલ ટેક્સ લગાવવાના કાયદાની નીતિ સરકારની ન હોવી જોઈએ, તેના કાયદામાં આપણે સમાવેશ કરવામાં આવે છે.

શ્રી રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ (મુંબઈ વિધાનસભા તરફથી ચૂંટાયેલ): માનનીય સભાપતિજી આપણી સામે બસ દ્વારા મુસાફરી કરનારા ઉપર નવા ટેક્સ લેવામાં આવે છે. આપણને ખ્યાલ છે કે દેશના બીજા રાજ્યોની સરખામણીમાં મુંબઈ રાજ્યમાં કરવું પ્રમાણ સૌથી વધુ છે. આ નવા ટેક્સની જે દરખાસ્ત આવી છે તેનાથી લોકોના જીવન ઉપર વધુ બોજા ઉભરાયો છે. લોકોને એમ આશા હતી કે સ્ટેટ ટ્રાન્સપોર્ટનું રાષ્ટ્રીયકરણ થતાં સવલતો વધારે થશે, ભાડું ઓછું થશે પણ એને બદલે આપણે જોઈએ છીએ કે રેલ્વેના થર્ડ ક્લાસના ભાડા કરતાં સ્ટેટ ટ્રાન્સપોર્ટનું ભાડું સરખામણીમાં ઘણું ઊંચું રહ્યું છે. આમાં ફેરફાર થયો નથી. જે સવલતો છે તેમાં કોઈ જાતનો ફેરફાર અત્યાર સુધી થયો નથી એટલું જ નહીં પણ ભાડાનો દર વિશેષ ઊંચો કરવામાં આવ્યો છે. મુંબઈ પ્રાંતમાં દર વર્ષે લગભગ વીસથી પચીસ લાખ માણસો મુસાફરી કરે છે, બસમાં મુસાફરી કરતા લોકો ઉપર આ એક માત્ર ટેક્સ પડતો નથી પણ સાથોસાથ આડકતરા બીજા ટેક્સો પણ પડે છે. માટર, સ્પારીટ, ડીઝલ ઓઈલ આ બધી વસ્તુઓ પર ટેક્સ પડે છે. આખરે આ બધા ટેક્સો પેસેન્જર પાસેથી જ વસૂલ થવાના છે. આ જાતના ટેક્સો માત્ર એક વર્ષ માટે જ નાખવામાં આવે છે એવું નથી પણ દર વર્ષે જુદી જુદી રીતે ટેક્સ નાખીને લોકોના જીવનમાં એક પ્રકારની મોંઘવારી લાવવામાં આવે છે. જ્યારે બીજા બાજુથી લોકોની જે આવક છે તે ઓછી થતી જાય છે. લોકોની આવક ઊંચે આવે એ માટેનાં સાધનો સરકાર પ્રાપ્ત કરી આપવાનો વિચાર કરતી નથી. તેથી ઊલટું નવા બોજા જુદાજુદા સ્વરૂપમાં વધારતા જાય છે. વધતા કરોના બદલામાં સરકાર તરફથી લોકોને જે કંઈ મળ્યું હોય તો તે શીખામણ અને પ્રચાર જ છે. પ્રચાર સિવાય હકીકતમાં એની પાસે કશું નથી.

આ રાજ્યની રચના પછી વાસ્તવિક રીતે લોકોને શું ફાયદો થયો છે? એની શું સ્થિતિ છે? લોકો જે કરવેરા દ્વારા પૈસા આપે છે તેના બદલામાં તેઓના જીવનમાં શું સુધારો થયો છે? સુધારો થવાને બદલે પ્રજાનું જીવન વધુ કઠીન બન્યું છે. હવે દરમાં સમાવેશ લાવવાના નામે તથા નવા પૈસાને નામે ભાડાં વધારીને ટેક્સ વધારવામાં આવી રહ્યા છે. આ ઉપરાંત આપણે જોઈએ છીએ કે સરકાર એવાં કોઈ પગલાં ભરતી નથી કે જેથી કરીને સ્ટેટ ટ્રાન્સપોર્ટ કોર્પોરેશનમાં કરકસર થાય અને આ કરકસરના પરિણામે તેવી વ્યવસ્થા કરવા સરકાર પ્રયત્ન કરતી નથી. સરકાર જે કંઈ શોધે છે તે માત્ર ટેક્સનું સાધન શોધે છે. આજે લોકો ઉપર યુધ્ધ ભાદ લગભગ દસ ગણા ટેક્સ નાખવામાં આવ્યો

[શ્રી રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

છે અને સરખામણીએ છ ગણી મોંઘવારી વધી છે. સ્થિતિ એ છે કે લોકોને એક જગ્યાએથી બીજી જગ્યાએ મુસાફરી પણ કઠીન અવસ્થામાં કરવી પડે છે. ત્યારે એની ઉપર આવી રીતે આડકતરા ટેક્સ આવે છે અને બોજો વધે છે. તેથી મને લાગે છે લોકોની જીંદગી વધુ અસહ્ય બનવાની છે એનો વિચાર સરકારે કરવો જોઈતો હતો. બીજી રજૂ કરતાં પહેલાં એક વાત લક્ષમાં લેવી જોઈતી હતી કે લોકો ઉપર હવે બીજા ટેક્સ નાખતાં પહેલાં કરકસર કરીને અથવા તો બીજી રીતે વ્યવસ્થા કરી પ્રજા ઉપર વધુ ટેક્સ ન પડે તે જાતની યોજના કરવી જોઈતી હતી.

શ્રી. બચ્છરાજ એસ. ધ્યાસ : ઉપસભાપતિ મહોદયા, यहां पर जो विधेयक आज विचारार्थ पेश किया गया है उसपर अपना व्यक्तिगत देते समय माननीय अर्थमंत्री जी ने कहा कि यह टेक्स सफर करनेवालों पर नहीं लेकिन व्यापारियों पर बैठनेवाला है, लेकिन मैं इस बात को मानने के लिये तैयार नहीं हूँ। हम यह देखते हैं कि व्यापारियों पर 3-30 p.m. जहां टेक्स बैठाया जाता है वहां वह आखीर में कंज्यूमर पर ही पड़ता है। इस विधेयक के जरिये जब आप मोटर मालिकों से टेक्स लेंगे तो वे अपने टिकट के दर बढ़ा देंगे। इस प्रकार आखीर में वह पैसा पैसेंजर पर ही पड़नेवाला है। अपना पूरा बोझ मालिक लोग दूसरी ओर ट्रांसफर कर देते हैं। गवर्नमेंट टेक्स तो सामान्य जनता तथा गरीब किसान और मजदूरों से लेती है लेकिन उनको जो सुविधाओं दी जानी चाहिये वह नहीं देती। यह जो प्रायवेट मोटर कंपनियां हैं वे आज काफी मुनाफा कमा रही हैं पुराना जो बम्बई राज्य था वहां बहुत बड़े प्रमाण में मोटर ट्रांसपोर्ट का नेशनलाईजेशन यानी राष्ट्रीयकरण हुआ था। लेकिन यहां जो राष्ट्रीयकरण जिस उद्योग का किया गया उसमें पहले जितना अस्ताह लोगों की तरफ से बताया गया था वह धीरे धीरे कम होता गया और ऐसा महसूस किया जाने लगा कि यह राष्ट्रीयकरण कुछ ज्यादा तेजी से किया गया और जिसकी गति कुछ कम की जानी चाहिये। केन्द्रीय सरकार ने भी इस बात को महसूस किया और राष्ट्रीयकरण की गति को कुछ कम करने का निर्णय किया, ऐसा मेरा ख्याल है। अतः ही नहीं लेकिन कुछ हद तक निजी उद्योगों को ज्यादा प्रोत्साहन देने की भी केन्द्रीय सरकार की नीति है।

विदर्भ विभाग में अबतक जिस उद्योगका बड़े प्रमाण में राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं हुआ है जैसा कि पुराने बम्बई राज्य में हुआ था। इसका नतीजा यह होनवाला है कि आप जिस विधेयक के द्वारा जो टेक्स बैठाना चाहते हैं उसका बोझ ज्यादा तर विदर्भ की जनता पर ही पड़नेवाला है। जब यह कानून पुरे बम्बई राज्य के लिये लागू किया जायेगा तो वहां के लोगों पर बड़ा अन्याय होगा। ज्यादातर गरीब किसान और मजदूर जो मोटर से सफर करते हैं और जो म्युनिसिपल इरियाज के बाहर रहते हैं जैसे लोगों को ज्यादा टेक्स देना पड़ेगा जब कि उन्हें कुछ भी सुविधाओं शासन की ओर से या म्युनिसिपलिटी की ओर से आज नहीं दी जा रही है। माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने जिस तरह का कुछ भी आश्वासन नहीं दिया है कि यह टेक्स मुसाफिरों पर नहीं पड़ेगा। आपने मोटर मालिकों पर यह टेक्स लगाया भी हो, लेकिन वे अतनी हद तक अपने टिकटों के दर बढ़ाकर उन्हें जो टेक्स देना होगा वह मुसाफिरों से वसूल कर लेंगे।

जिस विधेयक की दफा तीन की ओर मैं सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। उसमें बताया गया है कि स्टेज केरेज के द्वारा जो लोग प्रवास करेंगे उनसे टेक्स वसूल किया जायेगा। जिन मोटर मालिकों को जिन प्रवासियों द्वारा जो आमदनी होगी उसका अधिक से अधिक १० प्रतिशत तक टेक्स के रूप में राज्य सरकार द्वारा लिया जायेगा। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि जिस विधेयक में शासन द्वारा शहर और देहात की जनता में करक किया गया है। शहरों के आसपास जो देहात होते हैं वहां के लोगों को उन शहरों पर

[श्री. बच्छराज अस्. व्यास]

ही अपने अदरनिर्वाह के लिये अवलंबित रहना पड़ता है। और उन्हें कितने ही बार अनेक देहात तथा उस शहर के बीच में चक्कर लगाने पड़ते हैं। मोटर के अलावा दूसरा कोई साधन उनके पास आवागमन के लिये नहीं रहता है। इसका नतीजा यह होगा कि वह जो टैक्स आप लगा रहे हैं उसका अधिकतर बोझा मध्यम और गरीब जनता पर ही पड़ेगा।

जिस विधेयक की दफा तीन में कुछ अंशों का बताना बताया गया है। पहली बात उसमें यह बताई गई है कि जो मोटरें म्युनिसिपल अरियाज में चलाई जाती हैं उनपर यह टैक्स नहीं लगेगा उसी तरह से म्युनिसिपल अरिया को तथा अडजेसन्ट अरिया को जोड़नेवाली जो बसें या मोटरें होंगी उनमें सफर करनेवालों पर भी यह टैक्स नहीं लगेगा। लेकिन उसमें यह बताया गया है कि "adjacent areas as may be approved by the State Government" जिसका मतलब यह है कि यह जो अडजेसन्ट अरिया होगा वह राज्य सरकार तय करेगी। यह अडजेसन्ट अरिया किस तरह से तय किया जायेगा यह हमारे सामने सवाल है। कई स्थान ऐसे होते हैं जहाँ लोगों को अपने काम के लिये दिन में दस बारह बार एक स्थान से दूसरे स्थान पर मोटर द्वारा जाना पड़ता है और छोटी छोटी म्युनिसिपलिटियों के अरिया ३-४ मील से ज्यादा नहीं होते हैं ऐसी हालत में उस स्थान के आसपास रहनेवाले लोगों पर यह टैक्स नहीं लगाया जाना चाहिये। जिस संबंध में मैं कुछ अंदाहरण यहां पेश करना चाहता हूँ। भंडारा गांव स्टेशन से ४-५ मील दूर है और स्टेशन से गांव तक काफी लोग आया जाया करते हैं। कामटी से नागपुर भी काफी आवागमन चलता है कितने ही लोग रोज नागपुर से कामटी कई कई बार आया जाया करते हैं। अडजेसन्ट अरियाज जो शासन द्वारा तय किये जायेंगे उसमें इन बातों का भी ख्याल किया जाना चाहिये। यदि जिस तरह से किसी स्टेशन और गांव का फासला ज्यादा हो तो स्टेशन और गांव को अडजेसन्ट अरिया करार दिया जाना चाहिये और जिस आवागमन पर यह टैक्स नहीं लगाया जाना चाहिये। मेरा सुझाव है कि शहर के आसपास का कम से कम १० मील का क्षेत्र अडजेसन्ट अरिया माना जाना चाहिये। जिससे कि जिन लोगों का जीवन उस शहर पर अवलंबित हो उसपर टैक्स का बोझा न डाला जाये और जिस तरह का आवासन सरकार या शासन की ओर से दिया जाना चाहिये कि ऐसे लोगों पर टैक्स का अधिक बोझा नहीं डाला जायेगा इतना कहते हुये मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ।

Shri M. V. DONDE (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra Teachers): Madam Chairman, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated that in order to tap a new source of revenue, it is proposed to levy this tax. The idea appears to be only to tap a new source of revenue and thus add to the income of the State. Therefore, the point is: "Is it necessary to add to the present burden of taxation?" If it is necessary, then the next question which arises is whether it is justifiable to tax the people by a new source of revenue. From these two or three points of view, I would like to criticise the present Bill.

First of all, I would like to mention that in the Budget for the year 1958-59 the deficit is estimated at Rs. 3 crores. The income is estimated at Rs. 110 crores or thereabout. It was pointed out at the time of the Budget discussion that the deficit of Rs. 3 crores can very well be kept uncovered. I had pointed out at that time that even in the Central Budget, out of the estimated deficit of Rs. 32 crores, a deficit of Rs. 27 crores was left uncovered because estimates are after all estimates and the practice that has been followed is that generally the income, is under-estimated. That is why every time we find that at the

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end of the Budget year, the deficit is turned into surplus. Therefore, it is not necessary at the present moment to try to tax more and at the same to find out new source of revenue.

Then again, even if it is necessary to add to the present taxation, the next question which arises is whether it is justifiable to levy this particular tax. It has been made clear on the floor of the House that these two items viz. the motor vehicle tax and the passenger tax should be considered together. It has been alternatively pointed out that neither of these two taxes can be considered in isolation because one has some effect upon the other. As regards the tax on motor vehicles, it has been pointed out by my hon. Friend Dr. Sathaye that our taxation is the highest in the world. In this connection, we have the advantage of having the Report of the Motor Vehicle Taxation Enquiry Committee, 1950, and in that Report the figures of taxation up to the year 1948-49 are given. It may be said that these figures are out of date, but I would like to bring to the notice of the House if at all there has been any change in these figures, it has been this that in the case of the other countries, the taxation on the motor vehicles has been brought down but in our country we have recently increased it. It is interesting to note that in Great Britain in 1948-49 the taxation per vehicle was Rs. 417. In the case of France the taxation for that year was Rs. 377. In the Union of South Africa it was Rs. 289, in the U. S. A. it was Rs. 398 and in India in that year the taxation per vehicle was Rs. 1,232. After that we have added to the taxation. We have not brought it down while in the case of the other countries the taxation has been considerably brought down. The fact is, therefore, quite clear that our taxation is the heaviest at present and there is absolutely no justification to increase it. Government should have taken this House into confidence and informed the House and the two proposals of motor vehicle taxation and the taxation on the passengers ought to have been considered together and not in isolation because, as I said, one has some effect on the other. Therefore, as I have said, the increase in the levy of the tax is not necessary and even if it is proved that it is necessary, this particular levy on the passengers is certainly unjustifiable.

Then, Sir, it is said that we want to develop our villages and make them perfectly habitable in the sense that they should have all modern amenities like good roads, lights, hospitals, schools, etc. We want to develop all our villages for two reasons. One is that if this is done, the health of the villagers will be improved and secondly, if they are developed, the overcrowding in the municipal areas of the different places will also be relieved. But the communication between the villages and the municipal areas would become more difficult by the burden of this additional taxation and, therefore, our very object of developing them would be frustrated. Really speaking, in order to see that more and more communication and transport facilities are made available to the villagers, we should see that the burden of taxation is lower and the passage from the municipal areas to the village areas and vice versa is made quite easy. I am not going into the discussion of the administration of the present transport structure, viz. whether it is good or bad because that would be entirely a different thesis. My point is that we have to see that

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the villages are properly developed. In order to achieve that object, the first and the foremost thing is to see that there are more and more communication facilities between the cities and the villages; secondly we have to see that all kinds of facilities are given to promote the village industries. Therefore, I oppose the additional taxation because, firstly, it is not necessary; secondly, the form of the taxation which is proposed is unjustifiable; and thirdly, if Government insists upon doing it, it must be in the interest of the country as a whole which is not so in the present case because it will not lead to the development of the villages and it will not lead to relieving the overcrowding of the cities. On these grounds, I oppose this Bill.

I think that Government has not taken this matter quite seriously because Government has simply said that in order to tap a new source of revenue they propose to levy this tax. But is there any necessity of having a new source of revenue? If there is any real justification, then the people would be ready to shoulder the additional burden. But that is not so. We have been already taxed most. Moreover, only very recently the Hon. the Finance Minister made a complaint against the Central Government that we have been treated quite unfairly by the different Commissions. In spite of that the Hon. the Finance Minister has himself come to the House with a proposal to tax the people. I would certainly like all our energy, intelligence and capacity to be utilised to fight with the Union Government in the matter of getting our dues in the divisible pool of taxes, but not like to treat the poor public in the way in which the hon. the Finance Minister proposes to do. I, therefore, oppose the Bill.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH : Madam Chairman, I wish to make a few observations on this Bill. This Bill embodies the gift by the Finance Minister to the public travelling in buses. At the time when this proposal was mooted, at the time of presenting the Budget for this year, there was a great reaction against it, and all sorts of persons and parties opposed the proposal. In view of the reaction, I should have thought that the Finance Minister would drop the proposal, instead of giving the clever explanation that he has given to the reaction. What I would like to point out is that this taxation has been proposed knowing full well that it will hit hard the poor people, and in spite of the hue and cry raised against the proposed taxation. The only redeeming feature of this taxation is that it has added to the growing unpopularity of the Government. Beyond that, I do not think any useful purpose has been served by the proposed taxation. Both in the House and outside the House, almost everybody has opposed the tax. Even most of the hon. Members belonging to the majority Party, have loudly opposed this taxation outside the House. I quite see that the Finance Minister had no other alternative but to resort to some sort of taxation to cover up the deficit in some form or other because of the injustice done to our State by the Finance Commission and the Central Government. We all appreciate his efforts and the battle given by him to the Central Government on behalf of our State in getting our share in the taxes. We quite see that the blame lies on the Central Government, and not on him. But my point is this, that instead of resorting to this type of taxation, he could have thought of some other taxation that would not have meant a burden

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the poor people. I think I have already made the proposal that if at all a new source of taxation has to be resorted to, then it should be a sort of a professional tax in the City of Bombay. Of course, Bombay City people would not like the idea. Bombay is a cosmopolitan city, where people from different places come to earn their living, and we are spending so much of our revenues on the City of Bombay, proportionately, of course. If we spend for the City of Bombay proportionately more than for our rural population, then there is no reason why we should not have some sort of new taxation for the City.

Now the other aspect of the matter is this. From the budget speech, it will be seen that in order to justify our share in the divisible pool of the taxes, our Finance Minister has exhausted 18 out of the 20 sources of revenue. That shows the cleverness of our Finance Minister and is a sufficient justification for the Central Government to give us our due share in the taxes. But, unfortunately, the efforts of our Finance Minister did not materialise. Now he has only two sources of revenue to be tapped, and when they are exhausted, he may have to resort to some such taxation (*Interruption*). But we have to oppose tooth and nail this taxation. It was said that there may not be any need for fresh taxation.

It has been said that this taxation has been thought of because of the introduction of the decimal coinage. It was said that this is not a new taxation, but only collecting what the State Transport or the other private operators have not done. If so, how is it that no reference was made to this aspect of the matter in the Budget speech?

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : It was pointed out during the course of the discussion on the Budget.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH : What I feel is that this explanation is an after-thought. Anyway, I have not been able to appreciate it. Like the State Transport and other private bus operators, there are other agencies which have been benefiting by the introduction of the decimal system of coinage, and how is it that Government thought of taking a slice from the profit that the State Transport is making? I do not think the idea underlying the taxation is to take away a part of the profit that the S. T. or other bus operators have been making because of the decimal system of coinage (*Interruption*). It so, why is this called a tax on passengers? Even supposing that on account of the decimal system of coinage the State Transport is making some profit, then it could be spent on the improvement of the service leading to more and more comforts to passengers. Therefore, the profit ground also cannot be a justification for the proposed tax. If there had been no deficit in the Budget, I do not think the Finance Minister would have had to resort to this taxation. Because there is a deficit, it has to be covered, and therefore, this taxation has been resorted to. Therefore, the real reason for the taxation is not the introduction of the decimal coinage, but wiping out the deficit in the Budget. The proposed tax is a tax, pure and simple, on bus passengers. During war-time, there used to be over-crowding in buses and people used to travel even on foot boards. People were told that they should not travel unless it was

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absolutely necessary to do so. Now the emphasis will be the other ground. People would be told that they should travel as much as they can, so that Government would get more and more revenue from the tax. Though we do not deny that Government has to resort to some taxation to wipe out deficits in Budgets, we very much dislike taxing poor people.

Sir, Government says that this is really no new taxation. If so, why have it at all? If there is a deficit to be covered up, then I think it could have been done by pruning the expenditure on certain items. But the Government has certain fads. Take, for instance, prohibition. If total prohibition had not been extended to the newly added areas, much of the expenditure could have been avoided. Partial prohibition could have been tried in those areas, but they would not do it, though certain facts about Prohibition indicate the need to go slow with it. Therefore, it is no fault of the hon. Members of the Opposition if they raise a hue and cry regarding the policy of prohibition. It is not only members from this side, but even Congress men have been repeatedly saying that prohibition has not been working satisfactorily. For example, recently, the Hon. Minister for Prohibition had gone to Sholapur where he was told by the Veteran Congressman, Shri Chanusing, that illicit distillation of liquor was going on, on a large scale, and that illicit liquor was being auctioned in the city of Sholapur. He was prepared to prove his statement by facts and figures. So, this was the challenge given by a veteran Congressman who is the President of the District Congress Committee. I do not want to dilate on this point, but what I want to stress is that we could have avoided certain expenditure obviating the need for this taxation. Though I am not a student of economics, I feel that some other tax could have been imposed to cover the deficit instead of imposing this burden on the poor people. That would have been better. They say, justice should not only be done, but should also be done speedily so that people must feel that it is done. Now, what is the reaction of the people to this taxation? I do not say that Government has done nothing for the people. They have done a lot for their benefit. And yet, what do the people feel? They do not feel happy. Any taxation such of this adds much to this feeling of unhappiness.

Coming to the various provisions of the Bill, I find that certain provisions are very drastic. I want to point out one of such drastic provisions. Take, for instance, clause 8, which provides for penalty for non-payment of the tax. The clause reads thus—

“Where the whole or any portion of the tax payable to the State Government in respect of any stage carriage for any month or portion thereof in pursuance of sections 5, 6 and 7 has not been paid to it in time, the Tax Officer may, in his discretion, levy in addition to the tax so payable, a penalty not exceeding 25 per cent. of the maximum tax which would have been payable to the State Government if the state carriage had carried its full complement of passengers during such month or portion thereof.”

The penalty proposed in the clause is not 25 per cent. of what is actually due from an operator, but 25 per cent. of the maximum payable with the full complement of passengers. This cannot be said to be a just provision, and may

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not stand legal scrutiny. This is indeed a very harsh provision. Now, let us take another provision, namely, clause 15. This clause provides for the imposition of a fine up to a certain extent on failure to pay the tax, and also the imposition of certain additional payment. This means double penalty for which there is no parallel in any law. So taking these very drastic and harsh provisions into consideration, I would request the hon. the Finance Minister to re-consider this aspect of the matter and see whether it would be proper to retain the provisions in their present form.

Sir, these were some of the observations which I wanted to make on the Bill before the House. I have done.

श्री. अच्. बी. भिडे (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंब्लीने निवडलेले): माननीय अध्यक्ष बाजीसाहेब, नामदार अर्थमंत्र्यांनी मोटर पॅसेंजरसंवर नवीन कर बसविण्यासाठी जे बिल सभागृहापुढे मांडले आहे त्याला विरोध करण्यासाठी मी आभा आहे. वन्हाडसारख्या ज्या भागांत स्टेट ट्रान्सपोर्टच्या मोटारी अजून चालू झालेल्या नाहीत त्या भागांतील सन्माननीय सभासदांनी याबद्दल आपले दुःख व्यक्त केले आहे, पण त्यांना कदाचित् हे माहित नसेल की, ज्या भागांत स्टेट ट्रान्सपोर्टच्या मोटारी पहिल्यापासून चालू आहेत त्यांना ह्या मोटारी किंवा ही संस्था म्हणजे अंक पांढरा हत्ती होऊन बसला आहे. स्टेट ट्रान्सपोर्टच्या मोटारी पहिल्याने चालू झाल्या तेव्हा मुरुवातील लोकांना थोडे बरे वाटले. दर मैलाला १ पै अतका खर्च सर्वसाधारण माणसाला परवडणारा नसताना सरकारने ही योजना लोकांवर लादली होती. मोटार वाहतूक जेव्हा खासगी मालकीची होती त्या वेळीच सरकारने जर त्यांना थोड्या जास्त सवलती दिल्या असत्या तर सरकारला ह्या भागगडीत पडायचे लागले नसतं. पूर्वी ज्या रस्त्यावरून २० किंवा २२ पॅसेंजरसंची गाडी चालविण्यास सरकार परवानगी देत नसे त्याच रस्त्यावरून आता ५० पॅसेंजरसंच्या गाड्या स्टेट ट्रान्सपोर्ट निवास्यापासून चालविल्या जात आहेत. याशिवाय, ह्या गाड्यांत जास्त प्रवासी कोंबले जाताना ते निराळेंच. ह्या मोटारीवर असा अंक बोर्ड लावलेला असतो की, ५ टक्के ओव्हरलोडिंगला परवानगी आहे. मला हे समजत नाही की, जर पॅसेंजरसंच्या जागा भरलेल्या आहेत तर त्याच्याखेरीज आणखी ५ टक्के जास्त पॅसेंजरसं कां घेतले जावेत? ह्या ओव्हरलोडिंगचा परिणाम असा होतो की, मोटार चालत असताना जर मध्येच अकदम थांबली तर सर्व पॅसेंजरसं अकदमावर आदळतात. प्रवाशांवर जास्त कर वाढवीत असताना प्रवाशांची सोय करण्याची जबाबदारी मात्र सरकार आपल्यावर घ्यायला तयार नाही. स्टेट ट्रान्सपोर्ट हे एक स्वतंत्र युनिट आहे, तेव्हा त्यांच्या कारभारांत सरकारला हात घालता येत नाही अशी सबब सरकारकडून सांगण्यांत येते. ह्या मोटारीतून लोकांना फारच कमी सामान फुकट नेता येतं याबद्दल मी या ठिकाणी मागे अकदा तक्रार केला होती, व लोकांचीहि ही तक्रार आहे, पण ही तक्रार दूर करण्याचें कांहीं सरकार मनावर घेत नाही असें दिसतं. प्रवाशांवर अधिक कर बसविण्याचें मात्र सरकारने ठरविले आहे.

यानंतर डेसिमल पॉइंट कॉंजिनेजमुळे प्रवाशांना कांहीं अधिक कर जास्त द्यावा लागणार आहे असें नामदार मंत्र्यांनी नुकतेच सांगितले. पण याचा अर्थच मला समजत नाही. ह्याच डेसिमल कॉंजिनेजच्या व्यवहारामुळे सरकारच्या अितर खात्यांना जास्त पैसा मिळवो याबद्दल सरकार कांहीं तक्रार करीत नाही, पण याच कारणामुळे जर मोटार मालकांना कांहीं जास्त मिळत असेल तर त्यावर मात्र सरकार ताबडतोब झडप घालायला तयार होतं, तेव्हा मला असें म्हणावयाचें आहे की, अितर खात्यांना यामुळे फायदा होत असल्यामुळे मित्रां ह्या बाबतीत तरी सरकारने ह्या जास्त मिळणाऱ्या रकमेचा कोम सोडला पाहिजे, असें केले असतं तर प्रवाशांना कांहीं तरी रिलीफ मिळाला असता. अेकीकडे प्रवास

[श्री. एच्. बी. भिडे]

करण्याला लोकांना अत्तेजन द्यावे असे सरकार म्हणत असतांना दुसऱ्या बाजूने लोकांचा प्रवास सरकार महाग करित आहे.

दुसरा मुद्दा असा आहे की, मोटार वाहतूक कॉर्पोरेशनकडे गेल्यामुळे लोकांच्या पैशांचे सेंट्रलायझेशन होत आहे. पूर्वी जेव्हा ही वाहतूक खासगी मालकीची होती तेव्हा कित्येक लोकांना अद्योगधंदा मिळत होता आणि मोटारवाल्यांना मिळणारा पैसा त्या त्या भागातच राहात होता. पण आता हा सगळा पैसा कॉर्पोरेशनकडे जातो आणि प्रमाणतः निरनिराळ्या भागांतील लोक गरीब होतात. तेव्हा पॉड ऑफ ल्फेश घेण्याची सरकारची जी शायलीकी वृत्ति आहे ती सरकारने सोडून दिली पाहिजे. सरकारच्या ह्या धोरणामुळे हे लोकांचे आणि लोकांकरिता सरकार आहे असे म्हटले जाते ते योग्य नाही असे म्हणण्याची पाळी येते. मध्यवर्ती सरकारने हे डेसिमल कॉमिनेज आणले हा सर्वसाधारण जनतेला अंक शापच होऊन बसला आहे. प्रत्येक क्षेत्रामध्ये ह्या नव्या नाण्यामुळे अडचण तर येतेच, प्रत्येक वेळी जास्त पैसे द्यावे लागतात. आता २० नवे पैसे दर केला आहे. पण प्रत्यक्ष प्रवास करताना अडचण अशी येते की, मी तीन जुने आणे दिले तर त्याचे १८॥ पैसे होतात असे सांगितले जाते आणखी सव्वा नवा पैसा पाहिजे. पण तेवढ्याचे नाणे नसल्यामुळे साहजिकच नवे दोन पैसे द्यावे लागतात. थोडक्यांत याचा अर्थ आहे की शेवटी प्रवाशांवर याचा भूदंड पडणार आहे. अंकाद्या वस्तूबद्दल जुने दोन पैसे पूर्वी पडत असले तर त्याबद्दल आता नवे चार पैसे द्यावे लागतात. जुने दोन पैसे बरोबर नवे तीन असे जरी सरकारने ठरविले असले तरी प्रत्यक्ष व्यवहारात चार नवे पैसे द्यावे लागतात. प्रत्येक बाबतीत सरकार जनतेकडून पैसा घेऊ पाहतो हे चांगले नाही, सरकारनेही कोठे तरी स्वतःला तोडीस लावून घेतली पाहिजे. दर चार मैलांच्या अंतराला २० पैसे दर ठेवला आहे त्यावेळी १५ पैसे ठेवले तर जनतेला काही तरी रिलीफ दिल्यासारखे होईल. प्रत्येक वेळी तूट येऊन म्हणून जास्त कर बसविला जातो आणि शेवटी सरकारचा अंदाज चुकून अपेक्षेबाहेर उत्पन्न येते. तेव्हा ह्या गोष्टीचा विचार करून हे जे बिल सरकारने आणले आहे त्याचा फेरविचार करावा अवेढे सांगून मी रजा घेतो.

Shri S. L. OGALÉ (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra-Teachers): Madam Chairman, when I made my speech on the Budget, I criticised it vehemently but I must be honest now in confessing that, when I oppose this Bill today, my opposition cannot be as vehement as it was then because certain explanations have been given, certain clarifications have been made, and as my hon. Friend Shri Deshmukh said, some after-thoughts have also occurred. I do not know whether they are actually after-thoughts, but nevertheless my opposition cannot be as vehement as it was then. I then thought that this tax that was being levied was actually 10 per cent., that means 10 per cent. over and above what the passengers were originally paying, and, therefore, I had vehemently opposed it on three counts: The first was that it was a tax on necessity; the second was that it was a tax on the common man, and the third was that it was a tax without any corresponding relief. These three counts still exist in spite of the explanation that has been given. That it is a tax on the common man has been explained. It is a tax on the rural population. The urban population has mostly been excluded from it, so long as they travel either by rail or by bus. It is a tax on necessity because there is no other alternative for the people. The State Transport has been nationalised and there is no other go for the passengers. They have to travel by S. T. It is

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a tax on necessity, especially on those people who have not got the facility of the railways. Take, for example, a villager coming from his village to the town which is not linked by a railway. Those who come from Poona to Bombay have got a choice, because, if one finds the S. T. costlier, he can travel by the railway, but those people who are not connected with any railway have no other choice, and, therefore, it is a tax on necessity. Thirdly, it is a tax without any corresponding relief, because nowhere in the speech was it stated that the S. T. would look more and more to the amelioration and facilities of the public. Whenever we pay a tax, we expect some corresponding relief, but here, because the S. T. is not going to gain anything out of this, we cannot expect any relief from the S. T. so far as this excess payment is concerned. On these three counts, therefore, my opposition to the tax still remains.

Then, Madam, I had made a fourth point and there I must withdraw my opposition. I am for integration or unification of laws, taxes, etc. and, therefore, I had not opposed all those taxes arising out of the unification of taxes, such as sales tax, stamp duty, etc. but then I had said that in the fare schedules of the various branches of S. T. in the various parts of the State these differences have to remain, because I did not know then that uniformity of rates was going to be made. Nowhere in the speech on the Budget has it been indicated that the tariff schedule is being revised and uniformity in the tariff schedule is being enforced, and, therefore, I had then said that, without first trying to achieve that uniformity in the passenger rates in all parts of the State this tax was being levied, but now it seems from the speech of Hon. the Finance Minister made in the Assembly, copies of which have been supplied to us, that this uniformity in the tariff schedule is being achieved. I am, therefore, going to withdraw my opposition on that count. I may, however, say that all this trouble has arisen because our Finance Minister has tried to hit not only two birds but so many birds at one stroke. Firstly, he is trying to convert the old coinage into new coinage. That is one bird. Secondly, he is trying to achieve uniformity in the tariff schedule. That is the second bird which he is trying to hit. Thirdly, he is trying to grab a part of the revenue which the S. T. is getting. That is the third bird, and thus he has tried to overshoot. Now possibly this cannot be done because, as has been pointed out by the Finance Minister in his speech in the Assembly, when the S. T. was formed, the one intention of Government was that, if the S. T. goes on making profits, those profits should be utilised for public benefit. On page 15 it has been mentioned as follows:

"One of the objects of the scheme was ensuring that road transport services are run in the public interest and that any profits accruing from the operation of such services are utilised for the public benefit."

So, at the very formation of the S. T. itself it was mentioned that, as soon as the S. T. began to make profits, a part of the profits at least should go to the State and not accumulate with the S. T. I quite agree with that. But what I cannot understand is as to why the Hon. the Finance Minister has tried to hit at all the three birds simultaneously. Could this work not have been done piece-meal? The conversion from old coinage to new coinage could have been done at one stage. Bringing about uniformity in the

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measures would have been the second stage, and asking the State Transport Corporation to pay to Government whatever profit they are earning or some part of it could have been the third stage. If this had been done in three stages, the opposition would not have been as vehement as it is now. My hon. Friend Shri Deshmukh had a suspicion that there is some after-thought because in one explanation given by the Hon. the Finance Minister in the Assembly he stated that 20 crores of passengers travel by the State Transport and 2 crores of them are being levied by way of this taxation which meant that every passenger is going to be levied to the extent of 10 naye Paise—this was a simple arithmetic and now we are being told that every passenger would be taxed only 6 naye Paise more and the rest of the amount would be paid by the State Transport Corporation. We are told that if one takes a travel of 20 miles, then according to the old coinage, the fare would have been 15 annas or 94 naye Paise and according to the present schedule it would be 100 naye Paise. Out of this fare of 100 naye Paise, the share of the Government would be 10 naye Paise but the passenger's share would be only 6 naye Paise and the State Transport Corporation would give 4 naye Paise to Government out of what it is getting. Therefore, we have sufficient ground to believe that there is some after-thought in this explanation. In the original Budget speech the Hon. Finance Minister had stated that the new levy would be 10 per cent. But if he had made at that time itself this point very clear, the criticism would not have been as severe as it has been. No idea was given to us that the uniformity in fares was going to be achieved. No idea was given to us that the conversion from the old coinage to new coinage was going to be achieved. I am speaking about the original speech of the Hon. Finance Minister and not what he stated in his speech of reply. If he had made all these points clear, the opposition would not have been so severe as it is now.

Then, Sir, I want an assurance from the Hon. Minister in one respect. He has stated that no taxation is going to be levied on the urban service. But tomorrow because of the higher taxation on motor spirit and on motor vehicles, the BEST or the Poona Motor Transport may complain to the Government that it has become necessary for them to increase the fares. So will Government give an assurance that they will never give permission to them to increase the rates? If the State Transport Corporation is going to give a part of its profit to the State, that body will also say that it is losing money out of its own revenue and, therefore, it would say that it cannot look to the facilities of the passengers, which they would have ordinarily done. Therefore, I want an assurance from the Hon. the Finance Minister that though the revenue of the S. T. is going to be decreased, the S. T. would be compelled to give all the facilities and amenities to the passengers which they are giving today.

Then, Sir, I turn to the question of conversion. When we introduced the new coinage system, we never thought that it was going to be an indirect way of new taxation. Wherever the new coinage has been introduced, as has been stated by one of the hon. Members just now, it has been at the cost

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of the consumers and the common man. Take the case of the Post Office. According to the table published by Government themselves, two annas are equivalent to 12 naye Paise. But from the day from which the new system came into practice, the Post Office began to charge 13 naye Paise for 2 annas worth envelope or the stamp. And now it is not charging only 13 naye Paise. Slowly it has increased the price to 15 naye Paise. Then again, it is not Government alone, but it is also the traders who are taxing the common man. For one cup of tea, the old price was one anna which is equivalent to 6 naye Paise. But we are being charged 7 naye Paise. Similarly, for those newspapers for which we used to pay one anna formerly, we are required to pay 7 naye Paise. In the other cases also the traders are charging us 13 naye Paise for 2 annas. Thus it is not only the Government, but all concerns are taxing the common man and the consumers, taking advantage of the conversion from old coinage to new coinage. In the case of travel by S. T., for a distance of 4 miles, the old fare is 3 annas which is equivalent to 19 naye Paise but now we are going to be charged 20 naye Paise. So my plea is, why should we not be charged 19 naye Paise only instead of 20 naye Paise. The answer that is given to my question is that 20 naye Paise is a round figure. This is a good excuse but are there not arithmeticians who can multiply 19×2 , 19×3 or 19×4 etc.? Then again the old rate of fare was 9 pies per mile. That was not a round figure. If the fare could be collected at that rate, why should we not charge 19 naye Paise for 3 annas fare? But that is not being done, and that is why I oppose the Bill.

श्री. एम्. एन्. काळे (विदर्भ टिचर्स) : माननीय अध्यक्ष बाईसाहेब, ह्या बिलाला विरोध करण्यासाठी मी आता आहे आणि याचे कारण असे की सर्वसामान्य माणसावर आघात करणारे असे हे कराचे बिल आहे. कोणत्या गोष्टीवर कर आकारता येतील आणि सर्वसामान्य माणसाला कसा त्रास देता येतील ह्या दृष्टीचे सरकारचा विचार चालू असतो आणि म्हणून कोणत्या गोष्टीवर कर बसविता येतील, कोणत्या सुखसोयीवर कर बसविता येतील याकडे सरकार डोळ्यांत तेल घालून पाहतो व पूर्वी ज्या गोष्टीवर कर नव्हता त्यावर कर लादला जातो. आम्हांला असे सांगण्यांत येते की मोटार टॅक्स हा सर्व ठिकाणी सारखा करण्यांत आला आहे. पूर्वी वन्हाडमध्ये आम्हांला जो मोटार टॅक्स किंवा दर घावा लागत असे तो अकडच्यापेक्षा कमी होता, पण आता तो दर वाढणार असून दशमान नाण्याच्या पद्धतीमुळे त्यांत आणखी भर पडणार आहे. अशा प्रकारे ह्या कराचा आघात प्रत्येक माणसावर होणार आहे. तेव्हा, हा कर योग्य आहे काय याचा सन्माननीय सभागृहाचे विचार केला पाहिजे. हा दुहेरी टॅक्स आहे व त्याचा सर्वसामान्य माणसाला जास्त त्रास होणार आहे म्हणून हा कर असू नये असे मला सुचवावयाचे आहे.

दुसरे मला असे सांगवायचे आहे की ज्या वेळी टॅक्स वाढविला जातो त्या वेळी सरकारवर अंक प्रकराची जबाबदारी येऊन पडते. रेल्वेचे टॅक्स वाढविला परंतु लोकांना पिण्यासाठी थंड पाण्याची सोय केली, चांगल्या शेड्स बांधल्या व प्रवाशांना बसावयास बांके ठेवली, अस्. टी. नें कसल्याही प्रकारची प्रवाशांची सोय केली नाही, मात्र लोकांच्याकडून जास्त पैसे अकडण्याची पद्धत चालू ठेवली आहे. अशा तऱ्हेने गोष्टी होत आहेत, तेव्हा प्रत्येकाचे ह्या बिलाला विरोध करण्यासाठी आता राहिले पाहिजे असे मला वाटते आणि म्हणून मी ह्या बिलाला विरोध करण्यासाठी आता राहिलो आहे. आज मोटार ट्रान्सपोर्टचा धंदा संपूर्णपणे सरकारच्या हाती आहे. तेव्हा बजेटमध्ये मोठमोठे आंकडे दाखवून येणारी

[श्री. अम्. अन्. काळे]

तुट भरून काढण्यासाठी टॅक्स बसवावयाचा ही गोष्ट अनुचित आहे. नुकतेच रेल्वेने ३० मलांपर्यंत सर्वसामान्य माणसांना कॅसेशन दिले होते. पण मोटार ट्रान्स्पोर्टच्या बाबतीत कसलेही कॅसेशन न देतां जुलट खेड्यापासून शहरापर्यंत जाणाऱ्यांच्या माणसांवर नवीन कर बसविले आहेत. शिवाय १० नये पैसे हा दर लावल्यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांवर व गोरगरिबांवर जास्त बोजा पडणार आहे. म्हणून हा जो कर बसविण्यांत येत आहे तो योग्य नाही, अचित नाही असे मला ह्या निमित्ताने सुचवावयाचे आहे.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, various points of view have been expressed to indicate that the tax was not necessary, that it is going to be a hardship on the rural population and that it is discriminating between the town and other areas. I should like to deal with the various criticisms as also the other points, which were raised by various hon. Members opposite. I would first make it clear as to the nature of this tax. It may be better expressed as a percentage by way of tax on the total amount collected by way of fares from the passengers plus tax by operators of stage carriages in respect of all passengers carried by them except in respect of stage carriages which ply exclusively in the municipal areas in the State and on such routes serving municipal and adjacent areas as may be approved by Government. This will be worked out by the operator or owner of a transport service and the Collecting Agency. This has been specifically suggested by the Bihar High Court as reported in A.I.R. 1954 and also by the Madras High Court in L.L.R., 1954 Madras, 569. The Madras High Court also confirms the validity of such a collection. As a matter of fact, the case of the Madras High Court as well as the Bihar High Court clear up the position regarding the levy of this tax. Our Act is based on the Madras Act and the Madras High Court has approved the validity of this view. I thought it better to make this clear. Well, if the hon. Members are prepared to test it in a court of law, we are prepared for it. But they have to remember one thing that taxing is one thing and collecting the tax is another thing. I quite see the feelings in the minds of certain hon. Members opposite, and I have tried to make the position clear for them. I think the public may understand that this is not going to be such a harsh measure. I am glad to know from the remarks of the hon. Member Shri Ogale that he has at least to some extent agreed to the measure in certain respects. On a closer study of the measure we will find that the Act is really an important one to enact.

Now, the hon. Member Dr. Sathaye, for the sake of argument, has no objection to the decimal currency coming into operation. He said that the fare can be at the rate of 4 naye Paise instead of 5 naye Paise. Supposing in decimal the ratio is fixed at 4 instead of 5 naye Paise what would happen? If we accept it, the Transport Corporation would have a definite loss of money. Because after all the profit at present is not so much as to compensate the difference of 4 or 5 naye paise. If the fare is reduced to 4 naye Paise to that extent the Corporation will have to incur loss. Then the Corporation would either raise the fares or ask for subsidy, both of which hon. Members opposite have opposed. So the position is quite clear that in course of time, may be within six months or so, all the charges will have to be

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expressed in terms of decimal coinage. If it is to be expressed in terms of decimal currency it is far better, if by such conversion, the profit accrued is used for the State instead of the Corporation purpose. I really cannot understand the arguments of some of the hon. Members opposite in this respect.

Then references were made regarding Vidarbha State Transport. I listened with great care to the remarks of the hon. Members Shri Mehta and Dr. Sathaye. They said that these operators are taking undue advantage of having a licence but they are not giving enough facilities. The proper thing for them would be to ask Government to please nationalise those services. If they want that Vidarbha services are to be improved and if they want to get the benefit, it would be better if they ask Government to nationalise them and also ask the operators to request Government to nationalise them. Government has no objection for that. Government does not want to come in the way of private operators. If the private operators are misusing the service, the proper thing for the hon. Members is to urge for the nationalisation of the service because whatever be the benefits they should go to the people as a whole, but not to the operators. If those operators are running cheap services, how can they complain that this taxation of 10 per cent. on the takings by way of passenger fare is going to cause them deficits. They would perfectly be justified if, for every mile, they charge 5 naye paise. That percentage has been fixed and it would be before the organisations to run their services within the permissible limit.

Then another point was made that Government should not tax passengers in rural areas who are mostly agriculturists and who are put to many difficulties and they are made to suffer and that it would be proper to tax the passengers in the cities. I have fully explained that in so far as cities like Bombay, Ahmedabad, Nagpur and Poona are concerned when a man is required to travel several times during the course of a day, owing to long distances, in that case it will be really an undue taxation, while in the case of rural areas, where the journeys may be relatively occasional it is not so. I am prepared to admit that they have to bear some taxation, but what is the additional cost to them? For every 20 miles that a passenger may go, he will have to pay one anna more. Is that going to be such a great hardship? Is that going to impoverish the people as mentioned by the hon. Member Shri Bhide and other hon. Members? If they pay one anna more for every 20 miles of travel is it really going to be a real hardship? There should be some sense of proportion in the argument. One would not mind taking tea or spending 4 annas on something. If he has to go 10 miles and pay half-anna more he finds it very objectionable. I would like to point out that in the course of a year, so far as the former State of Bombay is concerned, there are approximately 20 crores of journeys. So far as the additional taxation that would be recovered from the said area is concerned, it would be Rs. 1,06,00,000, which would approximately come to 17 crore annas to be charged for 20 crores of journeys. That would come to less than one anna per journey, or 10 pies, per journey, and not 10 naye paise, so that the hon. Member will see that he has made a mathematical miscalculation when he referred to 10 naye paise as additional charge.

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Now, Madam, let us consider this figure of 10 pies, a year, more for the journeys. Is it going to be a hardship on the rural population? After all, the rural population is not so impoverished as my hon. Friend would like me to believe. I can understand the position of the labourers, but so far as a majority of the agricultural population is concerned, they are getting a fair value for their produce. As a matter of fact, their debts have mostly been cleared. So the position of the agricultural classes is not so bad as my hon. Friends opposite might think. I do not know what political label they wear, but this measure exists in the Punjab, where there is purely an agricultural community.

Shri H. B. BHIDE : In the Punjab there are three crops !

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : It may be having even 10 crops, but it has an agricultural population. Then in Madras, which is often suffering from food shortage, this Act has been in operation, and even to those hon. Members who may be communist-minded, I might mention that Kerala has adopted the very basis of this measure. Are there not backward or poorer classes there? My hon. Friends opposite have no answer to that.

So, Madam, one has to realise that Government has to raise the revenue. It was asked as to why money was necessary. We have to carry out the Second Five Year Plan. For that Plan we want every rupee that we can get, and if we can raise that money without undue harassment to the people and if we can raise it when certain changes are being made, I feel that that is the proper thing to do. Even if it means killing ten birds at one stroke it would be all the more welcome, thus killing two birds at one stroke mathematically speaking. So, to my mind, there is nothing serious about the opposition that has been raised.

So far as amenities are concerned, the S. T. Corporation is providing amenities. A large number of new routes are being opened throughout the State. A large number of facilities by way of bus stands are being provided, as also amenities to the staff and amenities to the passengers are also being provided. About that there can be no doubt at all. So all the fears in the mind of the hon. Member Shri Ogale or in the minds of other hon. Members should now disappear.

Then, Madam, there were two points raised by my hon. Friend Shri Deshmukh. One was with reference to clause 8 and the other was with reference to clause 15. He agrees that the penalty may be 25 per cent. of the maximum tax which would have been payable to the State Government, but he feels surprised that that tax should be on the basis of the full complement of the passengers during each month. If a person is not prepared to give you a return, on what basis can you tax him? You have to take it for granted that it is the full complement. Similarly, under clause 15 the provision is that the operator will, on conviction, be punished with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, and if the Magistrate so directs in his order, the person convicted shall pay in addition, as if it were a fine, such specified amount as the Magistrate may determine to be the amount which

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

the person convicted had evaded to pay. Now, here is a fraudulent transaction on the part of the operator. It is not that Government is going to charge him any additional penalty. If the Magistrate, independent of Government, feels that the fraudulent transaction is of such a nature that the person concerned should be further penalised, there is nothing wrong in it. I can quite see hon. Members who have been used to criminal cases and defending all sorts of cases not relishing this, but the fact is that, if a party is capable of doing fraudulent transaction, whom the lawyer defends in a court of law, and if the Magistrate feels that he is worthy of further punishment, I do not think this House should object to it. At least, those who are crying hoarse about anti-corruption measures should welcome such a punishment.

I think, Madam Chairman, I have answered most of the points raised by the hon. Members opposite, and I do hope that the hon. Member Shri Ogale will now feel that some more points of his have been clarified, and, in course of time, he will give his full support to this measure.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I will now put the Motion to the House. The Motion is that L. A. Bill No. XXIX of 1958 be read a first time. Those in favour will say Aye.

Shri C. P. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, I claim a division.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The division will be by show of hands. Those in favour of the Motion will raise their hands. (After a count). Twenty-eight for the Ayes.

Now those who are against the Motion will raise their hands. (After a count). Fifteen for the Noes.

The Motion is carried.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXIX of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 22, clause 1, the Schedule and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXIX of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXIX of 1958 is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XI OF 1958 (A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF A DUTY ON CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY IN THE STATE OF BOMBAY).

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN (Deputy Minister) : Madam Chairman, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XI of 1958 (A Bill to provide for the levy of a duty on consumption of electrical energy in the State of Bombay) as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 8th April 1958.

While doing so, I may also mention that in exercise of the powers conferred, upon him by clauses (1) and (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay Electricity Duty Bill, 1958.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XI of 1958 is introduced.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN : I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XI of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN : The laws pertaining to the levy of electricity duty are different in different areas of the Bombay State. In the former Bombay State the levy was regulated under part II of the Bombay Finance Act. So far as Vidarbha is concerned, it was regulated by the Central Provinces and Berar Electricity Duty Act, 1949. In Saurashtra, the Saurashtra Electricity Duty Act, 1956, is in force and the Bombay Act has been applied in the Kutch area. There is no law in force in the Marathwada area. The present Bill seeks to bring uniformity in all these measures and for this purpose the Bombay Finance Act has been taken as a model. Therefore, the Bombay rate has been applied to all the parts of the State and these rates have been given in decimal coinage. The total increase on account of this would come to about Rs. 22 to 25 lakhs. The exemption used to be given so far for the use of electric power for the small scale industries will be continued and similarly the exemption used to be given for the use of electric power for the agricultural operations in Vidarbha will also be continued under Clause 3(2) of the Bill. With these observations, I commend the first reading of the Bill for the acceptance of the House.

श्री. बच्छराज अंस्. व्यास : माननीय उप-सभापति महोदया, आज यह जो बिल सदन के सामने प्रस्तुत किया गया है उसका अतीव दुःख के साथ मैं विरोध करता हूँ।

अंक सन्माननीय सभासद : आपण मराठीत बोल।

श्री. बी. अंस्. व्यास : आपल्या सरकारची नीति अशी झाली आहे की.....

अंक सन्माननीय सभासद : अध्यक्ष महाराज, सन्माननीय सभासदांना भाषा बदलता येते काय ?

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : If the hon. Member speaks in Hindi I would be able to understand him better than what I would understand if he speaks in Marathi.

Shri B. S. VYAS : But is there any objection to my speaking in Marathi ?

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Let the hon. Member speak in English.

Shri B. S. VYAS : Madam Chairman, much against my desire and only to obey the order of the Chair, on this particular occasion I am speaking in English. There is a Sloka in Sanskrit which is as follows :—

न जातु कामः कामानामुपभोगेन क्षम्यति ।
हविषा कृष्णवत्सव भूय जेवाभिवर्धते ॥

It is said that the satisfaction of the desire can never be achieved inspite of it being fulfilled. It is like adding more and more ghee to the fire. If ghee is added to the fire, then the fire is not quenched but it is increased. The same thing is happening as regards the desire of Government to get more and more taxes. I am finding that the Government benches have now come to the level of supporting the taxation measures not only on the ground of necessity, but in this particular Bill the Hon. the Deputy Minister has stated that Government desires to add to the taxation merely because Government wants it. I think that if a Bill is to be introduced in this House with this spirit and if this House were to accept the consideration of the Bill on such a light principle, then apart from the party feelings—whether I belong to the Opposition Party or to the Government Benches—I must point out that it shall not be true to the interests of the people whom we represent and it would be dangerous to democracy. When the people elect us—irrespective of the party to which we belong—they expect that we shall be faithful to them and that we shall safeguard their interests. I am very pained, and I hope every hon. member of this House is pained, to see that this Bill is being introduced in this House because Government wants more money. If this is the justification for bringing taxation Bills there is no use of quoting books and precedents and talking of welfare State and the good of the people. My submission with regard to this Bill is that this Bill has again shown the Government's policy of making similar laws in the State only on the basis of one motive of making more money. What is the motive of Government to-day ? If I put it properly it would be to make more money. Does Government exist on more money ? Is it the only intention of Government that it should come so cheaply ?

(Recess from 5-00 p.m. to 5-20 p.m.)

Shri B. S. VYAS : Madam Chairman, as I was pointing out the approach to taxation must be from a very different angle than what is presumed and advocated by the Hon. Deputy Minister in his introductory speech. My submission is that we should find out the ways for achieving the developmental objects of our country. So far as this House is concerned, our scope is that in the State of Bombay we should see that after the re-organisation the newly set up Bombay State is able to develop on all cores and in all parts. In Vidarbha and other backward areas they are getting by way of benefit from the present re-organised state only a new series of welfare taxes on longer distances of travel making them more and more unhappy.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member must confine his remarks to the provisions of this Bill. I did not like to bring it to his notice that he was expressing his views on things which have nothing to do with this Bill.

[The Deputy Chairman]

But finding him continuously referring to matters which are absolutely irrelevant and outside the scope of this Bill, I have to draw the attention of hon. Member. He should bring out the drawbacks of this particular Bill only.

Shri B. S. VYAS: The people of Vidarbha, when they look to this Bill, will be feeling only in this way that they have come to the Bombay area and they have been taxed more. Now this heavy taxation has to be paid by the people not only heavily but also with the greatest inconvenience to them. As the Schedule of this Bill shows, the taxes to be levied are not only on the units consumed but on the voltage of different lamp used in homes for household purposes. Generally ordinary persons in their homes have been using 10 or 12 lamps till now and they must not have differentiated between one lamp and the other. But now as per the new calculation the new calculation will be made according to the voltage of different lamps used. If a particular lamp is of 20 or 30 voltage there is one rate of charge and on higher voltage lamps there are higher charges. If in the same house there are 4 or 5 different types of lamps then the calculation will be on that basis. If the Bills of the Electric company in such small places as have no meters be just classified in this way, the difficulties that the calculating companies are having will be increased and they will have to employ more staff for this more delicate and complicated calculation. Mathematics may not be a very good subject, but it is made more painful. If the purpose of Government could be achieved by merely having tax on a voltage basis then this big list would not have been necessary in the Schedule. But besides being big that list is not as is given in the case of Bombay. It would have been very very just on the part of Government to charge more to different areas because, after all, in some parts the use of electricity is 50 to 70 years old. But, I come from an area where electricity has been taken for the first time during the last 3-4 months, on the 26th January, when the electricity was given to certain townships. But that boon has not come in the proper spirit. Government could have said that for areas like Vidarbha, Marathwada or any such area where electricity is not in such a profitable use as it has been in Bombay or other old areas of the States then there could have been lower rates for Marathwada and Vidarbha instead of having one law for this purpose. My submission to the Hon. Deputy Minister and the Government is that Government still should think on these lines that in order to popularise the use of electricity, in order to give a chance to those areas that have come to bigger bi-lingual State the rates must be fixed on a lower level, for those areas which have not got the benefits of electricity so far. There are certain other uses for the newly started factories, and if they are faced with the same kind of tax, it would not be suitable to those parts in view of their present backwardness. My submission, therefore, is that this Bill has been brought in with only one motive, not with the motive of doing justice

to the new regions of this State. Why should not Government be fair to all the regions and have some differentiation in the matter of taxing electrical energy, having different rates in the different areas? There should be some distinction made in the case of different lamps of varying voltage. There should not be any hardship on any area in the matter of electrical duty. If such hardship is not removed, then I would say that conviction is gaining ground in the area, from which I come, that all

6-30 p.m.

[Shri B. S. Vyas]

steps that Government has been taking for the last six months lead to only one conclusion, that Government wants to impose a sort of Bombay spirit in the areas which have come within its orbit. I would once again request Government not to have any indiscriminate taxation in the new areas which have been added to this State.

With these words, I oppose the Bill.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH (Minister for Revenue): Madam Chairman, I have been patiently hearing the speech of my hon. Friend Shri Vyas and trying to follow what he wanted to convey, but I must confess that I have not been able to follow his line of arguments nor the factual basis of his arguments.

I may mention here that this is not a new taxation measure at all. My hon. Friend the Deputy Minister also said that it was not a new measure when he moved this Bill. There is electricity duty in the area from which the hon. Member Shri Vyas comes; there is electricity duty in Bombay and Saurashtra. There was no such duty in Marathwada because there was very little electricity there, but in Kutch there was this duty. If the hon. Member thinks that even in matters of taxation there should be differentiation so far as the different areas of the State are concerned, it cannot be done. When you make new laws, you cannot apply them in a different manner in the different areas. The present legislation merely tries to unify the various laws. Actually the rise in electricity income accrues only when we adopt the Bombay rates of electricity. We cannot adopt either Vidarbha or Saurashtra rates because that would result in a loss of income. My hon. Friend has perhaps not seen the commitment in respect of the second Five Year Plan. We have committed ourselves to achieve certain targets, and if we want to achieve them, initially we shall have to see that there is no loss of income. One generally does not look to the expenditure side but merely looks to the taxation side. That sort of a view is a completely imbalanced view. I would, therefore, tell my hon. Friend that we are merely trying to correlate taxation with the development programmes. There can be a rise in electricity income if only we adopt the Bombay rates of electricity duty. There is also a small rise in income due to decimalisation of coinage.

Then, in the matter of exemptions, the Vidarbha area is exempted from this duty in respect of consumption of electrical energy for agricultural purposes. Under clause 3(2)(vi) Government wants to continue that exemption. Similarly, in Saurashtra there was exemption in respect of certain categories of small industries. There also Government is thinking of continuing that exemption. Ultimately the Vidarbha pattern of exemption shall have either to go or it shall have to be extended to the whole of the State; if it is to continue, then it will have to be extended to the whole State and Government is also thinking on those lines. Just as advantages are being extended, so also disadvantages too will have to be extended. So far as this Bill is concerned, therefore, there should not be any misunderstanding. It does not contain any new taxation proposal. It merely seeks to continue the taxation that has already existed.

[Shri Rasiklal U. Parikh]

Then, Madam Chairman, so far as financial implications are concerned, the rise in income is going to be between Rs. 20 and Rs. 25 lakhs. It all depends upon the extension; if it is to be extended to the whole State, then the income will be Rs. 20 lakhs; otherwise it will be Rs. 5 lakhs.

Then, so far as the break-up areawise is concerned, it was not mentioned because the Hon. the Finance Minister had mentioned that in his speech. In Bombay itself the rise is going to be Rs. 14 lakhs. In Saurashtra it will be Rs. 6 lakhs and in Vidarbha too it will be Rs. 5 lakhs; in fact, so far as the rise is concerned, it will be the lowest in Vidarbha.

Again, there is this aspect also. So far as electricity charges are concerned, they are levied on bulk, depending upon the voltage of the light. It is only in case where meters are not fully introduced that electricity is consumed by points. Wherever there is no meter, the charges have to be levied according to the number of lights. There also we cannot say that it is unfair or unjust. Actually, the incidence that is worked out there fairly corresponds to that in respect of units of consumption.

I now hope that the House will accept this Bill. In fact, if the various provisions of the Bill were properly read, as also the Statement of Objects and Reasons, we would have been able to save all this time of the House.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XI of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 15, Schedule, Title and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XI of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. XI of 1958 is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XVII OF 1958 (A BILL TO EXTEND THE BOMBAY ENTERTAINMENTS DUTY ACT, 1923, TO THE REST OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY AND TO AMEND IT FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES).

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: Madam Chairman, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XVII of 1958 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Entertainments Duty Act, 1923, to the rest of the State of Bombay and to amend it for certain purposes) as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 11th April 1958.

While doing so, I will read the recommendation of the Governor which has been received. It reads as follows:

"In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (1) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay Entertainments Duty (Extension and Amendment) Bill, 1958."

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. XVII of 1958 is introduced.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XVII of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: Madam Chairman, this is a measure which seeks to bring about unification of laws in regard to taxes levied on the entertainments in the different areas of the State. The entertainment tax in the old Bombay State was regulated under the Bombay Entertainments Duty Act, 1923, while in Nagpur it was regulated by the Central Provinces and Berar Entertainments Duty Act, 1936. In the Hyderabad area, it was regulated by the Entertainments Tax Act, 1355-F and in Saurashtra it was the Saurashtra Entertainment Duty Ordinance, 1949, which was applicable. In the Kutch area the tax rules and regulations were made by the Maharana of Kutch. It is proposed under the Bill to regulate these different laws in different areas and bring about uniformity. According to the old Bombay Act, the rate of tax was 20 per cent. of the payment of admission within the limits of Greater Bombay and of the cities and cantonments of Ahmedabad and Poona which is now proposed to be increased to 25 per cent. of the payment; and it was 25 per cent. of the payment for admission if it exceeded 5 annas but did not exceed Rs. 1-5-0, which is now proposed to be increased to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. and these rates would be made applicable to the other cities also which have a population of one lakh and more. In the Vidarbha area the tax was at a flat rate of 25 per cent. on the rate of admission. So, this measure will have effect only on one city viz. Nagpur in Vidarbha area, while certain areas will be benefitted in the sense that in their case the limit would be reduced from 25 per cent. to 20 per cent. My hon. Friend from that area was complaining that Vidarbha was given a different sort of treatment. For his information I may just give this information that the rate of tax in the Vidarbha area is going to be reduced to the extent of 5 per cent. because there we are bringing down the rate from 25 per cent. to 20 per cent. Thus Vidarbha is going to be benefitted. In the Hyderabad area, the maximum rate was laid down under the Act of 1355 Fasli and a discretion was given to the local bodies which were levying the tax to reduce it to some extent. Therefore, there were different taxes in different localities. Under the present measure the local bodies would be prohibited to levy the tax. But I may add for the information of the hon. House that the local bodies are not going to be put to any loss by this measure even though they would be prohibited to levy the tax. They would be compensated on the actuals of the last 3 years. So also the Local Bodies will have the right to impose the tax on cinema shows or the federal tax if they so desire under the measure. It was expected that this measure will give about Rs. 25 lakhs to the exchequer but as you know, Madam Chairman, due to the recent decision of Government to grant exemption to dramatic performances, circus shows, tamasha performances and exhibition of other local art, it is expected that the reduction in this income would be about Rs. 5 lakhs. So the cumulative effect of the measure would be that the net income would be Rs. 20 lakhs.

With these remarks, I commend the first reading of the Bill for the acceptance of the House.

श्री बच्छराज एस्. व्यास : माननीय उप-सभापति महोदया, पिछले विधेयक का जब प्रथम वाचन हो रहा था तब माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने भाषण में कहा था कि अलग अलग स्थान पर अलग अलग रेट्स नहीं रखे जा सकते। जब हमारे सारे राज्य के लिये एक ही विधेयक बनाया जा रहा है तो सभी स्थानों पर समान रेट्स होने चाहिये : इस तरह से अलग अलग रेट्स रखना कॉन्स्टिट्यूशन के खिलाफ होगा और वह एक तरह का डिसक्रिमिनेशन होगा। मैं यह कहना चाहता था कि यदि आप अलग अलग रेट्स नहीं रख सकते तो कम से कम अविकसित विभागों के लिये सबसिडी तो दे सकते हैं।

अब मैं इस एन्टरटेन्मेंट ड्यूटी संबंधी जो विधेयक यहाँ प्रस्तुत किया गया है उसपर अपने विचार प्रदर्शित करना चाहता हूँ। जैसा कि माननीय मंत्रीजी ने अपने भाषण में कहा कि शासन ने यह निश्चय किया है कि नाटक, तमाशा, लावणी, नृत्य आदि जो लोकल आर्ट्स के कार्यक्रम किये जायेंगे उनपर यह एन्टरटेन्मेंट टैक्स नहीं लगाया जायेगा। शासन के इस कदम का मैं स्वागत करना चाहता हूँ। शासन की ओर से मैं एक्जेंप्शन की जो सूची बनाई गई है उस संबंध में मैं स्पष्टीकरण चाहता हूँ कि शास्त्रीय संगीत जो भी कार्यक्रम होंगे उन्हें भी इस टैक्स से अलग रखा गया है या नहीं? अगर शास्त्रीय संगीत के कार्यक्रमों को इस सूची में समाविष्ट न किया गया हो तो वह गलत है। उसे भी इस सूची में समाविष्ट किया जाना चाहिये। यदि कहीं शास्त्रीय संगीत का कार्यक्रम टिकट लगा कर किया जाता है तो उसे भी इस टैक्स से एक्जेंप्ट किया जाना चाहिये। शास्त्रीय संगीत यह भी हमारे भारत की एक पुरानी कला है जिसे प्रोत्साहन देना शासन का कर्तव्य है, ऐसा मैं मानता हूँ। जब नाटक, तमाशा, आदि जैसे कार्यक्रमों पर एन्टरटेन्मेंट टैक्स माफ करने का शासन ने निर्णय किया है तब शास्त्रीय संगीत के कार्यक्रमों को भी वैसी ही सहूलियत दी जानी चाहिये। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय अपने भाषण में इस बात का खुलासा करेंगे। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ।

श्री शंकरराव चव्हाण (राजस्व उप-मंत्री) : माननीय उप-सभापति महोदया, अभी इस बिल के प्रथम वाचन पर अपनी राय प्रकट करते हुये जिन माननीय सदस्य ने अपनी राय प्रकट करते हुये कहा कि अभी पांच मिनट पहले इससे पूर्व के बिल पर अपनी राय जाहिर करते हुये मंत्रीजी ने अपने भाषण में कहा कि संविधान की धारा के अनुसार एक राज्य के दो हिस्सों में फर्क नहीं किया जा सकता। इसके अनुसार, उन्होंने कहा सभी स्थानों पर एक सा ही टैक्स लगाया जाना चाहिये था, लेकिन पांच ही मिनट के बाद इस विधेयक की चर्चा के दौरान में, बिल्कुल इससे विपरीत बात कही गई, जिसे सुनकर उन्हें आश्चर्य हुआ। मैं हमारे माननीय मित्र से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि वे ज़रा कानून को थोड़ा सा समझन की कोशिश करें तो ज़्यादा अच्छा होगा। वे यदि इस विधेयक को ध्यान से पढ़ते तो अभी जो शंकायें उन्होंने प्रकट की हैं वह शायद यहाँ प्रकट करने की उन्हें ज़रूरत ही न पड़ती।

माननीय सदस्य के मन में जो संदेह है उसे मैं दूर करना चाहता हूँ। हमारे कॉन्स्टिट्यूशन के लिहाज़ से ही हम एक राज्य के दो हिस्सों में फर्क नहीं कर सकते हैं यह सही है। जिन माननीय सदस्य ने यह प्रश्न उठाया है मैं उन्हें इतना ही बताना चाहता हूँ कि जब तक हम युनिफिकेशन ऑफ़ लॉज़ नहीं करते हैं तबतक अलग अलग विभाग के लिये अलग अलग रेट्स रखे जा सकते हैं और हम उसे जस्टिफाय भी कर सकते हैं। लेकिन जब हम युनिफिकेशन ऑफ़ लॉज़ करते हैं तब फिर सब राज्य के लिये एक ही कानून बनाना होगा, फिर उस सूरत में अलग अलग विभाग के लिये अलग अलग रेट्स नहीं रख जा सकते। अगर रखे जाते हैं तो वह संविधान के खिलाफ होगा।

[श्री शंकरराव चव्हाण]

सदन के सामने जो एन्टरटेन्मेंट ड्यूटी बिल पेश किया गया है उसके सम्बन्ध में मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि शासन अगर यह चाहता है कि जिस शहर की आबादी एक लाख से ऊपर हो ऐसे ही शहरों के लिये यह कानून लागू किया जाय, तो ऐसा वह कर सकता है। इसमें कॉन्स्टिट्यूशन के खिलाफ कुछ भी नहीं है। राज्य सरकार अपनी परिस्थिति देखकर इस संबंध में निर्णय कर सकती है। इसमें किसी तरह का डिसक्रिमिनेशन भी नहीं होता है। यदि एक लाख के ऊपर आबादीवाले अलग अलग शहरों के लिये अलग अलग टैक्स लिया जाये, तो उसमें फिर डिसक्रिमिनेशन हो जायेगा। लेकिन यहाँ वैसा नहीं किया जा रहा। १ लाख से ऊपर की आबादीवाले सभी शहरों में यह कानून लागू किया जानेवाला है, यह बात ध्यान में रखनी चाहिये। हम इस विधेयक को यहाँ पर युनिफिकेशन ऑफ़ लॉज़ के ख्याल से रख रहे हैं, जिससे इस राज्य के सभी विभागों के लिये एक ही कानून का अमल किया जा सके।

दूसरा प्रश्न एक्जेंप्शन के बारे में उठाया गया। नाटक, तमाशा, कुश्ती इत्यादि को एक लिस्ट में रखा गया है। इस संबंध में पूरी जानकारी देते हुये शासन की ओर से एक प्रेस नोट निकाला गया है। उसमें लोक-नाट्य, लोक-संगीत, लोक-नृत्य, इत्यादि का भी समावेश किया गया है। उसका मतलब और उद्देश्य यही है कि लोकल आर्टिस्ट को एनकरेज किया जाये और जो भी लोकल आर्ट होगा उसे प्रोत्साहन दिया जाये मेरा ख्याल है कि इसमें शास्त्रीय संगीत भी आयेंगा। इतना कहते हुये मैं भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ।

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XVII of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 14, the Schedule, short title and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN : Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XVII of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XVII of 1958 is read a third time and passed.

We have finished today's business. So the House will now rise and meet again tomorrow at 2-00 p.m.

(The House was adjourned at 6-00 p.m. till 2-00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 16th April 1958).

Wednesday, the 16th April, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 16th April, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.
(For Questions—see Part I).

L. A. BILL No. XXI OF 1958 [A BILL TO AMEND THE BOMBAY LEGISLATURE MEMBERS (REMOVAL OF DISQUALIFICATIONS) ACT, 1956].

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH (Minister for Labour and Law): Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXI of 1958 [A Bill to amend the Bombay Legislature Members (Removal of Disqualifications) Act, 1956], as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 10th April 1958.

The CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. XXI of 1958 is introduced.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXI of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, the Constitution provides that in certain cases the Legislature may, by law, remove the disqualifications of Members which they might be suffering. We have already got an Act whereby certain disqualifications have been removed. The purpose of the present legislation is to add to the list or, in fact, to remove disqualifications in two particular cases. One is a case where a Member of the either House is appointed as an examiner. He may be an examiner of an examination held by the Central Government or held by the Public Service Commission of the State or the Centre. In such a case he does draw his fees as an examiner and, therefore, it might be a disqualification for his membership. The purpose of this legislation is to remove such a disqualification.

Similarly, a medical practitioner can incur a disqualification if he is working as a medical practitioner under the Employees' State Insurance Act or if he is working as a part-time medical officer under the Sickness Insurance Scheme. They draw their fees or honoraria from the State which is ultimately reimbursed to the Budget of the Sickness Insurance Corporation. The purpose of the present Bill is to remove these two disqualifications.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE: I want to know about only one thing. So far as the Life Insurance Corporation is concerned, there are so many medical practitioners who are drawing fees from the Life Insurance Corporation for the life insurance business which they do. I wanted to know whether they would be covered by this Bill or not.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: That is already provided in the list which exists today.

Question put, and agreed to.

(a.c.r.) 49-A Bb 1171-1

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, the hon. Member spoke with great grief. His grief has been due to two reasons one that the Bill was brought very late and his other grief seems to be that Nagpur seems to have lost its importance, as he thought it. Now, I assure the hon. Member that Nagpur has not lost its importance and Government feels that Nagpur should be given due respect which it deserves. If he has any grief on that account I can only offer him my consolations and if my consolations will do him any good, they are at his disposal. But, Sir, I may also state this, that Government is not omnipresent nor omniscient. Therefore, the hon. Member need not impute to Government the knowledge of the decision taken by the High Court either on the same day or immediately thereafter. *(Interruption)* In this case, as many other cases, Government did represent. Even if the decision had been given by the Nagpur Bench of the High Court, Government with its headquarters at Bombay would come to know of it after some time. In this case there was some delay in getting intimation of this. I have found from the relevant file that the judgment was given on the 20th August 1957. I agree that Government came to know of this late, and perhaps has not done as much as it ought to have. But if the hon. Member, who is a graduate, made a mistake in stating the case, then he will excuse me, a man in Bombay, if I got the information a little late. *(Interruption)* The hon. Member Shri Bhide need not defend somebody else's mistakes. After all, I was only stating that mistakes sometimes do occur. Therefore, no useful purpose will be served neither by the hon. Member blaming Government for the delay nor by my blaming the hon. Member for the misstatement. In this particular case, the High Court has not decided anything, and in the other case the High Court has said something. The hon. Member may discuss the matter. The High Court has said that the case is passed on to the proper authorities for being dealt according to law. By the time it is dealt with, this law will have been passed, and, therefore, hereafter, nothing will happen. Should there be any irregularity, it would be set right. I may assure the House that, as far as I can see, no harm will be done to anybody by validating the judgments. I may assure the hon. Member by offering him my consolations, if he would accept them, and request the House to join me in my consolations to the hon. Member.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXVII of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 and 3, the Short Title and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXVII of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: The Bill is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XVIII OF 1958 (A BILL TO CONSOLIDATE AND AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO STAMPS AND STAMP DUTIES IN THE STATE OF BOMBAY).

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XVIII of 1958 (A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to stamps and stamp duties in the State of Bombay), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 10th April 1958.

While doing so, I may mention that, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clauses (1) and (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of this Bill.

The CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. XVIII of 1958 is introduced.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XVIII of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, the stamp duties which are to be levied are partly governed by the Union List and partly by the State List. In the Union List, item 91 relates to rates of stamp duty in respect of bills of exchange, cheques, promissory notes, bills of lading, letters of credit, policies of insurance, transfer of shares, debentures, proxies and receipts. These documents are governed by the existing Stamp Act, and the right to change the rates of duty vests in the Union Parliament. The right to rate the change rates of duty on other documents vests in the State Government. The purpose of this Bill, therefore, is to alter the rates of stamp duty regarding those documents on which the State legislative has jurisdiction. The Bill seeks to amend the provisions relating to rates of stamps duty mentioned in the State List only. The rates of duty are being expressed in decimal coinage. The Indian Stamp Act, in so far as it relates to articles falling in the State List with amendments made to it in the pre-reorganisation State of Bombay are being adopted for the entire State.

Section 44, which is analogous to section 45 of the Indian Stamp Act, has been provided so that it would now be possible for applicants to apply for refund within three months from the date of receipt of the order charging the same if any excess of stamp duty is levied.

The general pattern of rates proposed in the Bill will not make any appreciable changes in the rates at present in vogue in the old State of Bombay, Marathwada and Vidarbha, as they are almost uniform. However, in cases of Saurashtra and Kutch, the proposed rates will be higher. This is mainly because the former Government of Saurashtra adopted Bombay rates without temporary increase and the original rates fixed by the Central

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Government in Kutch have not been raised. The principle followed in decimalisation is that the revision should not result in increase or decrease in total revenue. The rates proposed in the Bill would mean, in some cases over 50 per cent increase, so far as Saurashtra and Kutch are concerned. This is inevitable because the alternative to reduce the rates would result in reduction in the total revenue, has the effect of reduction in the other 37 districts will be considerable. However, if in Saurashtra, registration charges on documents are higher, when it is brought into force and the higher rates of stamp duty are made applicable to documents, simultaneously, the registration charges will be reduced so that, in the total effect, whereas the stamp duty will be increased, the registration fees will be reduced and the effect of increase would be small and negligible.

In trying to decimalise the rates of duty, the rates which prevailed in the pre-reorganisation Bombay State have been put in the multiples of 5 nP. No material change has been brought about in respect of rates provided in articles 1, 5(a), 5(d), 5(e) (a), 5(e)(c), 5(g), 16, 17, 29, 37, 41(a), 41(b), 43(a) (b) (d) (e) (f) (g) and 57. There has been a rise from Rs. 7.50 nP. to Rs. 10 in the case of articles 15, 30, 47A and 58(ii). In the case of article 7(a) the rate is raised from Rs. 22.50 to Rs. 25. The rate in 5(c) (ii), which is payable by one party in unrecognised exchanges is doubled because in recognised exchanges duty is payable both by the buyer and the seller.

The maxima fixed for oil seeds in article 5(f) and 43(c) has been raised from Re. 0.75 to Rs. 1.5 nP. as in the case of cotton seeds 100 khandis are equivalent to 35 tons, while in the case of other oil seeds 100 khandis are equivalent to 25 tons. The actual rates will be fixed by a notification. The rates proposed in 6(2) (a), 6(2) (b), 10, 13 and 56 have been modified to effect changes found necessary as a result of experience. The duty in the case of 59(a) has been reduced from Rs. 1.12 nP. to 0.75 nP. The most important change, however, has been in article 25 on conveyances. Rates in 25(a) which are applicable to rural areas have not been raised. Similarly, rates in 25(b) applicable to urban areas have also not been raised, except in cities of Nagpur, Dhulia, Jalgaon, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Akola, Amraoti, Aurangabad and Jalna which have been placed in the second category of cities like Poona, Ahmedabad, Surat, etc. All other urban areas, that is areas other than these cities, will have rates given in category No. 3. The incoming areas will have this major change in rates.

The financial effect will be that the new rates will produce about Rs. 25 lakhs. There is going to be an increase in Saurashtra, Kutch and Vidarbha in certain articles, which will yield, all told, about Rs. 16.22 lakhs, whereas in Marathwada there will be a decrease of Rs. 1.24 lakhs. The duties on conveyances will result in an increase of Rs. 10 lakhs.

The Indian Stamp Act is in force in all the constituent units of the new State, subject to varying amendments made by the various States. We are trying to make the law uniform, based upon the position in the old

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Bombay State. We are also incorporating the surcharge leviable under the Bombay Increase of Stamp Duty Act, 1943, and to consolidate it with the proper Stamp Duty, the rates have been expressed in terms of naye paise instead of annas. This is done with a view to express equivalent of anna in naye paise by rounding off to the next higher multiple of 5 naye paise.

There is some slight difference in the exemptions of stamp duty which are obtaining in the areas of Vidarbha, Saurashtra and Marathwada respectively, when compared to those in the old State of Bombay. The Madhya Pradesh law provided for certain exemptions. These have been maintained in the new Act. Similarly, exemptions existed in Hyderabad and Saurashtra under articles 5, 12, 53 and 57, and amended and modified under articles 4, 10, 53 and 59. In this Bill, Articles 14 and 53 have been deleted since they are in the Union List and the others have been revised so as to suit the present conditions and the laws applicable to this State. No change is, therefore, necessitated as a result of exemptions obtaining in the Saurashtra area. This is as far as the Bill now before the House is concerned.

I may also bring to the notice of the House a slight change that has been made in the Bill after it was published and when it was going through the Assembly, and that is in the case of stamp duties in the share market. The stamp duties there were 1 anna and 1½ annas, and with a surcharge of 50 per cent., it would be roughly 1½ annas, 2¼ annas, 2½ annas or 2¾ annas as the case may be. That would have brought in a little over 15 naye paise. The original proposal in the Bill was that the duty should be 20 naye paise. Now, the increase from 15½ naye paise or 16½ naye paise to 20 naye paise was a heavy increase, and, therefore, instead of increasing it to 20 naye paise, while the Bill was passing through the Assembly, the figure of 15 has been substituted. The total income would remain the same; in some cases it may be a little more and in some cases it may be a little less, but the total income would not be affected.

There is also another point to which I would like to draw the attention of the House. Certain amendments will be placed before the House, and I believe they have already been circulated. One of them relates to exemptions under article 5. It refers to an agreement or memorandum of agreement relating to occupation of land to which Government is a party. This exemption existed in Marathwada, and it is felt that, if this exemption is applied to the rest of the State of Bombay, the effect may be great. In any case, if exemption is to be given to a document relating to occupation of land to which Government is a party, then under clause 3(a), in cases where Government is the executing party, exemption already exists. This, therefore, is not likely to make much difference.

Another important point was raised during the debate in the Assembly. We have provided here that, in the case of a document where the stamp duty is less than 20 naye paise, it shall be altogether inadmissible in evidence and even with payment of penalty it shall be inadmissible. When there are

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documents chargeable with small stamp duty, usually there are large evasions and very few of these documents will come before the court or a public authority. The temptation, therefore, in such cases to avoid payment of stamp duty or to avoid affixing a stamp would be large, if the normal penalty of ten times the original stamp duty were to be applied. Supposing the stamp duty is one anna, which used to be for a long time the duty on promissory notes, or even two annas. The penalty in such cases would be 10 or 20 annas. Even if the stamp duty on promissory notes is 4 annas, which is the maximum now, the penalty would be Rs. 2-8-0. The number of promissory notes going round in banks and markets is numerous and the amounts involved are quite large, and the temptation, therefore, would be not to affix the stamp. Even if the matter goes to court, the party concerned easily pays the difference. It has, therefore, been the policy under the Act from the very beginning that, in cases where the stamp duty is small and evasion is likely, even on payment of the penalty a document should be made totally inadmissible, so that ordinarily a man would not like to take a chance and run the risk of the document being made inadmissible. A similar provision is there in the other Act also with respect to documents where the stamp duty is less than 20 naye paise, roughly equivalent to 3 annas, in the old coinage.

A question was raised that was based on the item in the Concurrent List which relates to evidence. The section provides that, if a document is insufficiently stamped, even on payment of penalty it shall be inadmissible in evidence. A fear was expressed in the Assembly that this inadmissibility, which was intended to be restricted only to documents in the State List, may also, by some interpretation, be applied to documents in the Union List. That was not the intention. If, therefore, hon. Members now refer to Schedule II which deals with repeals, they will find that the enactment repealed is the Indian Stamp Act of 1899 and the extent of repeal is worded thus at present :

"The whole in so far as it relates to matters with respect to which the State Legislature has power to make laws."

It was feared that this might also include admissibility under this Act, because, being in the Concurrent List, that section might affect the Union documents, not on the ground of payment of duty but certainly on the ground of inadmissibility in evidence. A proper amendment will, therefore, be moved in this House which will make it clear that this inadmissibility under this Act will apply to documents covered under this Act, and as regards the documents about which the rates of stamp duty are under the Union Legislature, those will be governed by the Union Legislature, that is to say, the admissibility will remain as it is and by no misconception or misunderstanding this Act will make any document which is under the Union List inadmissible.

These are the two amendments which will be moved before the House. I thought that I should explain the position to the House now, so that, when the matter comes before the House, it may keep my remarks in mind. I request the House to accept the first reading of this Bill.

श्री बच्छराज असे. व्यास : माननीय सभापति महोदय, कानूनों का एकीकरण करना है यह बताते हुए आज हमारे समक्ष कई विधेयक पेश किये जा रहे हैं, उसीमें यह भी एक विधेयक है, जिसे यहां प्रस्तुत किया गया है। जब पुराने कानूनों का एकीकरण करके नया कानून लाया जाता है तब माननीय अर्थ मंत्री महोदय को मुझे एक बात बार बार कहनी पड़ती है और वह यह है कि जब शासन की ओर से जिस दिशा में कदम अठाया जा रहा है तब उन्हें जिस बात का ख्याल रखना चाहिये कि जो नये हिस्से बम्बई राज्य में राज्य पुनर्गठन के बाद आये हैं वहाँ की जनताको ऐसे कानूनों से अधिक नुकसान या कष्ट न होना चाहिये। लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि कायदों के एकीकरण के बहाने शासन की ओर से टेक्स बढ़ाकर तिजोरी में अधिक पैसा लाने की कोशिश की जा रही है, नतीजा उसका यह हो रहा है कि जो नये भाग जिस बम्बई राज्य में शामिल हुये हैं उनपर एक तरह से अन्याय हो रहा है। पुराने बम्बई राज्य में जो कायदे थे वे अब नये शामिल हुये भागों पर भी लागू किये जानेवाले हैं। पुराने बम्बई राज्य में जिन रेट्स से कर वसूल किये जाते थे वही रेट्स अब नये भागों पर भी लगाये जानेवाले हैं। विशेषतः कायदे के एकीकरण के नाम पर विदर्भ में पहले जो टेक्सेस कम थे उन्हें बढ़ाया जा रहा है।

अभी जो स्टैम्प ड्यूटीसंबंधी विधेयक यहां प्रस्तुत किया गया और जिस पर अभी चर्चा की जा रही है उसमें भी हमें यही देखने को मिलता है कि विदर्भ औरिया में जो स्टैम्प ड्यूटी पहले थी वह जिस कानून के आने के बाद बढ़नेवाली है। पहले जो ड्यूटी रूपये आने में बताई जाती थी वह अब रूपये और नये पैसे में बताई जाने के कारण भी विदर्भ की जनता पर उसका भी कुछ ज्यादा भार अवश्य पड़नेवाला है। मैं विशेषतः कनवेयन्स तथा विक्री संबंधी जो स्टैम्प ड्यूटी है उसके संबंध में बताना चाहता हूँ वह विदर्भ में पहले की अपेक्षा ज्यादा बढ़नेवाली है।

नागपुर में एक छोटा सा शेयरमार्केट पहले था। लेकिन वह न चल सका। जिस मार्केट बम्बई राज्य में शेयर मार्केट बहुत ही कम स्थानों पर है। शेयर मार्केट में वहाँ के सौदों पर कुछ ज्यादा टेक्स लगता था यह कारण बताकर उसे कम करने की कोशिश की जा रही है। लेकिन मैं बताना चाहता हूँ यह जो शेयरों के व्यवहार पर स्टैम्प ड्यूटी लगाई जाती है वह नये २० पैसे होने के कारण यदि बढ़ भी जाये तो उसका गरीब जनता पर ज्यादा असर नहीं होगा। नागपुर शहर में शेयर बाजार में जानेवाले व्यापारी भी ज्यादा नहीं हैं। न अब वहाँ कोई शेयर मार्केट ही है विदर्भ का शेयर बाजार के व्यापार में अधिक से अधिक .००५ प्रतिशत भाग हो।

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, there is no share market at Nagpur.

श्री बच्छराज असे. व्यास : पहले नागपुर में एक रेकगनाइज्ड शेयर मार्केट था। लेकिन नागपुर में वह न चल सका और बम्बई शेयर मार्केट में जो व्यापार होता है उसका संबंध नागपुर से लगभग बिल्कुल ही नहीं आता। वहाँ यह टेक्स २० पैसे बैठता है किन्तु उसे १५ पैसे करने के बारे में शेयर मार्केट के व्यापारियों ने सरकार के सामने रिप्रेजेंटेशन किया कि यह टेक्स २० नये पैसे के बजाय १५ नये पैसे कर दिया जाय। माननीय मंत्री द्वारा २० से १५ पैसे करने की बात नहीं मानी गई।

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, I did not want to interrupt the hon. Member. But I only want to know whether the hon. Member suggests that there is *Teji Mandi* in tax also. I have never heard of it.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member should speak on the principles of the Bill only.

श्री. बच्छराज ऐस्. व्यास : शेयर मार्केट में शेयर का व्यापार चलता है। यहां पर शेयर बेचे और खरीदे जाते हैं। शेयर मार्केट का संबंध सिर्फ बम्बई के व्यापारियों से ही आता है। अन्तर्गत और से रिप्रेजेंटेशन किया गया और इसलिये उनके इस टेक्स को कम करने की कल्पना फौरन हमारी सरकार के मन में आती। इसका अर्थ यह हुआ कि यहां के व्यापारियों ने कहा और फौरन हमारी सरकार उस तरह का अमेंडमेंट करने के लिये तैयार हो गई। आज आप जो बिल यहां पर ला रहे हैं उसका भार खास तौर पर विदर्भ के गरीब लोगों पर अधिक पड़नेवाला है जब आप युनीफिकेशन ऑफ लॉज करते हैं तब जिस जगह का टेक्स कम था उसी हिसाब से अन्य विभागों पर वही टेक्स लागू क्यों नहीं करते? ट्रेजरी बेंचस पर आज विदर्भ से आये हुये मंत्री भी हैं, मान्यवर सदस्य भी हैं लेकिन शायद पार्टी डिस्प्लिन के तहत उनके मुह बंद हो, लेकिन विदर्भ की जनता की ओर से हम जो प्रतिनिधि यहां भेजे गये हैं उनका यह कर्तव्य हो जाता है कि हम इस सदन के सामने विदर्भ की जनता के विचार रखें। जब कोई टेक्स लगाया जाता है तब वहाँ की जनता पर उसका ज्यादा भार नहीं पड़ना चाहिये। यदि ऐसा कोई टेक्स शासनकी तरफ से लगाया जाता है जिसमें विदर्भ की जनता का नुकसान होता हो तो उसके विरुद्ध आवाज उठाना हमारा फर्ज है, ऐसा हम मानते हैं। जब विदर्भ की जनता इस बड़े द्विभाषिक राज्य में शामिल हुयी तब उसकी यह स्वाभाविक अपेक्षा थी कि इस नये राज्य में आने के कारण उनका जरूर फायदा होगा यानी पहले से उनपर जो टेक्स लग रहे हैं वे ज्यादा नहीं बढ़ाये जायेंगे लेकिन ऐसा कि हमारा अनुभव है और कहावत भी है—

“साई नदी समुद्रमें मिली बड़प्पन जाति।

जाति नसाई मिलत ही, मान महत की हानि॥”

मतलब इसका यह है कि नदी ने सोना की समुद्र में मिलने में अपना बड़प्पन है और वह समुद्र में जाकर मिली, लेकिन समुद्र में मिलते ही उसको अपना खुद का अस्तित्व खोना पड़ा और उसके बड़प्पन की भी हानि हुयी। ऐसे ही विदर्भ की जनता ने बड़े बम्बई राज्य में शामिल होने की इच्छा प्रकट की लेकिन अब वह महसूस कर रही है कि इसमें उसकी हानि ही हो रही है।

The CHAIRMAN: Order, order. I have already drawn the attention of the hon. Member to the fact that, at the first reading stage, only the principles of the Bill can be discussed. I allowed him to speak for some time on the point but now he should come to the principles of this Bill.

श्री. बच्छराज ऐस्. व्यास : जैसा कि मैंने कहा इस बिल के बनावते वक्त और जिसे पेश करते हुए यह कहा गया कि युनीफिकेशन ऑफ लॉज के ब्याल से यह बिल लाया जा रहा है उस बहाने से टेक्सेस बढ़ाकर सरकार की आमदगी बढ़ाने की कोशिश की जा रही है। उसी तरह से डेमीमल कोईनेज के कारण पुराने कानूनों में अमेंडमेंट करना आवश्यक हुआ, ऐसा भी कहा जा रहा है। इस बहाने से भी टेक्सेस पहले से ज्यादा बढ़ाने की कोशिश की जा रही है। कहा यह जा रहा है कि जिस कानून से पहले जो टेक्सेस थे वही पूरे बम्बई राज्य पर लगाने का सोचा है, हम टेक्स में वृद्धि नहीं कर रहे हैं, सिर्फ कानूनों का एकीकरण कर रहे हैं। लेकिन विदर्भ में पहले जमीनों की बिक्री पर जो स्टैम्प ड्यूटी लगाई जाती थी, वह अब ज्यादा-अर्थात् लगभग दुगुनी बढ़नेवाली है, डेसिमल कोईनेज के निमित्त का फायदा उठाकर जिस तरह से टेक्स बढ़ाना ठीक नहीं है। अतना कहते हुये मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ।

श्री. छशीबदास पी. भडोता (सौराष्ट्र स्थानिक प्राधिकारी संस्थाओं): माननीय सभापति, आगे भी व रणू करवाया आया है तो भी वने करले सीधी वधारेमा वधारे करले सीराष्ट्रनी प्रण उपर पडे छे. माननीय मंत्रीश्रीमे आ भी व रण करती वधारे सीराष्ट्रनी अंदर आ वधारेमा करलेनो आवा राख्यो छे ते आनंदनी वात छे. ओमले ओक वात करी के रणस्टेशन ई ने सीराष्ट्रमा वधारे छे तेने करले आ भी वना अमव दरम्यान रणस्टेशन ई घटाया अगे सरकार विचारला करी रखी छे. सीराष्ट्रनी अंदर अन्तारे पांच छहरना रणस्टेशन उपर ३१. १३८-१२ आना बेवामा आवे छे अने आ भी वनो ने आ रीते अमव थाय तो सीराष्ट्रनी प्रणने १० टका वधारे आपवा पडे.....

चेरमन: हेरक्षर साधोसाध थये.

श्री. छशीबदास पी. भडोता : साधोसाध हेरक्षर थनो छेय तो मारे आ बाजत अगे अंठे कडेवानु नथी. सीराष्ट्रना बोको उपर वधारे भार न पडे तेनो आवा राखवा मारा माननीय मंत्रीश्रीने विनंती छे.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, the hon. Member Shri Vyas has again been in a complaining mood. The hon. Member mentioned that Government was taking care of its own income. The income does not belong to Government, but it belongs to the State as a whole. This

3-00 p.m.

House having passed the Budget, I believe, has given its sanction both to the expenditure and also has implicitly stated that Government will raise the necessary resources. Therefore, it could not be stated that the money given belongs to the party or Government. After all the money belongs to the State. Now, Sir, the hon. Member seems to belong to the class of persons who are described as lay-men. If he had the knowledge of what is a share market or what the share transaction is, I could have understood him and given a reply. If he makes a speech which is far from the acts of the case and if he deals with share transactions of which he has no knowledge, I can only say that I do not share the ignorance and, therefore, I will not be in a position to enlighten him on his point. He was very sorry to find that the stamp duty on conveyance was wrong. I am sure the hon. Member has not read the relevant portion of the Bill. I do expect that members speaking in this House must have read the Bill before offering any remarks. Clause 30 of the Bill provides for the duties payable by the grantee in the case of a conveyance. Now, Sir, a man who purchases a property is not a poor man. The seller is a poor man—may be rich also but sells the property for some reason or the other. Therefore, whatever stamp duty is provided that duty cannot certainly fall on the poor men. All that I can say is that the hon. Member has not studied the measure properly. All that I can say is that the whole of his speech is deep rooted in sorrow and I cannot go on offering consolations. I can only ask the House to disregard his whole speech and pass the first reading of this Bill.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XVIII of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 76, both inclusive, ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXI of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXI of 1958 is read a third time and passed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXVII of 1958 (A Bill further to amend the Madhya Pradesh Public Trusts Act, 1951, and to validate the registration of certain public trusts), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 10th April 1958.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXVII of 1958 be read a first time.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, the purpose of this Bill has been sufficiently explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons to which I have nothing to add.

आज यहां पर जो विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया जा रहा है उसके बारे में सबसे पहले मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि यह विधेयक लाने में सरकार की तरफ से बहुत देरी की गई है। मध्य प्रदेश पब्लिक ट्रस्ट एक्ट के अनुसार पब्लिक ट्रस्ट रजिस्टर करने का अधिकार डिप्टी कमिशनर को दिया गया था। और डिप्टी कमिशनर ने यह काम एडिशनल डिप्टी कमिशनर को दिया और उसने उस दरम्यान में ४०० पब्लिक ट्रस्ट्स रजिस्टर किये। इसी बीच इन्हीं रजिस्ट्रेशन के बारे में शाह फरीदउद्दीन व्हर्सेस श्री मुहम्मद अकबर का केस हायकोर्ट में चला और हायकोर्ट ने अपना निर्णय दिया कि इस तरह से एडिशनल डिप्टी कमिशनर को ट्रस्ट रजिस्टर करने का अधिकार नहीं सौंपा जा सकता और

उसने यदि कुछ दूस्ट का पंजीयन किया हो तो वह अवैध माना जायेगा। सन् १९५७ में यह फैसला होने के बाद बीच में करीब एक डेढ़ साल बीत जाने के बाद आज यह विधेयक यहाँ लाया जा रहा है जिसे फौरन यहाँ लाना आवश्यक था। जिन पब्लिक ट्रस्टों ने एकत्र खर्च कर के अपना पंजीयन करा लिया था उनका वह खर्चा भी बेकार गया। सच देखा जाये तो हायकोर्ट का फैसला होने के बाद फौरन ही यानी एकाध माह में यह विधेयक यहाँ लाया जाना चाहिये था। सरकार की यह गलती थी कि इस तरह का अधिकार एडिशनल डिप्टी कमिश्नर को दिया गया जो कि कानून के लिहाज से नहीं दिया जा सकता था। नागपुर में रेन्ट कंट्रोल एक्ट के तहत भी एक बार कुछ गलती के कारण इसी तरह का अधिकार उस कानून के तहत किसी सरकारी अधिकारी को दिया गया था जो कि हायकोर्ट के निर्णयानुसार गलत बताया गया तो मध्य प्रदेश शासन की ओर से फौरन एक ऑर्डिनेन्स निकाला गया और तुरंत बाद ही एक कानून विधान सभा द्वारा मंजूर किया गया।

नागपुर के डिप्टी कलक्टर के द्वारा गलती से यह अधिकार एडिशनल डिप्टी कमिश्नर को दिया गया और उसने उस अधिकार में ४०० पब्लिक ट्रस्ट का पंजियन किया। पब्लिक ट्रस्ट का पंजियन करने में उद्देश्य यही होता है कि शासन की उसके कारोबार पर कुछ निगरानी रहें, क्योंकि इन पब्लिक ट्रस्टों में जनता का पैसा लिया जाता है और इनके द्वारा जनता की भलाई के काम किये जाते हैं। इस लिये इनके काम, हिसाब, व्यवस्था, आदि पर शासन की निगरानी रह सके इस उद्देश्य से हर एक ट्रस्ट को कानून से पंजियन करना अनिवार्य है। जब तक इस तरह पंजियन नहीं किया जाता तब तक ट्रस्ट अपना काम नहीं कर सकता। दरम्यानी वक्त में जो ४०० ट्रस्ट पंजीयन किये गये थे उनके पंजियन को अब अबैध घोषित किया जा रहा है। वह इतने दिनों के बाद किया जा रहा है कि इस बीच में यदि उन्होंने कुछ काम किया होगा, जिसमें कुछ फायनान्सियल इम्प्लीकेशंस होंगे, और उसमें इस निर्णय के कारण यदि उन्हें कुछ नुकसान सहना पड़ा, तो उसकी जिम्मेदारी किस पर आती है। शाह फरीदउद्दीन बरसें श्री मुहम्मद अकबर के केस का फैसला हायकोर्ट द्वारा सन् १९५७ में हुआ और उसके संबंध में इस विधेयक को लाने के लिये डेढ़ साल लगा यह बड़े आश्चर्य की बात है।

(G.O.P.) MO-A Hb 1171-1a

SCHEDULE I: (Stamp-duty on Instruments).—

Shri CHANDRAKANT C. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move—

“In Schedule I, in article 5, under the heading “Exemptions”, delete clause (a) and renumber clauses (b), (c) and (d) as clauses (a), (b) and (c) respectively.”
Sir, for the present amendment there is the recommendation of the Governor also, which reads thus :

“In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (2) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the amendment to article 5 in Schedule I of the Bombay Stamp Bill, 1958, as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 10th April 1958, to be moved by Shri Chandrakant C. Mehta, M.L.C.”

Amendment proposed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Government accepts the amendment.
Amendment put, and agreed to.

Schedule I, as amended, ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Schedule II (*Enactments repealed*)—

Shri CHANDRAKANT C. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move :

In Schedule II, in the entries relating to the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 in its application to the pre-organisation State of Bombay excluding the transferred territories and to the Vidarbha region and the Kutch area of the State of Bombay, in column 4 for the words “The whole” and ending with the words “make laws” substitute the following :—

“The whole except in so far as it relates to documents specified in entry 91 of List I in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.”

Amendment proposed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, I accept the amendment.
Amendment put, and agreed to.

Shri CHANDRAKANT C. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move :

In Schedule II, in the entries relating to the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, as applied to the Saurashtra area of the State of Bombay, in column 4, for the words “the whole” substitute the following :—

“The whole except in so far as it relates to documents specified in entry 91 in List I in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.”

Amendment proposed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, I accept the amendment.
Amendment put, and agreed to.

Shri CHANDRAKANT C. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move :

In Schedule II, in the entries relating to the Hyderabad Stamp Act, 1331F, in column 4, for the words “The whole” substitute the following :

“The whole except in so far as it relates to documents specified in entry 91 of List I in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.”

Amendment proposed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, I accept the amendment.
Amendment put, and agreed to.

Schedule II, as amended ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Short Title and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XVIII of 1958, as amended, be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XVIII of 1958, as amended, is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XV OF 1958 (A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE BOMBAY LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1923, AS IN FORCE IN THE PRE-REORGANISATION STATE OF BOMBAY AND ALSO THAT ACT AS EXTENDED TO THE KUTCH AREA OF THE STATE).

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH (Minister for Local Self-Government excluding Village Panchayats) : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XV of 1958 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Local Boards Act, 1923, as in force in the pre-Reorganisation State of Bombay and also that Act as extended to the Kutch area of the State), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 7th April 1958.

While doing so, I may inform the House that in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clauses (1) and (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of this Bill.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XV of 1958 is introduced.

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XV of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH : Sir, as the House is aware, under section 118A of the Local Boards Act, 15 per cent. of the land revenue collected in the districts in the previous year is at present paid to the District Local Boards, barring the areas of the District Municipalities, Borough Municipalities and village panchayats. This law was passed in the year 1949, but with the determination of Government to establish village panchayats in the entire State in as short a period as possible, the result has been that in most of the areas panchayats have been established, and as a result there of, income of the District Local Boards from this source is progressively diminishing. The number of village panchayats in the old Bombay area was 1,516 in 1948-49 and the number increased to 10,785 in 1956-57, and in July 1957, the number went up to 11,142. Thus, 75 per cent. of the rural population is covered by village panchayats in the old Bombay area, while in Saurashtra, 98 per cent. of the rural population is covered, in Vidarbha, 66·8 per cent. of the

[Shri Maneklal C. Shah]

rural population, and in Marathwada and Kutch areas, 34 and 25 per cent. of the population, respectively. Therefore, as I said just now, this income is progressively diminishing. In the year 1948-49, the amount paid to the District Local Board was Rs. 35,31,563, in 1957-58 the budget provision for the purpose was Rs. 16,50,000 only, and on that basis, the provision for 1958-59 was to be Rs. 10 lakhs. This reduction in the amount is largely because of the establishment of many village panchayats. In the new areas, a grant equal to 5 per cent. of the land revenue is being paid as land revenue to the Janapada Sabhas. No part of the land revenue by way of grant was paid to such local bodies in the Marathwada or Saurashtra areas. In addition to this, 2 per cent. of the forest revenue collected in the district is also paid to the District Local Board of the district in the old Bombay area. It is now proposed that such local bodies in the new areas also should be paid 2 per cent. of the forest revenue as in the old Bombay area. In order to augment and stabilise the income of the District Local Boards from the land revenue and to see that the income is not affected by the fluctuations in the land revenue collections with the increase in the number of village panchayats, it is proposed to amend section 118A of the Local Boards Act by providing that District Local Boards should be paid a grant equal to 15 per cent. of the land revenue collected in the districts excluding only municipal areas. Provision accordingly for the current year is Rs. 28 lakhs in the old Bombay area. It is estimated that the amount required per annum for the payment of 5 per cent. land revenue and 2 per cent. of the forest revenue for the whole State will be like this. In the old Bombay area, on the basis of 5 per cent. land revenue will come to Rs. 28 lakhs and on the basis of 2 per cent. forest revenue will come to Rs. 3,61,290 and the total will be Rs. 31,61,219, in the Vidarbha area the amount, on the basis of 5 per cent. land revenue will come to Rs. 7,45,000 and on the basis of 2 per cent. forest revenue, comes to Rs. 2,83,000, totalling Rs. 10,18,000; for the Marathwada area, on the basis of the land revenue, the amount comes to Rs. 7 lakhs and on the basis of forest revenue, it comes to Rs. 10,400, and the total comes to Rs. 7,10,400; and in the Saurashtra area, on the basis of the land revenue, the amount comes to Rs. 9 lakhs and on the basis of the forest revenue, it comes to Rs. 6,000 and the total come to Rs. 9,06,000; the total for the Kutch area, on the basis of the land revenue, comes to Rs. 9,06,000, and on the basis of forest revenue, it comes to Rs. 70,600. Also at present, 2/3rd of the salary of the Chief Officer and the Engineer is paid every year to the District Local Boards. But there are certain supervisory powers. These powers are that the appointments are to be made with the consent of the State Government, and that, when the State Government feels that a particular Engineer is not fit to continue, the Local Board has got to remove him. By this amending Bill, we are doing away with the supervisory powers as well as the payment of the grant. The payment of this grant to Local Boards comes to about Rs. 80,000 per year. May I further point out that, in addition to this, we have provided that 50 per cent. of dearness allowance on the Bombay scale, is to be paid to the employees of the local bodies in the entire State? That will be a sort of a grant to local bodies in the new areas.

[Shri Maneklal C. Shah]

I, therefore, commend this Bill for acceptance by the House in its first reading, because this is a measure in the direction of helping the local bodies, by way of providing them with a permanent non-fluctuating source of income.

श्री. अम्. बी. गायकवाड (महाराष्ट्र नॉर्थ लोकल अथॉरिटीज): अध्यक्ष महाराज, हे विषयक पुढे आणीत असताना ज्या कांही महत्वाच्या गोष्टींचा ह्या ठिकाणी अल्लेख करण्यांत आला त्याला अनुलक्षून मला असे म्हणावयाचे आहे की, सरकारचा अर्देश कांही बाबतींत चांगला असला तरी या विषयकान्वये ज्या दुरुस्ती सूचना सुचविण्यांत आलेल्या आहेत त्या दुरुस्ती सूचनांमध्ये लोकल बोर्डांचा कारभार लोकशाही पद्धतीने व लोकशाही-करणाच्या दृष्टीने पुढे जाऊन मदतकारक होतील असे मला वाटत नाही. अल्ट, हा कारभार पुढे नेण्याच्या बाबतीत अनेक अडचणी निर्माण होणार आहेत असे मला निश्चित-पणे वाटते.

ह्या विषयकामध्ये ज्या तीन दुरुस्ती सूचना मांडण्यांत आल्या आहेत त्यांपैकी पहिल्या दुरुस्ती सूचनेमध्ये आपल्या राज्यातील ग्रामपंचायतींच्या वाढत्या व्यापामुळे लोकल बोर्डांचे उत्पन्न घटेल म्हणून लोकल बोर्डांना शेतसाऱ्यांच्या पांच टक्क्यांजितकी रक्कम देण्याचे सरकारने ठरविले आहे. सरकारने ह्या बाबतीत जो हिशेब तयार केला आहे त्यावरून असे वाटते की, लोकल बोर्डांना ही जी पांच टक्के रक्कम मिळणार आहे त्या रकमेतून त्यांचा कारभार चालणे कधीहि शक्य नाही. ह्या बाबतीत मुख्यतः दोन अडचणी उपस्थित होतात. पहिली अडचण अशी आहे की, लोकल बोर्डांच्या हातांत सध्या जी सत्ता आहे ती कमी आहे व दुसरी अडचण अशी आहे की, लोकल बोर्डांना आपले कामकाज बुरकण्यासाठी जो पैसा लागतो तो फार कमी मिळतो. ह्या दोन कारणांमुळे लोकल बोर्ड म्हणजे निवडून आलेल्या प्रतिनिधींची अेक नाममात्र संस्था झाली आहे. निवडून आलेल्या प्रतिनिधींनी वर्षातून पांच सहा वेळ अेकत्र यावयाचे, त्यांची जी कांही तुटपुंजी अुत्पन्नाची साधने आहेत ती विचारांत घेऊन ठराव पास करावयाचे परंतु त्यांच्या अंमलबजावणीच्या बाबतीत वरिष्ठ अधिकाऱ्यांनी जर कांही अडचणी निर्माण केल्या तर ते ठराव व त्या ठरावांतील योजना तशाच पडून राहावयाच्या अशा परिस्थितीला लोकल बोर्डांना तोंड द्यावे लागत असल्याने लोकल बोर्डांच्या कामामध्ये अकार्यक्षमता व्यक्त होतांना दिसून येते. वस्तुतः ह्या अडचणी दूर करण्याचा अर्देश ह्या दुरुस्ती सूचनेमध्ये समाविष्ट करावयास पाहिजे होता. हल्ली लोकल बोर्डांचा कारभार चालविण्यास जो पैसा अपुलब्ध होतो तो अत्यंत अपुरा असल्यामुळे सरकारला मी अशी सूचना करीन की लॅन्ड रेव्हिन्यूच्या पांच टक्क्यांअेवजी लॅन्ड रेव्हिन्यूच्या १५ टक्क्यांजितकी रक्कम लोकल बोर्डांना ठेवावयास पाहिजे. हा हिस्सा त्यांना देण्यांत आला असता तर आपल्या कारभार कार्यक्षम रीतीने चालविण्यास त्यांना पैसा अपुलब्ध झाला असता. आज लोकल बोर्डांचा खर्च सारखा वाढत असून लोकल बोर्डांचा जो स्टाफ असतो त्यावर त्यांना आपल्या अुत्पन्नाच्या जवळ जवळ ३५ टक्क्यांजितका जो करावा लागतो. अेवढी मोठी रक्कम खर्च केल्यानंतर बाकी राहिलेल्या रकमेतून खर्च करावा लागतो. अेवढी मोठी रक्कम खर्च केल्यानंतर बाकी राहिलेल्या रकमेतून त्यांना रस्ते, दवाखाने अित्यादि गोष्टींवर खर्च करावा लागतो. वस्तुतः नोकर-त्यांना रस्ते, दवाखाने अित्यादि गोष्टींवर खर्च करावा लागतो. वस्तुतः नोकर-वर्गावर खर्च करण्याची जी जबाबदारी आहे ती सरकारने आपल्या अंगावर घ्यावयास पाहिजे, परंतु सरकार ती घ्यावयास तयार नाही. सरकारचे म्हणणे असे आहे की, महागाजी-भत्याच्या ५० टक्क्यांजितकी रक्कम सरकार लोकल बोर्डांना देत आहे. मला सरकारला असे सांगायचे आहे की, ५० टक्क्यांजितकी रक्कम देऊनसुद्धा नोकरवर्गाच्या पगाराचा खर्च चालविणे लोकल बोर्डांना कठीण होऊन बसले आहे, ह्यासाठी मी सरकारला अशी सूचना करीन की, सरकारने लोकल बोर्डांतील नोकरवर्गाला संपूर्ण महागाजी भत्ता देण्याची जबाबदारी

[श्री. अम्. बी. गायकवाड]

अचलावयास पाहिजे. परंतु सरकार ह्या बाबतीत आपल्या अंगावर जबाबदारी घ्यावयास तयार नाही. अशा परिस्थितीत लॅंड रेव्हिन्यूच्या केवळ पांच टक्के रक्कम तोडून दिली तर लोकल बोर्डाचा कारभार अत्यंत तऱ्हेने चालून त्यामध्ये कशी काय सुधारणा होणार आहे याचे मला कांही आकलन होत नाही. तेव्हा सरकार ह्या दृष्टीने प्रगतिकारक पाहिले टाकीत आहे असे जे निश्चयेन करण्यांत आले आहे ते बरोबर आहे असे मला वाटत नाही. ह्यासाठी सरकारने लॅंड रेव्हिन्यूच्या निदान १५ टक्क्यांभितकी रक्कम लोकल बोर्डांना देण्याची तयारी दर्शवावी अशी मी सरकारला ह्या निमित्ताने विनंति करतां.

यानंतर मला सभागृहाच्या नजरेस आणावयाचे आहे की, लोकल बोर्डांचे अजिनिअर व चीफ ऑफिसर यांच्या नेमणुकीच्या बाबतीत सरकारवर जी जबाबदारी होती ती सरकारने झटकून टाकल्याचे दिसून येते. अका बाजूने सरकारकडून वर वर असे मागितले जाते की, जिल्हा लोकल बोर्डस लोकशाही संवटना असल्यामुळे त्यांचा त्यांनी कारभार पाहवा म्हणून आपली जी जबाबदारी आहे ती सरकार झटकून टाकण्याचा प्रयत्न करीत आहे. वस्तुतः अजिनिअर्स व चीफ ऑफिसर ह्यांच्या नियुक्तीची जी जबाबदारी सरकारने आपल्यावर घेतली होती ती लोकल बोर्डांवर टाकण्यांत कांहीं अर्थ आहे असे मला वाटत नाही. ह्या बाबतीत सरकार लोकल बोर्डांवर जो अधिकार सोपवीत आहे त्याचा अपभोग घेण्याची सांगणे अचित होणार नाही. स्ट्राफे वाढते पगार देण्याची कुवत आमच्यांत राहिलेली नाही अशा प्रकारच्या तक्रारी अनेक लोकल बोर्डांकडून सरकारकडे येऊ लागल्या आहेत. अशा परिस्थितीत अजिनिअर्सचे व चीफ ऑफिसरचे पगार ५०० ते १००० रुपयांपर्यंत देण्यांत आली लोकल बोर्डांची आर्थिक स्थिति चांगली आहे असे आपणाला म्हणता येणार नाही. ह्या बाबतीत आपली जी आर्थिक जबाबदारी आहे ती सरकारने अचलावयास पाहिजे असे माझे स्पष्ट मत आहे. ही जबाबदारी लोकल बोर्डांवर लादण्यांत आली तर लोकल बोर्डांच्या ज्या आर्थिक अडचणी आहेत त्या सुटण्याऐवजी त्या अडचणींमध्ये अलट भरव पडणार आहे असे मी म्हणालों तर त्यांत कांहीं अतिशयोक्ति होऊन असे मला वाटत नाही.

यानंतर मला सभागृहाच्या निदर्शनास असे आणावयाचे आहे की, तालुक्यामध्ये जो लॅंड रेव्हिन्यू जमत असे त्याच्या ७५ टक्के खर्च तालुक्याच्या फायद्यासाठी केला जात असे. परंतु हा खर्च करण्याची पूर्वीची जी योजना आहे ती ह्या विधेयकान्वये सरकार रद्द करू इच्छित आहे. वस्तुतः निरनिराळ्या तालुक्यांमध्ये विकासांची कामे घडवून आणण्याच्या दृष्टीने प्रत्येक तालुक्याला एक प्रकारची सिक्युरिटी वाटून लोकल बोर्डांच्या कारभारांमध्ये रस घेता यावा म्हणून पूर्वीच्या योजनेचा फार उपयोग झालेला आहे. लोकल बोर्डांना जी ७५ टक्के रक्कम मिळत असे ती रक्कम लोकल बोर्डे आपआपल्या यंत्रणेन होतां तालुक्यांचा उलट फायदाच होत असे. ह्याबाबतीत मला असे सांगावयाचे आहे की, आपला जो जमीन महसूल जमतो त्याच्यातून ७५ टक्के रक्कम आमच्या तालुक्यावर खर्च होणार आहे अशा विस्वासाने तालुक्यातील लोक लोकल बोर्डांकडे पाहता अशा परिस्थितीत ही योजना रद्द करण्यांत आली तर तालुक्यांतील लोक लोकल बोर्डांमध्ये सत्तेवर येत आहेत. फारसा खर्च होणार नाही ही गोष्ट उघड आहे. परंतु सरकारपक्षाच्या सोयीचे जे तालुके आहेत त्यामध्ये मात्र विकास योजना पुऱ्या केल्या जाण्याचा संभव आहे. ह्या भूमिकेतून

[अम्. बी. गायकवाड]

विकास कामे झाल्यास फार मोठा पक्षपात झाल्याखेरीज राहाणार नाही असे मला वाटते. लोकल बोर्डे ह्या लोकशाही संस्था आहेत असा आजपर्यंत लोकांचा जो एक प्रकारचा विश्वास होता त्याला सरकारच्या ह्या घोरणामुळे धक्का बसण्याची भीति आहे. असे होऊ नये असे सरकारला वाटत असेल तर प्रत्येक तालुक्यावर ७५ टक्के खर्च करण्याची पूर्वीची जी योजना आहे तिलाच सरकारने यापुढेही चिकटून राहिले पाहिजे. ही गोष्ट खरी आहे की, कांही वेळां कांही तालुक्यांसाठी ह्या रकमा कमी पडतात. ह्यापेक्षा अधिक रकमेची लोकांना गरज असते आणि त्यासाठी एखाद्या विशिष्ट तालुक्यावर २५ टक्के अधिक रक्कम खर्च करण्याची परवानगी लोकल बोर्डांना आहे. म्हणून प्रत्येक तालुक्यावर ७५ टक्के रक्कम खर्च करण्याच्या पूर्वीच्या व्यवस्थेमध्ये सरकारने बदल करू नये असे मला सांगावयाचे आहे.

यानंतर दुसरा एक महत्त्वाचा मुद्दा मला सभागृहापुढे मांडावयाचा आहे. चीफ ऑफिसर आणि इंजिनीयर यांच्या नेमणुकांबाबतही थोडासा अनागोदी कारभार आहे. ह्या नेमणुका करण्याच्या बाबतीतला निर्णय घेण्याचा अधिकार सरकारने लोकल बोर्डांना दिलेला आहे व यामुळे लोकल बोर्डांच्या लोकशाही कारभारांत सरकारने सत्तेचे विकेंद्रीकरण केले आहे असा सरकारचा जो दावा आहे तो बरोबर नाही. पहिल्यापासून लोकल बोर्डांची अशी मागणी आहे की आम्ही जे चीफ ऑफिसर्स किंवा इंजिनीअर्स नेमतो त्यांच्याकडून काम करून घेण्याचा, त्यांना काढून टाकण्याचा व वेळ प्रसंगी त्यांना शिक्षा करण्याचा अधिकार लोकल बोर्डांकडे असला पाहिजे. आतापर्यंत सरकारची भूमिका अशी होती की, ज्या अर्थी ह्या अधिकाऱ्यांच्या नेमणुकीला सरकारची संमति लागते त्या अर्थी त्यांच्या नेमणुकीपासून पुढचे सगळे अधिकार सरकारकडे राहिले पाहिजेत. याबाबतचे एक उदाहरण मी सभागृहापुढे ठेवतो. कांही दिवसांपूर्वी नाशिक जिल्हा लोकल बोर्डांचा चीफ ऑफिसर नेमावयाचा होता. जागा रिकामी झाल्यापासून तीन महिने होऊन गेले तरी ही जागा भरण्यासाठी सरकारने मान्यता दिली नाही. याचे कारण हेच होते की, ग्राम-मतवाल्या काँग्रेस पक्षाला एक विशिष्ट चीफ ऑफिसर नको होता, त्यांनी, या बाबतीत विरुद्ध मतदान केले. काँग्रेस पक्षाचा ह्या गोष्टीला विरोध आहे म्हणूनच की काय न जाणे स्टेट गव्हर्नमेंटने ह्या गोष्टीला मान्यता दिली नाही, आणि आक्षेपांची गोष्ट अशी की अजून ह्या चीफ ऑफिसरची नेमणूक होऊ शकली नाही. अजून त्या लोकल बोर्डांचा कारभार खालच्या अधिकाऱ्यांकडूनच चालू आहे. तेव्हा मला असे सांगावयाचे आहे की, लोकल बोर्डांसारख्या लोकशाही संस्थांकडे पाहण्याचा सरकारचा असा दृष्टिकोन असतांना ज्या पैशांच्या जोरावर ह्या संस्थांनी कारभार करावयाचा असतो तो पैसांचे जर सरकारने बंद केला तर ह्या पुढे ह्या संस्थांचा कारभार कसा काय चालणार हे मला समजत नाही. एका बाजूने ग्रामपंचायतीचे सध्याचे स्ट्रक्चर बदलून त्यांना ग्रामीण अधिकार देत असतांना लोकल बोर्डांना असलेले अधिकार मात्र सरकार काढून घेऊ पाहता आहे. आधीच कलेक्टर आणि डिस्ट्रिक्ट ऑफिसर यांच्याकडे इतके अधिकार आहेत की, लोकल बोर्डांनी केलेला कोणताहि ठराव हे अधिकारी बदलू शकतात, अशा परिस्थितीत चीफ ऑफिसर आणि इंजिनीयर यांच्या बाबतीतले सर्व अधिकार आम्ही तुम्हांला देतो, मात्र तुम्हांला पैसा मिळणार नाही, तुमचे तुम्ही सर्व कांही पाहू अशी कौडी सरकार करीत आहे. यामुळे लोकल बोर्डांना अधिक स्वातंत्र्य देत आहेत असा सरकार जो एक प्रकारचा बहाणा करीत आहे याचा कांही उपयोग होणार नाही. नुसते लोकशाहीचे अधिकार बोर्डांकडे सुपूर्त करून भागणार नाही, तर ह्या बोर्डांचा कारभार करण्यासाठी लागणाऱ्या पैशांचीहि व्यवस्था झाली पाहिजे. लोकल बोर्डे कशासाठी

[श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड]

चालावावयाची असतात ? लोकल बोर्डांच्या अेरियामधील जनतेने आपले प्रतिनिधि निवडून देऊन त्यांनीच तेथील सर्व व्यवस्था पाहावी हा यामागे हेतु आहे, पण हा हेतु मिळीस जावयाचा असेल तर सध्या कलेक्टर किंवा डिव्हिजनल ऑफिसर यांचे लोकल बोर्डांच्या कारभारात हस्तक्षेप करण्याचे जे अधिकार आहेत ते कमी केले पाहिजेत, डेव्हलपमेंट वर्क व्यवस्थित पार पडण्याच्या दृष्टीने लोकल बोर्डांना आर्थिक सोयीस वाढवून दिले पाहिजेत, त्याचप्रमाणे लोकल बोर्डांच्या स्टाफला संपूर्ण डीअरनेस अलॉन्स देण्याची जबाबदारी सरकारने उचलली पाहिजे. अशा प्रकारची दुस्स्ती सरकारने विलांत केली पाहिजे. म्हणून सरकारला सला अशी विनंति करावयाची आहे की, मी वर केलेल्या सूचनांच्या आधारे सरकारने ह्या विलांत दुस्स्ती केल्याशिवाय ह्या लोकल बोर्डांचा कारभार कधीहि सुधारणार नाही. केवळ लॅंड रेव्हिन्यूचा ५ टक्के मदत देऊन भागणार नाही. यामुळे लोकल बोर्डांचे उत्पन्न वाढणार नाही की कमीच होईल अशी सला भीति वाटते. हजार पांचशे रुपये वाढून लोकल बोर्डांच्या आर्थिक परिस्थितीत काही फरक होणे शक्य नाही. निदान लॅंड रेव्हिन्यूचा १५ टक्के हिस्सा तरी ह्या बोर्डांना दिला पाहिजे.

थोडक्यांत समारोप करावयाचा तर मी आधीच सांगितल्याप्रमाणे चीफ ऑफिसर्स आणि अंजिनीअर्स ह्यांच्या नेमणुकांपासून ती त्यांना काढून टाकण्याचा, त्यांना मदत करण्याची अथवा वेळ पडली तर त्यांना शिक्षा करण्यापर्यंतचा सगळा अधिकार बोर्डांना दिला पाहिजे. पूर्वीप्रमाणे ७५ टक्के खर्च प्रत्येक तालुक्यावर करण्याची व्यवस्था तशीच चालू ठेवली पाहिजे. यामुळे लोकल बोर्डांना आपला कारभार चांगल्या तऱ्हेने चालविण्यास मदत होईल, असे सांगून मी रजा घेतो.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH (Maharashtra South—Local Authorities):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to make a few observations regarding the second amendment. Unfortunately, in the matter of the appointments of the Chief

Officers and Engineers, I hold a different view than those which were expressed by the hon. Member who spoke just now. I have not been able to understand and appreciate as to what is the idea behind deleting Section 119. Formerly, the Chief Officer or the Engineer of a Local Board used to be appointed with the previous approval of the State Government and then Government used to contribute 2.3 to his scale. Now this section is being deleted. I do not know whether Government is decreasing the contribution towards the Local Boards because it is going to give them a high percentage of revenue or whether, as has been suggested just now, Government feels that the Local Boards should have supervision over their revenue. Perhaps the hon. Minister may make a clarification on this point. But I have always held the view that, so far as the Chief Officers or the Engineers are concerned, they should be appointed by Government and that there should be one cadre for all the Chief Officers and Engineers, including the Chief Officers of the Municipalities. Now there are the Municipal Corporations. The Municipal Commissioners in the Corporations in Poona, Bombay, etc. are appointed by Government and these Corporations are working very well. Therefore, I believe that democracy does not mean interference with the day to day administration of these bodies. I take democracy to mean that the elected members should concern themselves with policy matters and after laying down policy, leave it to the administrative machinery to implement. If administration

[Shri V. B. Deshmukh]

is to go on efficiently and unhampered by party politics, then the important officers in the local bodies like Chief Officers and engineers should have security of service and there should be no interference from elected members, who should content themselves with just having a vigilant eye over their work. Otherwise, efficiency suffers. In Government service a public servant is seldom allowed to remain in a place for over 3 years. Normally he is transferred in 3-4 years and for very good reasons, because if a man continues to stick to a post for a number of years, he develops some vested interest which affects his efficiency and integrity as a Government servant.

Now, it is proposed to pay a grant of five per cent of land revenue and 2 per cent of forest revenue collected in that area, and discontinue payment of the 2/3rd of the salary of the Chief Officer and the Engineer. If these officers are left to be appointed by the local bodies themselves, it would affect the efficiency and impartiality of the officers. If their services are left to be controlled by the elected Members, then the officers would care more for being in the good books of as many members as possible than for efficient discharge of their duties, because, if they go against the wishes of the Members, then it becomes very difficult for them to continue in service. Therefore, these appointments should not be left to the local bodies. At present these appointments are made on considerations of politics. I am not referring to the Congress or any other political party. What I want to say is this, that if these officers' existence is not made independent of the bodies, then, human nature being what it is, the officers will be interested, not so much in their work, but in carrying the favour of Members and trying to stick to their places. If, on the other hand, these appointments are made by Government, by creating a cadre and transferring them as exigencies demand, it would definitely ensure efficiency and integrity in their work. I do not quite see why Government's retention of this power of appointment should be made dependent upon its contributing some share in the expenditure on the salary of these officers. If the aim is to ensure efficiency in administration, I cannot understand this proposition. After all people are concerned with efficiency in the administration as a whole. We are having local bodies and municipalities for years. Can we say that we have made very good progress? As I said earlier, democracy does not mean interference by elected members in the day to day administration. Such representatives should concern themselves with deciding questions of policy. I do not want to move any amendment to the provision, but I would say again that, so far as these appointments are concerned, it would certainly be a good thing if they are made by Government. I have not been able to appreciate the particular provision in the amending Bill. That is all that I have to say.

Dr. D. D. KARVE (Maharashtra Graduates): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the present Bill proposes a change in the percentage of land revenue paid to the District Local Boards and the new amendment is that 5 per cent of the land revenue collected in the district, disregarding the municipal limits, will be paid, while at present it is 15 per cent of the land revenue excluding the land within the limits of village panchayats and municipalities. Then again

[Dr. D. D. Karve]

There is another change, namely, that two-thirds of the salaries of the Chief Officers or Engineers which used to be paid by Government is to be discontinued and 50 per cent of the Dearness Allowance will be paid. Sir, the Hon. Minister in his introductory remarks gave us the total of the budget provision which would be necessary to meet this new provision. It is very difficult to come to any conclusion unless one has some specific instance. So I would request the Hon. Minister to take a few specific cases of a few District Local Boards and tell us that, under the present arrangements, the 15 per cent of the land revenue and municipal revenue exceed the two-thirds salary of the Chief Officers or the Engineers, and that, under the present measure, the District Local Boards would be entitled to get such and such benefits. If some half a dozen instances of different District Local Boards in the different parts of the State are given, then the hon. Members of this House would be in a position to formulate their opinions on the progressive nature or otherwise of this particular measure. Otherwise, giving the total figures takes us nowhere. If it is said that instead of Rs. 28 lakhs we are spending Rs. 32 lakhs or instead of Rs. 10 lakhs we are spending Rs. 28 lakhs, we cannot come to any conclusion. Moreover, during the interim period, we have had the reorganisation of States and, therefore, in order to enable the hon. Members of this House to come to a definite conclusion regarding the progressive nature or the regressive nature of this measure, I would request the Hon. Minister to give us specific figures for at least half a dozen districts in the different parts of the State which would then enable us to come to a proper conclusion.

Shri M. V. DONDE (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I entirely support the line of argument and the emphasis which has been laid.....

The CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. Member supporting the Bill or opposing it?

Shri M. V. DONDE: I have not yet stated whom I am supporting. I support the hon. Member Shri Gaikwad in the line of argument and the line of thinking and also the particular emphasis which he has laid so far as the position of the Local Self-Government bodies in our pattern of Government are concerned. Sir, we have made radical changes so far as the top unit of Government is concerned. I am referring to the Central Government. We have made it justifiable so far as the needs of the society and also the objectives of a Welfare State that we have claimed are concerned. Similarly, we have adopted entirely a new pattern of progressiveness so far as State Governments are concerned, but in the case of local self-government institutions we have been carrying on not only with the old traditions, but the main form or the pattern which the Britisher some 60 or 70 years adopted in regard to these institutions or bodies. That was, as I understand it, a narrow outlook of the British Government, the then local self-government bodies displacing entirely the important unit of local self-government, I mean the village panchayats. The British Government did not want the panchayats to flourish, and, therefore, by creating such bodies as District

[Shri M. V. Donde]

Local Boards, they gave a go-by to the old institutions like the village panchayats. Thus, local self-government bodies were formerly more or less institutions which Government wanted to control for their own purposes. Really speaking, there was no local-self government in the real sense of the term because the control was entirely Government's. People were kept dependent upon Government for sources of revenue though they wanted the entire control, management and the administration of the local bodies. I think the time has now come when it is necessary that the local self-government bodies should be radically and fundamentally modelled on the basis of the new pattern which we have kept before us. By making some changes here and there, some amendments here and there, the real purpose of local self-government is not going to be served. Sir, what is the idea in having these local self-governing bodies? Really speaking, the first characteristic of a local self-government institute is that people should have power and initiative. Initiative is the most important thing in a local self-governing body. If the initiative is entirely taken away, it cannot, by any stretch of imagination, be called self-government. Along with initiative there must also be freedom to control the management. If these two things are absent, then I am definitely of opinion that local self-government will be more or less a farce. With initiative and control, people get interested in their own needs and requirements, and when they are so interested, the necessary enthusiasm is created. By the amendments proposed in the Bill, really speaking, the idea of local self-government is going to be crippled, because the main prop on which the whole local self-government has been laid is the opportunity to carry on its work with initiative and control. Here, we find that so far as financial strength is concerned, local self-government bodies are going to be weakened. I, therefore, entirely support the contention of my hon. Friend Shri Gaikwad that it is necessary that, in the new state of things, Government should come forward with proposals to increase the sources of revenue to the local self-governing bodies. As it has been stated here, Government is going as it were to play the game of bargaining with the local self-governing bodies. Government says to local bodies, "We are giving you grant on the basis of the 5 per cent. revenue and we will not bear the 2/3rds of the expenditure on the salary of your Chief Officers and Engineers, that we have been bearing so far." There should not be this sort of bargaining spirit while dealing with local self-governing bodies. I, therefore, think that the proposed amendment, instead of making the present Act progressive, makes it quite regressive. Now, the idea behind the section seems to be to give the power to earmark the amount of expenditure to a particular local area according to the receipts of land revenue in that area. I think the idea of ear-marking grant for a particular area is a good one, in the sense that it would definitely create a kind of enthusiasm among the people in that particular area or locality. I, therefore, support the contention of my hon. Friend Shri Gaikwad that at least 75 per cent. of the amount realised by way of land revenue in a taluka ought to be spent there, barring exceptions here and there, and Government has to guard against the possibility of any injustice being done to any other area. But it is necessary in the case of local self-governing bodies that some such obligations as regards the expenditure are imposed.

[Shri M. V. Donde]

As regards the appointment of the Chief Officers and/or the Engineers of such bodies, I am sorry I cannot agree with my hon. Friend Shri Deshmukh. There has been a tendency, even in various Corporations like the Bombay Municipal Corporation, to have the power of such appointments with the Corporations themselves. I remember, when my hon. Friend Shri S. K. Patil was the Mayor of Bombay, he had moved a resolution through the Congress Party to indicate that the time had come when the appointment of the Municipal Commissioner should rest with the Bombay Municipal Corporation. By a particular majority the Corporation can ask Government to take away the Municipal Commissioner. That means the power of removal of the Municipal Commissioner is there with the Corporation, but the percentage is so wide that it is almost impossible to make the power already given effective. Therefore, it is as good as no power at all. Not only that, but Government has been trying to have control over local bodies. To quote the illustration of the Bombay Municipal Corporation, Government has reserved to itself the right of taking away the Municipal Commissioner as and when Government chooses to do so, without the previous approval and consent of the Corporation. That has affected the interest of local bodies considerably because a newly appointed Municipal Commissioner takes about six months or a year or so to adjust himself to the new arrangement, because the work that a Municipal Commissioner has to do is different from the work that has to be done in a Secretariat department. They do take sometime to adjust themselves to the actual work of the administration. In the second year he begins to think out and offer his suggestions, and when the third year comes, he begins to think that the time has come for him to go. Because of this attitude of Government to have control over the bodies, the interests of local bodies are considerably suffering. I do not mean to suggest that there should be absolutely no control over the administration of these local bodies. There should be control, but not with the idea of taking away their initiative, interest and enthusiasm. Control should be there, but Government should come forward

4-00 p.m.

with a helping hand and proper advice, not with the idea of nullifying the very basis of local self-Government. I, therefore, cannot support the amendments as proposed by Government in the present Bill. The sources of revenue ought to have been increased, not in the manner as is proposed to be done in the Bill. Secondly, Government ought not to take away, on the ground that it is giving a certain percentage of land revenue as grant, the obligation on its part of giving financial aid to these institutions. Thirdly, I do think that the local interests will be served in a better manner by ear-marking a particular amount of expenditure for a particular area. If this Bill is allowed to be passed in the amended form, I would definitely say that there is nothing local in local self-Government. It is neither local nor self-Government so far as the present position is concerned. I, therefore, cannot be a party to the amended Bill that is before the House.

Shri D. B. AGARWAL (Maharashtra South Local-Authorities): Madam Chairman, I rise to support the views that have been expressed by my hon. Friend Shri Gaikwad. He has rightly stated that the local self-governing bodies are suffering from great handicaps. It has also been pointed out,

[Shri D. B. Agarwal]

I think by the hon. Minister himself, that the cost of administration is rising all over in the local bodies. From the little experience that I have, I may say that nearly 40 per cent. of the revenue that is available is spent on the cost of administration and only 60 per cent. of the money remains for providing amenities. If, therefore, the sources of revenue are cut down, then naturally the local bodies are bound to suffer. I am very doubtful whether, after giving this 5 per cent. of the land revenue to the local bodies, their position will improve. If, out of the vast amount which Government has at its disposal, a couple of lakhs of rupees are given to the local self-Government bodies, their position is not going to improve much. The expectations of the people in the local bodies are rising every day. They are not at all happy. But ultimately what can the local bodies do? They are helpless. The amount of money at their disposal is very very meagre and it is difficult to meet the expectations of the people within that amount. I, therefore, endorse the view that has been put forward by the hon. Members Shri Donde and Shri Gaikwad that the grant of 5 per cent. that has been provided is very meagre and that there should be a substantial increase in it if Government wants the local self-Governing bodies to be a success.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ (મુંબઈ વિધાનસભા તરફથી ચૂંટાયેલ): માનનીય સભાપતિજી, આ બોલની અંદર જે ત્રણ સુધારા રજૂ કરવામાં આવ્યા છે તેમાં પહેલા સુધારામાં પંદર ટકા લેન્ડ રેવેન્યુનો હિસ્સો લોકલ બોર્ડને ગ્રાન્ટ તરીકે આપવામાં આવતો હતો તે ઓછો કરીને પાંચ ટકા કરવામાં આવ્યો છે. બીજા સુધારામાં સરકાર ચીફ ઓફિસરના અગર એન્જનીઅરના પગારમાં ૨/૩ ભાગ આપતી તે રદ કરવામાં આવે છે અને તે ખર્ચ લોકલ બોર્ડ પર નાખ્યું છે. આ ઉપરાંત તાલુકામાંથી મેળવેલી જમીન મહેસુલની ગ્રાન્ટના લોકલ બોર્ડે ૭૫ ટકા તાલુકામાં જે ખર્ચ કરવું જોઈતું હતું તેની ઉપરનું બંધન હટાવી લેવામાં આવ્યું છે. એટલે આ જે સુધારા મુકવામાં આવ્યા છે તેથી મૂળ જે લોકલ બોર્ડની મહત્તા હતી તે એકદરે ઓછી કરી નાખવામાં આવી છે. પાંચ ટકાની જે ગ્રાન્ટ આ બીલ દ્વારા આપવામાં આવી છે તે તેની જવાબદારી પૂર્ણ કરવા માટે ઘણીજ ઓછી છે. સરકારે જે એવો બીજો કોઈ માર્ગ લીધો હોત કે જ્યાં કરીને લોકલ બોર્ડની આવક વધે અને કાર્યક્ષેત્ર વધે તો તે સ્તૂત્ય પગલું ગણાત. નેશનલ ડેવલપમેન્ટની જે યોજના છે તેને વેગ આપવા માટે સરકારે ડિસ્ટ્રીક્ટ ડેવલપમેન્ટ બોર્ડ ઉભા કર્યા છે. આ જે વિકાસ મંડળો છે તે નોમીનેટ્ડ બોર્ડસ હોય છે. આ બોર્ડને એક હથ્થુ રીતે ઉપરથી ચલાવવામાં આવે છે. તેથી લોકોનો પાયામાંથી સહકાર મેળવવામાં તે અસમર્થ નિવડ્યા છે. ખરી રીતે જોઈએ તો તે લોકલ બોર્ડના કાર્યનોજ એક ભાગ છે એટલે તેનું ખર્ચ લોકલ બોર્ડના હાથમાં આવ્યું હોત અને લોકોના ચૂંટાઈ આવેલા પ્રતિનિધિઓના હાથમાં આ વિકાસ યોજનાનું કાર્ય ચલાવવાની પૂરતી સત્તા આપવામાં આવી હોત તો યોગ્ય અને લોકશાહી પધ્ધતિ ગણાત અને આમાં લોકલ બોર્ડની મહત્તા અને કાર્યક્ષેત્ર વિસ્તૃત થાત. પણ ખરું જોઈએ તો સરકાર તો જે પધ્ધતિ અપનાવવા માગે છે તે એ છે કે જે ચૂંટાયેલ સંસ્થા છે તેના અધિકારો ઓછા કરીને તેન તાકાત વધારવાના પ્રયત્નો કરવાને બદલે તેની તાકાત ઓછી કરવાના પ્રયત્નો કરે છે. અત્યારસુધી સરકાર તરફથી ચીફ ઓફિસરનો ૨/૩ ભાગનો પગાર આપવામાં આવતો હતો પણ તે આ બીલ દ્વારા કાઢી નાખવામાં આવ્યો છે અને તે ખર્ચ લોકલ બોર્ડ પર નાખવામાં આવ્યું છે પણ આથી જે જીલ્લા અધિકારીઓ દ્વારા અને બીજી રીતે સરકારની જે બેફામ સત્તા હતી તે સત્તાઓમાં કંઈપણ જતનો ફેરફાર કરવામાં આવ્યો નથી તેમજ તે સત્તા ઓછી કરવામાં આવી

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

નથી. પણ ખરી વસ્તુ એ છે કે કલેક્ટર જેવા જીલ્લા અધિકારીનો લોકલ બોર્ડ ઉપર જે કાબુ છે તે સરકાર એછી કરવા માગતી નથી અને આ રીતે સરકાર લોકલ બોર્ડ ઉપર પોતાનો કાબુ ટકાવી રાખવા માગે છે. અત્યાર સુધી ચીફ ઓફિસરની નિમણૂક મંજૂર કરવાનો અધિકાર સરકારે પોતાના હાથમાં રાખ્યો હતો અને તે રીતે લોકલ બોર્ડના કાર્યમાં પોતાનું નિયંત્રણ ચલાવ્યું હતું. પણ પચાસનો એક હિસ્સો લોકલ બોર્ડને માથે લાદ્યો હતો. હવે પૂરો હિસ્સો લોકલ બોર્ડ પર નાખવામાં આવ્યો છે અને સરકારી મંજૂરી રદ કરી છે. પણ મૂળ સરકારનો જે મોટા ભાગનો કાબુ છે તેને કાંઈ હાની થઈ નથી. વિવેક પંચાયતને ભવિષ્યમાં આપણે વિસ્તૃત કરવાના છીએ ત્યારે લોકલ બોર્ડની સ્ટેબીલીટી જાળવવી જોઈએ પણ આ બીજા દ્વારા સ્ટેબીલીટી પધારવાને બદલે ઓછી થવાની શક્યતા છે. અત્યારે લોકલ બોર્ડની જે હાલન થતી જાય છે તેના હાલન પંચાયતની થવાની છે. પંચાયત બીજા ભવિષ્યમાં આવવાનું છે તેમાં પણ નોર્મીનેશન્સ ને સ્થાન છે અને આજ રીતે સરકારી અધિકારીઓને અડગ સત્તાઓ આપવામાં આવી છે અને એ રીતે બ્યુરોક્રેટીક મશીનરી છે તે ફેલાવવા માટેનો આ એક રસ્તો કાઢવામાં આવ્યો છે. એટલે મને લાગે છે કે આ જે ત્રણ સુધારા છે તે સુધારા દ્વારા લોકલ બોર્ડની સંસ્થાના અધિકારો પધારવાને બદલે એની ઉપર કાબુ આવે છે. તેની શક્તિનો જે આધાર છે તેનો સમૂળગો નાશ થતો જાય છે. બીજી વાત એ છે કે સરકારી અધિકારીઓ દ્વારા આવી મશીનરી ઉપર સરકારનો પોતાનો જે કાબુ છે તે કાબુને પૂરનો જાણી રાખવામાં આવ્યો છે. આ ઉપરાંત ધ્યાનમાં લેવાની વાત એ છે કે જીલ્લા વિકાસ મંડળો છે તે નોર્મીનેટડ બોર્ડના હાથમાં રાખવામાં આવ્યા છે. આ બાબતમાં મારું સૂચન એમ છે કે જે ડેવલપમેન્ટ સ્કીમ્સના કામો છે તે ચૂંટાયેલ સંસ્થા મારફત થવાં જોઈએ. આ રીતે સ્થાનિક સંસ્થાઓના અધિકાર અને કાર્યક્ષેત્રને વિસ્તૃત કરવા જોઈએ અને પોતાના નિયંત્રણમાં સરકારે સંપૂર્ણ લોકશાહી પદ્ધતિ દાખલ કરવી જોઈએ.

શ્રી બચ્છરાજ એસ. વ્યાસ : માનનીય સભાપતિ મહોદય, हमारे इस सदन में लोकल बोर्ड कानून में संशोधन करने के लिये आज जो विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया गया है। उसपर मैं अपने विचार प्रदर्शित करना चाहता हूँ। हमारे संविधान द्वारा जनता को कुछ मौलिक अधिकार दिये गये हैं। लेकिन जनता को अपना राज खुद करना चाहिये ऐसा कोई अधिकार संविधान में नहीं दिया गया है। म्युनिसिपैलिटीज, लोकल बोर्ड, ग्राम-पंचायतें आदि जो संस्थाएँ हैं उन्हें शासन की ओर से जो काम सौंपा जायेगा, उतनी हद तक ही वे स्वतंत्रतापूर्वक काम कर सकती हैं। संविधान द्वारा ऐसा कोई बंधन नहीं डाला गया है कि इन संस्थाओं को कुछ काम दिया ही जाना चाहिये। हम चाहते हैं कि हमारी शासन यंत्रणा का अधिक से अधिक विकेन्द्रीकरण किया जाये और शासन यंत्रणा अधिक से अधिक जनताभिमुख हो। आज हम यदि इस विधेयक को यहाँ मंजूर करते हैं तो उसका परिणाम यह होगा कि लोकल बोर्ड की आज जो आमदनी है वह काफी कम हो जायेगी। यह तो इस तरह से है जैसे किसी बच्चे को गुड़िया देकर समझाया जाये। इस तरह से लोकल बोर्ड की आमदनी के साधन कम किये जायें तो उनकी उन्नति नहीं हो सकेगी।

यह कहा जाता है कि बम्बई राज्य एक प्रगतिशील राज्य है और इसने कई ऐसे काम किये हैं जो दूसरे राज्यों के लिये मार्गदर्शक हो सकते हैं। जब बम्बई राज्य को एक प्रगतिशील राज्य माना जाता है तब मैं समझता हूँ कि इस दिशा में इस राज्य को आगे कदम उठाना चाहिये और जो लोकल बॉडीज हैं। उन्हें अधिक से अधिक मजबूत

[શ્રી બચ્છરાજ એસ. વ્યાસ]

બનાવેર બુનકે હાથ સે સત્તા દેની વાહિયે । આજ જો લોકલ બોર્ડીજ કામ કરતી હૈ બુનકી સાંપત્તિક સ્થિતિ અચ્છી નહીં હૈ ઓર ઝિસ બિલ કે જરિયે સે લોકલ બોર્ડ કી આમદની ઓર કમ કી જા રહી હૈ ।

यह बताया गया कि शासन की यह नीति है कि वह ग्राम पंचायतों को अधिक से अधिक बढ़ावा दे और जिस विचार से ज्यादा से ज्यादा ग्राम पंचायतें स्थापित करके उन्हें अधिक से अधिक अधिकार देकर सत्ता का विकेन्द्रीकरण करना, शासन का ध्येय है। उस दृष्टि से ग्रामपंचायतों की आमदनी बढ़ाने की कोशिश की जा रही है। मंत्री महोदय ने अपने भाषण में यह भी बताया कि कुछ लोकल बोर्ड्स की आमदनी १० लाख थी वह २८ लाख तक बढ़ गई है। लोकल बोर्ड को जो खर्चा पहले करना पड़ता था उसका कुछ हिस्सा अब उन्हें सरकार की तरफ से मिलने वाला है जैसे चीफ ऑफिसर या चीफ इन्जिनियर को जो वेतन दिया जाता है उसका दो तिहाई हिस्सा ग्रांट के रूप में सरकार की तरफ से दिया जानेवाला है। गणित की दृष्टि से तो यह ठीक है। जहाँ विलेज पंचायतें ज्यादा हों वहाँ तो लोकल बोर्ड की आमदनी बहुत ही कम हो जाती है लेकिन उस अनुपात में उनके काम कम नहीं होते, उसके लिये क्या किया जाये? उन्हें काम तो करने पड़ते हैं लेकिन आमदनी पहले से कम हो जाती है। ग्रामपंचायतों को अब ज्यादा पैसा देने की आवश्यकता है इसलिये उस अनुपात में लोकल बोर्ड की आमदनी कम की जा रही है। पानी सरकार अपनी आमदनी को किसी भी प्रकार कम नहीं कर रही है। सरकार यदि लोकल बॉडीज को ज्यादा बढ़ावा देना चाहती है तो आज ग्राम-पंचायतों को जो मदद दी जा रही है या जो अधिक मदद दी जानेवाली है उसके अलावा सरकार को चाहिये कि डिस्ट्रिक्ट लोकल बोर्ड या म्युनिसिपैलिटीज को वह अपने लेन्ड रेविन्यू में से अधिक रकम मदद के तौर पर दे। जिस संबंध में मैं यह सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ कि जिस तरह से केन्द्रीय सरकार और प्रांतीय सरकार ने आमदनी संबंधी आपस में कुछ विभाजन कर लिया है जिसमें टेक्सेस आदि आमदनी का कुछ हिस्सा प्रांतीय सरकार को मिलता है, कुछ टेक्सेस वसूल कर के खर्च करने का अधिकार प्रांतीय सरकार को दिया गया है, उसी तरह का कुछ विभाजन आमदनी का यहाँ भी किया जाना चाहिये जिससे लोकल बोर्ड और म्युनिसिपैलिटीज को कुछ ज्यादा पैसा मिल सके। जिस संबंध में कुछ प्रगतिशील नीति हमारे राज्य सरकार को अपनानी चाहिये और इसके बारे में सोचा जाना चाहिये।

माननीय श्री गायकवाड साहब ने यहाँ पर जो सुझाव रखा है उसका मैं समर्थन करता हूँ और सरकार से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह उसपर अवश्य सोचें। सत्ता के विकेन्द्रीकरण के साथ ही, जिनमें आप सत्ता का विकेन्द्रीकरण करना चाहते हैं, उनकी आर्थिक स्थिति भी सुधारनी चाहिये। आखीर में मैं अितना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि ग्रामपंचायत तथा लोकल बोर्ड दोनों को सरकार के रेविन्यू में से अधिक हिस्सा दिया जाना चाहिये। अितना कहते हुअे मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ।

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH: Sir, I am happy to find that so many hon. Members have shown their interest in the Bill though they have not tried to understand what is what. As a matter of fact there was some confusion of thought. Many general principles were brought in which were outside the scope of this amending Bill. The first and the foremost question which was raised was whether we are crippling the resources of the Local Boards or whether we are helping them. *Prima facie* 5 is less than 15 but if we apply

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our mind to the provisions of this Bill we would find that in this case at least 5 is bigger and greater than 15. Even then some hon. Members criticised that by this Bill we are crippling the resources of the Local Boards. I would request the hon. Members to take into account the situation when the original Act was enacted. When we passed the Act of 1949, as I said, in the entire old Bombay State there were only 1,516 panchayats in the State and there were various District Local Bodies at the District level, and at that time we decided to pay them 15 per cent. of the land revenue, barring the municipal area and the panchayat area but the panchayat area being very limited, a substantial portion of the land revenue, which was 15 per cent. of the total land revenue, was passed on to the District Local Boards. Now what has happened? As I said, in the old Bombay State, 74.4 per cent. of the rural area has been covered by the panchayats. Now what is the result? I hope the hon. Members are aware that each panchayat at present is paid 30 per cent. of the land revenue and this is in addition to it. Now, when there were no panchayats in the rural areas, the District Local Boards had to work for the villages in the District. With the establishment of panchayats the responsibility of the District Local Boards in rural areas will be decreasing. Each Panchayat will be getting 30 per cent. of the land revenue and so it will look after the requirements of its own village. Government pays 30 per cent. of the revenue realised in the village itself to the panchayat. By the removal of this provision of 75 per cent. expenditure in the Taluka itself, I am sure the backward areas will not suffer, but, on the contrary they will be more benefited. There are development schemes which are to be looked into by the District Local Boards. Now, as a matter of fact, these local boards were getting or were to get in the year 1958-59 only an amount of Rs. 10 lakhs and we are, by this Bill, proposing to pay them Rs. 28 lakhs. I can understand if some hon. Members say that we are not giving them facilities to the extent to which they expect, but the criticism that by this Bill their finances are crippled is very difficult to understand. The hon. Members should bear in mind that, in the case of Janapada Sabhas, a part of the land revenue is given to them in the Vidarbha area but it is not being paid in Marathwada and Saurashtra. For those areas also we are providing by this Bill that all the District Local Boards will get 5 per cent. of the land revenue where they did not get anything. This 5 per cent. will be for the entire area barring the municipal areas. As a matter of fact, in Saurashtra 98 per cent. of the rural areas are covered by panchayats. These panchayats will get 30 per cent. In addition to this, the District Local Boards will be getting 5 per cent. of the land revenue barring the Municipal area. How can it be paid that we are taking away something which the Local Boards have got? I would have been happy if it was possible to pay more to Local Boards. It is admitted that local bodies deserve more resources. But the Budget was passed by the Assembly recently and we know the provision. We are paying 30 per cent. to Village Panchayats, and, in addition, we are paying 5 per cent. to a District Local Board to look to the overall development in the District. Sir, it will thus be seen that this Bill is a step in the right direction of giving something more than what they get at present, say, in the year 1957-58.

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One hon. Member desired me to give districtwise figures. But is it not clear that, when 75 per cent. of the area is covered by panchayats and when nothing was paid to District Local Boards in certain areas, we are paying 5 per cent. on an overall basis? Therefore, it requires no proof that we are paying something more. Of course there are some districts where the establishment of Village Panchayats has not proceeded far, as, for example in Kutch. That was brought to my notice and I promise that we will sympathetically consider that case. Perhaps, as a result of this legislation they may get less, but I promise that sympathetic consideration will be given to them.

Dr. D. D. KARVE: The salaried appointments are less. So we wanted overall figures at least for some districts.

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH: Therefore, it will be seen that this Bill helps; we differ in the extent to which it helps, and it definitely goes a step further in giving more resources to the Local Boards than what it gets today. In addition to this, I may point out that we are providing for a grant equal to 2 per cent. of the forest revenue collected in the district. That grant will be to the extent of Rs. 6,66,000. That is only an additional source of revenue to the new areas. Thirdly, Sir, as I said, Government has decided to pay 50 per cent. of dearness allowance to the employees of the local bodies. Of course that is not covered by this Bill. That is a source of revenue to the local bodies. Nearly Rs. 23 lakhs have got to be provided for paying 50 per cent. of dearness allowance to the employees of the local bodies. One hon. Member said, why not raise it to 100 per cent.? I may say, why not pay the entire salary? When nothing was paid we have provided 50 per cent. of the dearness allowance on the basis of the Bombay scale to the employees of the entire area of this new State. That means they will be getting some contribution from this Government by way of dearness allowance grant. Therefore, regarding financial resources this Bill is a step in the right direction helping the local bodies to get something more than what they are getting now.

The second point was regarding payment of grant towards the salary of the Chief Officer or the Engineer. I may make it clear in the beginning that grant is not paid towards the salaries of both the Chief Officers and the Engineers. Then what were the conditions for this grant? The sanction of Government was necessary for the appointment and whenever Government found that a certain person was not behaving or doing his duty properly, then Government had power to ask the Local Board to dispense with his services and if the Local Board failed, then the grant was stopped. Sir, conflicting arguments were advanced in this connection. Now what we propose to do by this amendment? We want to see that these Chief Officers and Engineers are appointed or promoted or dismissed by the Local Boards themselves and Government does not wish to have any supervisory power which we had under the present Act. Now, Sir, an argument was advanced by an hon. Member that, just as in the Municipal Corporation Government appoints the Municipal Commissioner, the Chief Officers or the Engineers should be

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appointed by Government. But we cannot compare the conditions prevailing in cities like Bombay, Ahmedabad or Poona with the conditions prevailing in the rural areas. In the rural areas it is necessary that the Boards, must have control over their own servants. In the case of Local Boards the president is the executive officer. It is his responsibility. Therefore, we thought that we should entrust him with the power of appointment and control over the Chief Officer and the Engineer. Some hon. Member said that the initiative and control should be with the elected bodies. Then what else do we do? We are doing the same thing. We want to give initiative and control to the elected representatives. They should have the necessary power and supervision over their own staff. When Government was having such control, it was criticised. Now, when

Government does away with all these powers of supervision and control, for that too it is criticised and it is argued that Government should bear a part of the salary of these officers. Will that stand to reason? As a matter of fact, it is rather anomalous that, in these days, when we talk of decentralisation of powers and we want to give initiative and control to the elected bodies in the rural areas, Government should have supervisory powers in its own hands. That will not fit in with the existing scheme of things.

Now, Sir, what was the amount that was to be paid? I do not think it was more than Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 2,500 in one district, and with the removal of this grant we are now providing for an amount of Rs. 48 lakhs more to local bodies. The amount of grant that we used to pay to all the Local Boards annually was Rs. 83,000 and that is now being discontinued, with the discontinuance of all the supervisory powers that Government used to have. One should appreciate that initiative and control, as also the power of appointment, are now being entirely left in the hands of these bodies. When, therefore, these powers are being given to the elected representatives, such small grants that Government was paying towards the salaries of the officers should be continued. That dispenses with the second point.

The third point was regarding 75 per cent. of the land revenue to be spent in the taluka itself. That provision was made in the year 1948-49. I have some experience in this respect. In one district there are several talukas. Some are very backward talukas and some are very forward talukas. Now, because of this provision, the conscience of our elected representatives was satisfied that at least 75 per cent. of the income of the talukas was being spent in the taluka itself, and, therefore, it was none of their business to spend anything more than that. There is no necessity of any such restriction of spending 75 per cent. of the amount of the grant of land revenue in the taluka itself. We trust in the wisdom of our elected representatives and it is hoped that they will fairly deal with the distribution of this grant and that they will spend more when more money is required to be spent. (*Interruption*) In spite of all this, some motive was attributed to Government. Why cannot we trust our elected representatives? A district is a small place. The representatives of the taluka are going to be on the Board and

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they will know the needs of the taluka. If the taluka is poor and requires more resources, they will try to adjust and spend even more than the actual income of land revenue in that taluka. I have no distrust which the hon. Members here have shown. I, therefore, feel that such restrictions should be done away with. It is, therefore, necessary that we should trust the elected representatives of the people that they will look to the requirements of the various talukas fairly and justly and the proper distribution would be made.

Then, Sir, one hon. Member desired that all the services should be controlled by Government. He suggested that there should be a general cadre for these people. May I remind him that two years back we have passed an Act whereby Government has been given the power of establishing a general cadre for the Engineers? We have provided for this, I think in 1955 or 1956. Then we tried our best to contact the Presidents and the Members of the various Local Boards to ascertain as to whether they are agreeable to have a general cadre for the Engineers, because they are technical men, and may I inform the House that a very large majority of them is against this proposal? They are not willing to give the power of appointment, transfer, etc. to a panel of Presidents. Now Government does not want to force its decision upon them. We want to persuade them. But unless a majority of them agree to our proposals, it would not be proper to impose our views on them.

Shri M. V. DONDE : What is the view of the hon. Member Shri Barfivala?

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH : He is against this proposal. Therefore, we have decided not to act upon this power unless a majority of them agree to this common cadre.

These were the main points which were raised during the course of the debate. I have tried to answer them. I commend the Bill for the acceptance of the House.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XV of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2, 1 and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XV of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XV of 1958 is read a third time and passed.

(*Recess from 4-40 p.m. to 5-10 p.m.*)

L. A. BILL No. XVI OF 1958 [A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE BOMBAY MERGED TERRITORIES AND AREAS (JAGIRS ABOLITION) ACT, 1953].

(The Deputy Chairman in the Chair.)

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN (Deputy Minister for Revenue): Madam Chairman, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XVI of 1958 [A Bill further to amend the Bombay Merged Territories and Areas (Jagirs Abolition) Act, 1953, as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 11th April, 1958]

While doing so I may state that in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay Merged Territories and Areas (Jagirs Abolition) (Amendment) Bill, 1958.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. XVI of 1958 is introduced.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: Madam Chairman, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XVI of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: Madam Chairman, under this Bill it is proposed to allow Jagirdars and others further time limit for preferring their claims for compensation under the Bombay Merged Territories and Areas (Jagir Abolition) Act, 1953. There was a time limit fixed under the original Act but due to some misunderstanding the Jagirdars and other interested persons, instead of preferring their claims for compensation under this measure, preferred their claims under the Bombay Merged Territories Miscellaneous Alienations Abolition Act, and hence their claims could not be considered. Subsequently an extension of one year was granted. But even within that period also a number of Jagirdars, either due to ignorance or misunderstanding, could not prefer their claims within that time. So it was thought better that an extension should be granted. The main object in prescribing a time limit or fixing a particular period is to see that litigation does not increase and the claims should be settled within a particular period. The claims preferred by different Jagirdars are still at the enquiry stage and their cases have not been finalised. So, if a further extension is granted the cases will not be delayed and justice would be given to those who can legitimately claim compensation under this Act. By extending the period there will not be any increase in expenditure that was anticipated by Government and there will not be any further financial implications. No additional staff will also be required for the implementation of this measure. Thus the sole object of the Bill is to extend the period for preferring the claims till 31st July 1958. With these remarks, Madam Chairman, I commend the Bill to the House, for its acceptance.

श्री बच्छराज ओस्. व्यास: माननीय सभापति महोदय, अमी जो विधेयक सदन के सामने प्रस्तुत किया गया है उसे देखकर मुझे बड़ा आश्चर्य लग रहा है। यह बड़े खेद की बात है कि जो सरकार खुद को समाजवादी समाज रचना की ओर अग्रसर होने का दावा करती है वही आज जागीरदारों को कॉम्पेनसेशन देने के लिये, जो अवधि दी गयी थी, उस अवधि को बढ़ाने की कोशिश कर रही है। यह अवधि अिससे पहले दो बार बढ़ायी जा चुकी है और आज फिर अिससे और बढ़ाया जा रहा है मानो सरकार कह रही है कि "अै, जागीरदारों अब तक आप लोगों ने कॉम्पेनसेशन लेने की अर्जी क्यों नहीं की, हम आपके लिये रूके हैं, जल्दी अर्जी कर दीजिये। आपके लिये हमने अिसकी अवधि और बढ़ा दी है। जल्द से जल्द हमसे कॉम्पेनसेशन की रकम ले लीजिये"। मेरी समझ में यह बात नहीं आती कि जब दो बार अवधि बढ़ाने पर भी जागीरदारों की तरफ से कॉम्पेनसेशन के लिये कोई अर्जी नहीं आई हो तो इसमें सरकार को घबराने की और खुद होकर अिस अवधि को बढ़ाने की क्या आवश्यकता है? कानून से कॉम्पेनसेशन देना अनिवार्य होकर भी यदि कुछ लोग यह रकम नहीं लेना चाहते तो सरकार को उनसे अितनी हमदर्दी क्यों होनी चाहिये? वे यदि रकम नहीं लेते तो अुतने ही सरकार के पैसे की बचत होगी और अुन पैसों का अुपयोग राज्य के यानी जनता के विकास के कामों पर किया जा सकता था।

हम देखते हैं कि अेक तरफ तो पैसा बचाने की कोशिश की जाती है। जहाँ १२-१४ हजार खर्चा हो अुसमें भी यदि हो सके तो बचत करने की कोशिश की जाती है। दूसरी तरफ जागीरदारों को बुला बुलाकर कहा जा रहा है कि आप आपका पैसा क्यों नहीं लेते, जल्दी ले लीजिये, हम आपके लिये कॉम्पेनसेशन क्लेम करने की अवधि बढ़ाते जा रहे हैं। मेरा ख्याल है कि अिन लोगों के लिये और अवधि बढ़ाने के अलावा यदि अुस पैसे को बचाया जाय तो दूसरे अच्छे कामों में अुस रकम का अुपयोग हो सकेगा। कायदे का आधार लेकर भी अिस पैसे की हम बचत कर सकते हैं लेकिन सरकार तो अिन जागीरदारों को कॉम्पेनसेशन देना ही चाहती है। अगर यह पैसा जागीरदार न ले तो अुससे सरकार पर क्या अापत्ति आनेवाली थी, यह बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आई। पहली बार अुन लोगों ने कॉम्पेनसेशन के लिये अर्जी नहीं की, अिसलिये बारह माह की अवधि बढ़ाई गई, फिर भी शायद कुछ लोग बचे होंगे अिसलिये अिस विधेयक के जरिये और अवधि बढ़ाने की कोशिश की जा रही है। जिन्हें कॉम्पेनसेशन लेना था अुन्हें चाहिये था कि वे समय के अंदर अर्जी दे देते लेकिन यदि किसी ने अर्जी न भी की हो तो सरकार को अुसके लिये बेचैन होने की आवश्यकता नहीं थी। लेकिन सरकार यदि अिस तरह से अवधि बढ़ाना ही चाहती है तो अवधि बढ़ाने के बजाय यदि अुन लोगों के नाम से चेक्स भेज देती जिन्होंने अबतक कॉम्पेनसेशन के लिये अर्जी नहीं की हो, तो ज्यादा अच्छा होता। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं अिस विधेयक का विरोध करता हूँ।

श्री. ओस्. बी. भिडे (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंबली में निवडलेले): अध्यक्ष महाराज, मला ह्या बिलाबाबत अेवढीच माहिती मिळवावयाची आहे की, कोणत्याही जहागीरदारांकडून आपल्याला अधिक वेळ मिळावा अशी मागणी सरकारकडे आलेली आहे काय? अशी मागणी जर त्यांच्याकडून आलेली नसेल तर मागणी न करण्यांत त्यांचा असा हेतु असेल की, सरकार आपल्या बाजूचेच असल्यामुळे सरकार आपल्याला जास्त समय देणारच आहे मग आपण मागणी तरी कशाला करा. तेव्हा आतांच अेका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी म्हटल्याप्रमाणे जहागीरदारांनी मागणी केलेली नसतांना सरकार हा जास्त समय देत असेल तर त्यांचे कारण काय याचा खुलासा नामदार मंत्र्यांनी केला तर बरें होईल.

श्री शंकरराव चव्हाण (राजस्व उपमंत्री) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं चाहता हूँ कि यहाँ पर जो भी कार्यवाही होती है उसमें विरोधी दल के सदस्यों को अवश्य हिस्सा लेना चाहिये। लेकिन जहाँ तक इस बिल का संबंध है, मैं समझता हूँ कि इस बिल में सिर्फ जागीरदारों का नाम आया है इसीलिये विरोधी दल के लोग बिल की मुखातिफत करना चाहते हैं और इस तरह मुखातिफत करना वे अपना धर्म समझते हैं। उन लोगों को मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि शायद वे यह समझते हैं कि सिर्फ चालिस पचास जागिरदार ऐसे होंगे जिनके लिये यह सब किया जा रहा है, लेकिन उनका यह समझना गलत है। उनके मालूमात के लिये मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि सिर्फ बनासकांठा जिले में, इस तरह के २,७८८ जागीरदार हैं जिन्हें कि कानून के लिहाज से मुआविजा मिलना चाहिये। वहाँ आज तक भी ऐसे जागीरदार बड़ी तादाद में हैं जिन्होंने मुआविजा हासिल करने के लिये अब तक कोई अर्जी नहीं की है और अभी यह अवधि और न बढ़ाई जाय तो उन तमाम लोगों को नुकसान भुगाना पड़ेगा। इस बिल में जागीरदारों का नाम आया है क्या इसीलिये माननीय सदस्य इस बिल का विरोध करना चाहते हैं? जागीरदार हैं इसलिये वे उन्हें इस तरह से सजा देना चाहते हैं? क्या वे जागीरदारी कुटुंब में पैदा होंगे यह उनका गुनाह हुआ? शासन की नीति इस तरह की नहीं हो सकती। जब गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से कोई कानून बनाया जाता है तब संबंधित लोगों को आवश्यकतानुसार सहायता देना सरकार का फर्ज हो जाता है। और जागीरदारों को आवश्यकतानुसार इस तरह की टाइम लिमिट बढ़ाकर देने में सरकार कोई गलती कर रही है ऐसा मैं नहीं मानता।

जिस हुक्म के तहत माननीय सदस्य यह कह रहे थे कि वह हर जगह लागू किया जाय तो वह किस तरह लागू किया जाय, और उसका इम्पलिमेंटेशन कहाँ कहाँ हो, इसका विचार भी उन्होंने किया था या नहीं, सका मुझे पता नहीं। आखिर कहने की तो उन्हें पूरी आजादी है। उनके भाषण से तो ऐसा ही मालूम होता था कि ऐसा उन्होंने यह हुरा ही लिया है कि कोई भी बिल हो तो उसके ऊपर जितना कहा जा सकता हो उतना कहना चाहिये। उनकी यह नीति है। इसलिये उन्होंने यह सब कहने का कष्ट उठाया और बताया कि जागीरदारों को गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से मुआविजा दिया जा रहा है।

फिर दूसरे सम्माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा कि क्या इस तरह मुआविजे की मांग जागीरदारों ने की थी या सरकार ने ही खुद अपनी तरफ से इस तरह की आफर दिया है। शायद उन्हें यह पता जरूर होगा कि यह बिल किस एरीया से ताल्लुक रखता है। इस एरीया के हजारों लोगों ने इस तरह की मांग की थी दरखास्तें दी थीं जिनमें अपनी क्या हालत है, इसका भी उन्होंने बयान दिया था। उन सब पर सरकार ने विचार किया और वह इस नतीजे पर पहुँची कि इन लोगों के लिये यदि समय न बढ़ाया जायेगा तो उन्हें नुकसान पहुँचेगा। उन्हें इस तरह नुकसान न पहुँचे इस बात को दृष्टि में रखकर यही सरकार ने यह समय ३१ जुलाई तक आगे बढ़ाना जरूरी समझा और इसलिये यह समय अब आगे बढ़ाया जा रहा है। चूँकि अब इसके बाद समय नहीं बढ़ाया जायेगा इसलिये अब जागीरदारों के लिये यह आवश्यक हो गया है कि इस मुद्दे के पहले ही वे अपने क्लेम को पेश कर दें। इतना स्पष्टीकरण करने के बाद मैं इस सदन के सदस्यों से प्रार्थना करूँगा कि वे इस बिल के प्रथम वाचन को मंजूरी प्रदान करें।

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XVI of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clause 2, Clause 1 and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XVI of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. XVI of 1958 is read a third time and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XXVI OF 1958 (A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF CERTAIN POWERS IN RELATION TO REQUISITIONED PROPERTY IN THE SAURASHTRA AREA OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY).

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH (Minister for Revenue): Madam Chairman, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXVI of 1958 (A Bill to provide for the continuance of certain powers in relation to requisitioned property in the Saurashtra Area of the State of Bombay), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 11th April, 1958.

While doing so I beg to state that in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay Requisitioned Property (continuance of Powers) (Saurashtra Area) Bill, 1958.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. XXVI of 1958 is introduced.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXVI of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Madam Chairman, this is a very simple Bill. In the former State of Saurashtra certain properties were requisitioned by the Saurashtra Government under section 11 of the Saurashtra Public Security Measures Act, 1953. This Act has now expired on 31st March 1958. It is, therefore, necessary to protect all those requisitioned premises and provide for acquisition of property in certain cases on payment of compensation. For that reason this Bill is introduced. By this Bill it is sought to protect the premises requisitioned for a period upto 31st December 1958. This has been done for the reason that Government wants to make the life of this Bill co-terminus with the existing Bombay law in this behalf. At the end of the period Government proposes to have a comprehensive law in order to save all the requisitioned premises. With these comments I commend the Bill to the House for its acceptance.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXVI of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 10, both inclusive, clause 1 and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXVI of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. XXVI of 1958 is read a third time and passed.

(The House was adjourned at 5-30 p.m. till 2-00 p.m. on Friday, the 18th April, 1958.)

Friday, the 18th April, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 3-00 p.m. on Friday, the 18th April, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(For Questions—See Part I).

**APPRECIATIVE REFERENCE RE: SERVICES OF BHARAT RATNA
Shri D. K. KARVE.**

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance): Mr. Chairman, Sir, before we proceed to the further business, may I, with your permission and with the indulgence of the House, make a reference to the celebration that is to take place today in the city in honour of the centenary of the birth of Maharshi Karve? His life is an inspiration to all and especially to the younger generation. It shows to what extent and to what high level, can an individual by his personal efforts raise the status of the community. It was he who came forward to champion the cause of the widowed sisters and he has been able to raise their status to a considerable extent. This was one of the objects which Mahatma Gandhi also wanted to achieve in his life time. He was the pioneer to impart education to women and particularly in their own language. It was through his personal efforts that the first school was started at Hingne Budruk and ultimately a University was also established in the city of Bombay with its affiliated institutions in different parts of the country. He has truly reached the state of, what we call, 'Maharshi'. It is in the fitness of things that the President was pleased to endow on him the distinction of Bharat Ratna. I, therefore, would like to place on record our appreciation of the illustrious life that he has been living and to felicitate him. On the occasion of the Celebrations of the Centenary of his birth, we wish him long life. In a way it will serve as an inspiration to the younger and the middle aged generation.

Shri M. V. DONDE (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of my hon Friends on this side, I join the Hon. the Finance Minister in expressing the felicitations of this House to Maharshi Karve.

The CHAIRMAN: I associate myself with the appreciative sentiments expressed by the previous speakers. Maharshi Karve is held in high esteem in Gujarat since he started his first school, for uplift and education of women. Gujarat also gave contributions from that time. I need not add anything more for the man who is held by every one in the highest respect. It is for that a reference is made in this House to the services rendered by him to the cause of female education by the Hon. the Finance Minister and the hon. Member Shri Donde.

(G. C. P.) MO-B Hb 1173—1

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.*Shri Chhaganlal Nanji Bhadlavala.*

The CHAIRMAN : An application for leave of absence has been received from the hon. Member Shri Chhaganlal Nanji Bhadlavala. The reason given in his letter is that, in view of certain work connected with his business, he is not able to attend the meetings of the Council, and, therefore, he has asked for leave.

Is the leave opposed ? (After a pause.) No. The leave asked for is granted.

L. A. BILL No. XX OF 1958 (A BILL TO CONSOLIDATE AND AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO THE TAXATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN THE STATE OF BOMBAY AND TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN OTHER MATTERS).

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance) : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XX of 1958 (A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the taxation of motor vehicles in the State of Bombay and to provide for certain other matters), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 11th April 1958.

While doing so, I beg to state that, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clauses 1 and 3 of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax Bill, 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XX of 1958 is introduced.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XX of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have, at the present moment, five different laws relating to taxation on motor vehicles and it is necessary to unify these laws, with reference to rates of tax, methods of levying them, provisions for refunds, abolition of tolls and constitution of the State Road Fund for the entire State. The main clause of the Bill is really clause 3, which says that the tax will be levied on motor vehicles at rates not exceeding the maximum rates specified in the first Schedule. Hon. Members may kindly note that, excepting for buses, the maximum annual rates provided in the first Schedule are the same as those provided in the Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax Act, 1935. I may, however, state that, even though the rates indicated are the maximum annual rates, it is not the intention of Government to levy such maximum rates in respect of the

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

various categories of vehicles. The rates to be charged or fixed will be notified, as may be determined from time to time, after taking into consideration all the relevant factors. It is also provided in the same clause that, where it is found by unification that a particular class of vehicles is going to be taxed unduly high, steps have been taken by Government to see that such receipts stagger as may be convenient.

Clauses 4, 5 and 6 refer to the period according to which payment of tax is to be regulated. Clause 7 provides for additional payment if the structure of the vehicle is altered so as to make it liable for payment of a higher tax during the period for which the tax will be paid. Correspondingly, clause 9 provides for a refund of tax.

The important clause is clause 11, which provides for the constitution of a State Road Fund for all the component units in the State of Bombay. At the present moment we have got the State Road Fund only for the former State of Bombay. Hon. Members are aware that the advantage of having a State Road Fund is to have an assured source of fund assigned for the road development programme. It is also within the knowledge of hon. Members that a certain percentage of income from petrol is also credited to this fund. There is a slight change so far as this particular clause is concerned, in the sense that, though the provisions of clause 11 are based on the former Bombay State Act, the maximum deductible cost of collection has been reduced from 25 per cent. to 15 per cent., with the result that a relatively larger proportion of the proceeds of the motor vehicles tax will come to the State Road Fund.

These, Sir, are all the important provisions of the Bill. The purpose is quite definite. I may mention that, so far as realisations are concerned, they amount to Rs. 15 lakhs only, which will go towards making up the amount of Rs. 3 crores that we are going to raise from the various taxation measures, that we are taking up this year. Most of this income of Rs. 15 lakhs would come from the Saurashtra area and a small part of it from Marathwada. As a matter of fact, Vidarbha will be appreciably benefited by the new arrangements for taxation, because Vidarbha, at the present moment, is charging a much higher rate.

I hope, Sir, the House will be pleased to approve of the Bill in principle, and later on the various provisions of the Bill.

Dr. D. D. KARVE (Maharashtra—Graduates) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Hon. the Finance Minister made a statement just now that the rates laid down in the first Schedule are the maximum rates, and the actual rates are lower. Now, Sir, I myself am an owner of a very small motor cycle, but I find that I am paying exactly the rates that are mentioned here as the maximum rates.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I did not say that the rates are lower. I said that, except for the buses, they may either be the same as given in the Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax Act of 1939, or they may be less. They are not higher.

Dr. D. D. KARVE : I understood the Hon. Minister to say that these are the maximum rates.

The CHAIRMAN : The Hon. Minister has now explained the meaning of what he had said.

श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड (महाराष्ट्र नॉर्थ-लोकल अँथारिटीज) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, विशाल मुंबई राज्याच्या निरनिराळ्या विभागांतील कायद्यांचे एकत्रीकरण करतांना करामध्ये एकसूत्रीपणा आणायचा या नांवाखाली जास्त कर असलेल्या विभागांतील कर इतर निरनिराळ्या विभागांत वसविणे हा यामध्ये मुख्य उद्देश आहे आणि त्या दृष्टीने हे बिल अणिलेले आहे असे दिसते. आपल्या राज्यामध्ये जे निरनिराळे विभाग आहेत, मग तो सौराष्ट्र असो, गुजरात असो, विदर्भ असो, मराठवाडा असो किंवा जुन्या मुंबई राज्यांतील विभाग असो, कोणत्याही कराची सुसंगतवार योजना करतांना लोकांची कर भरण्याची जी परिस्थिती असेल तिचा नीट विचार करून कर ठरविला पाहिजे. अर्थात ह्या ज्या वाहतुकीच्या मोटारी आहेत किंवा जी वाहने आहेत तीं फार मोठ्या भोंडवलदारांची किंवा पैसेवाल्या लोकांची असतात असे नाही. सर्वसामान्य लोकहि मालवाहतुकीचा किंवा टॅक्सीचा धंदा करतात आणि यंत्र बसविलेल्या सायकली चालवितात. तेव्हा अशा परिस्थितीत हा जो टॅक्स बसविण्याचा सरकारचा विचार आहे तो मुख्यतः मुंबई राज्य हे कराचे उत्पन्न मिळविण्याच्या बाबतीत आघाडीवर आहे हा जो लौकिक आहे त्या लौकिकाला अनुसरून आहे आणि त्या दृष्टीने ज्या विभागामध्ये कमी कर आहे तेथे जास्त कर लादण्याचा सरकार प्रयत्न करीत आहे. ही सरकारची भूमिका योग्य आहे असे मला वाटत नाही. ज्या वेळी मलासलेला विभाग ह्या मोठ्या राज्यांत येतो त्या वेळी संबंध राज्याची जी आर्थिक परिस्थिती असेल किंवा निरनिराळ्या व्यवसायाची जी आर्थिक परिस्थिती असेल त्याचा विचार करून कर किती आकारायचा हा ठरविणे जरूरीचे आहे. परंतु विधानपरिषदेच्या सभागृहांत जी जी विषयेकडे येतात त्यामध्ये पूर्वीच्या मुंबई राज्यांत जास्त प्रमाणावर बसविलेले जे कर आहेत त्या कराचा बोजा एकत्रीकरणाच्या नांवाखाली मराठवाडा, विदर्भ, कच्छ वगैरे मागासलेल्या विभागांवरहि लादण्याचा उद्देश दिसतो. परंतु हा कांहीं लोकांचा विकास घडवून आणण्याचा मार्ग आहे असे मला वाटत नाही. निरनिराळ्या विभागांतील करामध्ये एकसूत्रीपणा आणण्याचा उद्देश आपल्या राज्यांतील लोकांच्या आर्थिक जीवनांत सुधारणा व्हावी आणि ज्या धंद्यावर आपण कर बसवितो त्यामध्ये सुधारणा व्हावी हा असतो. हा उद्देश सरकारच्या ह्या धोरणामुळे सफल होणार आहे काय ? तो होणार नाही. याच्या उलट कराचा बोजा जास्त पडला तर लोकांची वस्तू विकत घेण्याची जी क्षमक असते ती कमी होते आणि जो धंदा तेजीमध्ये चाललेला असतो तो मोडकळीस येतो व अनिष्ट परिस्थितीला त्यांना तोंड द्यावे लागते असा अनुभव येतो. तेव्हा उदाहरण म्हणून मी असे विचारतो की हा कर वाढून घेऊन मराठवाड्यामध्ये जो टॅक्स आहे तो बाकीच्या मुंबई राज्याला लागू करण्याचा सरकारचा दृष्टिकोन कां असा नये ? आपल्याला जे तुलनात्मक आकडे दिलेले आहेत त्यावरून मोटार व्हिकल्सबद्दल मी असे सांगू शकतो की ९० हॅड्रॅडवेटपासून १२० हॅड्रॅडवेटपर्यंत ९६० रुपये हा जुन्या मुंबई राज्यांतील टॅक्स होता तो तसाच राहिला आहे, परंतु मराठवाड्यामध्ये ९० ते ११० हॅड्रॅडवेटपर्यंत जो ५१० रुपये टॅक्स होता तो आता ४५० रुपयांनी वाढलेला आहे. थोडक्यांत सांगायचे तर ह्या बिलात सौराष्ट्रा-मध्ये १५ ते १७ लाख रुपये टॅक्स वाढतो आणि मराठवाड्यामध्ये ५ लाख रुपये टॅक्स वाढतो. ह्या वाढीमुळे रस्ते दुस्तरी व बाकीच्या कांही सुधारणा होणार आहेत असे म्हटले आहे. पण रस्ते सुधारण्याच्या दृष्टीने योग्य कारभार चाललेला आहे असे म्हणता येणार नाही. सरकारला पैसे लागतात ही गोष्ट खरी आहे, पण ते उभे करण्यासाठी कोणत्या गोष्टींवर पहिल्यांदा टॅक्स बसवायचा व तो किती बसवायचा या बाबतीत सरकारने सुसंगत असे धोरण ठरविले पाहिजे.

[श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड]

आपल्या येथे जी मालवाहतूक होते ती प्रामुख्याने ग्रामीण विभागांतून होते. शहरांतून वाहतुकीच्या मोटारी जरूर कामे करतात, परंतु ह्या वाहतुकीचा संबंध शहर आणि खेडी व खेडी आणि खेडी यांच्याशी प्रामुख्याने येतो. अशा रीतीने एका विभागांतून दुसऱ्या विभागामध्ये माल पोचविण्यासाठी ह्या साधनांचा उपयोग केला जातो. तेव्हा ह्या साधनांवर जो टॅक्स बसणार आहे तो शेतकरी जो माल पाठवितो किंवा त्या मालाचा जो व्यापार होतो त्यावर बसणार आहे. लांबच्या प्रवासासाठी जो माल जावयाचा असेल तो रेल्वेने जातो. परंतु जो माल रेल्वेने पाठविला जाऊ शकत नाही त्या ठिकाणी मोटार वाहनाचा उपयोग केला जातो. तेव्हा ह्या प्रश्नाचा एका विशिष्ट दृष्टीने विचार करावयास पाहिजे. आपल्या येथे शेती उत्पादन मूळात कमी आहे. अशा कमी उत्पादनाच्या मालाची वाहतूक करणाऱ्या साधनांना संरक्षण देण्याच्या दृष्टीने सरकारची पावले पडत नाहीत. उलट त्यांच्यावर अधिक बोजा टाकला जातो व त्याचा विचारहि केला जात नाही. म्हणून माझे म्हणणे असे आहे की सरकारचे असे सर्वसाधारण धोरण असले पाहिजे की ज्या गोष्टींसाठी आम्ही पैसा उभा करतो त्या गोष्टींकरिता इतर साधनांनी मदत करता येईल. परंतु सरकारचा असा हट्ट दिसतो की ज्यांच्यापासून जादा पैसे गोळा करता येतील त्यांना सूट द्यावयाची आणि ज्यांची ताकत नसेल किंवा इच्छा नसेल त्यांच्यापासून जास्त पैसा बसूळ करावयाचा. ज्यांना पैसे भरण्याची ताकत आहे किंवा ज्यांची पैसे देण्याची ऐपत आहे त्यांना करामध्ये सूट द्यावयाची आणि ज्यांची ऐपत नाही त्यांच्यावर या ना त्या कारणाने भर बसवायचा असे सरकारचे धोरण ह्या बिलावरून दिसून येते. ह्या बिलामुळे विदर्भाला सधलत मिळेल आणि कराचा बोजा कमी होईल असे म्हटले आहे. पण मला असे म्हणावयाचे आहे की पूर्वीच्या विदर्भामध्ये वाढलेला कराचा बोजा, मुंबई राज्यांतील कराचा बोजा, मराठवाडा किंवा इतर विभागांप्रमाणे कां कमी केला नाही ? ह्या बिलावरून पहिली गोष्ट अशी सिद्ध होते की शेती उत्पादनासारखे लहानसहान गोष्टींचे उत्पादन करणारा जो समाजामधील वर्ग आहे त्याच्यावर मालवाहतुकीच्या दृष्टीने जादा बोजा पडणार आहे. दुसरी गोष्ट अशी की मालवाहतुकीचा ज्यांच्याशी संबंध येतो ते या कराच्या बोजाने वाकून जाणार आहेत. तिसरी गोष्ट अशी की करामध्ये एकसूत्रीपणा आणण्याच्या नांवाखाली सर्व विभागांतील लोकांवर ज्यांची कर भरण्याची ऐपत नाही त्यांच्यावर जास्तीत जास्त कर लादला जात आहे. ह्या तीन गोष्टींचा विचार करता सरकारची जी भूमिका आहे ती चुकीची आहे असे दिसून येते. तेव्हा सरकारने आपली ही भूमिका बदलावी असे मी सरकारला सांगू इच्छितो.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE (Maharashtra—Graduates) : Sir, I wish to endorse the arguments which have been advanced by the hon. Member Shri Gaikwad. When we were discussing the Budget, the question about the extra taxation was also discussed and at that time we submitted to

3-30 p.m.

Government that, when they are unifying the tax rates, it should not be fixed at the maximum level but it should be at the minimum level wherever it is possible. The hon. Member has also pointed out that, so far as the Marathwada area is concerned, the taxation has been increased nearly 100 per cent. Formerly it was 480 and now it would be 960.

Another point which I would like to urge is that, when we are having a consolidated Act, it is better that we should also be supplied with the copies of the different Acts prevalent in the different parts of the State in order that we may be able to compare the provisions of those Acts with the provisions of the Bill brought before the House. Now the Hon. Minister has stated that so far as some areas are concerned, the percentage of tax has been actually

[Dr. V. D. Sathaye]

reduced. So we would like to have the information as to what was the actual schedule of rates of taxes existing in the different parts of the State. Just as, at the end of the Bill, certain extracts of the relevant sections from the various Municipal Acts etc. are attached, similarly if this information is given, it would be better. These were the only two points which I wanted to make out.

श्री. बच्छराज एस्. व्यास (विदर्भ-स्वातक) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, आज सदन के सामने जो विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया गया है उसका जो क्लोज १३ है उसके संबंध में मैं अपने विचार प्रदर्शित करना चाहता हूँ। क्लोज १३ में जो एक्सप्लेनशन दिया गया है वह इस तरह से है।

"But it does not include the transportation of person or materials for the purposes of agriculture or transportation of agricultural produce."

इसके संबंध में मेरा निवेदन यह है कि आज काश्तकार के पास खेती के उपयोग में लाने लायक साधन पहले ही कम हैं। कई काश्तकार ट्रैक्टर का उपयोग खेती के लिये करते हैं। ट्रैक्टर के साथ ही साथ डेला लगाकर उसे खींचने का काम लिया जाता है। इस ट्रैक्टर के साथ यदि डेला लगाया जाता है तो उस काश्तकार को उस हालत में एक्समूशन नहीं मिलेगा। सरकार के इस कानून से एग्रिकल्चर के लिये जो ट्रैक्टर उपयोग में लाये जाते हैं उसपर टैक्स बढ़ जायेगा और काश्तकार की आमदनी का बड़ा हिस्सा उसे टैक्स के रूप में इस ट्रैक्टर के लिये देना पड़ेगा। मेरा सुझाव है कि एग्रिकल्चर के काम में जो भी चीजें उपयोग में लाई जाती हों, फिर वह डेला भी क्यों न हों, उसपर यह टैक्स नहीं लिया जाना चाहिये। यही मेरा सुझाव है। एग्रिकल्चर में जो भी वाहन उपयोग में लाया जाता हो उसको इस टैक्स से छूट रखी जानी चाहिये।

Shri P. B. PATWARI (Gujarat North—Local Authorities): Sir, I want some clarification about only one point which I have not been able to understand. So far as the schedules are concerned, practically there is no change. I want to draw the attention of the House to one item in these schedules and that is about the trailers used by many agriculturists. Now the rate of taxation for the trailers would be as indicated in item III of Schedule I to the new amended Act. There the maximum annual rate of tax for motor vehicles used for the carriage of goods or materials is given. So far as the old order was concerned, I am informed that the trailers were charged under clause 8(6)(e) of the old schedule and on the basis of the past notification under the Act the agriculturists had to pay hardly from Rs. 60 to Rs. 120 as the maximum tax per year. But if we charge the tax according to the rate specified in item III of the schedule to the Bill before the House, the rate would be nearly 4 or 5 times more than the existing rate. I think that this fear might not be correct and, therefore, I want a clarification from the Hon. Minister in this matter. Many agriculturists and many associations of agriculturists are greatly perturbed by the change that is visualised by the new schedule. Therefore, a clarification is necessary to allay the fears of the agriculturists. After all I do not think that it would be the intention of the Government to tax the agriculturists more. The object of the Bill is to bring uniformity in the rates of taxes charged at different places in the State. I do

Shri P. B. Patwari]

not think that, under the guise of uniformity, Government would tax the agriculturists more. There is already heavy taxation, especially on the section of the agriculturists. Of course, we do see that some areas are going to be adversely affected. We see that Saurashtra is going to be heavily burdened. It will feel the pangs of joining Bombay. But I hope that, in the long run, they will reap the benefits of this advanced State of Bombay. That is all that I wanted to say.

श्री. सुखदेव एस. अयवाल (विधान-सभा द्वारा निर्वाचित) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, यहाँ जो विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया गया है उसके संबंध में मैं अपने विचार प्रदर्शित करना चाहता हूँ। इस विधेयक के लान से विशेषतः मध्य प्रदेश के जो काश्तकार हैं उनपर टैक्स का ज्यादा बोझ पड़नेवाला है। वहाँ के जो काश्तकार हैं वे अपना माल खेत से घर लाने के लिये और घर से बाजार में ले जाने के लिये ठेले का उपयोग करते हैं। इस ठेले में काश्तकार अपना माल घर ले आता है और बाजार में ले जाता है। मध्य प्रदेश के कानून के तहत ९० से १२० हंडरवेट वजन के ठेले के लिये १८ रुपये १२ आने टैक्स लिया जाता था। वह आज ज्यादा बढ़ गया है। ट्रैक्टर पर पहले जो टैक्स था उसे भी बढ़ाया गया है। ट्रैक्टर और ठेले को मोटर की तरह माना गया है और अब इस नये कानून के तहत ट्रैक्टर पर भी मोटर की तरह टैक्स बँटनेवाला है। काश्तकार अपने ठेले का उपयोग खेती की पैदावार घर लाने के लिये और उसे बाजार में ले जाने के लिये किया करता है। काश्तकार को ठेले और ट्रैक्टर दोनों पर टैक्स देना होगा। नतीजा इसका यह होगा कि काश्तकार को ज्यादा टैक्स देना पड़ेगा। मेरा सुझाव है कि काश्तकार के ठेले को और ट्रैक्टर को प्रायवेट वाहन माना जाना चाहिये तथा उन दोनों को कर-मुक्त किया जाना चाहिये। विशेषकर इस कानून का असर मध्य प्रदेश के जो भाग, यानी विदर्भ पर, इसका बुरा असर पड़नेवाला है। जब इस बिल को यहाँ पास किया जानवाला है तब मैं यह बात सरकार के सामने पेश करना चाहता हूँ। इसपर अवश्य विचार किया जायेगा ऐसी आशा करते हुए मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ।

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far as the various points that have been raised in the debate are concerned, I should like to make one point clear that, as regards a trailer to which a reference has been made, under the definition of "motor vehicle", as given in the unrepealed Central Act of 1939, it is stated—

- "Motor vehicle" means any mechanically propelled vehicle adapted for use upon roads, whether the power of propulsion is transmitted thereto from an external or an internal source and includes a chassis to which a body has not been attached and a trailer; but does not include a vehicle running upon fixed rails or used solely upon the premises of the owner."

so that the position here is that a trailer has been considered as a motor vehicle. I only wanted to make that particular point clear.

The other point which I would like to make clear is so far as tax is concerned. I would like to refer here to the 'Commentary on the Constitution of India' by Basu. At page 355 it says—

"Tax is an imposition made for a public purpose, without reference to any services rendered by the State or any specific benefit to be conferred upon the taxpayer."

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

So tax is levied for certain purposes. It is not a fee which requires a *quid pro quo*, so that, when a fee is charged, one does not like to realise more than what the expenditure incurred therefor may be. But that is not the case so far as tax is concerned. An argument was advanced that possibly we do not realise the various conditions, under which a tax may be levied etc. etc. A tax is for a public purpose and it has nothing to do with any particular service that may be rendered. I have mentioned this merely to clarify the position.

Now, so far as the reference made to trailers used by agriculturists is concerned, I may mention from experience that trailers are not used only for agricultural purposes. An agriculturist may use a trailer for one or two months, either to take manure to his field before the sowing commences or to carry his foodgrains to his residence after the harvest is garnered. Now, what is he to do with the trailer for the remaining period of ten months? Does he want to keep it idle or is he going to make it a paying proposition to do so? So a trailer is utilised for carrying goods, which work is ordinarily done by the trucks. For the trucks we have got a heavy charge and the truck owner has complained bitterly that while trailers are left practically scot-free, or relatively lightly taxed, they have to bear the burden of heavy taxation, and one has yet to see an agriculturist who uses a trailer only in connection with his agricultural operations. If that was the case, then it would be a different matter, but it is unusual to expect him not to use it for other purposes. That is so because he cannot get anything in allowing the trailer to lie idle. It would get rusty and consequently it would depreciate in value.

Let us take an ordinary cart which an agriculturist uses. We have provided in the sales tax, for the sake of argument, a certain concession for agricultural implements but we have excluded a cart from the concession, even though it may be said that it is used by an agriculturist, but we know from experience that an agriculturist uses his cart even for other purposes, say, for carrying metal from one place to another for road construction or for carrying goods. We have, therefore, got to realise the position. We have got to consider what use the trailers are going to be put to. That is a very important point. One has to be fair to everybody. In order to see that there is not particular hardship to any particular class of users of these vehicles, we have particularly provided in the second proviso to clause 3A, viz.

"Provided further that, if the State Government, because of the disparity in the rates of tax prevailing in certain areas of the State immediately before the commencement of this Act or for any other reason, is of opinion that the levy and collection of tax on motor vehicles immediately at a uniform rate throughout the State, is likely to cause undue hardship to owners or persons having possession or control of such vehicles in those areas, or to affect adversely trade and commerce or the development of motor transport and other industries in such areas, the State Government may levy and collect the tax on motor vehicles, or any class thereof, at different rates in those areas, so however that by increase or decrease of the rates of tax annually in those areas, within a period of three years, a uniform rate of tax is levied throughout the State."

so that, here is a provision approved by the Assembly which would enable the State not to levy the relatively heavy new tax straightaway. I know of motor trucks, to which a reference was made, in Saurashtrā, for the sake of

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

argument or in Vidarbha, where at present the maximum tax of Rs. 950 is charged which might go to Rs. 1,200 under the Amended Act. So, with a view to giving relief, such a provision of staggering the tax was made.

It was said, Sir, if it is unification, why not introduce some of the things which may be existing in Marathwada, for the sake of argument. There was sales tax in Marathwada on foodgrains, atta, fresh fruit, and so on. We have removed that tax. It is not that this Government is going on imposing new taxes on the new areas, and whatever is not helpful to them we have removed. Similarly also there was a Bill in the Lower House with regard to removal of tax on profession, trade, employment, etc. in Vidarbha. We have said that that tax does not exist elsewhere and we have removed it. So, to say that this Government is keen on loading the other areas with taxation is not correct. We have tried to help those areas by reducing taxation wherever it did not exist in the other areas. So Government tries to do thing in as impartial or general way as possible. But ultimately we have to have uniformity, whether it is today or a year hence or even two years hence, and now that we are unifying most of the laws, it is better that we bring about uniformity now so far as motor vehicle taxation is concerned. In certain cases it may be a burden on certain sections of the community and in other cases it may be a relief, but we have tried to give relief in various ways as best as possible, and I do hope that, if at all any difficulties are likely to exist, under the proviso in clause 3 they will be minimised to as large an extent as possible. But those who ask for relief to be given to an agriculturist, must also give an undertaking that those particular items or instruments are utilised only for agricultural purpose and not for any other purpose.

I do not think, Mr. Chairman, any other point was raised in the course of debate and I do hope that the House will accept the first reading of the Bill.

Question put, and agreed to.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XX of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 25, Schedules 1, 2 and 3, short title and the preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XX of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XX of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

(The House was adjourned at 3-55 p.m. till 2-00 p.m. on Thursday, the 24th April 1958.)

Thursday, the 24th April, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2-00 p.m. on Thursday, the 24th April, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

(For Questions—See Part I).

L. A. BILL No. XXXI OF 1958 (A BILL TO LEGALISE, OR REMOVE DOUBTS AS RESPECTS THE LEGALITY OF THE ELECTION OR CONTINUANCE IN OFFICE OF CERTAIN COUNCILLORS WHO AT THE TIME OF ELECTION OR THEREAFTER WERE DIRECTORS OR MEMBERS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES WHICH ADVANCE LOANS OR MONEY TO OR BORROW MONEY FROM OFFICERS AND SERVANTS OF CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES).

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH (Minister for Local Self-Government) : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXXI of 1958 (A Bill to legalise, or remove doubts as respects the legality of, the election or continuance in office of certain Councillors who at the time of election or thereafter were directors or members of co-operative societies which advances loans of money to or borrow money from Officers and servants of certain Municipalities), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 18th April, 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXXI of 1958 is introduced.

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXI of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH : Sir, under the provisions of the Bombay District Municipal Act and the Bombay Municipal Boroughs Act as extended to the Saurashtra and Kutch areas, it is provided that no person may be a councillor who has directly or indirectly by himself or his partner, any share or interest in any transaction of loan of money advanced to, or borrowed from, any officer or servant of the municipality. Now, some cases have occurred wherein some directors or shareholders of co-operative banks which advance loans to Municipalities and their officers have been elected as Members of the Municipalities, and the question has arisen whether they can be said to have some interest in these transactions. As hon. Members are aware, certain co-operative agencies, or the Central Co-operative Bank advance money to Municipalities and to Municipal servants, and as directors or shareholders they have no direct personal interest in these transactions whatsoever. On the contrary, if I am permitted to say so, they are a help to both the institutions. Now, when they have been elected as representatives on the Municipal Bodies, the question arises whether they can be said to have a personal interest in these transactions. Now, with reference to some other provisions in the Municipal Acts, interest has been contemplated as interest which is neither too speculative and remote nor a mere sentimental interest.

Shri Maneklal C. Shah]

If it is a pecuniary interest, it would be interest within the meaning of these provisions. But here the Directors or the shareholders of a bank or a co-operative society which lends money to the Municipalities have no personal interest and therefore they could not be considered to be disqualified for a seat in the Municipal Council. So, in order to remove this doubt this Bill has been brought forward, and I commend the first reading of the Bill for the acceptance of the House.

Shri V. B. DESHMUKH : Sir, I have some doubt as regards clause 3. Supposing a member of a society in his private capacity advance a loan to or takes a loan from any officer or servant of the Municipality, would that still be a disqualification or is such a disqualification removed by this Act? I am afraid further doubts will be raised regarding this clause.

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH : Sir, the point is quite clear. If the person concerned has a personal interest he will be disqualified, but if the transaction is in regard to the institution's interest, then he will not be disqualified.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXI of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri MANEKLAL C. SHAH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXI of 1958 be read a third time and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXXI of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XXXIII OF 1958 (A BILL TO EXTEND THE BOMBAY RACECOURSE LICENSING ACT, 1912 AND THE BOMBAY BETTING TAX ACT, 1925, TO THE REST OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY AND TO AMEND THEM FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES).

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA (Minister for Finance) : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXXIII of 1958 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Racecourses Licensing Act, 1912 and the Bombay Betting Tax Act, 1925, to the rest of the State of Bombay and to amend them for certain purposes) as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 18th April, 1958.

In this connection, I may state that, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (1) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of this Bill.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXXIII of 1958 is introduced.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXIII of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, this is a very simple Bill in the sense that it only seeks to extend the Bombay Racecourses Licensing Act and the Bombay Betting Tax Act to the whole State of Bombay. The only point to be noted in this connection is that the Act that is applicable yet to the Hyderabad area now forming part of this State covers only betting as there was no racecourse there. It is proposed to repeal that Act and make the Bombay Act applicable to the whole State. This is the only purpose of this Bill, and I commend it for the unanimous acceptance of the House.

Question put, and agreed to.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXIII of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 5, Short Title and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXIII of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXXIII of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XXXII OF 1958 (A BILL TO REPEAL THE CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR FINANCE ACT, 1938).

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXXII of 1958 (A Bill to repeal the Central Provinces and Berar Finance Act, 1938) as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 18th April, 1958.

While doing so, I would bring to the notice of the House that in exercise of the powers conferred on him by clause (1) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of this Bill.

The CHAIRMAN : The Bill is introduced.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXII of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, this also is a very simple measure. In the Vidarbha area of the State, there is a law under which a tax on profession, trade, calling or employment is put, but there is no arrangement by which similar tax is levied in the remaining parts of the State. It is, therefore, the fitness of things that this Act is abolished, instead of extending it to the whole State.

[Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta]

So far as the financial aspect of the Bill is concerned, I may mention that for the year 1957-58 an amount of Rs. 68,000 was expected to be realised by way of this levy. This is mentioned in the Budget books. As the State will not be losing much by the abolition of this levy or tax, an attempt is being made to equalise the burden as far as possible throughout the State. With these words I commend the Bill for the unanimous acceptance of the House.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are very few occasions to congratulate the Finance Minister, and this is one of them. In fact, there should have been a temptation for the Minister to extend to the rest of the State this particular Act (*Interruption*). But it seems he has resisted the temptation, and instead of extending the Act to the other parts of the State, he has chosen to give a sort of relief to the remaining parts of the State. I, therefore, think this is a welcome measure, and I give my support to it.

Question put, and agreed to.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXII of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 4, Short Title and the Preamble ordered to and part of the Bill.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXII of 1958 be read a third and passed time.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXXII of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XXX OF 1958 (A BILL TO BRING INTO FORCE THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE MADHYA PRADESH INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES SETTLEMENT (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1955, TO THE CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES SETTLEMENT ACT, 1947, FROM THE DATE OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE FORMER ACT, AND TO VALIDATE ACTION TAKEN UNDER THOSE PROVISIONS).

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXX of 1958 (A Bill to bring into force the amendments made by the Madhya Pradesh Industrial Disputes Settlement (Amendment) Act, 1955, to the Central Provinces and Berar Industrial Disputes Settlement Act, 1947, from the date of the commencement of the former Act, and to validate action taken under those provisions), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 18th April, 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXX of 1958 is introduced.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXX of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, so far as this particular Bill is concerned, there was a certain omission while applying the Madhya Pradesh Industrial Disputes Settlement (Amendment) Act, 1955 and there was thus a lacuna, and the High Court ruled that the particular amendment has no validity. It is, therefore, necessary to pass this amending Bill to validate the action so far taken under the Act.

Question put, and agreed to.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXX of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 and 3, Clause 1 and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Dr. JIVRAJ N. MEHTA : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXX of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXX of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XXIV OF 1958 (A BILL TO EXTEND THE BOMBAY PREVENTION OF FRAGMENTATION AND CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS ACT, 1947, TO THE REST OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY AND FURTHER TO AMEND THE SAME).

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN (Deputy Minister for Revenue) : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXIV of 1958 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1947, to the rest of the State of Bombay and further to amend the same) as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 18th April, 1958.

I may add that in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings (Extension and Amendment) Bill, 1958.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXIV of 1958 is introduced.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXIV of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a Bill which aims at unification of laws in respect of prevention of fragmentation and consolidation of holdings at present prevailing in the component parts of the State. The idea is to do away with the excessive fragmentation and to prevent the recurrence of fragments in all the areas of the State. A fragment has been

[Shri Shankarrao Chauhan]

recognised by law as an area of land less than the standard area fixed by the Government for any local area. These fragments are entered in the record of rights, and no fragment can be partitioned, and no fragment can be leased out to another person unless it is in favour of the occupant of the tenure area. The method that is adopted is the area where the consolidation scheme is undertaken the lands are first valued and then all holdings belonging to the same occupant are valued. Later on all fragments scattered in different areas are blocked together and while doing so necessary care is taken to see that the consolidated block is of the same value as the holding belonging to the same person. Later on care is also taken to see that because of any addition or any subtraction that has resulted as a result of the consolidation scheme no Khatedar or occupant is affected. However small the fragment may be the land holder need not be dispossessed. The whole scheme is prepared in consultation with the Village Panchayat wherever it exists. If it is not there the Special Village Committee which has been set up for the purpose is consulted. The draft scheme is first published for the information of all holders. Objections are invited and after considering those objections the whole scheme is finalised and later on it is notified.

The position as it stands in the different areas is this : In Kutch area there is not such law. In Hyderabad areas, the law is based more or less on the same principles as we have in the old Bombay State. In Vidarbha area, Chapter XVI of the Madhya Pradesh Code provides only for consolidation but there is no provision for prevention of fragmentation. In Saurashtra, we find the Saurashtra Prevention of Fragmentation and Regulation of Holdings Act, 1954 containing provision for prevention of fragmentation but does not have any provision for the consolidation of holdings.

Sir, in the three regions where the consolidation scheme was in existence, the result, as we find them, shows that the cost of cultivation has been reduced and the cultivators, by the consolidation scheme, have now been enabled to carry on permanent improvements in their lands. In the old Bombay State, the consolidation was started as an experimental measure in 1948 in selected villages of 8 districts, but later on in 1954 this scheme was extended in all the districts and the position till 31-1-1957 is that consolidation work has been completed in 1,504 villages, covering an area of 22,58,250 acres, benefiting 2,18,501 cultivators. The average holding before was of 3.2 acres and after consolidation it is of 5.6 acres. The cost per acre in Bombay has been Rs. 2 and 21 naye paise. In the Vidarbha area, the position has been that the consolidation work is completed in 28 villages, covering an area of 19,068 acres, benefiting 2,134 cultivators. The size of the holding has been raised from 3.6 to 5.1. Similarly, in Marathwada, the work has been completed in 13 villages. The result is that the area covered in 14,119 acres, benefiting 977 cultivators, and here the size of the holding has gone up from 3.1 to 8.1. The Bombay scheme was based upon compulsion, whereas in Vidarbha there is no such compulsion but at the same time people were expected to contribute for the completion of the consolidation scheme.

[Shri Shankarrao Chauhan]

It is proposed under this Bill to extend the main features of the Bombay Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings Act of 1947 to the rest of the areas of the new State. While doing so, it is proposed to adopt certain good measures prevailing in the different areas. In Hyderabad there are certain very good measures which are in operation and they are now proposed to be extended to the whole of the State. The Statement of Objects and Reasons gives a very clear idea behind the Bill, but it will not be out of place if I were to mention a few salient features of this Bill.

Firstly it is proposed to adopt section 9 of the Hyderabad Act which lays down the detailed procedure regarding partitioning or sub-dividing lands by Court or other Collectors, so as to prevent fragmentation. It is proposed to constitute Village Committees to assist the Consolidation Officers in their task. This measure has also been taken from the Hyderabad Act. The provision under section 19B of the Hyderabad Act has been taken and adopted in this measure. This is as per the recommendations made at the conference of the

2-30 p. m.

Development Commissioners, wherein it was recommended that there should be sufficient scope in the Consolidation Act to provide for village roads, grazing lands, community centres, etc. and to bring all the schemes under the consolidation scheme.

Another important feature of this Bill is that the jurisdiction of civil courts has been barred in matters coming within the purview of Government or any officer or authority under the Act. I may also add that there are certain limitations of men, material and funds and so it will not be possible to apply the whole scheme for the whole State. Therefore, the area where the scheme is proposed to be applied will be notified by Government.

With these explanatory remarks, I commend this Bill for the consideration of this House.

श्री बच्छराज एस्. व्यास (विदर्भ स्नातक) : सभापति महोदय, आज हमारे सदन के सामने जो विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया गया है उसका संबंध कनसॉलिडेशन ऑफ होल्डिंग्स से है। जमीन के जो छोटे छोटे टुकड़े हो गये हैं वह कम हो और उनके बजाय अधिक जमीन मिलाकर बड़े बड़े टुकड़े किये जायें, ऐसा इस विधेयक का मकसद है। बम्बई में आज जो नये हिस्से शामिल हुए हैं, उनमें लेन्ड होल्डिंग्स संबंधी अलग अलग कानून विद्यमान थे। लेकिन अब सब कानूनों को एक जगह लाकर एक कानून बनाया जा रहा है। विदर्भ के कानून में जमीन के कनसॉलिडेशन की सकती कानून से नहीं की गई थी, वह ऐच्छिक रखा गया था। यदि काश्तकार चाहे तो उनके जमीन का कनसॉलिडेशन कर सकते थे। उस देहात के यदि अधिकतर काश्तकार कनसॉलिडेशन के लिये राजी हो तो उन्हीं की जमीन का कनसॉलिडेशन अफीसर द्वारा किया जाता था। लेकिन आज जो कानून बनाया जा रहा है उसमें कनसॉलिडेशन को अनिवार्य किया गया है। मैं समझता हूँ कि आज हमारी देश की जो हालत है उसमें इस तरह से कनसॉलिडेशन नहीं किया जा सकता। इसे तो ऐच्छिक ही रखा जाना चाहिये, ऐसा मेरा ख्याल है। और मैं मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि इसे ऐच्छिक रखा जाय और किसी तरह

[श्री बच्छराज एस. व्यास]

का दवाब किसान पर इसके लिये न लाया जाय। ऐसी उम्मीद करते हुए कि मंत्री महोदय मेरे सुझावको मान्य करेंगे मैं अपना भाषण खतम करता हूँ।

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ (વિધાનસભા તરફથી ચૂંટાયેલ): માનનીય સભાપતિજી, આ સુધારાનું બિલ મુંબઈ પ્રાન્તના બીજા વિભાગોને લાગુ પાડવા માટે લાવવામાં આવ્યું છે. આ પહેલાં ૧૯૨૭ની સાલમાં બ્રિટિશ રાજ્ય અમલ દરમ્યાન આ પ્રકારનું બિલ લાવવામાં આવ્યું હતું અને તે વખતે ખેડૂતોનો અને કોંગ્રેસી સદસ્યોનો વિરોધ હોવાને કારણે આ બિલ ખોરબે મુકાયું હતું. ત્યારપછી ૧૯૪૭ની સાલમાં આ બિલ આવ્યું અને ૧૯૫૧ની સાલમાં એનો અમલ શરૂ થયો. હવે ખેતીને માટે સરકાર આ બિલ દ્વારા એવી જોગવાઈ કરવાનું વિચારે છે કે જેની પાસે થોડી જમીન હોય તો તે લાભકારક ન હોવાથી એની જમીન લઈને વધુ જમીન ધરાવનારને આપી દેવી. એટલે કે ચોખા પકવતી એક દ્વિતિયાંશ એકર જમીન નહોર અને કૂવાના પાણીવાળી એક એકર જમીન અને ઈરીગેશન કે બીજી કોઈ એવી વ્યવસ્થા ન હોય એવી બે એકર જમીનનો એક સ્ટેન્ડર્ડ એરીયા ઉભો કરવા માગે છે કે જેથી કરીને ખેડૂતો કાંઈક નફાવાળી ખેતી કરી શકે અને પોતાનું ભરણપોષણ કરી શકે. અને બીજો હેતુ એ છે કે અનાજ અને ખોરાકી સામાનની ખેતી ઉત્પાદનમાં દિવસે દિવસે ઓછી થતી જાય છે. એને માટે યજ્ઞ પ્રોત્સાહન મળે એ આ કાયદાનો મૂળ હેતુ છે એમ કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે. હવે એમ બતાવવામાં આવે છે કે કાયદાનો જે મૂળ હેતુ છે તે પાર પાડવા માટે અત્યારે જમીનના નાના નાના ટુકડા ઉપર જે ખેડૂતો ખેતી કરે છે એ ખેડૂતો ખેતી લાભદાયી ન હોવા છતાં યજ્ઞ પોતાની ઈચ્છાથી આ જમીન છોડતા નથી. તેથી કરીને સરકાર એને એ જમીન છોડવા માટે ફરજ પાડવા માગે છે. બદલામાં તેને એ જમીનની કિંમત કે શક્ય હોય તો બીજે જમીન અપાવવા માગે છે. અને એ રીતે એ જમીન એની બાજુના વધુ જમીનવાળા જમીન માલિક પાસે ચાલી જઈ શકે છે.

ચેરમન : બાળુવાલા પાસે તો જો એ જમીન ફ્રેગમેન્ટ હોય તોજ ચાલી જાય.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ: એટલે એનો મૂળ હેતુ એ છે કે થોડી જમીનોના માલિકોને આ રીતે દૂર કરીને તેને બદલે ઈકાનોમીક હોલ્ડીંગ ઉભું કરવું. હવે સરકાર જે પધ્ધતિ અખત્યાર કરવા માગે તે એ છે કે એક કુટુંબમાં ત્રણ માણસો હોય અને એની પાસે પાંચ એકર જમીન હોય અને એનાં જે ભાગલા પાડવાના હોય તો દરેકને એક એકર કરતાં થોડી વધુ જમીન મળે અને એટલી જમીનમાંથી એક કુટુંબનું પૂરું ન થઈ શકે, એટલા માટે એ બધી જમીન એક જ ભાઈને મળે અને બાકીના બેને એનો હિસ્સો રૂપિયામાં મળે. આ રીતે એમણે પોતાની ખેતી છોડીને શહેરમાં કે બીજી કોઈ જગ્યાએ ધંધો ઉદ્યોગ શોધવા નીકળવું જોઈએ. એવી પરિસ્થિતિ ઉકત કરવા માગે છે. સરકાર એ રીતે વિચારે છે કે આવા ખેડૂતો પોતાની ઈરછાથી જમીન છોડતા નથી અને એને માટે એક જાતની હઠ હોય છે, કાંઈક આબરૂનો કે બીજો સવાવ હોય છે કે જ્યાં કરીને તેને એ જમીનમાં ફાપદો હોય કે ન હોય તો પણ એને તે વળગી રહે છે. પણ આવા ખેડૂતો નાની જમીન હોવા છતાં વળગી રહે છે એનું કારણ મને એ લાગે છે કે આ જમીન ઉપર આજે પોતાનું પૂરું થાય કે ન થાય તો પણ પોતાની ભવિષ્યની મુશ્કેલીઓનો વિચાર તેની સમક્ષ રહે છે. આજે જમીનની માલિકી માટે જે ઝગડા થાય છે એનું મુખ્ય કારણ આર્થિક છે અને તે આર્થિક કારણને લઈને કોઈ પણ ખેડૂત ભલે તેની જમીન નાની હોય છતાં પણ સાચવી રાખવા માગે છે. એટલે આમાં આબરૂનો કે બીજો કોઈ સવાવ બાહ્ય રીતે દેખાય છે પણ સાચું જાતાં માત્ર આર્થિક મુશ્કેલીનો સવાવ મહત્વનો હોય છે. પણ સરકાર એવી પરિસ્થિતિ ઉભી કરવા માગે છે કે જેની પાસે થોડી જમીન હશે તો તેને

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

[illegible]

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

તો તે બરાબર છે. સરકારે આવા બીજા કોઈ સાધનો ઉભા કર્યા વગર ખેડૂતો પાસેથી જમીન લઈ તેને બેકાર બનાવવાની જે નીતિ અખત્યાર કરવામાં આવે છે તે નીતિ માત્ર જે ગરીબ લોકો છે તેને પાયમલ કરવાની નીતિ છે, તે સિવાય બીજા કંઈ નથી.

તે ઉપરાંત એવી દલીલ કરવામાં આવે છે કે વસ્તી વધતી જાય છે તે કારણે ખેતી ઉપર બોજો વધતો જાય છે. પોપ્યુલેશન (વસ્તી) વધતી હોવાથી દેશ પર બોજો પડ્યાની આ જે દલીલ છે તે દલીલ બ્રિટીશરોના સમયથી ચાલી આવે છે. બ્રિટીશ ગવર્નમેન્ટ પણ દલીલ કરતી હતી કે દેશમાં કામ ધંધા નથી અને જે ખેતીની જમીન છે તે એટલીને એટલી છે અને તે પણ ઘણા માણસોના હાથમાં વહેંચાઈ જાય છે અને બીજા તરફથી વસ્તી વધી ગઈ છે. આજે એ જ પ્રકારની દલીલ સરકાર તરફથી કરવામાં આવે છે. એમ કહેવામાં આવે છે કે આ દેશની અંદર દર વર્સે પચાસ લાખની વસ્તી વધે છે જ્યારે જમીન મર્યાદિત રહે છે. એટલે વસ્તી વધારાને કારણે દેશમાં તંગ પરિસ્થિતિ પેદા થાય છે. આ પરિસ્થિતિના નિવારણ માટે જમીન થોડા માણસોના હાથમાં રહે અને બાકીના બીજા ઉદ્યોગધંધા માફત રોજી મેળવે તો આ બધું ઠીક થઈ જશે એમ જણાવવામાં આવે છે. પણ મને લાગે છે કે આ દલીલ બરાબર નથી. આપણા દેશના સમગ્ર લોકોને રોજગારીની તક પૂરી પાડવા ઉદ્યોગધંધા છે જ ક્યાં? વસ્તુ એ છે કે પ્રથમ તો દેશમાં ઔદ્યોગિકરણ કરવું જોઈએ. વધુને વધુ સંખ્યાના લોકોને એની માફત રોજગારી પૂરી પાડવી જોઈએ. અને ત્યારબાદ ખેતી પરનો જે બોજો છે તેને ઓછો કરવા પ્રયત્ન કરવો જોઈએ. જે સરકારે આ જાતનો માર્ગ બતાવ્યો હોત તો તેને સૌને સહકાર મળ્યો હોત. હવે આ બીલ દ્વારા સરકાર એક પ્રકારનું ઈકોનોમીક હોલ્ડીંગ ઉભું કરવા માગે છે. સરકાર જે આ રીતે વિચારણા કરતી હોત કે જેમની પાસે ૧૫ એકરથી વધુ જમીન હોય તેમની પાસેથી જમીન લઈને બાકીનાને એ જમીનની એવી રીતે વહેંચણી કરવી જોઈએ કે જેથી ઈકોનોમીક હોલ્ડીંગ ઉભું થાય. તો આ પ્રકારની વ્યવસ્થા યોગ્ય ગણાત. આ ઉપરાંત સહકારી પાયા ઉપર ખેતી કરવાની રીત અમલમાં લાવવી જોઈતી હતી. દેશની આજની હાલતમાં જ્યારે જમીન થોડી છે ત્યારે સહકારી પાયા ઉપરની ખેતી કરવાનો માર્ગ એજ ઉત્તમ ઉપાય છે. સરકાર એમ દલીલ કરવા માગે છે કે સહકારી ખેતીમાં કોઈ પણ ખેડૂત ઔદ્યોગિક રીતે સામેલ થતો નથી. તેથી સહકારી ખેતી બરાબર રીતે અમલમાં આવતી નથી. પણ વસ્તુ એ છે કે સહકારી ખેતી દ્વારા દરેકને પોતાની જમીન અને શ્રમશક્તિના પ્રમાણમાં હિસ્સો મળી રહે તે જાતની વ્યવસ્થા કરવા માટે સરકારે એવો કયો માર્ગ અપનાવ્યો છે કે જેથી કરીને ખેડૂતો સહકારી ખેતીનો માર્ગ અપનાવે? સાચી વસ્તુ એ છે કે જે ખેડૂતને જાણશે કે સહકારી ખેતી છે તે દ્વારા તેઓને સાચોસાચ ફાયદો થવાનો છે તો તેઓ જરૂર આગળ આવશે. જે સરકાર ફર્મસ ઉભા કરીને વૈજ્ઞાનિક ઢબે ખેતી કરવા ખેડૂતો સમક્ષ દ્રષ્ટાંત રજૂ કરે, તેના ફાયદા બતાવે, તો શા માટે ખેડૂતો સહકારી પદ્ધતિનો લાભ ન ઉઠાવે? એટલે સરકાર જે દલીલ કરે છે તે દલીલ વ્યાજબી નથી. પણ આજે ઔદ્યોગિક રીતે આવી જાતનો સહકાર ઉભો કરવા માટે સરકારને માર્ગ સૂઝતો નથી. પણ સરકાર ઉલટાનો બીજો માર્ગ લેવા જાય છે. જેની પાસે જમીન બીલકુલ થોડી છે તેની પાસેથી જમીન લઈ લેવા માટેનો સરકારને માર્ગ સૂઝે છે. આ ઉપરાંત અન્યારે પરિસ્થિતિ એવી છે કે મોટી સંખ્યાના લોકો પાસે કુલ જમીનનો થોડો ભાગ છે. અને જેની પાસે મોટો એરિયા અગર ભાગ છે તેની સંખ્યા થોડી છે એટલે મોટા ભાગની જમીન અને સ્મોલ નંબર છે તેના પાસેથી ધરાવતા નાની સંખ્યાના લોકો પાસેથી જમીન મેળવી ઓછો એરિયા ધરાવતા જે લોકો છે તેને જમીન મળે તે પ્રકારની યોજના સરકારે કરવી જોઈતી હતી. આ ઉપરાંત કાયદાનો અમલ કરવામાં સરકાર ગામડામાં એ જાતની વ્યવસ્થા કરે છે કે

[શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ]

સરકારના ટુકડા જોડવા માટે નીમાએલ અધિકારી દ્વારા ગામડામાં ઉપર કમિટી ઉભી કરવામાં આવે છે. જે ગામડામાં પંચાયત નહીં હોય ત્યાં આ પ્રમાણે કમિટી નીમવામાં આવશે એવું માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રીએ કહ્યું છે. પણ જે કનસોલીડેશન ઓફ ફ્રેગમેન્ટેશન (ટુકડા જોડ) કરવાનો માર્ગ લેવામાં આવશે તે તો માત્ર નોમીનેટડ બોડીસ દ્વારા કરવામાં આવશે. થોડા અંશે પણ આમાં લોકશાહી પદ્ધતિ રાખવામાં આવી નથી. પંચાયત જેવી ચૂંટા-એલ સંસ્થાના હાથમાં આવો ભાર સોંપવો અને તેને પૂરતી સત્તા આપવાનો સરકારનો વિચાર નથી. અને આખરી સત્તા તો કલેક્ટર પાસેજ રાખવામાં આવી છે અને આ બીલથી સરકારને ૨૦ થી ૨૫ કરોડ રૂપિયા ખર્ચ થવાનું છે અને આ ખર્ચ પણ ઓફિસરો દ્વારા કરવામાં આવશે. કાયદાને પરિણામે મોટા ભાગના ખેડૂતો પોતાની જમીન ગુમાવશે. ગામડામાં વસ્તા લાખો લોકોનાં હિત, મત અને સહકારની સરકાર ગણના કરવા માગતી નથી. શું સરકાર એમ માને છે કે ખેડૂતો પોતાના હિતો સમજતા નથી? શું ખેડૂતોને ખ્યાલ નથી કે આ વ્યવસ્થાથી તેને ફાયદો છે કે નુકસાન? ૧૯૨૭ની સાલમાં કોંગ્રેસે આવા બીલનો વિરોધ કર્યો હતો. ટુકડાજોડ થવા ન જોઈએ તેવી જાતની નીતિ બ્રિટીશ અમલ દરમ્યાન તેમણે અપનાવી હતી પણ આજે એથી ઉલ્ટો અમલ થઈ રહ્યો છે. આપણે જોઈ રહ્યા છીએ કે સરકારના આવા પગલાંથી લાભ કયા વર્ગના ખેડૂતોને મળે છે. મોટી સંખ્યામાં ખેડૂતો બેકાર બન્યા છે અને પાયમાલ થયા છે અને થોડા માણસોને લાભ થાય છે. મોટી જમીનવાળાને લાભ થાય છે. એથી મને લાગે છે કે આ જે બીલ છે તેથી ખેડૂતોને કંઈપણ ફાયદો થશે નહીં એટલે આ બીલનો અમલ થતો અટકાવવો જોઈએ.

શ્રી. એમ. વી. ગાયકવાડ (મહારાષ્ટ્ર નૌચં-લોકલ ઍયોરિટીજ) : અધ્યક્ષ મહારાજ, હ્યા બિલાત્કો ચર્ચા કરીત અસતાંના હ્યા બિલામાર્ગે આમ્હાંલા સરકારા જો હેતુ વિસૂન યેતો તો અસા આહે કી, આપલ્યા દેશાંત આણિ વિશેષતઃ હ્યા રાજ્યાંત આમચ્યા સરકારા સચ્યાં શેતીચે જે તુકડે જાલેલે આહેત ત્યાંપેશાં અધિક તુકડ પડળ્યાચી ક્રિયા થાંચાવાવ્યાચી આહે. ત્યાપ્રમાણે જે તુકડે પડલેલે આહેત ત્યાંચેં એકત્રીકરણ કરૂન શેતીચ્યા ઉત્પાદતાંત વાઢ ઘડવૂન આળાવી આણિ ત્યાચવરોવર શેતકચ્યાચેં જીવન સમૃદ્ધ વ્હાવેં અસા સરકારા મુખ્ય દૃષ્ટિકોન હ્યા બિલાવરૂન વ્યક્ત જાલા આહે વ હ્યાચ ભૂમિકેવરૂન સરકારા હેં વિલ આળતાંના વિચાર કેલેલા આહે. પરંતુ આપણ હીં ગોષ્ટ લક્ષાંત ઠેવલી પાહિજે કી, હિંદુસ્થાનાંત આજ શેતીચી જી વ્યવસ્થા અસ્તિત્વાંત આહે ત્યાંત સુધારણા કરળ્યાચ્યા દૃષ્ટિચેં વ ત્યાંતૂન તવીન માર્ગ કાઢળ્યાચ્યા દૃષ્ટિચેં હ્યા બિલાચા કિતપત ઉપયોગ હોઝ શકેલ અસા પ્રશ્ન આપલ્યાપુઢેં ઉમા રાહાતો.

વાસ્તવિક, જમીનીચે આજપર્યંત જે તુકડે પડલે તે સમાજાચ્યા કાયદાચ્યા બંધનાંમુલે પડત આલે આહેત, આણિ હે તુકડે એકત્ર કરળ્યાસાઠીં જ્યા તત્વાચા આધાર સરકાર ષેઝં પાહાત આહે તેં તત્ત્વ શેતીચ્યા સુધારળેલા પોષક હોઈલ કીં નાહીં યાબદ્લ મલા જબર-દસ્ત શંકા વાટતે. કાયદાચી સક્તી કરૂન એલાદ્યા વિશિષ્ટ તત્વાવર જમીનીચે તુકડે એકત્ર કેલે મ્હજે ઉત્પાદનવાઢીચ્યા દૃષ્ટિચેં સોયીચી જમીન મિઠતે એવઢ્યા સર્વસાધારણ ભૂમિકેવરૂન હ્યા પ્રશ્નાકડે પાહળ્યાચેં સરકારાં ઠરવિલેં અસેલ તર ઉત્પાદન વાઢીચા શરા માર્ગ આપલ્યાલા સાંપડળાર નાહીં, અસેં મલા મ્હળાવ્યાચેં આહે. યાંતૂન કાય જન્માલા યેઈલ? યાંતૂન હીંચ શક્યતા કિવા વાસ્તવતા નિર્માણ હોળ્યાચા મલા સંભવ વિસતીં કીં, જ્યાંચ્યા-જવઢ શેતજમીનીચે મોઠમોઠે તુકડે આહેત ત્યાંચ્યા જમીનીલા લહાન આણિ મરીબ શેતક-ચ્યાંચ્યા જમીનીચે લહાન તુકડે જોડલે જાતીલ આણિ ત્યામુલે વારીક તુકડચાંચેં માલક ચ્યાંચ્યા જમીનદારોંચ્યા જમીનીંતીલ મજૂર હોઝન બસતીલ. તેવ્હાં અજાણતેપષાંને હે મોઠયા જમીનદારોંચ્યા જમીનીંતીલ મજૂર હોઝન બસતીલ. તેવ્હાં અજાણતેપષાંને કાં હોઈના હ્યા તુકડેજોડ આણિ તુકડેબંદી કાયદાચ્યા અમલજાવશીમુલે માંડવલશાહી

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शेती जन्माला येणार आहे असें मला दिसते. मी असें म्हणतो याला काय आधार आहे असें मला कोणी विचारलें तर त्याला माझ्याजवळ उत्तर आहे. शेतीवर जगणाऱ्या लोकांचा प्रश्न सोडविण्याचा खरा मार्ग कोणता असू शकतो? जे शेतकरी स्वतः शेतावर राबतात, ज्यांच्याजवळ जमिनीचे लहान लहान तुकडे आहेत व ते राबण्यासाठी त्यांच्याजवळ आवश्यक ती साधनें आणि सोयी नसल्यामुळे परवडत नाहीत, ती शेती करण्यासाठी जो खर्च करावा लागतो तो करण्याची कुवत नाही, अशा लहान आणि गरीब शेतकऱ्यांच्या जीवनाचा प्रश्न आपल्याला सोडवावयाचा आहे. सहकारी शेती पद्धति जन्माला घातल्यानंतर ती यशस्वी करण्याचें धोरणहि खऱ्या अर्थानें अंमलांत नाही. याचा परिणाम आपण अशा पाहतां की, आज गरीब शेतकऱ्याची शेती आतबट्याची होत आहे आणि श्रीमंत शेतकरी, जे यंत्रांच्या साहाय्याने शेती करतात ते, जास्तीत जास्त पैशांची पिक्के काढून जास्त पैसे मिळविण्याच्या मार्गाला लागलेले आहेत. थोडक्यांत सांगावयाचें म्हणजे गरीब शेतकऱ्याकडे तुकड्यांच्या स्वरूपांत जी थोडीबहुत शेती आहे ती मोठ्या जमीनदाराकडे जाण्याची क्रिया ह्या कायद्यानें वाढीला लागण्याचा मोठा धोका आहे. तेव्हां, ज्या एका चांगल्या तत्त्वासाठी सरकार हें सगळें करावयास निघालें आहे तें तत्त्व ह्या कायद्यामुळे साध्य होण्याची मुळीच शक्यता दिसत नाही. सहकारी शेती पद्धति यशस्वी करण्यासाठी सरकार आज कोट्यावधि रुपये खर्च करीत आहे, पण मोठ्या प्रमाणावर सामुदायिक शेती करण्याकडे सरकारचें लक्ष नाही. सरकारचें लक्ष मुख्यतः जमिनीच्या तुकड्यांच्या केंद्रीकरणाकडे जास्त आहे. शेतीचे अधिक तुकडे पडूं घावयाचे नाहीत आणि पडलेले तुकडे अशील ते एकत्र आणून नवीन शेती पद्धति अंमलांत आणावयाची असें सरकारचें धोरण दिसते. शेतकऱ्याच्या जीवनाची आज जी एक बैठक आहे आणि तीत सुधारणा करण्याचा आपला जो हेतु आहे त्याच्याशी सरकारची ही तुकडेजोडीची योजना कशी काय सुसंगत होऊ शकते हें मला समजत नाही.

आज लहान लहान तुकडे असलेल्या जमिनीच्या मालकांची काय परिस्थिति आहे हें पाहिलें तर असें दिसून येतें की, एकाद्या गरीब शेतकऱ्याचे दोन दोन अकरांचे जमिनीचे तुकडे इकडे तिकडे पसरलेले असले तर त्याला शेतीची साधनें फिरविणे व ती राबविणे कठीण जातें व म्हणून हे तुकडे अकत्र करण्याचा प्रयत्न सरकार करीत आहे. यामुळे ह्या शेतकऱ्याचा काहीं प्रमाणांत फायदा होऊ शकतो, पण हें अकत्रीकरण करण्यासाठी जी सरकारी यंत्रणा ठेवली आहे ती अग्रजी राजवटीतल्या यंत्रणेवरच आधारले आहे, हाच ह्या बाबतींत आमचा आक्षेप आहे. अग्रजी राजवटीत कायद्याची अंमलबजावणी करण्याचे सर्वाधिकार मामलेदार किंवा कलेक्टर ह्यांसारख्या अधिकाऱ्यांना दिले जात व काहीं वेळां हे अधिकार दिलेले नसतांना ह्या नोकरांमार्फत ह्या लोकांच्या जीवनाला आवश्यक असलेल्या बाबतींवर बंधन घालण्याचे अधिकार बजावले जात. तीच व्यवस्था ह्या कायद्याप्रमाणेहि घालून देण्यांत आलेली आहे. अदाहरणार्थ, जमिनीचे हे जे तुकडे पडलेले आहेत ते अकत्र करण्याकरितां सरकार कन्सॉलिडेशन ऑफिसर नेमते, त्याचप्रमाणे कमिट्या नेमण्याचे व अपिलें चालविण्याचे सर्वाधिकार कलेक्टरकडे दिलेले असल्यामुळे पक्षपात जन्माला येणार व लहान तुकड्यांचे जे मालक आहेत त्यांच्यावर अन्याय होणार, व जे प्रतिष्ठित जमीनदार आहेत, सरकार दरबारांत ज्यांचे वजन आहे व जे गांवगुंड म्हणून संबोधले जातात त्यांची आणि ह्या कन्सॉलिडेशन ऑफिसरची दोस्ती असल्यामुळे लहान तुकडे मोठ्या तुकड्यांच्या मालकांकडे जाणार, अशी ही क्रिया चालत राहणार. शेतीच्या उत्पादनवाढीशी ज्यांचा संबंध आहे व शेतकऱ्यांच्या आर्थिक जीवनाचे जे प्रश्न आहेत त्यांना दुय्यम स्थान द्यावयाचें आणि तुकडेबंदी आणि तुकडेजोड कायद्याचा विस्तार विदर्भ, मराठवाडा, सोराष्ट्र या विभागांत करण्यासाठी कोट्यावधि रुपये नोकर वर्गावर खर्च करावयाचे, यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांच्या जीवनाचा

[श्री. एम्. बी. गायकवाड]

व उत्पादनवाढीचा मूलभूत प्रश्न सुटणें शक्य नाही. हे कोट्यावधि रुपये नोकरवर्गावर खर्च होत आहेत त्याअवजी सहकारी शेतीवर, गरीब शेतकऱ्यांना शेतीची साधनें पुरविण्यावर त्याचप्रमाणे आधुनिक यंत्रसामुग्रीवर खर्च करण्यांत आले तर हा प्रश्न सुटण्याची बरीच शक्यता आहे. नाही तर बळजबरीनें सरकारी नोकरांनीं आणि अधिकाऱ्यांनीं जमिनीचे हे तुकडे अकत्र आणण्याचा प्रयत्न केल्यानें आम्हांला अवेच चित्र दिसतें की सर्वसामान्य गरीब शेतकरी शतीवरून हाकलले जाऊन त्यांची जमीन मूठभर जमीनदारांच्या हातांत जाऊन पडेल. म्हणून सरकारला माझी अशी नम्र विनंति आहे की, हा कायदा अंमलांत आणण्याची घाजी सरकारने कळ नये.

यानंतर हा कायदा अंमलांत आणणाऱ्या सरकारी यंत्रणेचा विचार केला तरी निराशाच पदरांत येण्याची शक्यता फार आहे. ह्या कायद्यान्वये ज्या कमिट्या नेमल्या जाणार आहेत त्या कन्सॉलिडेशन ऑफिसर नेमणार आहे. मला असें सांगावयाचें आहे की, ज्या कन्सॉलिडेशन ऑफिसरविरुद्ध आधीच लोकांच्या तक्रारी आहेत अशा ऑफिसरच्या सल्ल्यानें कमिट्या नेमण्यांत येणार असतील तर त्यांतून काहीं निष्पन्न होणार नाही. ग्रामपंचायती किंवा अशाच ज्या अितर लोकशाही संस्था आहेत त्यांच्या प्रतिनिधींमार्फत जमिनीच्या वांटपाच्या बाबतींत न्याय मिळेल अशी लोकशाही पद्धतीची योजना ह्याबाबतींत असणें अत्यंत आवश्यक आहे. पहिल्या प्रथम मी असें सांगेन की, सरकारनें ह्या कायद्याची अंमलबजावणी करण्याची घाजी कळ नये, आणि त्यांतून पुढच्या परिणामांकडे लक्ष न देतां सरकारला हा कायदा अंमलांत आणावयाचाच असेल तर त्याच्या अंमलबजावणीचें काम मामलेदार किंवा कलेक्टर यांसारख्या अधिकाऱ्यांकडे न सोंपवितां लोकशाही संस्थांच्या प्रतिनिधींना विश्वासांत घेऊन आणि त्यांच्याकडून शिफारशी मागवून त्यांच्या देखरेखीखाली ही अंमलबजावणी करण्यांत यावी असें मी सुचवीन. ह्या बिलांत नमूद केलेल्या मार्गांचे जाण्याचा आग्रह सरकारनें धरला तर त्यामुळे अकच परिणाम होतील की अन्नधान्याचें उत्पादन वाढण्याचा आणि शेतकऱ्याची आर्थिक परिस्थिति सुधारण्याचा प्रश्न सुटण्याअवजी तो कठीण मात्र होऊन बसेल.

यानंतर, अध्यक्ष महाराज, लहानांत लहान तुकडा किती अकराचा असावा ह्या बाबतींत ह्या बिलांत स्टॅंडर्ड अरिया ठरवून देण्यांत आली आहे. हें करीत असतांना जो तुकडा पडेल तो आर्थिक दृष्ट्या गरीब शेतकऱ्याला कसणें परवडेल की नाही याचा विचार केला पाहिजे. नुसतें तुकड अकत्र करण्याच्या मार्गे लागून हा प्रश्न सुटणार नाही. नाही तर हा प्रश्न सुटण्याअवजी गांवांगावांत भांडणे, द्वेष आणि मारामाऱ्या सुरू होऊन गरीब शेतकरी त्याच्या जमिनीच्या तुकड्यावरून हांकलून लावला जाण्याचा संभव आहे हें सरकारनें लक्षांत ठेवावें.

शेवटीं मला अवेच सांगावयाचें आहे की, ह्या कायद्याची अंमलबजावणी करीत असतांना मामलेदार किंवा कलेक्टर यांसारख्या अधिकाऱ्यावर भरवसा न टाकतां लोकप्रतिनिधींना विश्वासांत घेतलें पाहिजे. त्या दृष्टीनें सरकारनें ह्या कायद्यांत आवश्यक तो बदल करावा अशी विनंति करून मी रजा घेतों.

श्री. भावकुमार दि. शुक्ल (सोराष्ट्र लोक ओद्योशीटीज): माननीय सभापतिजी माननीय महेसूख मंत्रीश्रींमे ७ बीव अर्ली २०५ क्युं छे तेने टेओ आपवा माटे लुं उलो थयो छं. लमलां ७ थोड समय पळेवां अँक माननीय सभ्यश्रींमे ओमना वक्तव्यमां ओम कळयुं के थ्रिटीथ अमब दरम्यान ७ थारे आ ७ प्रकारनुं इन्वेन्टेशन माटेनुं बीव २०५ थयेलुं त्यारे अँग्रेस पक्षना सभ्योमे ओनो विरोध करेवो. मने पोताने ओनो प्याव नथो. परन्तु ओ वपते आने माटेनो समय पाक्यो नळोतो अने बीव क्षेत्रोनी अँदर

[શ્રી. બાલકૃષ્ણ દિ. શુક્લ]

પોતાનું પોષણ કરી શકે એવી કોઈ તક પણ ન હોતી. તેમ હું માનું છું. આજે બહુ જ નાની એવી જમીન ઉપર સ્વાભાવિક રીતે કોઈ ખેડૂત પોતાનું પોષણ ન કરી શકે. ૨-૪ એકર જમીન હોય અને કોઈ કુટુંબના ભાઈઓ એ જમીનના નાના નાના ટુકડા કરીને પોતાનું જોઈએ તેટલું પોષણ ન કરી શકે તે આપણે સૌ જાણીએ છીએ. આવા ભાઈઓ સમયસર પહેલાંથી ચેતી જાય એ ઈચ્છનીય છે. આ નાની જમીન ઉપર પોતાનું પૂરું નહિ થાય એમ સમજીને બીજા ક્ષેત્રે જ કાંઈ તક મળતી હોય તે ઝડપી લઈને બહારના ક્ષેત્રે આ ભાઈઓએ જવું જોઈએ. આ બિલ લાવવાનો હેતુ આ છે તેમ હું માનું છું. આ બિલની અંદર એક બીજી પણ ટ્રિપ્ટ છે. આ ભાઈઓ પોતે જમીનના ટુકડા ન કરે અને સામુદાયિક રીતે સહકારી ભાવનાએ ખેતી કરવા માગતા હોય તો કરી શકે છે. જેમકે અમુક કુટુંબના ભાઈઓ રોટલે જુદા હોય છે પણ વેપાર ધંધે એક રહે છે. એટલે જો આ રીતે સામુદાયિક ખેતી કરશે તો કુટુંબના ભાગલા પણ નહિ પડે અને એની એકતા પણ જળવાઈ રહેશે અને કુટુંબની ઉન્નતિ પણ સચવાઈ રહેશે. પરંતુ જો આ જમીનના ભાગલા થવાના જ હોય, એના ભાગ કરવાની જ જો ગણતરી હોય તો એ ભાગ એવા ન હોવા જોઈએ કે જે એને જમીનનો ટુકડો મળે એમાંથી એ પોતાનું પૂરું ન કરી શકે. આ જાતની સ્થિતિ પેદા ન થાય એ માટે આ બિલમાં જે પ્રોવીઝન કરવામાં આવ્યું છે એ માટે સરકારને હું અભિનંદન આપું છું. સહકારી ખેતી લાવવાનો આપણે જ વિચાર કરી રહ્યા છીએ એને માટેનું આ પ્રથમ પગલું છે તેમ હું માનું છું. આ જમીનનો નાનો ટુકડો વેચતી વખતે જે ભાઈ વધારે પૈસા આપવાનો છે એને એ ટુકડો મળવાનો છે. આવા નાના ટુકડામાં પોતાનું પૂરું નહિ થઈ શકે માટે પોતાના હિસ્સાનો નાનો ટુકડો પોતાના બીજા ભાઈને આપીને એમાંથી એ પોતાનું પૂરું કરી શકે એ જાતની સમજવટ કરીને એને એ જમીન ઉપરથી દૂર કરવા માટેનો પ્રયત્ન થશે. આ જાતનું આ બિલ છે. એટલે હું માનું છું કે આ બિલનો કોઈ વિરોધ ન કરવો જોઈએ. સમજવટથી કે શાંતિથી સમજીને આ વસ્તુનો સ્વીકાર કરવામાં આવશે તો કોર્ટના કે બીજા એવા સવાલોમાંથી બચી જવાશે. આ જાતનું માનસ તૈયાર કરવાથી પરિણામ એ આવશે કે પોતાને રોટલો પૂરો મળે એમ નથી માટે પોતાના ભાઈને પૂરો રોટલો મળી શકે એ માટે એણે પોતાનો ભાગ આ રીતે જતો કરવો જોઈએ. જો આ રીતે માનસ એનું તૈયાર નહિ થાય તો પરિણામ એ આવશે કે બેમાંથી એકે એ જમીન ઉપરથી દૂર થવું પડશે અને કોઈ ઉન્નતિ નહિ કરી શકે. આ જાતનું માનસ કેળવાય એટલા માટે હું માનું છું કે આ વિલેજ કમિટી છે. અને આ વિલેજ કમિટી આ જાતની સમજવટનો પ્રયત્ન કરશે. આમાં પણ કેટલીક મુશ્કેલી આવશે તે આપણે જાણીએ છીએ. કેટલાયે ભાઈઓ એન્જિનિયર હોય છે, કોઈ ડોક્ટર હોય છે અથવા તો બોજો કોઈ ધંધો કરતા હોય છે. આ ભાઈઓ પોતાનો ભાગ મેળવવા માટે પ્રયત્ન કરતા હોય છે. આવા ભાઈઓને બાદ કરતાં મોટા ભાગના ભાઈઓ સમજી જતા હોય છે. આવા ભાઈઓ સારી રીતે કમાય છે, બીજા ધંધામાં ધંધાની અંદર જોડાઈ ગયેલા હોય છે. છતાં આજે પોતાનો ભાગ છોડી શકતા નથી. પરંતુ આ બિલ દ્વારા એને સમજવટથી કહી શકાશે. આજે આપણે જોઈએ છીએ કે ઘણા કુટુંબના ભાઈઓ આજે ગુજરાત-મુંબઈ કે અમદાવાદ કમાવા માટે ગયેલા હોય છે અને એમની સ્થિતિ સારી હોય છે. એમને આ બીલ દ્વારા સમજવટથી કહી શકાશે કે તમે સારી રીતે કમાવ છો તો તમારી જમીન તમારા ભાઈઓને આપી દો. એટલે આ જમીન સરકાર પોતે આંચકી લેતી નથી.

એક વાત એમ કહેવામાં આવી કે આ કામ પંચાયતને સોંપવામાં આવ્યું હોત તો શું વાંધો હતો. હું માનું છું કે ભવિષ્યમાં પંચાયત સુંદર અને વ્યવસ્થિત રીતે કામો

[શ્રી. બાલકૃષ્ણ દિ. શુક્લ]

કરી આગળ વધશે. જે પંચાયત સારી રીતે કામ કરતી હશે તો મને ખાતરી છે કે કનસોલીડેશન ઓફિસર પોતે પોતાની મેળે આગળ આવીને પ્રજાનો વિશ્વાસ ધરાવનાર ચૂંટાયેલ સંસ્થાના સભ્ય હોય તેને કમિટીમાં લેશે. ચૂંટાયેલ સંસ્થાના સભ્ય હોય એટલે એને કમિટીમાં ન લેવા એવો પ્રતિબંધ આ ધારામાં નથી. એટલે જો પંચાયતના સભ્યો સુંદર રીતે કામ કરતા હોય, પંચાયતમાં એકતા હોય તો હું માનું છું કે પંચાયતના સભ્યને લેવામાં આવશે. પરંતુ એમ પણ હોય કે કેટલાક ભાઈઓ ખરેખર ખૂબ સુંદર રીતે કામ કરતા હોય, એમને અનુભવ હોય, પ્રતિષ્ઠા હોય, પ્રજાનો ટેકો મેળવી શકે તેમ હોય, પ્રજાને સમજાવી શકે તેમ હોય પણ પંચાયતમાં ચૂંટાયેલ ન હોય તો તેવા માણસોને કમિટીમાં મૂકવાનો પ્રતિબંધ નથી. હું માનું છું કે સરકાર એમ ઈચ્છે છે કે સારા એવા માણસો પંચાયતમાં હોય, પંચાયતની બહાર હોય, કમિટીમાં હોય, એટલા માટે આ જ બીલ આવ્યું છે તેને હું અંતઃકરણપૂર્વક વધાવી લઉં છું. પણ મારું એક સૂચન છે કે આ કનસોલીડેશન ઓફિસર જે કમિટી નીમશે અને એ પોતે જે નક્કી કરે એ રીતે એને પોતાનો ભાગ મળે. અને જો તેને તે સ્વીકાર્ય ન હોય અને તે બાબતમાં વાંધો હોય તો પણ કલમ ૩૬ “એ” માં જણાવ્યા પ્રમાણે સીવીલ કોર્ટ અથવા મામલતદારની કોર્ટને આ બાબતમાં કાંઈ કરવાનો અધિકાર રહેતો નથી. હું માનું છું કે કનસોલીડેશન ઓફિસરની કોઈ વખત ભૂલ થઈ જાય તો તે ભૂલ સુધારવા માટેનું પ્રોવીઝન દાખલ કરવું જોઈએ અને જો કોર્ટને ખરેખર અન્યાય થયો હોય, ભૂલ થઈ હોય તો અપીલ માટેનું પ્રોવીઝન દાખલ કરવું જોઈએ. કમિટી નક્કી કરે એ પ્રમાણેની કિંમત સામે કોર્ટને વાંધો હોય તો તેણે ન્યાય મેળવવા માટે સીવીલ કોર્ટમાં જવાનો અધિકાર આપવો જોઈએ, ઊંચક રહેવો જોઈએ. અત્યારનું જે બિલ છે અને તેનું જે પ્રોવીઝન છે તે જોતાં એમ લાગે છે કે કલેક્ટર એમાં ઈન્ટરવીન કરી શકે નહીં અને એ માટેની તેને સત્તા પણ નથી.

કલમ ૩૪(૨) આ પ્રમાણે છે:—

“Where at any time the Collector is satisfied that the village committee has refused or failed without reasonable cause or excuse to discharge the duties or perform the functions imposed or assigned by or under this Act or circumstances have so arisen that the committee as been rendered unable to discharge the duties or perform the functions aforesaid of it is otherwise.”

એટલે એની અંદર કોર્ટને અન્યાય થયો હોય તો એને માટે કોર્ટ આ બિલમાં પ્રોવીઝન નથી. આ બધા શબ્દો જો આપણે વાંચીએ તો આપણને એનો ખ્યાલ આવશે.

“the committee has been rendered unable to discharge the duties or perform the functions aforesaid or it is otherwise.....”

એટલે જો આ કમિટીએ કામ ન કર્યું હોય અથવા તો કમિટી પોતે કામ કરવા માગતી ન હોય તો શું? એટલે એને જે ફક્શન કરવાનું છે તે એ છે કે બધાને ભાગ કરી આપવા પણ એ ભાગની અંદર ભાગ બહુ નાના થતા હોય તો તેને અટકાવી દેવા કે શું કરવું? આ શબ્દોનો અર્થ એમ થતો હોય કે આની અંદર અન્યાય કર્યો છે માટે કલેક્ટર ઈન્ટરવીન થઈ શકે એવી સત્તા આપવામાં આવી છે પણ હું માનું છું કે આવી કોઈ સત્તા આપવામાં આવી નથી. એટલે મારી વિનંતી છે કે આવા કોઈ કલોઝ માટે પ્રોવીઝન કરવામાં આવે તો સારું. આ સંજોગોની અંદર આ સૂચન સાથે હું આ બિલને ટેકો આપું છું અને આ બિલને સૌ વધાવી લેશે એવી આશા વ્યક્ત કરું છું.

શ્રી. જે. એમ. થોરાત (મુંબઈ લેજિસ્લેટિવ્ઝ ઝસેમ્લીમાં નિવહલેલે): અધ્યક્ષ મહારાજ, સમાગ્રહાસમોર અસલેલ્યા બિલાવર માફે વિચાર માંડપ્પાસાઈ મી બુમા આહે. વાસ્તવિક પાહતા, તુકડેબંદી આણ તુકડેજોડ હ્યા દોન વેગવેગલ્યા મોળી બાહેત. તુકડેજોડ મ્હણજે નિરનિરાલ્યા ઠિકાળી વિલુરલેલે તુકડે એકજ આળળે હી કામગિરી ફારજ કઠીળ આહે.

[श्री. अस्. अम्. थोरात]

तुकडेबंदी करणे ही गोष्ट त्या मानाने सोपी गोष्ट आहे. त्यामुळे ह्या बाबतीत कायदा झाल्यानंतर तुकडे पडण्याची क्रिया थांबली आणि तुकडे जोडण्याची क्रिया चालू झाली आहे. हा कायदा पास झाल्यापासून सरकारच्या ऑफिसरांनी लोकांमध्ये प्रचार केला, लोकांची समजूत घातली व आतां कित्येक ठिकाणी ह्या कायद्याची अंमलबजावणी चालू आहे. उत्तर सातारा जिल्ह्यातील कोरेगांव तालुक्यांत जमिनीचे तुकडे जोडण्याचे काम चालू आहे.

माझ्या आधीच्या अंका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी असे सांगितले की, अशा रीतीने जमिनीचे छोटे छोटे तुकडे जोडण्यामुळे लहान जमीनमालक नष्ट होण्याची भीति आहे, आणि मोठ्या जमीनदारांकडे जास्तीत जास्त जमीन अकवटण्याची शक्यता आहे. परंतु ह्या प्रश्नाकडे शेतीच्या सुधारणेच्या दृष्टीने आणि अकंदर देशातील अन्नधान्याच्या वाढीच्या दृष्टीने पाहिले तर असे दिसून येतील की, आजपर्यंत शेतकऱ्यांच्या कुटुंबांच्या विभागणीबरोबर जमिनीचे लहान लहान तुकडे पडल्यामुळे ही शेती करण्याच्या दृष्टीने निष्पयोगी झाली आहे. वडिलांच्या वेळी जमिनीचा जो मोठा तुकडा होता त्याचे पुढे लहान लहान तुकडे होत गेल्यामुळे नातवांच्या वेळी ती जमीन पेरण्याच्या हि लायकीची राहिली नाही. त्या जमिनीचे तुकडे अतिके लहान लहान झाले की, त्या तुकड्यांत शेतकरी औजारें अिकडे तिकडे फिरवितां हि येत नाहीत. बैलाला चालायलाहि जागा नाही, आणि त्याने आपल्या जमिनीच्या तुकड्यांत खत घालावयाचें म्हटलें तर तें खत त्याच्या शेतांत पडण्याऐवजी दुसऱ्याच्या शेतांत पडतें. यामुळे साहजिकच त्याला शेतीच्या व्यवसायाबद्दल आस्था राहात नाही. अध्यक्ष महाराज, मी अतिशयोक्ति करीत नाही, अंगावरच्या वस्त्राऐवढाले लहान असे हे जमिनीचे तुकडे असतात. अशा लहान तुकड्यांना जर वेळीच आळा घातला नाही तर हे लहान जमीनमालक जमिनीत लक्ष घालणार नाहीत, व शेवटी त्यांची जमीन मोठ्या जमीनदारांच्या घटण्याची भीति आहे. तेव्हां उत्पादनवाढीच्या दृष्टीने हे तुकडे जर जोडले तर शेतकऱ्यावाहि त्यामुळे फायदा होणार आहे. आज असे लहान तुकडे बऱ्याच प्रमाणावर असून त्यांच्यावर देखरेख करणेहि फार कठीण होऊन बसले आहे. पण हा कायदा पास झाल्यापासून शेतकऱ्यांमध्ये अंक प्रकारची जाणीव झाली आहे व कांहीं ठिकाणी कांहीं शेतकरी आपण होऊन जमिनीचे मोबदला पत्रक करून देतात. शेतकरी स्वतः होऊन रजिस्टर कचेरीत जातो व मोबदला पत्रक लिहून देतो. सरकारने ह्या बाबतीत आणखी अशी अंक चांगली गोष्ट केली आहे ती अशी की, शेतकरी आपण होऊन जर जमिनीची अदलाबदल करावयास पुढे आले तर त्यांना रजिस्ट्रेशन फी माफ करण्यांत येते. मला असा अनुभव आहे की, ह्या प्रश्नाबाबत लोकांमध्ये निश्चितपणे जागृति आलेली आहे. शेतीची देखरेख करणे, शेत कसे यासाठी अंक येण्यास व मोबदला पत्रके करण्यास मोठ्या प्रमाणावर लोक तयार होऊ लागले आहेत. तेव्हां तुकडेजोड केल्यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांचा फायदा होण्याऐवजी त्यांची परिस्थिति हलाखीची होतील ही जी भीति अंका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी येथे व्यक्त केली ती पूर्णपणे निराधार आहे असे मला सांगायचे आहे.

यानंतर ह्या कायद्याची अंमलबजावणी करीत असतांना सरकारी अधिकाऱ्यांकडून सक्ती केली जाते व जी यंत्रणा ह्या अंमलबजावणीसाठी वापरली जाते तिच्यांत दोष आहेत असे सांगण्यांत आले. त्याचप्रमाणे गांवगुंडांना हातांशी धरून कन्सॉलिडेशन ऑफिसर्स ह्या कायद्याची अंमलबजावणी करतात असेहि सांगण्यांत आले, पण, अध्यक्ष महाराज, मी असे विचारू अिच्छितं की, कोणता कायदा असा आहे की, जो गुंडांच्या ताबडीतून सुटला आहे? मुलगा जन्माला आल्यानंतर तो केव्हा तरी मरणार आहे ह्या भीतीने

[श्री. अस्. अम्. थोरात]

आपण जर नेहमी दुःखी राहावयाचे ठरविले तर हे जग कधीच सुखी होणार नाही. त्याचप्रमाणे अंकादी गोष्ट काय किंवा अंकादा कायदा काय, तो करीत असतांना आपण त्याकडे चांगल्या हेतूने पाहिले पाहिजे. दोष दाखवावयाचे असतील तर त्यालाहि हरकत नाही, कारण कोणतीहि गोष्ट सर्व दृष्टींनी परिपूर्ण नसते. पण हे दोष दाखवावयाचे ते सुधारणा करण्याच्या हेतूने दाखविले पाहिजेत. मुळांतच अंकादी गोष्ट किंवा अंकादा कायदा चुकीचा किंवा निरूपयोगी आहे असे धरून चालून दोष दाखवितां कामा नयेत. करप्शनसंबंधी बोलतांना असे सांगितले जाते की, लोकमताचा विचार न करतां सरकारने आपल्या धोरणाची अंमलबजावणी अत्यंत कठोरपणे केली पाहिजे, आणि आतां तुकडेजोड कायदा सभागृहापुढे आलेला असतांना ह्या कायद्याची अंमलबजावणी केली तर त्यामुळे कांहीं भयंकर परिणाम होतील असे सांगितले जाते. मला वाटते, हे बरोबर नाही. रोम्याला औषध देतांना किंवा अिजेक्शन देत असतांना कित्येक वेळा डॉक्टरलाहि प्रसाद मिळतो, पण याला भिजून डॉक्टर औषध देण्याचे सोडीत नाही. कारण रोम्याला बरे करणे हे त्याचे मुख्य कर्तव्य असते. त्याचप्रमाणे सरकारने शेतकऱ्यांच्या हितासाठी हे बिल आणले आहे तेव्हा सरकारने आपल्या धोरणाप्रमाणे जाणेच श्रेयस्कर आहे. सरकारच्या ह्या धोरणामुळे लहान शेतमालक नष्ट होतील, बेकारी वाढेल, असे सांगून जरी कोणी काहूर माजविण्याचा प्रयत्न केला तरी त्याने सरकारने डगमगून जातां कामा नये. कोरेगांव तालुक्याचा जो ऑफिसर आहे त्याच्याशी ह्या बाबतीत मी चर्चा केली तेव्हा त्याने मला अशी माहिती दिली की, त्या गांवातील कित्येक लोक आपण होऊन मोबदला पत्रके करण्यास पुढे येतात. त्याने असेहि सांगितले की, जर अंकाद्याची विशिष्ट मगदुराची जमीन घेण्यांत आली तर त्याला त्याच मगदुराची जमीन देण्यांत येते, व त्याच मगदुराची जमीन देणे अशक्य असेल तर कमी मगदुराची पण जास्त जमीन देण्यांत येते. थोडक्यांत सांगायचे तर जमिनीचे तुकडे जोडतांना कोणाचेहि नुकसान होणार नाही याची खबरदारी घेतली जाते अशी माहिती त्या ऑफिसरने मला दिली. त्याचप्रमाणे त्या गांवातील अनुभवी किंवा ग्रामपंचायतीतील माणसांच्या सल्ल्याने ही गोष्ट करण्यांत येते व ह्यासंबंधीची माहिती चावडीवर अंक महिना अगोदर लावली जाते. अशा रीतीने ज्या कोणाला तक्रार करावयाची असेल त्याला पूर्ण वेळ दिला जातो. अध्यक्ष महाराज, ह्या कन्सॉलिडेशन ऑफिसरने मला ही जी माहिती दिली त्यावर माझा विश्वास आहे. आपल्या राज्यांत पुरेशी जमीन नाही ही मूळ तक्रार आहे. भूदानाची जी चळवळ निघाली आहे िचे कारण ज्यांच्याजवळ मुळीच जमीन नाही त्यांना जमीन मिळवून देणे हेच आहे. तेव्हां शक्यतो ज्यांना जमीन नाही त्यांना ती मिळवून देण्याच्या दृष्टीने व असलेली जमीन जास्तीत जास्त उत्पादनक्षम कशी होतील ह्या दृष्टीने सरकारचे प्रयत्न चालू आहेत व तुकडेजोड हा अंक त्यांपैकीच प्रयत्न आहे. ह्या कायद्यामुळे लहान जमीन मालक नष्ट होतील व त्यांच्यावर अन्याय होतील ही जी भीति येथे व्यक्त करण्यांत आली ती पूर्णपणे निराधार आहे असे मी सांगू अिच्छितं.

त्यानंतर सामुदायिक शेतीसंबंधाने कांहीं सन्माननीय सभासदांनी सूचना केल्या आहेत. सामाजिक शेती करावयाची तर त्या दृष्टीने समाजाची तयारी असावी लागते. सामुदायिक शेतीसंबंधाने वर्तमानपत्रावरून जी माहिती मिळते त्यावरून असेच दिसून येते की, पोलंड, रशिया किंवा चीन ह्या देशांत सामुदायिक शेतीचे प्रयोग फसलेले आहेत. कोणतीहि गोष्ट सामुदायिक रीत्या करण्यासाठी जी अंक प्रकारची सामूहिक वृत्ति लागते ती अजून आपल्या समाजातील लोकांमध्ये आलेली नाही. सहकारी पद्धतीने शेती करण्याच्या दृष्टीने सरकारचे प्रयत्न चालू आहेत. डेअरी फार्म, पौल्ट्री फार्म, लिफ्ट अि्रिगेशन ह्यांबाबत सहकारी पद्धतीने काम करण्याचे प्रयत्न आजहि चालू आहेत, पण ते व्हावेत तसे यशस्वी होऊ शकत नाहीत असाच अनुभव आहे. कोणत्याहि बाबतीत वैयक्तिक जिवाळा असल्याशिवाय

[श्री. अस्. अम्. थोरात]

ह्या गोष्टी आपल्या देशात तून तरी होऊ शकणार आहेत. सहकारी किंवा सामुदायिक पद्धतीत असा अक दोष आहे की, त्या यंत्रणेतील अकादा भाग जरी कमी पडला तरी तो मिळविण्यासाठी ग्रीव्हज काँटन किंवा दुसऱ्या कंपनीकडे धाव घ्यावी लागते व तो भाग मिळेपर्यंत पुष्कळ वेळ जातो. पण वैयक्तिक जबाबदारीवर हाती घेतलेली कामे मात्र यशस्वी होऊ शकतात, कारण त्यात वैयक्तिक जिव्हाळा असतो. अर्थात हे सर्व सांगत असणाऱ्या सामुदायिक तत्व बाजीट आहे असे सांगण्याचा साक्षा हेतू नाही हे मी स्पष्ट करू अन्विष्टा. पण सामुदायिक कार्यामध्ये सामुदायिक जिव्हाळा असलेली माणसे अजून आपल्या समाजात पुरेशा प्रमाणात पुढे येत नसल्यामुळे मी हे मत सांगितले. माझ्या स्वतःच्या गावात मी सामुदायिक शेतीचा प्रयोग करून पाहिला. दोन तीन वर्षे पर्यंत वेल अकत्र आणावयाचे, वैरण अकत्र घालावयाची अशा प्रकारे काम चालले, पण पुढे अशी परिस्थिती आली की शेगदाण्याची पोती नाहीशी होऊ लागली व वेलाना थड वैरणहि मिळनाशी जाली. (अंतराधान) सन्माननीय सभासद म्हणता त्याप्रमाणे सामुदायिक नुकसान होऊ लागले व त्याबरोबरच वैयक्तिक नुकसानहि झाले हे सांगायचाच नको. तेव्हा सामुदायिक शेतीचे तत्व कितीहि चांगले असले तरी आपला समाज अजून त्या गोष्टीला तयार झालेला नाही अेवढेच मला म्हणावयाचे आहे.

मी मगाशी सांगितल्याप्रमाणे तुकडेवारी करणे जरी सोपे असले तरी आपल्या मुंबई राज्याच्या अकंदर विस्ताराच्या दृष्टीने तुकडेजोड करणे हे काम कठीण आहे. शिवाय, मुंबई राज्यात जे अंतर भाग सामील झाले आहेत तेथे सगळ्याच ठिकाणी काही शेतीची परिस्थिती सारखी नाही. तेव्हा मला असे सुचवावयाचे आहे की, हा कायदा सव घोडे बारा टक्के ह्या न्यायाने सर्व भागांना लावला जाऊ नये. कोकणात तर अशी परिस्थिती आहे की, आपल्या समोर जेवढे टेबल आहे तेवढा लहान जमिनीचा अक अक तुकडा आहे. शिवाय तेथील जमीन डोंगराळ असल्यामुळे अक जमीन अंघावर असली तर दुसरी जमीन अंतरावर असते. शिवाय माती वाहत जाऊ नये म्हणून जमिनीचा तुकडा चारी बाजूंनी सीमेंटने बांधून काढलेला असतो. अशा परिस्थितीत हे तुकडे अकत्र करणे हे फार कठीण तर आहेच, पण अशक्यहि आहे. सौराष्ट्र, कच्छ वगैरे जे भाग मुंबई राज्यात सामील झाले आहेत तेथील शेतीची परिस्थिती काय आहे हे मला माहीत नाही. सरकारने व तज्ज्ञांनी तेथील चौकशी करावी. व-हाडमध्ये तर जमिनीचे तुकडे फार मोठेले आहेत. व-हाडचा पाटील हा संपन्न समजला जातो. तेथील जमिनीवर अकादे घोडे घांवडले तर घोडे दमून जातील अितया मोठाल्या जमिनी तेथे आहेत. तेव्हा त्या भागात तुकडे जोडण्याचा प्रस्नव अनुभवत नाही, तेथे जमिनीचे विभक्तीकरण केले तरच जास्त चांगले होईल. तेव्हा मला असे सांगायचे आहे की, आपल्या राज्यातील निगमिताच्या ठिकाणी शेतीचे प्रस्न वेगवेगळे असल्यामुळे हा कायदा सर्व भागांना सव घोडे वाग टक्के ह्या न्यायाने लावणे योग्य होणार नाही.

सभागृहापुढे मी जे विचार मांडले आहेत त्यांचा सरकारने विचार करावा अेवढे सांगून रजा घेता.

श्री शंकरराव चव्हाण (राजस्व उपमंत्री) : सभापति महोदय, आज सदन के सामने अस विधेयक पर चर्चा हो रही है जो कि काफी महत्वपूर्ण है। कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने इस संबंध में अपने विचार प्रकट किये हैं, लेकिन जहां तक इस बिल के अमल का ताल्लुक है किसी माननीय सदस्य ने उस के बारे में शंका प्रकट नहीं की है। कुछ सदस्यों ने सामुदायिक खेती के संबंध में यहां पर अपने विचार प्रकट किये और कंसांलिडेशन के संबंध में भी कहा। मुझे दुख के साथ कहना पडता है कि जिन माननीय सदस्यों को खेती

[श्री शंकरराव चव्हाण]

का ज्ञान नहीं है और जिनका खेती के व्यवसाय से कुछ भी संबंध नहीं है ऐसे सदस्यों ने अपने भाषण में कहा कि कनसांलिडेशन आफ होल्डिज से कुछ फायदा नहीं होगा। अक माननीय सदस्यने इस संबंध में बोलते हुअे कनसांलिडेशन ऑफिसर का भी जिकर किया, और कहा कि यह जानकारी अन्हें कनसांलिडेशन ऑफिसर से मिली। लेकिन मैं मानता हूं कि कनसांलिडेशन ऑफिसर अन्हें इस तरह की जानकारी नहीं दे सकता और न असने ऐसी जानकारी दी होगी। यह सब संदेह अुनके खुद के ख्याली संदेह मालूम होते है।

यह कहा गया कि जिस मशिनरी द्वारा यह कनसांलिडेशन का काम अमल में लाया जा रहा है वह मशिनरी इस काम को अच्छी तरह नहीं कर सकेगी। अगर यह कहा जाय कि सभी सरकारी अफसर बूढे होते हैं तो अुनपर यह बड़ा अन्याय होगा। जिनके द्वारा हमें हमारी योजनाओं कार्यान्वित करनी हैं अुनके प्रति हमारा इस तरह का भाव रखना अुचित नहीं है, ऐसा मैं मानता हूं। मैं सदन की जानकारी के लिये बताना चाहता हूं कि पुराने बम्बई राज्य में कनसांलिडेशन का काम किया जाता था वह अिन्हीं सरकारी अफसरों द्वारा ही किया जाता था। यह कनसांलिडेशन ऑफिसर के जिम्मे सौपा जाता था। विदमे विभाग में भी यही व्यवस्था थी। सरकारी यंत्रणा द्वारा ही यह काम किया जाता था। दोनों स्थानों का अनुभव ऐसा है कि अुनके द्वारा काम अच्छी तरह से सफलतापूर्वक किया जा रहा था। अलबत्ता, मराठवाडा विभाग में पुराने हैदराबाद राज्य के कानून के तहत अक विलेज कमिटी बनाई गई थी और विलेज कमिटी की सलाह से इस काम को किया जाय, ऐसा प्रोविजन वहां के कानून में था। वहां सरकारी अफसर इस विलेज कमिटी के सलाह के अनुसार कनसांलिडेशन की योजना बनाता था, ताकि अुस अेरिया की जनता का सहकार अुन्हें मिल सके। हैदराबाद के कानूनमें यह जो प्रोविजन था अुसे कुछ हदतक इस शासन ने भी अच्छा माना है और इस तरह की विलेज कमिटीज कायम करने की व्यवस्था इस नये कानून में रखी गई है। इसपर भी यह शंका प्रकट की गई कि इस कमिटी का गठन ठीक तरह से नहीं हो सकेगा, जिस गांव के लिये कमिटी बनाई जायेगी उसमें अुस गांव के गुन्डे लोग ही बड़ी तादाद में लिये जायेंगे, और इस तरह यह काम गुन्डों के हाथ में चला जायेगा। माननीय सदस्यों ने इस तरह शंका किस आधार पर प्रकट की यह बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आई। मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि मराठवाडे में १३ विलेजेस में कनसांलिडेशन का काम प्रयोग के तौर पर हाथ में लिया गया था। कुल ९७७ कल्टिवेटस इस योजना में आये थे लेकिन इस काम के संबंध में अक भी देहात की ओर से कोई शिकायत इस काम के संबंध में अबतक शासन के पास नहीं आई है। विरोधी पक्ष के माननीय सदस्यों का यह ख्याल है कि अगर इस तरह से पुराने बम्बई राज्य में मराठवाडा की तरह कमिटीज स्थापन की जायेंगी तो अुनका जो काम होगा अुससे शासन के विरुद्ध वातावरण पैदा हो जायेगा मैं अुन माननीय सदस्यों को बताना चाहता हूं कि अुनका जो यह डर है वह निरर्थक है। मराठवाडा में जो काम हुआ उसका तो अनुभव बिलकुल इससे उल्टा है। इस तरह की कमिटीज होने के कारण जनता में विश्वास की भावना अधिक पैदा होती है।

दुसरी बात यह है कि यह जो कनसांलिडेशन की स्कीम तैयार की जाती है अुसमें पहले वहां की कमिटी की राय ली जाती है कि अिसे किस तरह से तैयार किया जाय, और ऐसी स्कीम बनाने की कोशिश की जाती है जिसमें किसी का नुकसान न हो। साधारणतः जिस किस्म की जमीन ली जाती है अुसी किस्म की जमीन अुस शक्त्ते को दुसरी जगह देने की कोशिश की जाती है जिससे वह ली जाती है। अगर अुस किस्म की जमीन अेवलेबल न हो तो अुसे कम दर्जे की लेकिन ज्यादा जमीन दी जाती है, जिससे

[श्री शंकरराव चव्हाण]

असका नुकसान न हो। अगर जमीन न दी जा सके तो उसे उस जमीन के लिये काम्पेन्सेशन दिया जाता है। हैदराबाद के कानून में भी इस तरह का प्रोविजन था कि अगर जमीन दी जा सके तो उस राकस की जो जमीन ली जायेगी उसके बदले में उसे काम्पेन्सेशन की रकम दी जायेगी।

मेरे एक माननीय मित्र ने यहां कहा कि गव्हर्नमेंट की जो कनसॉलिडेशन की योजना है उससे गव्हर्नमेंट का यह मकसद मालूम होता है कि वह छोटे छोटे, काश्तकारों को खतम करके बड़े बड़े काश्तकारों का एक वर्ग निर्माण करना चाहती है, और अमीर लोगों को संरक्षण देना चाहती है। मुझे बड़े दुख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि इस तरह की दलीलें यहां पेश की जाती हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि माननीय सदस्य को शायद इस बिल का मकसद ही नहीं समझ में आया या वे सिर्फ विरोध करने के लिये विरोध करते होंगे। अगर इस संबंध में वे कुछ सुझाव देना चाहें तो दे सकते हैं और सरकार की तरफ से उसपर अवश्य विचार किया जायेगा। लेकिन इस तरह की बातें यहां पर करना मैं मुनासिब नहीं समझता।

एक माननीय सदस्य ने अपने भाषण में कहा कि कनसॉलिडेशन संबंधी परामर्श के लिए जो कमिटी बनायी जायेगी उसमें जो सदस्य होंगे उन्हें कनसॉलिडेशन ऑफिसर नॉमिनेट करेगा, ऐसी व्यवस्था इस बिल में की गई है, जो बहुत गलत तरीका है। उन्होंने अपना यह विचार जाहिर किया कि इन कमिटीज के बनाने को अख्तियार विलेज पंचायत को दिया जाना चाहिये था। जब गव्हर्नमेंट एक नया कानून लाकर उसके तहत जो विलेज पंचायत कायम होगी उनपर ज्यादा काम सौंपना चाहती है, तब इस तरह अधिकार उन्हें क्यों नहीं दिया गया कि वे इस कमिटी पर नुमाइन्दे भेजे म यहां पर यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि आज की हालत में यदि यह काम विलेज पंचायत को सौंपा जाय तो उसमें खराबी पैदा होने का डर है, ऐसा सरकार का इसके संबंध में मत है। इस योजना में काश्तकारों का बहुत ही निकट का संबंध आता है। ऐसी हालत में इस कमिटी के बनाने के काम यदि वहां की ग्राम पंचायत को सौंपा जाये तो वहां झगडा होने के अंशकानात रहते हैं। वहां सर-पंच यदि कुछ निर्णय करें तो उसके खिलाफ कुछ वातावरण पैदा हो सकता है। इसलिये आज की हालत में इसे पंचायत के सुपुर्द करना सरकार मुनासिब नहीं समझती। इसमें उनके प्रति अविश्वास का कोई सवाल ही नहीं पैदा होता। हम तो ग्राम पंचायतों को ज्यादा से ज्यादा अधिकार देना चाहते हैं लेकिन एकदम नहीं; आहिस्ता आहिस्ता वे दिये जा सकेंगे। आज उनकी हालत ऐसी नहीं है कि वे इस काम को कर सकें।

एक मित्रन यहां पर शिकायत की कि कनसॉलिडेशन ऑफ लेन्ड की योजना के कारण कोऑपरेटिव्ह फार्मिंग की तरफ ध्यान नहीं दिया जा रहा है। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार कोऑपरेटिव्ह फार्मिंग के विरुद्ध नहीं है। हम भी कोऑपरेटिव्ह फार्मिंग चाहते हैं। यदि कोई कोऑपरेटिव्ह फार्मिंग करे तो गव्हर्नमेंट उसे रोकनेवाली नहीं है। लेकिन गव्हर्नमेंट की तो यह कोशिश रहेगी कि इसके लिये सब तरह की मदद दे और ज्यादा से ज्यादा बढ़ावा देने की सरकार की कोशिश है। लेकिन कनसॉलिडेशन के काम को भी गव्हर्नमेंट रोकना नहीं चाहती। कोऑपरेटिव्ह फार्मिंग की कनसॉलिडेशन आफ होल्डिंगज पहला स्टेप है। जिससे कोऑपरेटिव्ह फार्मिंग के लिये अनुकूल वातावरण पैदा होगा।

कनसॉलिडेशन ऑफ लेन्ड के सिलसिले में सेन्ट्रल गव्हर्नमेंट की भी एक योजना है। यदि वॉलंटरी बेसिस पर कोई कनसॉलिडेशन करने के लिये सामने आकर ५० परसेन्ट बोझा उठाने के लिये तैयार है तो सेन्ट्रल गव्हर्नमेंट की तरफ से उन्हें २५ परसेन्ट की

[श्री शंकरराव चव्हाण]

मदद की जायेगी। हमने सेन्ट्रल गव्हर्नमेंट से प्रार्थना की है कि कोऑपरेटिव्ह फार्मिंग के लिये भी अगर कोई वॉलंटरी बेसिस पर आगे आते हैं तो उन्हें भी सेन्ट्रल गव्हर्नमेंट उसे ही मदद दे, जैसे वह कनसॉलिडेशन के काम के लिये देने को तैयार है।

यहां और एक अंतराज यह किया गया कि कनसॉलिडेशन संबंधी किसी केस के बारे में तसफिया होने के बाद उसके खिलाफ अपील करने का अख्तियार नहीं रखा गया है। लेकिन मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि रिविजन का अधिकार गव्हर्नमेंट के पास रखा गया है और उसका तसफिया गव्हर्नमेंट कर सकती है। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि मेर इस स्पष्टीकरण के बाद सदन इस विधेयक का पहला वाचन मंजूर करेगा।

Question put, and agreed to.

Sr. SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXIV of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 and 3, clause 1 and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXIV of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. XXIV of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. XXXIV OF 1958 (A BILL FURTHER TO DEFINE PERMANENT TENANTS, INFERIOR HOLDERS AND PERMANENT HOLDERS FOR THE PURPOSES OF CERTAIN LAND TENURE ABOLITION LAWS AND TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN OTHER MATTERS).

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXXIV of 1958 (A Bill further to define permanent tenants, inferior holders and permanent holders for the purposes of certain land tenure abolition laws and to provide for certain other matters), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 18th April, 1958.

While doing so, I would like to state that in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by Clauses (1) and (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Land Tenure Abolition Laws (Amendment) Bill of 1958.

The CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. XXXIV of 1958 is introduced.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXIV of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: Sir, this Bill is intended to define the permanent tenants and assessments. Permanent tenants have been given (G.C.P.) MO-A Hb 1175-3

[Shri Shankarrao Chauhan]

special rights under the Talukdari Tenure Abolition Act, the Bombay Khoti Abolition Act and the Bombay Merged Territories Miscellaneous Alienations Abolition Act, 1955. In the Bombay Khoti Abolition Act the expression "permanent tenant" has been defined after taking into consideration the rights that these tenants had under the Khoti Tenure but in respect of other acts there was no basis on which the permanent tenants could be defined. This has led to a number of complications and that is why this Bill has been brought in.

Similarly, in the other enactments, inferior holders paying only assessments have been given a special treatment, but in order that they may avail themselves of the special rights conferred upon them under the different Acts, the word "assessment" has not been properly defined. That has created a number of doubts and difficulties. So also, in the case of certain Jagir Abolition laws, a permanent holder has been given special rights and privileges, but in those Acts also the word "assessment" has not been properly defined and that has led to a number of complications in the implementation of the relevant provisions.

Under this Act, it is proposed to define a permanent tenant as a person who has been in occupation of the land continuously for twelve years, not only on the land for which he is asking for rights of permanent tenancy but even on those lands which belong to the same tenure holder. So also, in order to overcome the difficulty in the implementation of the different Acts wherein the word "assessment" has not been properly defined, it is proposed to define the word "assessment" as assessment which was paid before it was leviable under the relevant Act or rules, or where there was no Act or rules, then section 52 of the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879, or section 52 of the Bombay Merged Territories and Areas (Jagirs Abolition) Act, 1953, after the commencement of the relevant Act or rules, will be made applicable.

The sole difficulty was that there was no record of rights and the record available was in the custody of persons who were interested in having records in a particular way, as in the case of Talukdari Abolition law, where the talukdars had their records in their custody and it was not possible for a tenant or a permanent holder to produce a copy of those records.

Then, Sir, under this Bill it is proposed to shift the burden of proof as to whether, in spite of his various possessions, a cultivator can be considered as a permanent tenant or not, on the tenure holder. He has to apply, in writing, to the Mamlatdar within six months from the date of the entry in the record of rights, and if he does not do so within six months, then the cultivator will be considered as a permanent tenant.

These were the few difficulties that were experienced. Now this Bill seeks to clarify the position so that the inferior holders, permanent holders or permanent tenants may be able to avail themselves of the rights which had accrued to them and which were conferred upon them by Government. So far it has been roughly determined that about 7,000 permanent tenants and 56,808 inferior holders have acquired the occupancy rights. After the new definition

[Shri Shankarrao Chauhan]

comes into force, it is expected that a number of other tenants or cultivators will also come within the purview of the definition and they will be benefited.

With these clarifications, I commend this Bill for the acceptance of the House.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXIV of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 6, Schedule, Short Title and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXIV of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXXIV of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

L. A. BILL No. IX of 1958 [(A BILL TO EXTEND THE BOMBAY MOLASSES (CONTROL) ACT, 1956, TO THE REST OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY)].

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE (Minister for Planning, Development, Electricity and Industries) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. IX of 1958 [(A Bill to extend the Bombay Molasses (Control) Act, 1956, to the rest of the State of Bombay)], as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 18th April, 1958.

While doing so, I am placing the recommendation of the Governor before the House :

"In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clause 3 of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay Molasses (Control) (Extension) Bill, 1958."

The prior sanction for introduction of this Bill from the President of India has also been obtained.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. IX of 1958 is introduced.

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. IX of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a measure relating to unification of laws. The Bombay Molasses (Control) Act, 1956, was only applicable to the pre-reorganised State of Bombay. No such provisions existed as far as the other integrating areas were concerned. It is only with a view to bringing uniformity that this Bill has been brought before the House, and I hope it will be passed unanimously.

Dr. D. D. KARVE (Maharashtra-Graduates) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I should like the Hon. Minister to tell this House whether I am right in saying that henceforward the molasses will become more readily available, especially for the purpose of scientific investigation. I had previously a very sad experience, when we were trying to carry out certain scientific investigations, in obtaining molasses. That was probably because of the fact that molasses is a raw material for the production of alcohol and the Director of Prohibition and Excise had control over this particular raw material.

I should also like the Hon. Minister to explain whether the substitution of the Director of Industries for the Director of Prohibition and Excise under clause will facilitate the procurement and work in connection with molasses a very valuable material on which various persons are wanting to carry out scientific investigations, not only for the production of alcohol but also for the utilisation of this material for various other industrial and agricultural purposes.

श्री. एच्. बी. भिडे (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंबलीने निवडलेले) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, ह्या बिलाबाबत मला दोन सूचना करावयाच्या आहेत. मोल्सेस साखर कारखान्यांत पुष्कळ प्रमाणांत निर्माण होतात आणि त्यांचा रॉ मटेरिअल म्हणून पुष्कळ उपयोग होतो. ह्या बाबतीत सरकारचे जे धोरण आहे, आणि विशेषतः दारूबंदीच्या नांवाखाली स्पिरिट निर्माण करण्याला परवानगी न देण्याचे जे धोरण आहे ते आपल्या देशाच्या आर्थिक परिस्थितीच्या दृष्टीने विघातक आहे असे अनेकांचे मत आहे. सध्या आपल्या राज्यांत निरनिराळ्या ठिकाणी साखर कारखाने आहेत व ज्या ठिकाणी नाहीत त्या ठिकाणी कारखाने काढण्याचे सरकारचे धोरण आहे. तेव्हा ह्या सर्व ठिकाणच्या कारखान्यांत निर्माण होणाऱ्या मोल्सेसचे स्पिरिट करून ते परदेशांत पाठविण्याची व्यवस्था करण्यांत आली तर विशेषतः साखरेची किंमत कमी होण्यासाठी त्याचा फार उपयोग होईल. सध्या चालू असलेल्या साखर कारखान्यांतील मोल्सेस फेकून दिले जातं. तसे यापुढे न करता त्यापासून स्पिरिट तयार करण्यांत येऊन ते विकण्याची व्यवस्था केली तर त्यापासून मिळणाऱ्या पैशाचा उपयोग आपल्याला इतर उपयुक्त कामासाठी करता येईल. ह्या बाबतीत सरकारने ह्यापुढे उदार धोरण ठेवले पाहिजे. १९४२-४३ साली बालचंदनगला जो साखरकारखाना आहे त्याला स्पिरिट काढण्याची परवानगी नव्हती त्यामुळे मोल्सेस फेकून देण्याशिवाय गत्यंतर नव्हते. आतां नगर जिःह्यांमध्ये पुष्कळ साखर कारखाने निवले आहेत. त्या कारखान्यांत स्पिरिट काढण्याची योजना आहे की नाही ते मला माहीत नाही. पण त्यापुढे मोल्सेसपासून स्पिरिट निर्माण करण्याला परवानगी देण्याचे धोरण सरकारने ठेवावे, एवढे सांगून मी रजा घेतो.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR : Sir, after the passing of the original Act, I enquired of two or three people as to how the Act was benefitting them, and I may state the experience of those people for the benefit of the Hon. Minister concerned so that it may be possible for him to devise other ways and means by which it may be possible to bring to fruition the objective of the Bill. The first thing is that the plant for producing power alcohol from molasses is so very costly that it is not possible for sugar factories to set up such a plant. If such a plant is not centrally placed, then the conveyance and transportation charges are so exorbitant that it is not considered economical to take the molasses to such a long distance and make some profit out of it. Therefore, the result is that at the present time, in certain factories molasses is used as a fuel, or as manure or for certain other purposes and the original objective of converting it into power alcohol or some

[Dr. G. S. Khair]

other chemical for industrial purposes is not being fulfilled. Therefore, the Hon. Minister may see how best to fulfil the original objective of the law.

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members for the suggestions they have made. As far as the point made by the hon. Member who spoke first is concerned, even if the Director of Industries is substituted for the Director of Prohibition, I do not think the difficulty should arise. I do not know why the Director of Prohibition should not have made it possible for our friends, or for the matter of that, anybody else, to make molasses available for purposes of industrial research or for carrying out studies. It is not because of that difficulty, but in case the Prohibition law or the execution of it should take an obstinate turn in the case of some people, the Director of Industries is being substituted for the Director of Prohibition, and I am sure the Director of Industries, who is interested both in the establishment or the starting of industries and in the advancement of education, will handle this problem properly now. If this position had obtained then, this question would not have arisen. Even otherwise, if a proper approach had been made, I am sure that the institution would not have suffered. I am not sure if any institution has suffered because of the misunderstanding of the provisions of the law.

The second point raised was about the establishment of more of such units to save transportation charges. Today only three or four units are converting molasses into power alcohol to a limited extent. Looking to the importance of the development of chemical industries, especially plastics and other things, Government have already decided to establish a very big plant in the Ahmednagar District. It will produce about 25 lakhs of tons of power alcohol and almost the entire produce has been contracted to be sold to a big industry which is coming into existence in Bombay during the course of the next two or three years. I am sure that many more such units will have to be set up. Provision has been made in the Second Five Year Plan for the establishment of such units. We have chosen Ahmednagar because this particular place will be surrounded, within a radius of 8 to 10 miles by sugar factories.

As regards the suggestion to have more and more of such spirits with a view to having a reduction in the price of sugar, I do not know if the price of sugar will be reduced. But I am afraid the consumption of spirits may go up (*Inter-ruption*). I know that many of the sugar factories are troubled over the question of the disposal of molasses. The disposal of molasses will now be properly controlled by this measure. This is the only purpose of the Bill before the House, and I commend it for the unanimous acceptance of the House.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. JX of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 and 3, Short Title and the Preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri S. K. WANKHEDE : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. IX of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. IX of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

APPRECIATIVE REFERENCE TO RETIRING MEMBERS.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH (Minister for Law and Labour) : Sir, I rise to bid farewell to twenty seven hon. Members of this House, whose term of office expires today. This House, in the recent past, has had a rather chequered career both as regards its numbers and composition. Some months ago, the Assembly of the State passed a Resolution unanimously for the abolition of this House, and then, under the Constitution, it was open to the President to say that this House shall no longer exist. And yet, the House has continued to exist. There is a popular belief that if there is a rumour about a man's death, and then he continues to live, he lives long. I hope that that will come true about this House also. After the Resolution for the abolition of this House was passed by the Assembly, a very unusual political event happened in this country and the States were reorganised. The States Reorganisation Act provided that in addition to the Members of the House as then constituted, 25 Members shall be added to the membership for the incoming areas. Therefore, as I mentioned a little while ago, the House had a chequered career both about its strength and its composition. Thereafter the Parliament passed another law whereby the total membership of the House was raised to 108. Hereafter the House will consist of 108 members. This House has suffered a bit because of association of ideas. It is called the Upper House and in the minds of many a people it is compared with the House of Lords or a second House in America. Sir, this comparison is not correct. The House of Lords is a hereditary body and it is not an elected body. The American House has a different composition and purpose altogether. I would not take the time of the House in dealing with the American Constitution. This House is partly indirectly elected in that certain members are elected by persons elected to the Assembly and others by persons elected to Municipalities or Local Bodies. There are other Members who are elected by what may be considered the intellectual elite like the teachers and graduates and a certain number is nominated by the Governor representing Arts, Science, Co-operation, Literature and so on. Composed as it is, therefore this House, I think, deserves our respect.

As for as myself, the Chief Minister and my other colleagues are concerned, we have always received from the retiring Members full co-operation and accommodation. I will not say that this House is merely a revising House or a House of elders, but it has given guidance on several occasions for which we are grateful.

I find that out of 27 members whose term of office expires to-day two are ladies. One member has been elected to the Rajya Sabha and seven members have been re-elected to this House. It should mean that we shall part company much to our regret at least with 20 members who may not be seen again in this

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House. Sir, I again wish to express the Government's thanks for, and appreciation of, the work of this House and of its devotion to the cause of the nation and the State. I hope that though we may meet in the same Chamber and in the same atmosphere whether the members belong to this side or that side our cordial relations will continue. I am confident that the members will continue to serve the State of Bombay and the nation as a whole even though they cease to be members of this House. Their devotion has been appreciated everywhere and I hope the same will continue. Again, I bid them farewell with the hope that their services to the country will continue as before.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE : Sir, on behalf of this side of the House, I associate myself with the appreciative reference which has been made by the Hon. Minister. Last time in 1956 a similar appreciative reference was made to the retiring members. As has been pointed out by the Hon. Minister in those days, we thought that this House would continue only for six months more and then we had no idea as to the future of this House. In 1958 we are now assured that this House will continue.

We see that, out of 27 members who are retiring, 18 will not be back in this House. We will certainly miss the presence of the hon. Member Dr. Khair who has been taking a very active part in the deliberations of this House. This House has been so often called a Conference of Educationists. This was due to the part in the deliberations taken by Dr. Khair, and therefore this House was rightly called a Conference of Educationists. Dr. Khair has not only taken interest particularly in Bills of educational nature, but he has also contributed his mite in the various discussions of this House, and the comments made by him have been very well appreciated even by Government. Even so far as other members are concerned, we will certainly be losing certain good members like Shri Dongre and Shri Bhawe. Lastly, we will be losing two lady members who took a very active part in the deliberations.

Dr. G. S. KHAIR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is rather an unexpected programme of the Council. On behalf of the retiring Members, I have great pleasure in accepting the good wishes that have been expressed on the floor of this House by both sides of the House. For the last six years we have been co-operating with Government, but sometimes there were conflicting views; but it was always with the purpose of furthering democracy. Every time if the other side of the problem was put before the House, it was with a view to finding out the truth. This House upto this time has been able to further, establish and promote very good traditions of democracy in a good spirit.

Sir, we the retiring members are sure that the new members who are coming will do in a better way than what we have done upto the present moment. We have contributed our share in helping the legislative work of the State, and we shall be taking the same keen interest, in its work although we shall be outside the House. Although we may not be members of this House, it does not mean that we have lost interest in the legislature and in what the hon. Members are doing. We have done our humble service and the Council has been of an educative nature. We have gained experience and we shall be part and parcel of this House. It is with sad feelings that we are parting from this

[Dr. G. S. Khair]

House, and I am very glad and I thank the hon. Members who have expressed good feelings for the work that we have done and also for their kind words of appreciation.

The CHAIRMAN: I associate myself with the appreciative sentiments expressed by the previous speakers. Under the Rules one third of the Members of this House retire every third year. The list of the retiring Members is prepared by drawing lots. Thus one third of the Members of this House will retire by to-day evening. I thank them for the co-operation which they have given me and for preserving, by high level of their debate, the dignity and decorum of the House. I bid them good-bye and I thank them again and wish them long life and happiness.

(The House was adjourned at 4-20 p.m. till 5-00 p.m. on Friday, the 25th April, 1958.)

Friday, the 25th April, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 5-00 p.m. on Friday, the 25th April 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.

MEMBERS SWORN.

Patel, Shri Maganbhai Bhikhabhai.

Paranjpe, Smt. Shakuntala.

Sarnaik, Smt. Malatibai Ramrao.

Abdul Rahamankhan Mohamed Yusufkhan, Shri.

Amin, Shri Dadoobhai.

Bhat, Shri Atmaram Raoji

Bhatt, Shri Chhotalal Chhaganlal.

Chhapekar, Shri Laxman Nilkanth.

Dave, Shri Ratilal Muljibhai.

Deshpande, Shri Dhondo Vithal.

Dhok, Shri Prahalad Sadashiv.

Diwanji, Shri Lalitchandra Chhotubhai.

Harris, Shri Moinuddin Burhanuddin.

Leo Rodrigues, Shri

Mehta, Shri Chandrakant Chhotalal.

Mehta, Shri Dinkerrao Krishnalal.

Mehta, Shri Gulabbhai Bhikhabhai.

Mehta, Shri Sanatkumar Maganlal.

Mohammad Taher Habib, Shri

Momin, Shri Gulam Haider Walimohammed.

Naik, Shri Prataprao Pandurang.

Nalavade, Shri Ganpat Mahadeo.

Patel, Shri Motibhai Deshaibhai.

Patil, Shri Atmaram Nana.

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Koli, Shri Ganapati Nayaku.

Samarth, Shri Ramkrishna Paikaji.

Phatak, Shri Vinayak Ganesh.

Shende, Shri Bhaurao Vithoba.

Sthalekar, Shri Anant Sheshgiri.

Suryavanshi, Shri Bhagwan Dynandeo.

Thorat, Shri Sambhajirao Maruti.

Trivedi, Shri Harbhai D.

Vishwanath Rao Madhav Rao.

Yardi, Shri Vamanrao Gangadhar.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Shri Harijivan V. Kotecha.

The CHAIRMAN : There is a telegram from the hon. Member Shri Harijivan V. Kotecha asking for leave of absence. Has the House any objection to leave being granted ? (After a pause). The leave is granted.

[For Questions—See Part I].

L. A. BILL No. XXXV OF 1958 (A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE BOMBAY TENANCY AND AGRICULTURAL LANDS ACT, 1948)

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH (Minister for Revenue) : Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXXV of 1958 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1948) as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 24th April 1958.

While doing so, I shall read out the recommendation of the Governor.

"In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by clauses (1) and (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Bombay is pleased to recommend to the Bombay Legislative Council the consideration of the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Amendment) Bill, 1958."

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXXV of 1958 is introduced.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXV of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, this is the third time that I am coming to this house to seek an amendment to the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1948. I have already explained to this house earlier that amendments in the light of experience of the enforcement of this measure are unavoidable in view of the complications of the problems which the Act seeks to solve and the different types of rights and situations which it attempts to deal with. In extenuation of my approach to this house for the third time, I can only plead that I am improving upon my performance. On the first occasion I came to this house five months after the implementation of the Act had started. On the second occasion it was seven months after the first amendment. This time it is after eight months that I am troubling this house with an amending Bill. The Bill, as it is placed before the house, is shorter and simpler than its predecessors. That, to some extent, is a matter of gratification because it shows that the earlier attempts we made were in the right direction to solve the difficulties that we had met with and also because we can now claim that in the process of implementation there are much fewer difficulties and problems than we met with in the initial period.

I am sure the house would expect me at this stage to say a few words on the implementation of the measure as it has passed from time to time. The first phase which began some time before 1st August 1956 and ended roughly on 31st March 1957 was a preparatory phase when the staff had to be recruited and trained and records had to be prepared for the tiller's day on 1st April 1957. The nature of the problems with which we are faced could be judged from the following facts :—

Many of the tenure abolition measures were still in the course of the implementation and were affecting the rights of the cultivators in various ways. Although the total number of unsurveyed villages was about 2,000, in most of the others the record of rights had to be brought up-to-date and in about 2,000 villages record of rights did not even exist. I need hardly add that these records are the very basis of our land revenue system and therefore of our land reforms measures. In addition to all this we had to put on the job a large staff consisting of 22 Mamlatdars, 243 Mahalkaris, 484 Aval Karkuns, 384 Clerks, 415 Circle Inspectors and about 3,000 Talatis. This staff had to be trained and placed on the field. In the meantime, Reorganisation overtook us and we were faced with various problems, big and small, connected with it. In the meantime applications for personal cultivation were pouring in and by the due date 3,21,893 applications had been received. Just as we should normally have got ready to dispose of these applications, our staff had to be diverted for more than two months for the elections that were fixed during the most crucial period of our preparatory measures. This inevitably meant some delay but I am happy to state that the setback in the time schedule was not so much as would have been normally the case. The preparatory measures were in full swing and the only serious drawback in that stage was the inability of the press because of its preoccupation with election work to supply the forms that were required in time. They did the best they could and accelerated the pace as soon as they were free from their election preoccupation and we were able to get most of the forms distributed gradually.

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by the end of June 1957. The outstanding supplies continued to come in and as a result of all this we have been able to dispose of roughly more than 2 lakhs of the applications, to prepare rough record of rights in about 1,700 villages and to bring record of rights up-to-date in 24,224 villages. In 29,000 villages, out of 29,465 villages, land registers have been prepared, while in about 19 villages even the registers of holdings which require very detailed scrutiny and preparation have been completed. I might add that of the 1,18,000 applications for personal cultivation that had been disposed of upto 31st October 1957, only some 6,000 were accepted and resulted in eviction of tenants. I do not have any further figures available but I doubt if any larger proportion would be maintained in subsequent reports.

We are thus well set on the way for the second phase which deals with the purchase of lands by the tenants.

In the meantime the most important item for the first phase, viz., the fixation of rents under the relevant Sections of the Act has been gone through. We came across certain defects, discrepancies, and omissions in the orders issued by the Mamlatdars which have been mostly rectified by the revisional action taken by the Collectors. This work is essential for the second phase because on this depends the fixation of purchase price and the determination of other responsibilities and liabilities of the landlords and tenants. We have also appointed additional Mamlatdars and Mahalkaries in various talukas to exercise the powers and functions of the Agricultural Land Tribunals to implement the compulsory purchase scheme. The notices required to be issued under Section 32G are being issued and wherever the land registers and the registers of holdings have been completed and elsewhere as they are completed, these Tribunals will start functioning in full force and effect.

Sir, from this description of what we have done to implement the various stages of the scheme of the Act, I am sure the house will appreciate both the dimensions of the problem and the comparatively short period within which the work has been achieved. As the head of the machinery which is charged with the implementation of this Act, nobody is more cognisant or can be more conscious of the faults and defects than I myself. I and other revenue staff have personally been supervising these various measures almost from day to day. I can assure the House that there is no remission or laxity either in our efforts or in our enthusiasm. Almost every day we are issuing instructions to explain, amplify and rectify matters wherever necessary. We issued a comprehensive set of instructions in advance of the implementation of the law. We have issued a manual dealing with the entire Act in great detail afterwards in order to apprise the staff of the general position under the Act. We have prepared forms and returns to ensure that necessary records become available and essential checks are applied. Recently, for the guidance of the Agricultural Land Tribunals, we have issued two sets of instructions on the machinery and procedure of purchase and land valuation. After all this the revenue machinery can have no justification for being uninformed or

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unlettered on any mysteries of this legislation. We have therefore issued strict instructions to the staff that if in future any defects or irregularities come to our notice which are due to their omission to read and study these various instructions and manuals or to consult them, we shall take severe notice of their delinquency. I hope, therefore, that apart from the human liability to make mistakes which all of us, whether we are in this house or outside, share, and apart from the imperfections which are inherent in any human device or institution, the errors and omissions would be the minimum and to the extent that we can rectify them we will reduce even this minimum.

Sir, I shall now briefly explain the justification for the Bill as I have now placed before the House. Before I enter into details I would like to say that as the House will judge from the contents of the Bill, most of the amendments suggested are either clarificatory or supplementary to the provisions that have already been made, and barring one or two changes, none of the amendments is of a fundamental nature. It is, therefore, not necessary for me to dilate further upon the explanations given of various clauses in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. I shall therefore deal only with the important changes.

A significant change that we propose to make in the Bill is in respect of tenants who might have been evicted from the land by the landlord before 1st day of April 1957 but whose application for possession of land under sub-clause (1) of Section 29 within the prescribed period may still be pending. This case is not covered by the existing provisions and I am sure the House will agree that we must provide for the accrual of the right of compulsory purchase to these tenants if the result of the proceedings is in his favour. Similarly in case the result of the proceedings is against him (if the tenant who has not made application for possession within the prescribed period), the person who may actually be in possession of the land at the time should obtain the same right.

The second significant change that we propose to make is in regard to the status of the tenant who is deemed to have purchased the right of occupancy on 1st April 1957 or a postponed date. In this case we are actually proceeding on the basis that he actually becomes an occupant on that day, that the landlord acquires the right of compensation also on that day and any payments made by way of interest or land revenue, etc. are adjusted having regard to that possession. It follows, therefore, that on the net purchase price the rate of interest should start from 1st April 1957 or the postponed date on which the tenant acquires the right.

The third and the most important change that we are making is in regard to the constitution of the Agricultural Land Tribunal. As the House knows the present provisions provide for at least a three-member tribunal consisting of a civil judge or a higher judicial officer or a lawyer and two others to discharge the functions of a tribunal under the Act. The question of appointment of these tribunals was considered by Government in 1950 but on the

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ground of finance and owing to the fact that it was considered that the Mamlatdars were discharging these functions quite satisfactorily, the proposal was dropped. Until the Act was amended in 1955, therefore, the functions of the tribunal were being discharged by the Mamlatdars. At that stage the functions were not so large nor so important as have been conferred on the tribunal after this Act. And even then the scheme of the Act was not found necessary or was found costly. I realised that my predecessor gave this House I mean the Lower House, to understand that Government would try its best to see that these tribunals are appointed as early as possible. At the same time my predecessor said that Government might find it difficult to appoint tribunals at all places. I was also doubtful whether we would be able to find the necessary personnel to man these tribunals in every taluka. We have therefore appointed Additional Mamlatdars in each taluka to discharge the functions of these tribunals. I feel that a stage has not reached when these tribunals could have been appointed everywhere. Apart from this, I am convinced that if Government continue to be responsible for seeing that the considerations of justice and equity guide the implementation of the Act, the constitution of the tribunals everywhere in the manner in which it was originally said to be done would be quite unsuitable. I have also had a rough calculation made as to the cost which Government would have to incur in case we appointed these tribunals in every taluka in the 211 talukas and 43 Mahals that are covered by this legislation. On the basis of the average salary of a civil judge and fixed honorarium of Rs. 350 per mensem for two members, and 2 Awl Karkuns and 3 clerks, 5 peons for each tribunal, the cost works out to Rs. 78 lakhs a year. As against this the staff which we have appointed to discharge the same functions would cost only about 13 lakhs a year. I am sure fully appreciating the administrative and policy considerations involved and the financial implications of the proposals, the House will agree that a change in the present scheme of appointment of tribunals is called for. At the same

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time Government has not completely given up the idea of these tribunals and if it becomes necessary to do so and the constitution of these tribunals becomes practicable perhaps Government should be able to have these tribunals functioning in the form in which they were originally intended. The change that we have made, therefore, provides normally for the appointment of an officer not below the rank of a Mamlatdar to discharge the functions of the tribunal, but where it is possible to constitute a tribunal, the State Government would have the discretion to appoint a tribunal. I should like to add that it is our intention to appoint where necessary even a Deputy Collector to discharge the functions of the tribunal so that the approach to the various problems which the tribunal would have to solve would be of better quality without in any way affecting the disciplinary control of Government over the officer. I realise that this is a substantial departure from the original scheme of the Act but after what I have said, the House would accept the necessity of this change. I only give one assurance to the House that within the limits of the law and the instructions that have been issued, the officer would function in semi-judicial capacity.

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subject to the revisional jurisdiction of the Bombay Revenue Tribunal. This should be sufficient to ensure that the proceedings of the tribunal and its decisions are ultimately in accord with law and are conducted in judicial and judicious manner.

In Section 84B we have inserted a provision permitting us to deal more sympathetically in the case of transfer to tenants. Similarly the provisions of 84C have been streamlined in order to save the application of the procedure which is at present involved in the case of transfer of land to tenants in contravention of the provisions of the Act. We have, therefore, provided that a transfer would not be declared invalid if certain payments were made. Thus this procedure would avoid the necessity of declaring land forfeited and then making adjustment in the price paid.

The position regarding Inam lands was rather indefinite and we have now amended the law to make it definite as the circumstances require. The House will recall that as a result of the various abolition measures the only Service Inams that have been preserved are those for service useful to Government. Of these there are two categories—one which was assigned as remuneration to the person actually performing service and the other which is a watan property but which is not so assigned. In both these matters alienation is regulated by the provisions of the Watan Act and Rules thereunder. These provisions must prevail and we have, therefore, amended the law in order to secure this objective.

Lastly we are amending the Act with a view to safeguarding the position of the tenants in Borivli village which now forms part of the Bombay Suburban District. In this case we have preserved the rights of compulsory purchase to the tenants as on 31st January 1957. The matter has been agitated in this behalf a number of times and the position of Government has been explained by me in detail in both the Houses. It is, therefore, unnecessary for me to expatiate it any further beyond saying that Government is fully honouring its commitments in regard to these tenants, by the change that we are going to make in the Act.

Sir, I have amplified the explanations of the various provisions of the Bill. Before I conclude I have only one word to say. The Bill as will now be amended will, I hope finally close the loopholes that have been experienced and cover defects that have subsequently been noticed. The differences in principle and even in details which have been found in the past have no relevance now that the Bill has been a law and has been in force for the last well-nigh two years. I would, therefore, appeal to the members to accept this position and with a view to easy passage dwell on the changes that are being affected. The House will realise that the amendments that we propose have been arrived after long deliberations. I have tried as far as I can to visualise the points of view of my friends opposite and have taken them into account. If they have something more to say than I have been able to visualise, I shall certainly consider them with the attention that they deserve. But I do hope that we shall not harp on the same old points as before but consider the amendments

[Shri Rasiklal U. Parikh]

on their merits. I hope this will be the last amending bill in the series. But since tribunals have yet to function and the process of evolution still goes on, if any changes come in, they would be as a result of change in ideas rather than owing to thoughts on new difficulties or new problems. With those words, Sir, I commend the Bill for the acceptance of the House.

શ્રી. સનતકુમાર એમ. મહેતા : (ગુજરાત દક્ષિણ-લોકલ ઓથોરીટીઝ) : માનનીય અધ્યક્ષ મહાશય, આ સુધારા બિલ રજૂ કરવાની સાથોસાથ માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રીએ આ કાયદાના અમલનો થોડો ધ્યાન એક પ્રકારનો આંદોલન અહેવાલ અહીં આપણી સામે રજૂ કરેલ છે. એમણે એમના વક્તવ્યની શરૂઆતમાં એમ કહ્યું છે કે છેલ્લા થોડા સમયની અંદર આ બિલમાં ત્રીજે સુધારો લાવવામાં આવે છે. પહેલો વાર પાંચ મહિના પછી સુધારો લઈને આવ્યા હતા. બીજી વાર સાત મહિના પછી અને હવે ત્રીજી વાર આ સુધારો લઈને માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રી આપણી પાસે આવે છે ત્યારે એમના પ્રવચનનો પ્રથમ પેરેગ્રાફ વાંચતા એમ લાગે છે કે અત્યારસુધીમાં વારંવાર આ ધારામાં સુધારા કરવા પડ્યા છે. જે પ્રકારના અખતરા આપણે વારંવાર કર્યા છે તે અખતરા હવે વધુ વાર નહિ થાય અને ૫-૭ અને ૮ મહિનાના ગાળાની અંદર જે સુધારા કરવા પડ્યા છે તે ફરી વાર કરવાનો પ્રસંગ નહિ આવે એમ અમે આશા રાખીએ છીએ. માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રીએ એમ કહ્યું કે સુધારાઓ હવે પછી આવવાના નથી અને સુધારાઓનો એક પ્રકાર અંત આવે છે. હું માનું છું કે આ કાયદો આપણે પોથીમાં પડેલો વાંચીએ છીએ ત્યારે જે પ્રકારે કાયદો લાગે છે અને એનો જે રીતે અમલ થાય છે એ બે વચ્ચે હંમેશા એક ભારે મોટું અંતર રહ્યું છે. આ માત્ર મારા અંગત વિચારો છે એમ નથી પણ પુનાની જે ગોખલે રીસર્ચ ઇન્સ્ટીટ્યુટ છે તેણે “Report on working of tenants Legislation in Bombay State” એ નામનો અહેવાલ બહાર પાડ્યો છે. એને અંગેનું સરવે અને રીસર્ચ આપણા પ્લાનીંગ કમિશનની ટેબલ નીચે કરવામાં આવ્યું છે. આ અહેવાલની અંદર એમ બતાવવામાં આવ્યું છે કે ટેનન્ટસી બિલની અંદર ગણતિયાને રક્ષણ આપવાની જોગવાઈ કરવામાં આવી હતી પણ તેના અમલમાં એ જોગવાઈનો છંદોક ભંગ થયો છે. આ પ્રકારની હકીકત આ અહેવાલની અંદર રજૂ થઈ છે. આપણે એ અહેવાલ વાંચીએ છીએ ત્યારે લાગે છે કે આપણે જે પ્રકારે બિલનો અમલ કરવા માટે પ્રયત્ન કરી રહ્યા છીએ તે બિલના મૂળભૂત હેતુ ઉપર ઘા કરે છે. એટલે જ માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રી એમ માનતા હોય કે આ સુધારો કર્યા પછી મુંબઈ રાજ્યમાં જમીનનો જે આખોયે સવાલ છે તે સવાલમાં આ મૂળ પરિવર્તન આવી જવાનું છે અથવા તો આ સુધારો રજૂ કર્યા પછી જે લુપ્તહોલ્સ છે તે બંધ થઈ જશે તો હું તેઓશ્રીને નમ્રભાવે કહું છું કે હું તેમાં સંમત થઈ શકતો નથી. આ કાયદાનો જેટલો લાભ લેવાનો હતો એટલો લાભ તો લેવાઈ ચૂક્યો છે. હવે માત્ર નાના નાના થીંગડા મારવાનું કામ કરી રહ્યા છીએ. એટલે હું માનું છું કે એવા કોઈ પ્રકારનો દેખાવ કરતા હોઈએ કે આ પ્રકારના સુધારા કરવાને કારણે હવે કોઈ લુપ્તહોલ્સ નથી રહ્યા તો હું કહીશ કે લુપ્તહોલ્સનો જેટલો લાભ લેવાનો હતો એટલો લઈ લેવામાં આવ્યો છે. ગણતિયાના જે ઈવીક્શન થવાના હતા તે તો થઈ ગયા છે. એટલે હવે આપણે માત્ર થીંગડાં મારવાનું જ કામ કરી રહ્યા છીએ.

એક બીજી વાત તરફ માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રીનું હું ધ્યાન ખેંચું છું. એ વાત એમના ધ્યાન ઉપર આવે અને એનો અમલ કરે એમ હું ઇચ્છું છું. મુંબઈ રાજ્યના કેટલાક વિસ્તારોમાં મહેસૂલ એસેસમેન્ટના દરમાં એક ભારે મોટો ફરક છે.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, the rates of assessment have no relevancy to this Bill.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member is incidentally making a reference to them.

શ્રી. સનતકુમાર એમ. મહેતા : એટલે આ એસેસમેન્ટના દર જે જુદા જુદા છે તે આપણે સરખા નહિ કરીએ તો ભવિષ્યની અંદર આને માટે સુધારો લાવવો પડશે. લેન્ડ રેવન્યુમાં એનોમલી દૂર કરવાનો પ્રયત્ન કરી રહ્યા છીએ છતાં અમુક દેકાણે ૨૫ ટકા સુધી ફેરફાર રહે છે તે જોતાં ફેરફાર આ રહેવાનો છે. એટલા માટે આ હકીકત માનનીય મંત્રીશ્રીના ધ્યાનમાં લાવું છું. આ સુધારો લાવ્યા પછી કોઈ સુધારાને અવકાશ હવે નહિ રહે એમ એમણે સભાગૃહ સમક્ષ કહ્યું છે એટલા માટે આ દાખલો એમના ધ્યાન ઉપર લાવ્યો છે.

આ ઉપરાંત હું એમનું લક્ષ્ય ખેંચવા માગું છું. કલમ ૮૪ (સી) છે એમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે :—

“Provided that in the case of a transfer by the landlord to the tenant of the land....”

એમ કરીને આખી કલમ મૂકવામાં આવી છે. હું એ મુદ્દા તરફ લક્ષ્ય ખેંચવા માગું છું કે કેટલીક વાર લેન્ડ ટ્રાન્સફર કરવાની અંદર માત્ર ગણતિયાઓએ પોતાની પાસે પૂરતા પૈસા ન હોવાને કારણે કોઈ ખેડૂતની મદદથી કે બીજા કોઈની પાસેથી મદદ લઈને જમીનની ટ્રાન્સફર કરી હોય તો એને માત્ર ટેનન્ટ પૂરતો મર્યાદિત રાખશું તો આવા પ્રકારના ટ્રાન્સફરના કિસ્સા ગેરકાયદેસર કરવાનો વારો આવવાનો છે. એટલે વિનંતી કરું છું કે આ કલમમાં થોડો શાબ્દિક સુધારો કરવો જોઈએ. આર્થિક મુશ્કેલી હોવાને કારણે ટેનન્ટ એના અધિકાર મેળવવાને માટે બીજા કોઈની મદદથી જમીન ખરીદવાનો પ્રયત્ન કર્યો હોય તો તેને કોઈ પણ પ્રકારે આડખીલી ઊભી ન થાય એવા સુધારાની જોગવાઈ કરવામાં આવે તેવી મારી નમ્ર વિનંતી છે.

શ્રી. એચ. બી. મિઝે (મુંબઈ લેજિસ્લેટિવ્ઝ એસેમ્બલીને નિવડલેલે) : અધ્યક્ષ મહારાજ, હું બિલ ફાર મહત્વાચ્છે અસલ્યામુજે સરકારને હું બિલ અતિક્રયા ધાઈને ન આગતાં સન્માનનીય સમાસદાંના ત્યાગર વિચાર કરણ્યાસાઈ થોડા વેળ દિલા અસતા તર ફાર ચાંગલે જાલે અસતે. ત્યાગપ્રમાણે નામદાર મંત્ર્યાંચે છાપીલ માષણ આમ્હાંલા આતાં પુરવિષ્યાંત આલે તે આપીં દેણ્યાચી વ્યવસ્થા કરણ્યાંત આલી અસતી તર ત્યાગા જાસ્ત અપયોગ જાલા અસતા.

મલા હ્યા બિલાબાવત સરકારલા એક વિનંતિ કરાવ્યાચી આહે. જ્યાપ્રમાણે સરકાર કુઠાંના કાયદામધ્યે નિરનિરાલયા સુધારણા કરૂન સવલતી દેતે ત્યાપ્રમાણે આપલ્યા રાજ્યામધ્યે જ લહાન જમીનદાર આહેત ત્યાંચ્યા પરિસ્થિતીચા વિચાર કરૂન ત્યાંનાહિ કાંहीं સવલતી હ્યા વિલાંત દિલ્યા અસત્યા તર ચાંગલે જાલે અસતે. સમાજાંતીલ એકા વર્ગાલા થોડે સુલ મિઠાલે તર ત્યાબહલ આમ્હાંલા વાઝીટ વાટણાર નાहीं, પળ તે સુલ દેત અસતાંના સમાજાંતીલ ઇતર વર્ગાના દુઃખી કરણ્યાંત આલે તર સરકાર હ્યા નાલ્યાને સરકારને ચાંગલે કલે અસે લોક મ્હણણાર નાહીત. આજ હ્યા વિલાંત જ્યા સવલતી કુઠાંના દેણ્યાંત આલ્યા આહેત ત્યાંચા ફાયદા પ્રત્યક્ષ વ્યવહારાંત જમીનદારાંના કસા મિઠલ નાहीं યાચે એકચ ડવાહરણ મી દેતો.

રત્નાગિરી જિલ્હાંતીલ દેવરુલ તાલુક્યાંત એક જમીનદાર આહે. હ્યા કાયદાંત અસે એક કલમ આહે કી, જર એકાદા જમીનદાર ઇનવ્હલિડ આહે, પંગૂ આહે અસે ઠરલે તર ત્યાચી જમીન કાઢૂન ઘેતાં ઘેણાર નાहीं. હ્યા જમીનદારાને આપળ પંગૂ અસલ્યાબહલચે સિવ્હિલ સર્જનચે સટિફિકેટ પ્રોડ્યૂસ કલે. તાલુક્યાચ્યા ઠિકાણીં એકાદા મનુષ્ય શારીરિક દૃષ્ટ્યા અપંગ આહે કી નાहीं હું ઠરવિષ્યાચ્યા બાબતીંત સિવ્હિલ સર્જન હા સર્વાંત વરચા અધિકારી સમજલા જાતો. અસે અસતાંના હ્યા જમીનદારાચે હું સટિફિકેટ ટ્રાયબ્યુનલને માનલે નાहीं. યાવરૂન એકા વિસિષ્ટ વર્ગાવિર અન્યાય કરાવ્યાચા અસે સરકારચે ધોરણ દિસતે.

The CHAIRMAN : On which clause of the Bill is the hon. Member speaking? We are discussing the various clauses of the Bill, not the general principles of the Tenancy Act. The hon. Member may incidentally refer to them.

श्री. एच. बी. भिडे : अध्यक्ष महाराज, मला एवढेंच म्हणावयाचें आहे की, आसामला भरलेल्या काँग्रेसच्या अधिवेशनांत पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरूंनी सांगितल्याप्रमाणे जमीनदार किंवा कारखानदार हे कांहीं चोर नाहीत, तेहि समाजाचे उपयुक्त भाग आहेत. तेव्हां एकाच काढून दुसऱ्याला देण्याची सरकारची वृत्ति नसावी. याउपर सरकारला न्याय कोणता आणि अन्याय कोणता हें ठरविण्याचा अधिकार आहे, पण मला एवढाच आश्वासन वाटतो की, याचा परिणाम सरकारला भोगावा लागेल.

श्री. ज्यो. जो. फाटक (मुंबई लेजिस्लेटिव्ह असेंब्लीने निवडलेले) : अध्यक्ष महाराज, ह्या बिलावर सविस्तर बोलण्याची ही वेळ नाही, पण यांतील एक दोन महत्त्वाच्या मुद्यांबाबत माझे विचार मांडण्यासाठी मी उभा आहे. ह्या बिलाचा संबंध अभ्यास करण्याला मला वेळ मिळालेला नाही, तेव्हां आतां नामदार मंत्र्यांनी जें भाषण केलें तें अकल्यांतर एक दोन मुद्यांकडे मला सरकारचे लक्ष वेधावयाचें आहे.

नामदार मंत्र्यांच्या भाषणाच्या चौथ्या पानावरील शेवटच्या परिच्छेदामध्ये एक सिनिफिकंट चेंज सरकारने या बिलामध्ये करण्याचें योजलें आहे असा उल्लेख आहे. हा फरक खरोखरी करण्यांत आला तर फार चांगलें होईल. नामदार मंत्र्यांनी चांगली अिच्छा व्यक्त केली आहे, पण ही इच्छा अमलांत आणण्यासाठी सरकार कोणती यंत्रणा वापरणार आहे याचा येथे कोठेहि उल्लेख नाही. आजपर्यंत पहिला कूळ कायदा आल्यापासून कोणत्या ना कोणत्या तरी सबबीखाली जमीनदारांनी कुळांकडून जमिनी आपल्याकडे घेण्याचा सपाटा चालविला आहे. कधी स्वतः जमीन कसण्याच्या नांवाखाली तर कधी आपण अपंग आहोत ह्या सबबीखाली कुळांचा जमीन कसण्याचा हक्क जमीनदारांनी आपल्याकडे घेतल्याची अनेक उदाहरणे मुंबई राज्यांत दाखविता येतील. रत्नागिरी जिल्ह्यांत अशी कित्येक उदाहरणे घडलेली आहेत. सातवाराच्या बुताच्याप्रमाणे एकाकडे कूळ १०० वर्षे जमीन कशीत आहे असा रेकॉर्ड असला व ही गोष्ट त्या गांवातील इतर लोकांना माहीत सली तरी जमीनदार कोणत्या ना कोणत्या तरी सबबीखाली हा हक्क हिरावून घेतात. चिपळूण येथे नुकतीच कुळांची एक परिषद झाली व तेथे ह्या प्रश्नाबाबत बरीच चर्चा झाली. तेव्हां मला ही माहिती पाहिजे आहे की, सरकारने जी चांगली अिच्छा व्यक्त केली आहे ती अमलांत आणण्यासाठी कोणती यंत्रणा निश्चित केली आहे ?

एका सन्माननीय सभासदांनी आतां सांगितलें की, एकाची जमीन काढून ती दुसऱ्याला द्यावयाची असें धोरण सरकारने ठेवतां कामा नये. वास्तविक तसें होत नाही. ज्याचा जो हक्क असेल त्याला तो मिळाला पाहिजे. पण गेल्या १० वर्षांमध्ये कित्येक कुळांचे रास्त हक्क जमीनदारांकडून हिरावून घेण्यांत आले आहेत. त्यांना त्यांचे हक्क परत देण्यांत आले पाहिजेत. ह्या दृष्टीने नामदार मंत्र्यांच्या भाषणाच्या चौथ्या पानावर जो सिनिफिकंट चेंज करण्याचें ठरविलें आहे तो अमलांत आणण्यासाठी सरकार कोणती यंत्रणा वापरणार आहे हे जाणून घेण्याची माझी अिच्छा आहे.

मी ह्या सभागृहांत नवीनच आलेला असल्यामुळे कोणत्या कलमावर केव्हां बोलावें हें मला माहीत नाही व त्यामुळे कदाचित माझे बोलणें कक्षेच्या बाहेर गेलें असण्याची शक्यता आहे, पण माझ्याजवळ बसलेल्या सन्माननीय सभासदांच्या सांगण्याप्रमाणे जनरल ऑब्झर्व्हन्स करतां येतात असें मला समजल्यावरून मी हे मुद्दे सभागृहापुढे मांडले आहेत, त्यांचा सरकारने विचार करावा अेवढें सांगून मी रजा घेतो.

Shri V. S. PAGE (Elected by Assembly) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the amending Bill that is before us is the third amendment as the Hon. Minister for Revenue has stated in his speech, and I rise to support the amendments that are sought to be made by this Bill. The Hon. Minister has expressed the Hope that this might be the last amendment.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : It is a qualified hope.

Shri V. S. PAGE : Sir, last time when I spoke on the Tenancy Bill then before the House, the Hon. Minister said that the points I had raised were worthy of consideration—in fact he invited suggestions. I should say that this Legislation is of a complicated type. It has been criticised by the public and also by the judiciary. The subject matter of this legislation is such as would give rise to many differences of opinion. I know that even judicial decisions are liable to be criticised. We find that so many judicial decisions are of the type of the legislation itself. I can quote many such instances. The subject of the legislation is such that it requires consideration by the public, the judiciary and the House. I would even say that no amendment to the Tenancy Law can be said to be the last amendment, and more so when we took a very big step in 1955. That step was that we made all the tenants practically occupants from a particular date. Therefore, the Hon. Minister had to come to the House again, because at that time a very serious lacuna remained in the Bill which was not revealed but was left to be understood. It was that certain concessions were extended to minors, and according to the conception of the family property among the Hindus, the property of a Hindu family is owned by the father and the son at one and the same time. The conception of a Hindu joint family is that the same property, say, the same 15 acres are owned by the father as well as by the son. So wherever there was a minor in a Hindu family it became the property of the minor, and therefore no tiller's day dawned on 1st April 1957 as regards the properties of those families wherein there was a minor. We know that there is rarely a family where there is no minor. We all know that family planning has become a national programme. So, as I said the tiller's day did not dawn in the case of such families. Therefore a further amending Bill was brought and we bridged that difficulty and gave concessions to such minors as would get their shares partitioned before 31st March 1958. Even then, I am afraid there are still some difficulties, and I wish to place them before the House. Take for instance the case of a Hindu family which has some watan property—for instance there is Patilki watan. In such a case the watandar has life interest in the property, and if a man has only life interest in the property, how can he give the land to the tenant when he himself does not own it ? How can a man give something which he does not himself own ? How can the Watandar give the property to the tenant and how can he give him higher rights ? As a matter of fact, it is Government property which is given to the Watandar for certain work that is useful to the community or to the Government. Therefore, it is right that it has been provided in the amending Bill that such property is exempt from the operation of the Tenancy Law. As regards the property that was given as remuneration to the officiating watandar, it was already exempted by a judicial decision but as regards the property that was not assigned, it was not exempted from the operation of the Tenancy Law. Provision is now being made by this amending Bill to exempt both the categories of such land, and now there will be no loophole in the Act.

The last but not the least important change is the change made as regards the appointment of tribunals. As regards this there is room for some differences of opinion. But I would say that the work of the tribunal is primarily the

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fixing of the price. Members of the society are anxious about many other things like small landlords' right to get the land back or tenants' right to be put back into possession. But these questions have no relation to the appointment of the tribunal. As I said, the main function of the tribunal is fixing the price. As regards fixing the price, the limits have already been laid down by this House. The price can only be fixed according to section 63, and that is to be between 20 and 200 times of the assessment of the land looking to the classification of the soil. This is not a very difficult task and it does not require the personnel laid down in the Act. But then there is one other thing. Charges of corruption have been made against petty officers and I myself have voiced that feeling on the floor of this House, namely a person who is getting Rs. 100 or 125 is to deal with properties worth thousands and thousands of rupees, and therefore it is very likely that the administration in some cases may be corrupt. There is a great room for that. We cannot expect that much honesty from a person of that status. I do not mean to say that everybody who is getting a meagre salary is dishonest. But there has been much criticism against this. It is already laid down in the Act that an officer not below the rank of Mamlatdar can be appointed to do the duties of a tribunal. Under the original frame-

work of the Act, it was obligatory on Government to appoint a tribunal consisting of three persons. The relevant section says: "Government shall appoint." But the last proviso to the section provides that until the appointment of a tribunal the Mamlatdar could function as the tribunal or do the duties of the tribunal. So, the word 'Shall' has been construed as 'May' because of the last proviso. The proviso did not intend that Government could delay the appointment of tribunals to such a long period. Practice and precept must go hand in hand. Sir, I congratulate the Hon. Minister for coming before the House with this amending Bill to conform to realities. Here in this Bill also the power is given to Government to appoint tribunals for fixation of prices, if they choose to do so. There is already a provision in the Act that an officer not below the rank of a Mamlatdar should be appointed to perform the functions of a tribunal. Here I would suggest that the officer should not be below the rank of a District Deputy Collector. Officers below this rank should not be entrusted with the powers of the tribunal. However, in a few cases, senior Mamlatdars could be given the power. If such an assurance is given on the floor of the House, it would create confidence in the public.

As has been pointed out by the Hon. Minister in charge of the Bill, these amendments have been necessitated to plug the loopholes that have been detected in the administration of the law. It is quite right that the Hon. Minister for Revenue has adopted the attitude of not going behind the law enacted on the subject in 1955. He has brought this amending Bill basing it on the law passed in the year 1955, and to plug the loopholes found in the working of that law. It cannot be said that the Bill is detrimental either to the interests of the landlords or those of the tenants. Therefore, I have not much to say about the Bill before the House. But I would only point out that it cannot be said that this is the last occasion for amending the law.

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As I have already said, the subject-matter of the legislation is of such serious import and vital importance to the State and the nation and particularly to the rural life of the State that, at some time in future, some points may crop up necessitating further amendment or amendments to the law, and there is nothing wrong in amending it as circumstances warrant. In this State we have taken steps to have land reforms which no other State in the country has done, and our experience in this line may prove useful to other States. It is a revolutionary measure which we have passed, and we will reap its advantages in the future, if not today. We wanted an agricultural pattern where tillers are owners of the lands they cultivate, and where there is no owner who does not actually cultivate his land. The day when all tenants become owners of the lands they cultivate is not far off because such transfer of ownership requires acceptance on the part of the tenants concerned. Only the law has raised the presumption in their favour.

Sir, I have nothing more to say on the Bill before the House except once again to congratulate the Hon. Revenue Minister for the amending Bill he has placed before the House. Sir, I have done.

શ્રી. દિનકરરાવ કે. મહેતા : (ગુજરાત નોર્થ લોકલ ઓથોરીટીઝ) : અધ્યક્ષ મહાશય, હમણાં જ એક માનનીય સભ્યશ્રીએ સરકારને આ બિલ રજૂ કરવા બદલ મુબારકબાદી આપવાનો જ પ્રયાસ કર્યો છે એની અંદર આ સભાગૃહ ભાગીદાર થઈ શક્યું હોત તો મને ઘણો આનંદ થાત. પરંતુ એ દુઃખદ વાત છે કે જે કાયદો સૌથી વધારે ચર્ચાસ્પદ આ રાજ્યમાં બનેલ છે અને જેના વિષે આ સભાગૃહમાં અને બહાર ભારે અસંતોષ વ્યક્ત થાય છે તેની કોઈ મોંઘાં બેવામાં આવી હોય તેમ દેખાતું નથી. અત્યારે આપણે માત્ર થોડા સુધારાઓની વિચારણા કરી રહ્યા છીએ પરંતુ આ કાયદા પાછળની જે અસંતોષકારક દૃષ્ટિ છે એનું ચાલુપાણું હજુ વ્યક્ત કરીએ છીએ. જરૂર આમાં કેટલાક સુધારા સૂચવવામાં આવ્યા છે પરંતુ એ સુધારાઓ વિષે એમ કહી શકાય કે તબેલા સાફ થઈ ગયા પછી—એટલે કે ઘોડા એની અંદરથી ઉપડી ગયા પછી—તબેલાઓના બારણા બંધ કરવાનો પ્રયત્ન કરવામાં આવે એ રીતના આ સુધારાઓ છે. આ કોઈ વિરોધીઓના પ્રચાર નથી પરંતુ આ સરકારની માહિતી અને જાહેરાત છે કે લાખો ગણોતિયાઓને એની પોતાની જમીન ઉપરથી હાંકી કાઢવામાં આવ્યા છે. એટલે આ હકીકત હોવા છતાં આ ગણોતિયાઓને કોઈ પણ જાતની રીલીફ આપવા માટે સરકારે પ્રયત્ન કર્યો હોય તેમ દેખાતું નથી. સૌથી પ્રથમ તો એ સુધારાની જરૂર હતી કે આ કાયદો થયો ત્યાંસુધીમાં જે લાખો ગણોતિયાઓને એની પોતાની જમીનમાંથી હાંકી કાઢવામાં આવ્યા છે એની બાબતમાં તપાસ કરવી જોઈએ. એને માટેની તપાસ કરવા માટે ખાસ એક તપાસપંચ નીમવું જોઈએ. આ તપાસપંચની ભલામણ આવે એના ઉપરથી આ ગણોતિયાઓને શું રીલીફ આપી શકાય, શું વળતર આપી શકાય એની વિચારણા કરવાનું સૂચન આ સુધારામાં આવવું જોઈતું હતું. પરંતુ આજુ કોઈ સૂચન આ બિલમાં રજૂ કરવામાં આવ્યું નથી. એટલું જ નહિ પરંતુ આ બિલમાં આવી બીજી કેટલીક ઉણપો પણ છે. આમાંની એક મારી દૃષ્ટિએ જે મોટામાં મોટી ઉણપ છે અને જે બીજી ઉણપો છે તેના તરફ હું સભાગૃહનું ધ્યાન દોરીશ.

પાંચમા પાના ઉપર ૧૪ મી કલમની પેટા-કલમ (૨)માં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે કે :

"Where the amount received by the landlord as the price of the land is in excess of the reasonable price determined under section 63(a) the Mamlatdar shall not declare the transfer to be invalid if the transfer as well as the transferee pays to the State Government each a penalty equal to one-tenth of the reasonable price within such period as may be fixed by the Mamlatdar."

[શ્રી. દિનકરરાવ કે. મહેતા]

એટલે કે ગણોતિયાને અને જમીન-માલિક બન્નેને જમીનની વધારે કિંમત આપવા અને લેવા માટે દંડ કરવામાં આવશે. સામાન્ય રીતે એમ માનવામાં આવે છે કે જેની પાસેથી વધારે કિંમત લેવામાં આવી હોય એને વધારાની રકમ પાછી આપવામાં આવે પણ આ સુધારામાં આથી ઉલટું સૂચવવામાં આવેલ છે. એટલે બિલમાં જે આ પ્રમાણેનો સુધારો કરવામાં નહિ આવે તો સરકારને ફરીથી આ સભાગૃહ પાસે આવવું પડશે. આવા કિસ્સામાં ખરી રીતે તો ગણોતિયાને સહન કરવું પડતું હોય છે. કારણકે તેની પાસેથી વધારે કિંમત લેવામાં આવી હોય છે. એટલે આ બિલની જોગવાઈ પ્રમાણે એને પણ દંડ આપવા પડશે. અને એ પેનલ્ટી પણ one-tenth of the reasonable price રાખવામાં આવી છે. જેણે વધારે કિંમત લીધી હોય એનો દંડ કરવો જોઈએ. પણ જે એનો ભોગ બન્યો છે તેને દંડ કરવાની નીતિ કોઈ રીતે મંજૂર કરી શકાય એવી નથી.

એ જ રીતે આ બિલની કેટલીક ક્લોઝમાં જરૂર કેટલીક આવકારદાયક જોગવાઈ કરવામાં આવી છે. અત્યારસુધીમાં જે કાંઈ થઈ ચૂક્યું છે તેને મામલતદાર ઈન્વેલીડ કરાવી નહિ શકે, જાહેર નહિ કરી શકે. આ જે સૂચન છે તે કેટલેક અંશે આવકારદાયક છે. પણ તે છતાં તે આગળ જતું નથી. એટલે આ સૂચન વિશેષ આગળ જવું જોઈએ. ઈન્વેલીડેશનના કોઈ એવા કિસ્સા હોય તો તેને રી-વેલીડેઈટ કરવા માટે તે કિસ્સાની પુનઃવિચારણા કરીને રી-વેલીડેઈટ કરવાની જોગવાઈ આ સુધારામાં હોવી જોઈએ. અને તો જ જેને ખરેખર અન્યાય થયા છે એને કાંઈક અંશે ન્યાય આપી શકાશે. એટલું જ નહિ સરકારે એપેક્સ apex તંત્ર ઉભું કરવું જોઈએ. તંત્ર માટેના ઓફિસ રજૂ કરવામાં આવ્યા છે. આટલા આવલ કારકુન, આટલા મામલતદાર વાંચી નખાય એવા ઓફિસ છે. જે ગણોતિયાઓને અન્યાય થયો હોય એના અન્યાય થયાની તપાસ આ તંત્ર મારફત કરાવીને એને રીલીફ આપવાનો પ્રયત્ન કરવામાં આવે અને થયેલો અન્યાય દુર કરવામાં આવશે તો આ ગણોતિયાઓ સરકારનો ખરેખર આભાર માનશે. અન્યારે જે જોગવાઈ કરવામાં આવી છે તે બિલકુલ નિરર્થક છે એમ હું કહેતો નથી પણ આ જોગવાઈ અધૂરી છે, અપૂરતી છે, ગણોતિયાઓને સંતોષ થાય એવી જોગવાઈ નથી. ઇવન્ટના સારકુપે ઉતાવળે હું એ બતાવવા માગું છું કે આ ધારો અમલમાં આવ્યા પછી ગણોતિયાના જે ઈરીક્શન થયા છે એને એની જમીન ફરી પ્રાપ્ત થાય એ માટે એના કિસ્સાઓની તપાસ કરવા માટે તંત્ર સ્થાપવા માટેની સૂચના આ બિલમાં હોવી જોઈએ.

બીજું, કલમ ૧૪ માં જાતિ બતાવી એ જાતિ દૂર કરવી જોઈએ. ગણોતિયો કે જેની પાસેથી વધારે કિંમત લેવામાં આવી છે એને માટે દંડ કરવાની જોગવાઈ નહિ હોવી જોઈએ. જેણે વધારે કિંમત લીધી હોય એની પાસેથી પેનલ્ટી લેવી જોઈએ. આ ઉપરાંત પેનલ્ટીનું પ્રમાણ કેટલું હોવું જોઈએ તે વિષે હું કાંઈ સૂચના કરવા માગતો નથી પણ જે તે ઘટાડી શકાય એમ હોય તો તે ઘટાડવું જોઈએ. પણ કોઈપણ સંજોગોમાં પેનલ્ટી ગણોતિયા પાસેથી તો ન જ લેવાવી જોઈએ.

આ કાયદાનો મૂળ હેતુ એ છે કે “જેડે એની જમીન રહે”. આ હેતુ બર લાવવા માટે ૧લી એપ્રિલ ૧૯૫૭ના દિવસે ઉજવણી થવાની છે એમ સરકારની જાહેરાત હતી. પણ આ સભ્યમાં આ દિવસે કોઈ ઉજવણી થઈ નથી. ૧૯૫૭ની ૧લી એપ્રિલે કોઈ જગ્યાએ—મુંબઈ કે મુંબઈ પ્રાંતના કોઈ ગામડામાં—જેડૂતો દ્વારા ઉજવણી થઈ નથી. આ દિવસે ઉજવણી થવાની છે એમ મોટી મોટી જાહેરાત થઈ હતી પણ હકીકતમાં ઉજવણી થઈ નથી. આમાં સરકારની નિષ્ફળતા છે. આથી તો લોકોનો આને સામેનો અસંતોષ વ્યક્ત થાય છે. ગણોતિયાને જે સંતોષ થયો હોત તો સ્વયંભૂ સરકાર પહેલ ન કરી હોત તોપણ એ લોકોએ એ દિવસની ઉજવણી કરી હોત. “લેન્ડ ટુ ધી ટીલર” એ જાનમી નીતિ અમલમાં આવ્યા બદલ સરકારને અભિનંદન આપવા માટે લોકો પોતાની મેળે ભેગા થયા હોત. એ નથી થયા એની નોંધ સરકારે લેવી જોઈએ. હું ફરીથી મહેસૂલ મંત્રીશ્રીને વિનંતી કરું છું કે સરકારે કોમ્પલેક્સમાં રહીને બહારના અસંતોષને

[શ્રી. દિનકરરાવ કે. મહેતા]

ધ્યાનમાં લીધો નથી. તો સરકાર એ અસંતોષ ધ્યાનમાં લ્યે અને સાથોસાથ લોકોને રાહત આપવાનો પ્રયત્ન કરે. ખાસ કરીને આ બિલનો જે હેતુ છે કે “જેડે તેની જમીન” થાય તે હેતુ બર લાવવા માટે પૂરતી જોગવાઈ આ બિલમાં સ્વીકારવી જોઈએ.

Shri M. V. DONDE (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra—Teachers): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to congratulate Government and the Hon. Minister on their making a very frank and clear statement so far as Government's position in this matter is concerned. I am glad that the Hon. Minister has frankly stated that, within a few months after the passing of the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1948, Government had to come to the Legislature with different amendments to the provisions of the Act. On the first occasion, he had to come before this House within five months after the implementation of the Act. Then afterwards it was discovered that there were some defects and Government had again to come to the Legislature after a period of seven months to get those defects removed. I do not know why, when any amendments are being considered as absolutely necessary, Government does not also consider the implications of the whole Act, so that it may not have to come to the Legislature every few months for removing the lacuna and also to make certain clarifications. We find that, within a period of 20 months, Government had to come to the Legislature so many times to get this Act amended.

I shall not go into the different clauses in the Bill that have been suggested by way of amendments, because the Hon. Minister himself believes that it is possible, even for Government, to make mistakes, here in this House as also outside, and in order to remove certain imperfections in the Act, Government is glad to come before this House for removing those imperfections.

I would like to confine my remarks particularly to clause 8 where the original section, section 67, is going to be replaced by another section. I may mention here that, even according to the Hon. Minister, that is a very important change which is being made, regarding the constitution of the Agricultural Lands Tribunal. When originally this Bill was discussed, I remember that confidence was created in the public mind, particularly because of the provision with regard to the Agricultural Lands Tribunal. Now Government is taking a definite step to delete that provision and making out a case that the Agricultural Lands Tribunal can be replaced by an Executive Officer of the administration. That is a very fundamental and a radical change, as also a controversial change. The arguments put forward by the Hon. Minister are, that the whole machinery will be dilatory. That is one point. Secondly, it will be a very expensive thing. Financially it is going to be an unworkable proposition, and thirdly, he has made out a case that the necessary personnel is not easily available for every Tribunal. I think all these arguments existed when the relevant provision was made in the original Act. Now, even though Government has not completely eliminated the possibility of creating a Tribunal, there is a tendency to make out a case that the idea of a Tribunal is unworkable and at some stage it must be eliminated altogether. I, therefore,

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have this apprehension that perhaps when next time the Hon. Minister will come before this House for amending the original Act, it will be just to make a provision to the effect that the Tribunal should be entirely eliminated. I for one would not like this idea of an independent Tribunal going into the details to be removed from the Statute Book so far as it exists at present. My hon. Friend argued that Government reserves to itself the power of appointing the Tribunal, but the argument put forward by the Hon. Minister clearly indicates the trend that, in the near future, this Act will be amended and the very fundamental idea in establishing a Tribunal will be removed. I personally feel that there is a very serious objection to judicial functions being given to an executive administrator. We, in this State, are really proud because ours has been the first State in the whole country to have the separation of the judiciary from the executive. This was the demand which the National Congress had been making for the last so many years, and although no other Provincial Government had taken this step, this Government took this fundamental step. Among the achievements of this Government during the last few years, this has been a very prominent achievement. My hon. Friend just now said that there is nothing new in the amendments which will indicate that the Government have been going back. I want to bring to his notice that here is a tendency which does indicate that the Government is likely to go back, and I would therefore request the Hon. Minister to remove this apprehension in the mind of the public and say that at the earliest time every attempt will be made to create the tribunal and that the matter will not be left to the executive. Why did we take this step of separating the executive and the judiciary? The Mamlatdar, however good intentioned he may be, cannot be endowed with any judicial authority, and there are very few chances for the public to get justice at his hands. Therefore, this change, as it has been made by clause 8 in section 67 of the original Act, is a change not showing any advance so far as the Tenancy Law is concerned, but it is going to be, according to me, a retrograde step, and I have my apprehensions about it. I may be wrong. I do not profess that I am correct and that Government is wrong. But my first reaction after reading the speech of the Hon. Minister is that Government is taking a retrograde step. The Hon. Minister has said :

‘ I am convinced that if Government continue to be responsible for seeing that the considerations of justice and equity guide the implementation of the Act, the constitution of the tribunals everywhere in the manner in which it was originally said to be done would be quite unsuitable.’

That is a clear indication that he starts with a conviction, and I hope that if he stands by his conviction in the next Session he will come forward with an amending Bill that this very idea of the tribunal should be entirely eliminated. This is my fear. Sir, this is the only observation that I had to make. He has also put forward the question of finance. When you are having such a fundamentally radical change in the land policy, it is bound to be a costly experiment. He has made out that instead of Rs. 78 lakhs a year, our expenditure by delegating the powers to the Mamlatdar will be reduced to Rs. 13 lakhs. But, Sir, in such cases, finance should not be the consideration that ought to weigh with Government. Therefore, I would request the Hon. Minister to

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consider the suggestion which I have made. I do not want to discuss the merits or the demerits of the fundamentals of the Bill. They have already been discussed on the floor of the House. I have restricted my remarks to the amendments, and I hope the Hon. Minister will consider the suggestion I have made.

Shri DAVID F. SHAW (Greater Bombay-cum-Maharashtra West—Local Authorities): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill moved by the Hon. Minister for Revenue, and I would like to offer a few remarks on it. I would like to know whether the Hon. Minister has seen the sewage farm which is three miles away from Ahmedabad City, so that he could see the position there for himself. It is a huge farm in the whole of the Bombay State. This farm has been made at the cost and ruination of five villages, namely, Shahawadi, Ranipur, Gyaspur, Piplaj and Saijpur.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not want to interrupt the hon. Member. But I should like to know how this is relevant so far as the present Bill is concerned. The hon. Member cannot make general observations on the Tenancy Law as such.

Shri DAVID F. SHAW: I am coming to the point in connection with the clause in which the limit as regards the price is fixed from 20 to 200 times.

Shri M. V. DONDE: He is not referring to any clause, but to the flaws in the Bill. (Laughter).

Shri DAVID F. SHAW: Here on this farm there are shepherds, and due to sewage water only grass grows on this farm. The shepherds do not actually cultivate the land. How are we going to fix the price in this case?

Then I come to clause 15. According to this clause the land for service to Government would revert to Government, I should like that the land belonging to Inamdar of Isapur should also revert to Government, because the other day the Deputy Minister for Revenue said that the land of the Isapur Inamdar will come within the purview of the Bombay Tenancy Act.

Shri SHANKARRAO CHAUHAN: I did not say so.

Shri DAVID F. SHAW: You did say this. So, I want to know whether this land will come within the Tenancy Act or it will revert to Government. Then there are two volumes published by the Government of Bombay. They are known as the Bombay Revenue Tribunal Manual and the Bombay Tenancy Manual. These Manuals are not supplied to the Members of the House.

The CHAIRMAN: Order, order. The hon. Member is not entitled to make reference to them when this Bill is being discussed.

શ્રી. રસિકલાલ એસ. ભટ્ટ (વિધાનસભા તરફથી ચૂંટાયેલ): માનનીય સભાપતિજી, આ બીલ ઉપર માનનીય મહેસૂલ ખાતાના પ્રધાનશ્રીના ભાષામાં જણાવ્યા મુજબ સરકારે લેન્ડ પરચેઇઝ અને લેન્ડ વેલ્યુએશનની (જમીનની ખરીદ અને મૂલ્ય ઓછાણીની) બાબતમાં ૧૯૫૦ ની સાલમાં એગ્રીકલ્ચરલ લેન્ડ ટ્રીબ્યુનલ્સ (ન્યાયકરણની રચના) ઉભી કરવાનો વિચાર કરેલો. ૧૯૫૫માં આ કાયદામાં સુધારો કરીને આ ટ્રીબ્યુનલ્સ ઉભી કરી અને તે વર્ષે દરમ્યાન મામલતદારોને આ કામ માટે સત્તા આપવામાં આવી, જે અત્યારે ટ્રીબ્યુનલ્સને આપવામાં આવી છે. હવે આ જે એગ્રી-કલ્ચરલ લેન્ડ ટ્રીબ્યુનલ છે તેનું ખર્ચ વધારે આવે છે અને તે ઉપરાંત એમાં જેઈએ તેવા સદસ્યો ન મળવાના કારણે સરકારને એમ લાગે છે કે વળી પાછી એ સત્તા મામલતદારોના હાથમાં મૂકવી જેઈએ. આ જે સુધારો સરકાર કરવા માગે છે તે બાબતમાં મને એમ લાગે છે કે જે આ ટ્રીબ્યુનલ હતી એ સ્વતંત્ર હોવાને કારણે તેનાથી લોકોને કંઈક જસ્ટીસ મળ્યો તેવો ભરોસો હતો. અનુભવમાં લોકોને એમ જણાયું હતું કે મામલતદારો આ કાર્યમાં પૂરો ન્યાય આપતા ન હતા. અને ફરીથી આજે મામલતદારોના હાથમાં આ પ્રકારની સત્તા સોંપવાથી ખેડૂતોના હિતમાં થોડો પહોંચવાની સંભવના ઉભી થઈ છે. તે સિવાય લાંચરૂપત પણ વધવાનો પૂરેપૂરો સંભવ છે અને આને માટે મામલતદારો ઉપર કાબૂ રાખવાનું મુશ્કેલ બનાવાનું છે. એક વ્યક્તિના હાથમાં આખું આ કામ છોડી દેવાને કારણે આખી પધ્ધતિ બદલાઈ એક પ્રકારની એક હથુ ઉભી થાય તે સ્વાભાવિક છે. ટ્રીબ્યુનલ્સને હાથે આ કાર્ય ચાલવાથી અનર્થ ઉભો થવાની શક્યતા બહુ થોડી રહેતી હતી. હવે આમાંથી એ બનવાનું કે આ તંત્રમાં એક પ્રકારનો સરો પેદા થશે અને જમીનની જે કિંમત છે, તેની ઓછાણી બાબતમાં ખેડૂતને ન્યાય મેળવવામાં મુશ્કેલી પડશે. એટલા માટે સરકારે જે સુધારો રજૂ કર્યો છે તે સામાન્ય ખેડૂત માટે ફાયદાકારક નથી.

આ ઉપરાંત પાંચમા પાના ઉપર ક્લમ ૧૪ (૨) માં એવી જોગવાઈ કરવામાં આવી છે કે જે જમીનની કિંમત તરીકે નક્કી કરેલી કિંમત કરતાં જમીનમાલિકે વધારે પૈસા લીધા હોય તો ખેડૂતનો અને જમીનમાલિકનો એમ બન્નેનો દંડ કરવો. આ જોગવાઈ કોઈ રીતે વ્યજબી નથી. શ્રી. મહેતાએ એમના વક્તવ્યમાં આ અંગે જે કહ્યું છે એની સાથે હું સંમત થાઉં છું. મને લાગે છે કે દંડ માત્ર જમીનમાલિકને થવો જેઈએ. કારણ કે આ પ્રકારના દોષ માટે સામાજિક અવસ્થાને કારણે જમીનદાર જ જવાબદાર હોય છે. ખેડૂતને આને કારણે કંઈપણ જાતનો દંડ કરવો બિલકુલ અયોગ્ય છે. આ બાબત તરફ સરકારનું હું ધ્યાન ખેંચુ છું. મને લાગે છે કે આ બન્ને બાબતમાં ખેડૂતોના હિતને કોઈપણ રીતે નુકસાન ન થાય તેવી રીતના સુધારા આવવા જેઈતા હતા. પણ દિવસે દિવસે બીલમાં આવા જે સુધારા થતા જાય છે તે કોઈ રીતે ખેડૂતને કે ખેડૂતોના હિતરક્ષક બનતા નથી. તેમ મને લાગે છે.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, during the course of the course of the discussion on this Bill, some observations have been made not regarding the Bill before the House but regarding the Tenancy Act as a whole and the policy of Government in this matter. I do not think these remarks are either relevant or germane to the consideration of this Bill, and I do not, therefore, propose to take the time of the House in replying to these remarks, as otherwise it would mean burdening the House with a repetition of the irrelevant arguments.

With regard to what my hon. Friends Shri Sanatkumar Mehta and Shri Dinker Mehta have said about the Bill before the House, they are new to the House and I would advise them to go through the Tenancy Act before levelling criticism against it. I would only say that the criticism was made through ignorance of the provisions of the Act. For example, in criticising the provisions of clause 14, the hon. Members lost sight of the provisions contained in sections 63 and 64 of the Act, whereunder transfers have been banned, and

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for breach of which a penalty is provided. It should be realised that an offence can be committed either by a tenant or by a landlord, and both cannot be punished differently for one and the same offence. We can punish one or the other. An offence is an offence whether committed by a landlord or a tenant. The amendment only seeks to lay down the procedure where the price paid for a land is less or where the price received for a land is more.

Sir, I may bring it to the notice of the House that most of the amendments included in the Bill where so included at the instance of hon. Members of the opposition in the Lower House barring some which Government considered necessary. But particularly those amendments that sought to benefit the class of tenants were made at the instance of the hon. Members of the Opposition.

Sir, my hon. Friend Shri Donde made some remarks about the provision regarding the appointment of tribunals. I did not anticipate such a sort of reaction to the provision from the hon. Member. It is true that the provisions of section 67 are obligatory or more or less mandatory. But a Mamlatdar who performs the function of a tribunal is a responsible officer. Our experience so far has been that Mamlatdars have been functioning quite well and actually there has been very little against their work as tribunals. As regards the disposal of applications from landlords for resumption of land, we have seen that only 5 per cent. of the applications have been allowed. But let me make it clear that having enacted the two sections, then they have to be suitably amended to plug the loopholes that have been detected during the course of the working of the provisions. We have tried to reconcile the two provisions. It is not a question of merely entrusting the work to a judicial officer. After all, what is the work that the tribunals are expected to do? Fixation of prices of land, etc. It is a specialised job. Therefore, I think the reference to the separation of the executive and judiciary by the hon. Member was irrelevant, superfluous and redundant, because the most important function of the tribunal is to fix the price of land in terms of the provisions of the Act (*Interruption*). If the right type of personnel and in full number was available, we should have appointed tribunals as per existing provision but only after having been satisfied that the right type of personnel would not be available, the obligatory part of the provision is sought to be changed into a discretionary one. But I may assure the House that Government has not given the go-by to the idea of having the tribunals. The only idea is that there should be an agency to perform the functions of the tribunal in terms of the provisions of the Act. I may assure my hon. Friend Shri Donde that Government has not given the go-by to the idea of having the tribunals. I agree entirely with my hon. Friend Shri Page that the persons appointed on the tribunals should be of such calibre that they are able to discharge their duty with efficiency and integrity. Government has, therefore, decided that as far as possible District Deputy Collectors should be appointed to perform this work; and wherever it is necessary to appoint Mamlatdars for the purpose, senior Mamlatdars should be appointed, and, therefore, the whole fear about its judicial character being

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lost is baseless. Senior Mamlatdars and Deputy Collector could be trusted to carry out the law in terms of the intention with which it is framed and to fulfil the objectives underlying the law.

So far as the question of having confidence in the Tribunal is concerned, I have been moving round and seeing that the present functioning of the special staff which has been appointed in this behalf is quite commendable. One cannot say that there is no complaint altogether. By and large it has inspired confidence, especially amongst the tenants, that the provisions of the law are being carried out in terms of the law passed by the two hon. Houses.

A question was raised about evictions of the tenants. My hon. Friend Shri Mehta said that little attention is paid to the question of eviction of tenants. I would advise him to read section 29 of the Act, wherein it is fully provided as to how the land is to be resumed, and there is also a penalty provided for anything that is done in contravention of the provision. Government has taken the power to provide for any eventualities. If the hon. Member reads carefully section 29 of the Act, he will know exactly what happens if land is resumed outside the provisions of the Act.

Then, Sir, a point was raised about transfer or purchase of land with the help of somebody else. I would advise the hon. Member to think over this matter again. If somebody helps a tenant in a helpless way, without bringing his name into the picture I can understand. One has to realise why at all it is necessary for him to help a tenant by joining his name as buyer. There may be some underhand dealings in this matter and thing may be done with some ulterior motives.

The hon. Member Shri Bhatt said something about bribes taken by a Mamlatdar. I would say that Government will do its best to see that nobody gives bribes and nobody takes bribes. After all, the question of corruption has got a much wider implication than one can ordinarily visualise. For every case of corruption so far as a Government officer is concerned, there is also a counterpart in society, that is somebody who gives or offers bribes. We shall, therefore, have to create a sort of a social climate so that such things may not happen. I accept the responsibility on the part of Government to see that no Government officer should be suffered to take any bribe. At the same time, however, we shall have to create a social climate, so that nobody would offer any bribe. Unless and until that is done, I am afraid that any steps which Government might take will not bear much fruit. It was said that some of the senior officers hardly get Rs. 125 or Rs. 200 per month. That is not so. A senior Mamlatdar will get about Rs. 400 per month. So also a Deputy Collector will be getting something like Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 or even Rs. 600 per month. It is true that, so far as taking bribes is concerned, it is a sort of a vice. It occurs not merely with people who have small earnings but it also occurs with people who have larger earnings. I would, however, like to assure the hon. Member that Government will do its best to see that any person who is found indulging in any underhand dealings, not merely taking bribes but doing anything contrary to the law, is dealt with very severely.

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Then, Sir, something was said about complacency. My coming before this House with the necessary amendments is a proof positive that there is no complacency on the part of Government. If Government were complacent, I would not have bothered hon. Members with such an amending Bill. The very fact that Government has come before this House with this Bill goes to prove that, whenever Government finds that any of the provisions of the Act are not properly implemented because of defect in them or there is some lacuna somewhere, Government, in order to achieve the avowed objective with which the Act was passed, does not hesitate to bring an amending Bill before this House. Whenever Government finds that some clarification is necessary somewhere or some supplementary provisions are to be made or any streamlining of the provisions is necessary, then it loses no time in coming before this House. In a legislation of this type, where we are not merely dealing with land but with human beings on the land, we cannot afford to adopt such an attitude that, once an Act has been passed the job is done and it should not be amended in any way. Government does not believe in such a wisdom and it does not want to be complacent in any way. In fact I would say that all throughout Government has not made any secret of anything. Government has announced from house-tops that this Act is primarily meant to serve the interests of the tenants and that it is determined to see that the interests of the tenants are properly served. We have also seen that the interests of the landlords are not jeopardised, and Government wants to see that whatever provisions that are made in the Act are properly implemented.

Then, Sir, as regards the hon. Member Shri Shaw's complaint about not getting the publication.....

The CHAIRMAN : I asked the hon. Member not to proceed with that point and he did not press it. The Hon. Minister need not therefore reply to it.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Then, Sir, a point was raised about watan lands. There are at present watan lands which are meant for the service of Government. In the case of these lands, there are two categories. In one case they can be assigned and in the other case they cannot be assigned. In one case the transferor cannot pass on the title to another. He has only a life interest and in the other case it is entirely Government land. According to section 88, this Act does not apply to Government lands. In the case of these two types of watan lands, the provisions of the watan Act prevail over the provisions of this Act. Section 88 clearly lays down that the provisions of this Act do not apply to lands belonging to or held on lease from Government.

I have explained all the points that were raised during the debate and I would commend the first reading of the Bill to the House for acceptance.

Question put, and agreed to.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXV of 1958 be read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 21, the short title and the preamble ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Shri RASIKLAL U. PARIKH : Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXXV of 1958 be read a third time, and passed.

Question put, and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN : L. A. Bill No. XXXV of 1958 is read a third time, and passed.

Message from the Assembly.

(The Deputy Secretary read out the following list of Bills, which were passed by the Legislative Council during the current session, as having been passed by the Legislative Assembly).

1. L. C. Bill No. II of 1958 (A Bill further to amend the Poona University Act, 1948).
2. L. C. Bill No. III of 1958 (A Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating University at Aurangabad to be known as the Marathwada University).

(The Deputy Secretary read out the following message as having been received from the Legislative Assembly in accordance with rule 114 (1) of the Bombay Legislative Assembly Rules).

"The amendments made by the Legislative Council in L. A. Bill No. XVIII of 1958 (A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to stamps and stamp duties in the State of Bombay) were taken into consideration by the Legislative Assembly at its meeting held on the 18th April 1958. The Legislative Assembly has agreed to the amendments."

ASSENT TO BILLS.

The following list of Bills was read out by the Deputy Secretary as having received the assent of the President :—

- (1) L. A. Bill No. XVII of 1957 (A Bill to amend the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, in its application to the State of Bombay).
- (2) L. A. Bill No. LI of 1957 (A Bill to amend the Saurashtra District Panchayat Act, 1956).
- (3) L. A. Bill No. LIV of 1957 (A Bill to provide for uniformity in the provisions of the Indian Registration Act, 1908, in its application to the State of Bombay, and further to amend the said Act).
- (4) L. A. Bill No. LVII of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Indian Treasure-trove Act, 1878, to the Hyderabad and Saurashtra areas of the State of Bombay).
- (5) L. A. Bill No. LX of 1957 (A Bill to amend the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act, 1925, in its application to the State of Bombay).
- (6) L. A. Bill No. LXIV of 1957 (A Bill further to amend the Hyderabad Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1950).

(7) L. A. Bill No. LXV of 1957 (A Bill to constitute a Revenue Tribunal for the State of Bombay, to invest it with jurisdiction to entertain appeals and revise decision in certain cases, to abolish corresponding bodies in any part of the State, and to provide for matters connected therewith).

(8) L. A. Bill No. LXXI of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Devadasis Protection Act, 1934, to the rest of the State of Bombay).

(9) L. A. Bill No. II of 1958 [A Bill to amend the Land Acquisition (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1948].

(10) L. A. Bill No. IV of 1958 (A Bill to amend the Madhyapradesh Temporary Postponement of Execution of Decrees Act, 1950).

(The following list of Bills was read out by the Deputy Secretary as having received the assent of the Governor.)

(1) L. A. Bill No. LV of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883, and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884, to the Hyderabad and Saurashtra areas of the State of Bombay and to amend the said Acts for certain purposes).

(2) L. A. Bill No. LVI of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Non-Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1928, to the rest of the State of Bombay).

(3) L. A. Bill No. LXX of 1957 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Lifts Act, 1939, to the rest of the State of Bombay).

(4) L. A. Bill No. I of 1958 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Land Improvement Schemes Act, 1942, to the rest of the State of Bombay and to amend it for certain purposes).

(5) L. A. Bill No. XIX of 1958 (A Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Bombay to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March 1958).

(6) L. A. Bill No. XXV of 1958 (A Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Bombay to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March 1959).

(Recess from 6-55 p.m. to 7-10 p.m.)

Message from the Assembly.

The Deputy Secretary read out the following message received from the Assembly:

"I am directed to forward herewith under rule 132 (2) of the Bombay Legislative Assembly Rules the following motion passed by the Legislative Assembly at its meeting held on 25th April 1958 for the concurrence of the Legislative Council:

Motion.

L. A. Bill No. XXIII of 1958 (A Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to the constitution and administration of village panchayats in the State of Bombay and for certain other matters) with the concurrence of the Council be referred to a Joint Committee of both Houses consisting of 22 members with instructions to report before 15th August 1958."

MOTION FOR REFERENCE OF VILLAGE PANCHAYATS BILL TO
JOINT COMMITTEE.

श्री रतुभाई एम्. अदाणी (ग्राम पंचायत मंत्री) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव पेश करता हूँ कि विधान सभा द्वारा २५-४-५८ को पारित किए हुए प्रस्ताव को सहमति दी जाए। विधान सभा द्वारा पारित किया हुआ प्रस्ताव निम्न प्रकार है :—

“विधान सभा का विधेयक क्रमांक २३, सन् १९५८ ई. (बम्बई राज्य में ग्राम पंचायत गठन तथा प्रशासन सम्बन्धी विधि का संशोधन तथा समेकन एवं कतिपय अन्य विषय सम्बन्धी विधेयक) विधान परिषद की सहमति से दोनों सदन की संयुक्त समिति को, जिसमें २२ सदस्य होंगे, दिनांक १५-८-५८ के पूर्व प्रतिवेदन भेजने के अनुरोधों के साथ, व्यवस्थार्थ सुपुर्द किया जाय।”

Motion put and agreed to.

श्री रतुभाई एम्. अदाणी : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं यह प्रस्ताव पेश करता हूँ कि इस सदन के निम्न लिखित सदस्य विधान सभा द्वारा नियुक्त संयुक्त समिति में मनोनीत किये जायें।

श्री एस्. एम्. थोरात।

श्री पी. एन्. खोडे।

श्री सी. सी. मेहता।

श्री बी. डी. शुक्ल।

श्री सनतकुमार एम्. मेहता।

श्री एम्. बी. गायकवाड।

Motion put and agreed to.

PROROGATION OF THE COUNCIL.

The CHAIRMAN : I have received the order of prorogation of the House from the Governor of Bombay. I shall read it out :

“In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-clause (a) of clause (2) of Article 174 of the Constitution of India, I, Sri Prakasa, Governor of Bombay, hereby prorogue the session of the Bombay Legislative Council.”

The Council is accordingly prorogued.

(The Council was prorogued at 7.15 p. m.)

ADDENDUM No. 1.

(Dated 25th February 1958.)

To the Agenda for the First Session, 1958, of the Bombay Legislative Council.

1. UNDER “XV GOVERNMENT BILLS” ADD THE FOLLOWING :—

(15) L. A. Bill No. V of 1958 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Pleaders Act, 1920, to the rest of the State of Bombay, and further to amend the same).

25 Apr. 1958]

Addenda to the Agenda

(16) L. A. Bill No. VI of 1958 (A Bill to provide, in the interest of the general public, for the control and regulation of the production, movement, supply and distribution of, and trade and commerce in, certain commodities, and the maintenance and movement of cattle).

(17) L. A. Bill No. VII of 1958 (A Bill to fix the limit up to which the executive power of the State shall extend to the giving of guarantees).

2. UNDER “ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT BUSINESS OF WHICH NOTICE MAY BE GIVEN” ADD THE FOLLOWING :—

(1) Resolution by the Chief Minister.

Whereas in pursuance of resolutions passed by the Houses of the Legislatures of certain States, under article 252 of the Constitution of India, Parliament passed the Prize Competitions Act, 1955 (XLII of 1955) to provide for the control and regulation of prize competitions;

And Whereas by sub-section (2) of section (1) of that Act, the Act extends to *inter alia*, the territories which immediately before the 1st November 1956 were comprised in the States of Bombay, Hyderabad, Saurashtra and also the former Part C State of Kutch, but the Act did not extend to the former State of Madhya Pradesh;

And Whereas, in consequence thereof, after the 1st November 1956 the Act extends to and is in force in the whole of the State of Bombay except the Vidarbha region of that State;

And Whereas it is now expedient to adopt the Act throughout the State of Bombay;

Now, therefore, in pursuance of clause (1) of article 252 of the Constitution of India, this Council hereby resolves to adopt the said Act throughout the State of Bombay.

(2) Motion by the Minister for Social Welfare.

“that the Report of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1955 be taken into consideration”.

3. UNDER “DISCUSSION ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST” ADD THE FOLLOWING :—

Resolutions by Shri Chhabildas P. Mehta, M.L.C.

7. “This Council recommends to Government to take immediate steps for implementing the drainage and water supply schemes of all the Municipalities in Saurashtra region of the State.”

8. “This Council recommends to Government to move the Government of India to sanction immediately the Bhavnagar-Tarapore Broad Gauge Railway Scheme.”

ADDENDUM NO. II.

(dated 4th March 1958.)

To the Agenda for the First Session 1958 of the Bombay Legislative Council.

1. Under "XV Government Bills", add the following:—

(18) L. A. Bill No. VIII of 1958. (A Bill to enable the State Government to extend the Gas Companies Act, 1863, to the remaining part of the state of Bombay and to extend the Bombay Gas Supply Act, 1939, to such remaining part).

(19) L. A. Bill No. IX of 1958. (A Bill to extend the Bombay Molasses (Control) Act, 1956, to the rest of the State of Bombay).

(20) L. A. Bill No. X of 1958. (A Bill to amend the Bombay Legislators' Members' Salaries and Allowances Act, 1956).

(21) L. A. Bill No. XI of 1958. (A Bill to provide for the levy of a duty on consumption of electrical energy in the State of Bombay).

(22) L. A. Bill No. XII of 1958. (A Bill to provide for a uniform law for the levy and collection of tax on the sale of motor spirit in the State of Bombay).

(23) L. A. Bill No. XIII of 1958. (A Bill to provide for the levy of a tax on passengers and luggage carried in stage carriages in the State of Bombay).

(24) L. A. Bill No. XIV of 1958. (A Bill to extend the Bombay Sugarcane Cess Act, 1948, to the rest of the State of Bombay and to repeal the Hyderabad Sugarcane Cess Act, 1953).

(25) L. A. Bill No. XV of 1958. (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Local Boards Act, 1923 as in force in the pre-Reorganisation State of Bombay and also that Act as extended to the Kutch area of the State).

(26) L. A. Bill No. XVI of 1958. (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Merged Territories and areas (Jagirs abolition) Act, 1953).

(27) L. A. Bill No. XVII of 1958. (A Bill to extend the Bombay Entertainment Duty Act, 1923, to the rest of the State of Bombay and to amend it for certain purposes).

(28) L. A. Bill No. XVIII of 1958. (A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to stamp duties in the State of Bombay).

(29) L. A. Bill No. XIX of 1958. (A Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Bombay to the service of the year ending on the thirty first day of March 1958).

(30) L. A. Bill No. XX of 1958. (A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the taxation of motor vehicles in the State of Bombay and to provide for certain other matters).

2. Under "XIX Papers placed on the Council table" add the following:—

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
87	Corrigendum No. VI/Cons, dated the 25th January 1958, issued by the Prant Officer, Raj Pipla amending his previous Notification No. VP/Cons, dated the 18th January 1958.	11-2-58.	*
88	Corrigendum No. VP/Cons, dated the 25th January 1958, issued by the Prant Officer, Rajpipla, amending his previous Notification No. VP/Cons, dated the 25th January 1958.	11-2-58	*
89	Corrigendum No. VP/(Moti Panduri), dated the 26th January 1958 issued by the Prant Officer, Modasa, amending his previous Notification No. VP, dated the 1st January 1958.	11-2-58	
90	Corrigendum No. VP, dated the 29th January 1958, issued by the Assistant Collector, Broach, amending his previous Notification No. VP/wards, dated the 17th January, 1958.	11-2-58	*Section (108) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.
91	Rules for the Constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of women Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 8 group village Panchayats in Cambay Taluka of Kaira District made by the District Deputy Collector, Petlad, under his notification No. V. P. 39, dated the 30th January 1958.	11-2-58	* Do.
92	Rules for reservation of seats for the representatives of women Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 43 village Panchayats in Dho ka Taluka of Ahmedabad District made by the Assistant Collector, under his two Notifications No. V. P. Dholka, dated the 4th February 1958.	11-2-58	* Do.
93	Erratum No. V. P., dated Nil, issued by the Assistant Collector, Broach, amending his previous notification No. V. P. Wards, dated the 27th December 1957.	11-2-58	* Do.
94	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of women and Scheduled Castes in 43 Village Panchayats in Dhanduka Taluka of Ahmedabad District made by the Assistant Collector, Dho ka Prant, Dholka, under his notification No. V. P. Dhanduka, dated the 5th February, 1958.	12-2-58	*Section (108) 3 of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
95	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 27 village Panchayats of Tharad Sub-Division, of Banaskantha District made by the Deputy Collector, Tharad Prant, under his two separate Notifications No. V. P., dated 1st February 1958 and 28th January 1958.	12-2-58.	*Section (108) 3 of the Bom. village Panchayats Act, 1933.
96	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of women Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in— (i) 21 group village Panchayats and 1 village Panchayat, (ii) 39 group village Panchayats in Chhota-Udepur under his two Notifications No. Nil, dated— (i) the 3rd February, 1958, (ii) the 7th February 1958 respectively.	12-2-58.	* Do.
97	Erratum No. V. P./Sanand, dated Nil issued by the Assistant Collector Dholka Prant, Dholka amending his previous Notification No. V. P. Sanand, dated the 29th January 1958.	14-2-58.	*
98	Government Notification, Industries and Co-operation Department No. M. L. A./1955 MWH, dated the 25th January 1958, amending the Bombay Money Lenders Rules, 1947.	14-2-58	*Section 39 (4) of The Bombay Money Lenders Act, 1946.
99	Rules for the Constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Manumber Panchayat of Broach Taluka made by the District Deputy Collector, Broach Division, Broach, under his Notification No. V. P. wards, dated Nil.	15-2-58	*
100	Erratum No. V.P./wards, dated the 20th January 1958, issued by the Assistant Collector, Broach, amending the Notification No. V. P. wards, dated Nil, issued by the District Deputy Collector, Broach.	15-2-58	*
101	Rules for the Constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of women Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Vagad Rundhawada Group Village Panchayat of Kamraj Taluka of Surat District, made by the Assistant Collector, Surat, under her Notification No. V. P. Nagad Rundhawada group, village Panchayat.	17-2-58	*

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
102	Five Statements of Guarantees given by Government concerned and forwarded by the Finance Department as shown below. 1. Statement A showing the guarantees given by the State Government during the period from 1st August, 1956 to 31st March 1957. 2. Statement B showing the total sum issued out of the Consolidated Fund of the State and sums paid into the Consolidated Fund of the State during the year 1956-57. 3. Statement C showing the guarantees given by the former Government of Madhya Pradesh in respect of Vidarbha area. 4. Statement D showing guarantees given by the former Government of Saurashtra in respect of Saurashtra area. 5. Statement E showing guarantees given by the former Hyderabad Government in respect of Marathwada area.	21-2-58	Sub-section 3 (a) of section 2 of the Bombay State Industries Act, 1954.
103	Government Notification Local Self-Government and Public Health Department No. HBA-1157-C, dated the 29th January 1958. Framing the Hyderabad District Municipalities Conduct of business (Bombay) Rules, 1957.	3-3-58.	Section 199 (3) of the Hyderabad District Boards Act.
104	Erratum No. VPTDP/Surgana, dated the 14th February 1958, issued by District Deputy Collector, Dindori Prant, Nasik, amending previous notification No. VPTDP Surgana dated the 4th October 1957.	3-3-58.	*
105	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Scheduled Castes and women in Vadangali village. Sinnar taluka District Nasik, by the Prant officer, Niphad Division, Nasik, under his notification No. UPTWS-687, dated the 16th February 1958.	3-3-58.	*
106	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 3 group village Panchayat in Chhota-udapur Prant issued by Prant Officer, Chhota Nagpur, under his four notifications all No. Nil, dated 18th February 1958.	3-3-58.	*

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

ADDENDUM No. III.

Dated 26th March 1958.

To the Agenda for the First Session, 1958, of the Bombay Legislative Council.

1. UNDER "XV GOVERNMENT BILLS" ADD THE FOLLOWING :—

(31) L. A. Bill No. XXI of 1958 (A Bill to amend the Bombay Legislature Members (Removal of Disqualifications) Act, 1956).

(32) L. A. Bill No. XXII of 1958 (A Bill to make temporary provisions for industrial relations and other matters to enable the State Government to conduct industrial undertakings as a measure of unemployment relief).

(33) L. A. Bill No. XXIII of 1958 (A Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to the constitution and administration of village panchayats in the State of Bombay, and for certain other matters).

(34) L. A. Bill No. XXIV of 1958 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1947, to the rest of the State of Bombay and further to amend the same).

(35) L. C. Bill No. II of 1958 (A Bill further to amend the Poona University Act, 1948) *First, Second and Third Readings.*(36) L. C. Bill No. III of 1958 (A Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating University at Aurangabad to be known as the Marathwada University). *First, Second and Third Readings.*

2. UNDER "XVI ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT BUSINESS OF WHICH NOTICE MAY BE GIVEN" ADD THE FOLLOWING :—

(3) Motion by the Minister for Prohibition, Village Panchayats and Cottage Industries :—

"That the working of the Bombay Village Industries Board for the year 1956-57 be taken into consideration."

(4) Motion by the Chief Minister :—

"That the Report of the Bombay Public Service Commission for the year 1956-57 be taken into consideration."

ADDENDUM No. IV.

Dated 28th March 1958.

To the Agenda for the First Session, 1958, of the Bombay Legislative Council.

1. UNDER "XV GOVERNMENT BILLS" ADD THE FOLLOWING :—

(37) L. A. Bill No. XXV of 1958 (A Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Bombay to the service of the year ending on the thirty first day of March 1959).

ADDENDUM No. V.

Dated 11th April 1958.

To the Agenda for the First Session, 1958, of the Bombay Legislative Council.

1. UNDER "XV GOVERNMENT BILLS" ADD THE FOLLOWING :—

38. L. A. Bill No. XXVI of 1958 (A Bill to provide for the continuance of certain powers in relation to requisitioned property in the Saurashtra area of the State of Bombay).

39. L. A. Bill No. XXVII of 1958 (A Bill further to amend the Madhya Pradesh Public Trusts Act, 1951, and to validate the registration of certain public trusts).

40. L. A. Bill No. XXVIII of 1958 (A Bill to validate the registration of certain partnerships in the Kutch area of the State of Bombay).

41. L. A. Bill No. XXIX of 1958 (A Bill to provide for the levy of a tax on passengers carried in certain classes of public service vehicles in the State of Bombay).

2. UNDER "XIX PAPERS PLACED ON THE COUNCIL TABLE", ADD THE FOLLOWING :—

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the Table.	Statutory Authority for Laying on the Table.
1	2	3	4
107	Government Notification, Finance Department, No. STA. 1057/101611(1) GI, dated the 5th March 1958, amending the Bombay Sales Tax (Exemptions set-off and composition) Rules, 1954.	7-3-58	Section 45(4) of the Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1953.
108	Rules for the Constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Borbhatha group of Ankleshwar Taluka made by the District Deputy Collector, Broach Division, Broach, under his Notification No. V. P. Wards dated the 5th March 1958.	10-3-58	*
109	Government Resolution, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department, No. HBA. 1057-C, dated the 25th February 1958 amending the Hyderabad District Boards Elections and Election Petition (Bombay) Rules, 1957.	10-3-58	Section 199(3) of the Hyderabad District Boards Act, 1955.
110	Rules for the Constitution of Wards and reservations of seats for the representatives of women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Jetpore Group Village Panchayat and Amadla Village Panchayat in Nanded Taluka made by the Prant Officer, Rajpiple, under his two notifications No. VP.(R), one dated the 17th February 1958 and the other dated nil.	18-3-58	*

* Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table.
111	Rules for the constitution of Wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Umervada group, B idra group Village Panchayats and Amod-Bhansoli group Village Panchayat in the Broach District made by the District Deputy Collector, Broach Division, Broach under his Notification No. V. P. Wards dated the 5th March, 1958 and 7th March 1958.	18-3-1958	*
112	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes in the Jetpore Group Village Panchayat in the Broach District made by the Prant Officer, Broach, under his notification No. V. P./Cons, dated the 17th February 1958.	18-3-1958	*
113	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes in two Village Panchayats in the Ahmedabad District, made by the Assistant Collector of Dholka Prant, Dholka, under his notification No. V. P. Dhandhuka Dholka, dated the 5th March 1958.	18-3-1958	*
114	Corrigendum No. V. P. A. Broach, dated the 31st January 1958, issued by the Assistant Collector, Broach, amending his previous Notification No. V. P. Wards dated the 18th January 1958.	18-3-1958	*
115	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 34 Village Panchayats in Ratnagiri District made by the District Deputy Collector, Ratnagiri Division, Ratnagiri, under his two notifications No. PCH. 1957-58, dated the 13th March and 17th March 1958.	24-3-1958	*
116	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Tandulwadi Village Panchayat of Koregaon Taluka made by the Prant Officer, Satara Division, Satara North, under his notification No. VPT/311 dated the 8th March 1958.	24-3-1958	*
117	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of women in three Village Panchayats in Navsari District, made by the District Deputy Collector, Navsari, under his Notification No. VP Kalmatha, dated the 20th March 1958.	24-3-58	*
118	Erratum No. MUN 3458, dated the 11th March 1958, issued by the Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bombay Local Self-Government and Public Health Department, amending Rule 34 of the Hyderabad District Municipalities Rules, 1957.	9-4-58	*
119	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department, No. MUN-3457-A, dated the 10th March 1958, framing the Hyderabad District Municipalities publication of bye-laws (Bombay) Rules, 1958.	9-4-58	Section 308(1) of the Hyderabad District Municipalities Act, 1956.
120	Government notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department, No. HBA 1157-C, dated the 5th March 1958, framing the Hyderabad District Boards places for disposal of the Head Licensing (Bombay) Rules.	9-4-58	Section 189(?) of the Hyderabad District Boards Act, 1955.

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

ADDENDUM No. VI.

(Dated 18th April 1958).

To the Agenda for the First Session, 1958, of the Bombay Legislative Council.

1. UNDER "XV GOVERNMENT BILLS" ADD THE FOLLOWING :—

42. L. A. Bill No. XXX of 1958 (A Bill to bring into force the amendments made by the Madhya Pradesh Industrial Disputes Settlement (Amendment) Act, 1955, to the Central Provinces and Berar Industrial Disputes Settlement Act, 1947, from the date of the commencement of the former Act, and to validate action taken under those provisions).
43. L. A. Bill No. XXXI of 1958 (A Bill to legalise, or remove doubts as respects the legality of, the election or continuance in office of certain Councillors who at the time of election or thereafter were directors or members of co-operative societies which advance loans of money to or borrow money from officers and servants of certain Municipalities).
44. L. A. Bill No. XXXII of 1958 (A Bill repeal to the Central Provinces and Berar Finance Act, 1938).
45. L. A. Bill No. XXXIII of 1958 (A Bill to extend the Bombay Race-courses Licensing Act, 1912 and the Bombay Betting Tax Act, 1925, to the rest of the State of Bombay and to amend them for certain purposes).
46. L. A. Bill No. XXXIV of 1958 (A Bill further to define permanent tenants, inferior holders and permanent holders for the purposes of certain Land Tenure Abolition laws and to provide for certain other matters).
47. L. A. Bill No. XXXV of 1958 (A Bill further to amend the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1948).

ADDENDUM No. VII.

(Dated 25th April 1958).

To the Agenda for the First Session, 1958, of the Bombay Legislative Council.

UNDER "XIX PAPERS PLACED ON THE COUNCIL TABLE" ADD THE FOLLOWING ENTRIES :—

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
121	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department, No. VPA. 1257-P, dated the 13th December 1957, amending the Bombay Village Panchayats Taxes and Fees Rules, 1944	12-4-1958	*
122	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department No. VPA-1156-P, dated the 16th December 1957, amending rule 8 of the Rules regarding the levy of tax on owners and occupier of houses and lands by Village Panchayats.	12-4-1958	*

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayat Act, 1933.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory authority for laying on the table.
1	2	3	4
123	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department No. HBA-1157-C, dated the 8th March 1958, framing the Hyderabad District Boards (No-Confidence Resolutions against President and Vice-President) (Bombay) Rules, 1958.	14-4-1958	Section 199 (3) of the Hyderabad District Boards Act, 1955.
124	Government Notification, Home Department No. MTA. 1757/92598-XII, dated the 9th March 1958, amending the Government Notification, Home Department No. 6588/6, dated the 25th February 1955 regarding exemption from payment of tax in respect of motor vehicle No. BYB 2043.	14-4-1958	Section 18 of the Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax, Act, 1935.
125	Government Notification, Home Department No. MTA. 1757/86757-XII, dated the 9th April 1958, exempting from payment of tax Motor Vehicle No. BYN 4556, belonging to the Indian Red Cross Society, Nasik District, Branch Nasik.	14-4-1958	Do.
126	Government Notification, Home Department No. MTA. 1757/20433-XII, dated the 9th April 1958, exempting from payment of tax motor vehicles belonging to the Government of Uttar Pradesh.	14-4-1958	Do.
127	Government Notification, Home Department No. MTA. 1757/82173-XII, dated the 9th April 1958, exempting from payment of tax Motor Vehicle No. BML 8770, belonging to Shri Bhagwandas Visanji Trustee, Bhatia General Hospital, Bombay.	14-4-1958	Do.
128	Rules for the imposition of several compulsory taxes by three Village Panchayats in the Broach District, made by the Collector of Broach under the his Notification No. V. P. A. 421, dated the 1st April 1958.	15-4-1958	.
129	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department No. VPA. 1157-P, dated the 27th February 1958, amending the proviso to rule 3 of the Bombay Village Panchayats Rules 1950 "Costs of Watch and Wards" Rules, 1950.	15-4-1958	.
130	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in 35 Village Panchayats of Sawantwadi Taluka, made by the District Deputy Collector, Sawantwadi Division, Sawantwadi, under his notification No. PCH-501, 784, 822, dated the 31st April 1958.	15-4-1958	.

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayat Act, 1933.

Serial No.	Subject.	Date on which laid on the table.	Statutory Authority for laying on the table
1	2	3	4
131	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department No. P. H. D. No. MUN 3457-A, dated the 14th March 1958 framing the Hyderabad District Municipalities places for Disposal of the Dead Licensing (Bombay) Rules, 1958.	19-4-1958	Section 308 (1) of the Hyderabad District Municipalities Act, 1956.
132	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department No. MUN-B3457-A, dated the 13th November 1957 framing the Hyderabad District Municipalities Taxation (Publication) (Bombay) Rules, 1957.	19-4-1958	Section 308 (1) of the Hyderabad District Municipalities Act, 1956.
133	Government Notification, Local Self-Government and Public Health Department No. MUN-3457-A, dated the 10th April 1958 framing the Hyderabad District Municipalities Compromise of Suits (Bombay) Rules, 1958.	19-4-1958	Section 308 (1) of the Hyderabad District Municipalities Act, 1956.
134	Government Notification, Local Self Government and Public Health Department No. DPA-1158-C, dated the 15th April 1958 framing rules for the the District Panchayats.	25-4-1958	Section 84 (2) of the Saurashtra District Panchayat Act, 1956.
135	Rules for the constitution of wards and reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in three Village Panchayats in Nanded Taluka made by the Prant Officer, Rajpipla, under his Notification No. V. P. (R), dated the 7th April, 1958.	25-4-1958	*
136	Rules for the imposition of compulsory tax by Fulwadi Village Panchayat in Broach District, made by the Collector of Broach District, under his Notification No. V. P. A. 42, dated the 18th April 1958.	25-4-1958	*
137	Rules for the reservation of seats for the representatives of Women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in two village panchayats in Himatnagar Division in Sabarkantha District made by the Deputy Collector, Himatnagar Division, under his Notification No. V. P., dated the 11th April, 1958.	25-4-1958	*

*Section 108 (3) of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933.

Council Hall,
Bombay.

S. H. BELAVADI,
Secretary,
Bombay Legislative Council.

*Statement of Members' Attendance (As compiled from the Members' Signature roll)

(The total number of meetings was 22.)

Names of Members.	Number of meetings attended by the Members.
†Abdul Rahmar Khan Md. Yasufkhan, Shri	1
Acharya, Shri Labhshar kar Devshar kar	22
Agarwal, Shri Dayashar kar Biharilal	22
Agrawal, Shri Kashinath Mannalal	6
Agrawal, Shri Sukhdeo Shaligram	7
Alshi, Shri Mahadeo Supadaji	22
Ambekar, Shri G. D.	6
†Amin, Shri Dadoobhai	1
Awode, Shri Haridas Damaji	11
†Baburao Narsingrao, Shri	.....
Badave, Shri Baburao Pralhad	17
Balbudhe, Shri Ramrao Narayanrao	11
Barfivala, Shri Chunilal Damodar	11
Benadikar, Shri Sadashiv Laxman...	20
Bhadlaval, Shri Chhaganlal Nanji	3
Bhat, Shri Atmaram Raoji	16
†Bhatt, Shri Chhotalal Chhaganlal	1
Bhatt, Shri Rasiklal Shankarlal	22
†Bhave, Shri Ramchandra Narayan	13
Bhide, Shri Hari Baskar	18
†Bhimrao Shesh Rao, Shri	1
Chandrashekharrao Nandkishore, Shri	.....
§Chinai, Shri Babubhai Maneklal	11
Chhapekar, Shri Laxman Nilkanth	1
†Daboo, Shri Dinshawji Ratanji	3
Dahanukar, Shri Shantaram Mahadeo	16
Dalal, Shri Bejonji Aderji	20
†Dave, Shri Ratilal Muljibhai	1
Desai, Shri Maganbhai P.	14
Deshmukh, Shri Ishwar Bagaji	22

*The names of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman and Deputy Ministers not shown.
†Became member from 25th April 1958.
‡Retired from 24th April 1958.
§Resigned from 15th March 1958.

Names of Members.	Number of meetings attended by the Members.
Deshmukh, Shri Vasantao Balvant	12
†Deshpande, Shri Dhondo Vithal	1
Deoji, Rattensey, Shri	21
†Diwanji, Shri Lalitchandra Chhotubhai	1
†Dhok, Shri Prahalad Sadashiv	1
Donde, Shri Moreswar Vasudeo	22
*Dongre, Shri V. S.	20
Gadgil, Shri Pandurang Vasudeo	22
Gaikwad, Shri Madhav Bayaji	21
Galwankar, Dr. Sadanand Keshav	22
*Ghodke, Shri F. D.	9
Girme, Shri Jagannath Haribhau	12
*Gulam Haidar Walimahamed, Shri	22
Hamied, Dr. K. A.	9
†Harris, Shri Moinuddin Burhamuddin	1
Jawade, Shri Janrao Harbaji	13
*Joshi, Shrimati Subhadrabai Dattatraya	21
Kale, Shri Malharrao Narayanrao	11
Karve, Dr. Dinkar Dhondo	19
*Kashikar, Shrimati Subhagabai Shreedhar	20
†Katneshwarkar, Shri Vishwanathrao Madhavrao	1
*Khair, Dr. Gajanan Shripat	21
Khode, Shri Pralhad Narayan	12
†Koli, Shri Ganapati Nayaku	1
Korpe, Shri Jagannath Nathuji	18
*Kotecha, Shri Harijivan Vithaldas	12
*Kulkarni, Shri Bidesh Tukaram	12
Kulkarni, Shrimati Sushila Jayadeo	10
*Lagu, Dr. Balkrishna Chintaman	17
†Leo Rodrigues, Shri	1
*Lingras, Shri Shankar Vithal	4
Londhe, Shri Shankar Ramchandra	12
Mali, Shri Gajmal Dalpat	22

*Retired from 24th April 1958.
†Became Member from 25th April 1958.

Names of Members.	Number of meetings attended by the Members.
Maniar, Shri Lallubhai Kishordas ...	15
Mehta, Shri Chandrakant Chhotalal ...	18
Mehta, Shri Chhabildas Pragji ...	20
†Mehta, Shri Dinkarrao Krishnalal ...	1
†Mehta, Shri Gulabbhai Bhikhabhai ...	1
†Mehta, Shri Sanatkumar Maganlal ...	1
Mohamed Taher Habib, Shri ...	14
*Munshi, Shri Ramrai Mohanrai ...	21
*Nagpure, Shri Vithalrao Tukaram ...	14
Nagori, Smt. Madinabai Akbarbhai ...	14
†Naik, Shri Prataprao Pandurarg ...	1
†Nalavade, Shri Ganpat Mahadeo ...	1
Nemichand Kiseandas, Shri ...	20
Ogale, Shri Shankar Laxman ...	22
Page, Shri Vithal Sakharan ...	16
Pandit Rao, Shri Gavane ...	2
†Paranjpe, Smt. Shakuntala ...	1
Parashar, Shri Vinayakumar Ramlal ...	13
Parekh, Smt. Bharumatiben Manilal ...	8
*Patel, Shri Ambalal Laloobhai ...	9
Patel, Shri Chunibhai Muljibhai ...	18
Patel, Shri Maganbhai Bhikabhai ...	16
†Patel, Shri Motibhai Dishabhai ...	1
*Patel, Shri Shamaldas Khemchand ...	15
Pathan, Shri Sulemankhan Abdulkahn ...	21
†Patil, Shri Atmaram Nana ...	1
Patil, Shri Kashirao Raibhan ...	20
Patwari, Shri Prabhudas Balubhai ...	8
†Phatak, Shri Vinayak Ganesh ...	1
Ratanlal, Mohanlal Shri ...	21
Rawat, Shri Bachubhai Popatbhai ...	20
Rebello, Dr. Alfred Camillo Peter ...	22
Saharabuddhe, Shri Digambar Hari ...	11

*Retired from 24th April 1958.

†Became member from 25th April 1958.

Names of Members	Number of meetings attended by the Members.
†Samarth, Shri Ramkrishna Paikui ...	1
Sanghavi, Smt. Dhirajben Popatlal ...	20
†Sarnaik, Smt. Malatibai Ramrao ...	1
Sathaye, Dr. Vaman Dirkar ...	21
*Sathe, Shri Ganpatrao Dhondiba ...	3
Shah, Smt. Anasuya Chhotalal ...	19
Shah, Shri Chimanlal Kuberdas ...	10
Shaw, Shri David Fakirchand ...	22
Shende, Shri Bhaurao Vithoba ...	14
Shukla, Shri Balkrishna Dinamanishankar ...	8
Shukla, Shri Damubhai Chhaganbhai ...	14
Shukla, Shrimati Jyotsaben Bahusukhran ...	22
Sodhi, Shri D. S. ...	13
†Sthalekar, Shri Anant Sheshgiri ...	1
Subhedar, Shri Vishwanath M. ...	11
†Suryavanshi, Shri B. D. ...	1
Thacker, Shri Karsondas Hirji ...	12
Thakore, Shri Thakorlal Shripatrai ...	17
Thete, Shri Gopal Ramji ...	17
Thorat, Shri Sambhajirao Maruti ...	18
Tilawant Ali, Shri ...	9
Trivedi, Shri Dwarkadas Nanji ...	16
†Trivedi, Shri Harbhai D. ...	1
*Upadhyaya, Shri Ramshankar J. ...	16
Veer, Shri Kisan Mahadev ...	9
*Vin, Shri Motilal Hargovandas ...	1
Vyas, Shri Bachharj S. ...	11
*Yardi, Shri Vaman Gangadhar ...	18

†Retired from 24th April 1958.

†Became member from 25th April 1958.

Wednesday, the 16th April, 1958.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Hall, Bombay, at 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 16th April, 1958. The Chairman, Shri B. D. LALA, presided.
(For Questions—see Part I).

L. A. BILL No. XXI OF 1958 [A BILL TO AMEND THE BOMBAY LEGISLATURE MEMBERS (REMOVAL OF DISQUALIFICATIONS) ACT, 1956].

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH (Minister for Labour and Law): Sir, I beg to introduce L. A. Bill No. XXI of 1958 [A Bill to amend the Bombay Legislature Members (Removal of Disqualifications) Act, 1956], as passed by the Legislative Assembly on 10th April 1958.

The CHAIRMAN: L. A. Bill No. XXI of 1958 is introduced.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, I beg to move that L. A. Bill No. XXI of 1958 be read a first time.

Question proposed.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: Sir, the Constitution provides that in certain cases the Legislature may, by law, remove the disqualifications of Members which they might be suffering. We have already got an Act whereby certain disqualifications have been removed. The purpose of the present legislation is to add to the list or, in fact, to remove disqualifications in two particular cases. One is a case where a Member of the either House is appointed as an examiner. He may be an examiner of an examination held by the Central Government or held by the Public Service Commission of the State or the Centre. In such a case he does draw his fees as an examiner and, therefore, it might be a disqualification for his membership. The purpose of this legislation is to remove such a disqualification.

Similarly, a medical practitioner can incur a disqualification if he is working as a medical practitioner under the Employees' State Insurance Act or if he is working as a part-time medical officer under the Sickness Insurance Scheme. They draw their fees or honoraria from the State which is ultimately reimbursed to the Budget of the Sickness Insurance Corporation. The purpose of the present Bill is to remove these two disqualifications.

Dr. V. D. SATHAYE: I want to know about only one thing. So far as the Life Insurance Corporation is concerned, there are so many medical practitioners who are drawing fees from the Life Insurance Corporation for the life insurance business which they do. I wanted to know whether they would be covered by this Bill or not.

Shri SHANTILAL H. SHAH: That is already provided in the list which exists today.

Question put, and agreed to.

(a.c.r.) 49-A Bb 1171-1