

ment by the Chief Minister of U.P. in which he said that the claims of Madhya Pradesh are absolutely absurd and shall not be considered? If so....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Daji: This statement has appeared in the press. Now a meeting is to be held on the 29th. Have the Government of India taken cognisance of such a statement? Are such statements not unhelpful? What steps are Government taking to stop such statements pending a final settlement?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Pending a final decision, the only thing that can be done is to approach them. I have made approaches four times to U.P. during this period. I had a personal talk also, and I have said that the matter is now going to be discussed by them at the next meeting which is going to be held at the end of this month.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: May I know if any tentative proposals have been placed before the Government regarding the share of Madhya Pradesh from the supply of Rihand?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: The question of any share does not arise at this stage. When the parties come to a conclusion that they give and take, at that time this question will arise.

Economy in Administration

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*462. { **Shri Eswara Reddy:**
Shri Kapur Singh:
Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shri Y. D. Singh:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to effect economy in various spheres of administration in view of the present national emergency;

(b) the amount actually saved so far and likely to be saved by those steps, Ministry-wise; and

(c) whether State Governments have also been directed to initiate economy measures?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b). A number of measures have been initiated for effecting economy in administration in the context of the present emergency, particularly in non-defence expenditure. The more important of the steps taken relate to economy in the use of paper, printing, and other items of a contingent nature, curtailing of expenditure on travelling allowance, overtime allowance and on staff budgets. Expenditure on non-essential schemes and schemes not directly related to the defence efforts has been curtailed by postponement or dropping of the schemes. The Central Plan Outlay for 1963-64 has been reviewed and reoriented by a proper reassessment of the relative priorities of the Plan schemes. The effect of these measures will be reflected in the Budget estimates for the next financial year.

A statement is laid on the table of the House indicating in detail the measures for economy in expenditure taken by Government and the savings likely in 1962-63 and those anticipated during 1963-64. Information from some of the Ministries is still awaited and a supplementary statement will be laid on the table of the House as early as possible. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-758/63.]

A high level Economy Committee consisting of the Home Secretary, Finance Secretary (Expenditure) and Additional Secretary, Planning Commission, has also recently been set up for making a summary study of the staffing position and other matters connected with expenditure in different Ministries and making recommendations for economy;

(c) Yes, Sir.

श्री उरजू पाण्डेय : देश में आपातकालीन स्थिति को देखते हुए केन्द्रीय सरकार ने प्र.न्तीय सरकारों को क्या इस बात का परामर्श दिया है कि उन के मंत्रिमंडलों में मंत्रियों की संख्या घटायी जाय ?

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : जैसा कि मैं ने अपन जवाब के पार्ट सी में बतलाया हम ने राज्य सरकारों से इस बात को कहा है कि वह इमरजेंसी को देखते हुए अपने यहां क्यादा से ज्यादा एकानामी करें ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether these economy measures have been taken in the various departments like the railways, and if it has been seen to that they are not at the cost of efficiency?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: We would take enough care to see that efficiency does not go down.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : इमरजेंसी को देखते हुए सेन्टर के मिनिस्टर्स ने अपनी तनख्वाहों में कितने कीटरी को कमी की है ?

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : सेन्टर के मिनिस्टर्स पहले ही १० परसेन्ट अपनी तनख्वाह कम लेते थे और इन के अलावा उन्हें ने डोनेशंस भी दिये हैं ।

Shri Ranga: May I know whether any steps are being taken or are about to be taken to associate the Estimates Committee and its Members at any of the stages where these economy measures could be considered and enforced, so that they might be able to give the benefit of their experience and suggestions?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: In answer to the question I have said that a very high level inter-departmental committee has been appointed. It is always open to the Estimates Committee to suggest ways and means of effecting economy while looking into the estimates. I think they are

doing very good work in a very responsible way and very effectively.

Shri Ranga: At one time, in the Cabinet itself there was a committee for this purpose. May I suggest that the Estimates Committee may be consulted by that Committee in regard to this matter?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion.

Shri Jashvant Mehta.

Shri Rameshwaranand rose—

Mr. Speaker: I did not call Swamiji. I called Jashvant Mehta. He does not want to put a question. Shri Dwivedi.

श्री म०ला० द्विवेदी : क्या मंत्री महोदय को यह बात मालूम है कि उपमंत्रियों और मंत्रियों के ऊपर बिजली का खर्च २५० रुपये प्रति मास से ऊपर आता है ? इस को बन्द करने की दिशा में क्या सरकार ने किसी मंत्री या मंत्रियों से लिखापट्टी की है और यदि हां, तो बिजली के खर्च को घटाने और मंत्रियों के दूसरे खर्चों को घटाने की दिशा में क्या कमी की गई है? क्या यह सही नहीं है कि किसी किसी मंत्री का ७०० या ८०० के करोंब प्रति मास बिजली का खर्च आता है ?

निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री (श्री मेहर चन्द्र खन्ना): बिजली के खर्च में हम काफी कमी कर रहे हैं और उस को और घटाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं । अब कहीं २५० से ऊपर है तो कहीं कम भी है । बहरहाल यह कोशिश की जा रही है कि पानी और बिजली के खर्च में जितनी भी कमी की जा सके, वह की जा रही है ।

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that some State Governments like West Bengal have adopted certain measures of economy, may I know whether such measures conform to the economy pattern laid down by the Central Government, or whether they are independent of this pattern?

Shri Morarji Desai: There could be no pattern laid down in this matter

for all State Governments by the Central Government. They have their own pattern in this matter.

Shri P. Venkatasubbiah: May I know whether the Government has taken into consideration the suggestion of the consultative committee on Community Projects Development that some of these officers such as the SEOs, etc. might be abolished and, if so, whether any action has been taken in this matter?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: From the statement the hon. Member would see that quite a substantial saving has been made in that Ministry and we expect that in 1963-64 much more saving can be expected from this Ministry.

National Defence Fund

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{ **Shrimati Gayatri Devi:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri R. G. Dubey:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
 *463. { **Shri Vishram Prasad:**
Shri Mohsin:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:
Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total contributions both in gold and cash (in India State-wise and abroad) to the National Defence Fund received so far;

(b) how this money is proposed to be utilised and administered;

(c) whether the Auditor General has been empowered to look into the details of the receipts and expenditure for audit purposes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):

(a) Two statements are laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-759/63.]

(b) The Fund is administered by the National Defence Fund Commit-

tee and will be utilised for all purposes connected with the defence of the country including amenities to the members of the Armed Forces.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Shrimati Gayatri Devi: How much of this money has already been utilised for providing amenities, etc. to the troops at the front and how much of it has been utilised for citizens committees and things like that?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: So far a disbursement of about Rs. 37 lakhs has been agreed upon which includes funds for the amenities or providing assistance to the Army personnel who were wounded or killed and a sum of Rs. 12 lakhs has been provided with the Chief Minister of each State for incurring expenditure in connection with the raising of this fund and other matters....

Shri Ranga: We do not at all hear. A sum has been provided to the Chief Ministers for what?

Mr. Speaker: He may speak a little louder.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: ...for incurring expenditure in regard to the speeding up of this, that is, for providing amenities to the families of the soldiers.

Shri Ranga: Are we to understand that this money is being spent for speeding up collections?

Mr. Speaker: He has corrected himself and says that it is for providing amenities to the soldiers.

Shri Ranga: Evidently there are some mental reservations.

Mr. Speaker: He should listen to the answer.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: We do not hear what he is saying. We should know how much they are paid and for what purpose before we can put our supplementaries.