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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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श्री न.प. (इण्डियन)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

2789

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, 3rd December, 1958

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Mica Exporters

*495. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 760 on the 22nd August, 1958, and state:

(a) what incentives have since been given or proposed to be given to the Mica exporters to enable them to fulfil the targets fixed under export promotion scheme; and

(b) what measures, if any, have since been suggested by the Export Promotion Council for some processing of Mica before export to secure increased value therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) No targets have been fixed for individual exporters, and no fiscal or other incentives are proposed to be given. While specific export promotion measures are being studied by the Council, steps have been taken to facilitate larger exports to traditional markets and to cultivate non-traditional markets.

(b) Manufacture of micanlite; manufacture of mica brick from mica

2790

waste; and manufacture of mica powder from mica waste by wet process.

Shri Jaganatha Rao: In view of the fact that even on the last occasion it was stated that some measures have been taken for export promotion, may I know whether larger quantities of mica have been exported in the last 3 months?

Shri Satish Chandra: I have not got the figures for the last 3 months; but the export from the month of January to June, have been more or less on the same scale as last year. We have not got so far the figures after August.

Shri Nagi Reddy: May I know whether there is any proposal to set up a mica wet grinding plant and, if so, what would be its capacity? May I also know whether any technical aid is being sought from foreign countries?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): There are two proposals for setting up mica wet grinding plants. One is based on the patent evolved through our laboratory in Calcutta of the Ceramic Institute. The Rajasthan Government is also setting up another plant with American collaboration. The total quantity of mica wet ground will be about 400 tons a year when both the schemes start working fully.

Shri Damani: Our main export of mica is to U.S.A., France and the U.K. May I know our export to which country has fallen and what is the reason therefor?

Shri Satish Chandra: I require notice.

Shri Jagannatha Rao: May I know if the State Trading Corporation is purchasing mica from the Mica association in the country and trying to export to foreign countries?

Shri Satish Chandra: The State Trading Corporation is not handling mica except exports to East European countries.

Qasi Matin: It appears that mica splittings which are a waste product in India are in great use by foreign importers. However, Dr. Lokenathan of the National Council of Applied Economic Research has pointed out that substantial exports of mica splittings will ruin the long term prospects of Indian mica, since the waste can and often is converted into synthetic mica. Dr. Lokenathan has suggested the setting up of a mica grinding plant at Calcutta to utilise waste mica. Such a plant would require an investment of Rs. 3 lakhs only and would give a net return of 17 per cent or more. Have steps been taken to establish such a plant?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member must put a question and not give arguments.

Qasi Matin: May I know whether Dr. Lokenathan has suggested the setting up of a mica grinding plant at Calcutta to utilise the waste mica and also that the plant requires an investment of only Rs. 3 lakhs? Have any steps been taken?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is what is covered in my earlier answer that one of the suggestions of the Dr. Lokenathan committee for the setting up of a plant has been undertaken and we are trying to set up one factory, the site of which is not Calcutta but a suitable place where mica is available.

Shri Nagi Reddy: Is it not a fact that the Council has rejected the proposal to collaborate with any foreign firm and wants to set up an independent mica grinding plant in the

country and that the Rajasthan Government has already come forward? If so, is there any necessity to collaborate with any foreign firm?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The Council made only an economic study and it was not competent to go into the technical side of it. Our technical officers have gone into the question thoroughly and they have said that one factory should be based on the patent evolved in the Calcutta Institute and another with foreign collaboration.

Shri Jaipal Singh: At present mica is exported on a consignment basis as opposed to the c.i.f. which is favourable to the exporter. May I know whether any change in this method is sought to be introduced?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): Change cannot be of our choice. We would much prefer it on a c.i.f. basis but the trade is mostly on consignment basis.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether Government have any idea of the quantity of splittings exported and how the export of such splittings would affect our future trade?

Shri Kanungo: Splittings are exported. But, I would require notice to give the exact figures and the ratio between mica and mica splittings.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I wanted to know how it will affect the future trade in view of the fact that splittings are used outside for manufacturing synthetic mica.

Shri Kanungo: Our reserves are quite enough to meet internal demands.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know if Government have introduced any system of registration for the exporters of mica and whether the manufacturers of Rajasthan have registered any protest against it? If so, what is the nature of the protest or representation given to the Government?

Shri Kanungo: There is no system of registration of exporters as such.

Shri Tyagi: Is mica included in the list of export commodities on which recently Government announced some railway freight concessions?

Shri Kanungo: No, Sir.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I would like to follow up the question of Shri Nayar. The question which he really meant to put to the hon. Minister was that mica splittings are converted into synthetic mica whereby our future mica trade might be endangered. To that the hon. Minister replied that we have ample supplies and so forth. If synthetic mica comes into the market real mica will have no use to that extent.

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is not exactly quite so. Whole mica is quite a different thing; and spotless mica is more or less a very high speciality of India itself. As far as the export of mica is concerned the mica splittings are converted into micanite and wet drawn mica sheets which are of a much lower and inferior quality. Therefore there is no likelihood of any competition, arising out of the splittings going out and of the synthetic micanite brick produced in other countries.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: The hon. Minister just now said that steps would be taken to set up mica plants where mica is produced in large quantities. May I know whether the case of Kodarma where mica is produced in large quantities is being considered?

Shri Manubhai Shah: No factory is contemplated for producing mica. It is a natural mineral. What is contemplated is the making of micanite bricks and mica powder and other things from mica splittings.

Shri Vimala Charan Shukla: The hon. Minister said that there was no scheme for the registration of mica exporters. But, in the last meeting

of the Mineral Advisory Board in Hyderabad it was suggested and it was also stated that the STC has introduced a scheme for the compulsory registration of mica exporters and they have to pay one rupee and that they were trying to develop new markets for mica and that there were protests from the Mica Associations from all over the country.

Shri Kanungo: Export of mica by anybody is permissible to any destination. Those who want to deal with the STC have got to register themselves.

Shri Tyagi: I wanted a clarification. I had read in the Press that mica was given railway concession. The Minister says, 'No'. Will he ascertain whether mica was in the list or not?

Shri Kanungo: I am not sure about it. My impression is that it is not because railway concession has been made applicable only to manufactured goods mostly.

'On the Spot' verification of Claims

*496. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 403 on the 22nd August, 1958, and state the further progress made with regard to the 'on the spot' verification of claims of displaced persons?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): There has been no further progress in the matter.

Shri D. C. Sharma: When was the last communication sent to the Government of Pakistan and what was the nature of the reply received from them?

Shri P. S. Naskar: So far as the exchange of lists of properties is concerned, Pakistan in last July sent us a list of about 172 cases but the details of the properties were so vague that we could not locate the

properties in India. So we returned the list. Along with it we have sent thirty of our claims of the displaced persons indicating the kind of information required to be furnished and the matter is resting there; we have not received the details from the Pakistan Government.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I think a Joint Committee was set up for speeding up the disposal of the work. May I know whether there has been any progress made by this Committee?

Shri P. S. Naskar: The Ministers of Pakistan and India met and a committee of officers was appointed to go into the matter as to how this list of claims, in what form, they should be prepared and forwarded to each other. The Pakistan Government sent us this list but it did not contain enough details to locate the property.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Is there any chance of the Committee at the ministerial level meeting in the near future?

Shri P. S. Naskar: It depends upon the Pakistan Government. This subject-matter was initiated by them.

India Coffee Houses

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*497. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coffee Board has decided about the scheme of gradual closure of India Coffee Houses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total number of Coffee Houses closed upto-date since the adoption of this policy;

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) They have largely served the purpose for which they were originally intended viz., popularisation of coffee.

(c) 33.

Shri Subodh Hansda: What will be the number of persons who will become unemployed due to the closure of these coffee houses? Have the Government made any arrangements for their alternative employment?

Shri Satish Chandra: 775 employees had been retrenched as a result of the closure of coffee houses. About 300 of them have formed a co-operative society and some of the managers and others have also been absorbed in the Government departments.

Shri Subodh Hansda: As the production of coffee has increased due to the propaganda work done by the Coffee Board, what steps do the Government propose to take to carry on the propaganda after the closure of these coffee houses?

Shri Satish Chandra: The Coffee Board has now started licensing approved coffee houses run by private restaurants and hoteliers where coffee will be made available.....

Shri Joachim Alva:.....at a higher price.

Shri Satish Chandra: The purpose of these coffee houses was to propagate the coffee habit among the people and they have served that purpose....(Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: ..No coffee is distributed here. **Shri Samanta.**

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that due to the propaganda carried on through these coffee houses, coffee production has increased cent per cent? If so, do they think of giving more facilities and make the people more coffee-minded and will the Government think over the

matter? We are facing difficulties in tea export and we may face difficulties in the export of coffee also.

Mr. Speaker: These are all suggestions for action.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): We are very keen that the production of coffee should increase and it has increased to about double its quantity as compared to the last year. Secondly, I would like to give more weight to exports of coffee because coffee is generally taken in almost all the European countries and I wish that tea should also be exported in addition to coffee. We are trying to help in the increased production of coffee and have taken steps in that regard.

Shri Tangamani: As a result of the closing of these 33 coffee houses, as many as 700 have been retrenched.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister stated 475.

Shri Satish Chandra: 775.

Shri Tangamani: So, it is more than 700. For the balance of 150 class IV employees and nearly 37 managers, may I know whether their wages have been cut since July? If so, what are the reasons and will the cut be restored?

Shri Satish Chandra: I do not know what the hon. Member is referring to. Out of 775 employees, some have started co-operative coffee houses; sixteen such co-operative coffee houses have been started and about 70 or 80 people from the managerial side have been absorbed by the Coffee Board or other Government departments. The Government of India also have made special arrangements for the absorption of other retrenched employees in Government hotels and other organisations wherever possible and they are being gradually absorbed.

Shri Tangamani: My question is about the cut in the wages of those who are still employed.

Mr. Speaker: Unless the answer comes in what can be done? If the hon. Member goes on asking, I do not think there is any possibility of getting an answer. The hon. Ministers understand as they can and give whatever information they have.

Shri Mohammed Imam: Is it not a fact that in the interest of coffee industry which is largely prevalent in the State of Mysore and in the South, the continuation of these coffee houses is absolutely necessary not only to popularise coffee in the other countries but also to ensure that people get pure coffee and not adulterated coffee?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Members are all asking for the restoration of the coffee houses....(Interruptions).

As far as I am able to see, the number of questions and the interest the hon. Members are taking are sufficient proof that coffee habit has come to stay and no more propaganda is necessary.

Shri V. P. Nayar: We want to know whether the Coffee House here will be here since we hear that instead of that there will be a tea canteen run by the Tea Board.

Shri Satish Chandra: It will be continued. The Coffee House in the Parliament House will be continued.

Mr. Speaker: If there is any danger, I shall see that the Coffee House is kept here.

Colliery Employment Exchange

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*498. { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Subodh Hanqda:
Shri Barman:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) how far the proposal to start

Colliery Employment Exchanges has proceeded;

(b) whether the State Government's concerned have submitted their views in the matter; and

(c) if so, whether a purport of their views will be laid on the Table?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) to (c). The State Governments of West Bengal and Bihar have with the concurrence of Government of India sanctioned the opening of the Exchanges at Asansol for Raniganj Coal Fields and at Jharia for the Jharia Coal Fields respectively.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What are the peculiar problems that have enticed the Government to open separate colliery exchanges?

Shri L. N. Mishra: These exchanges will help and guide the retrenched and the surplus labour in these coal field areas.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that there is one Gorakhpur labour organisation under the coal fields recruiting organisation to supply labourers? May I know whether each other organisations will be encouraged by the Government over and above this recruiting organisation?

Shri L. N. Mishra: There are some recruiting centres, especially in Gorakhpur area. Their functions are entirely different from the functions of these exchanges.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know as to who will bear the expenses of these employment exchanges?

Shri L. N. Mishra: It will be borne in the proportion of 60 : 40—60 by the Centre and 40 by the States.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Is there any special reason why in the Damodar Coalfields area a Colliery Employment Exchange is not being opened?

Shri L. N. Mishra: To begin with we are having only two pilot Exchanges, and after gaining some experience we will expand the scheme.

Damage due to Rains

*499. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total damage to public buildings of Delhi by rains during the monsoon;

(b) what amounts have been sanctioned for repairs and what amount has already been spent; and

(c) what is the break-up of the expenditure?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

	Rs.
(a) Rs. 38, 027	
(b) Amount sanctioned	38,027
Amount already spent	10,675
(c) 1. Boundary wall of the Malaria Institute, Delhi	3,300
2. Boundary wall of the Delhi Polytechnic	500
3. Police Headquarters Building, Kashmiri Gate, Delhi	1,500
4. Safdarjung Fire Station, New Delhi	75
5. Victoria Zanaana Hospital, Delhi	300
6. Govt. of India Press, New Delhi	5,000
TOTAL	10,675

In most of the other cases, the works have been carried out but the bills of contractors will be paid shortly.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Did Government have any enquiry made into this affair and if so, may I know what are the conclusions of that enquiry and the action taken by Government on them?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: A Committee was appointed by the Prime Minister with Shri K. C. Reddy as Chairman to look into this question. An interim report submitted by that Committee has already been placed on the Table of the House.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I want to know whether the enquiry has been completed, what are its conclusions and what action has been taken by Government.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: An interim report has, as I said, already been submitted and laid on the Table of the House. The Committee is still having its deliberations. It is a very intricate problem. We expect that the final report will be ready towards the end of this month.

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): I would like to add so far as this particular question about damage to buildings is concerned, that aspect of the enquiry has been completed. My hon. colleague was referring to the damage caused by rains to buildings, roads, drainage system and sewerage system in Delhi and also New Delhi. Regarding the larger question, the first report of the Committee has already been placed on the Table of the House on the 18th of August, I believe, and the Committee is continuing its deliberations. It is a very complex and controversial problem. A number of technical matters are involved in this. Three technical teams are making investigations of various kinds. Their investigation reports were due last month and we expect them to be in our hands soon. The Committee is seized of the matter and it is hoped that the report of the Committee set up by the Prime Minister will be available by the end of December. So far as this particular matter is concerned, action has been taken, the matter has been looked into and there is nothing more to be done about it.

Shri Wodeyar: May I know whether the type of construction of public buildings in future will be different

from the present one since it is considered as defective?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I do not know how the hon. Member comes to that conclusion. There was very unusual rainfall during those days due to which there were some damages to some of the older buildings. As the statement shows, the amount involved is very small.

Shri Assar: May I know whether it is a fact that when the basement of Krishi Bhawan was flooded the officers with the help of the staff tried to clear the water but they were not successful; if so, why were they not successful and what was the amount spent?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: This question has been raised before in this House. The basement of Krishi Bhawan got flooded and we had to call in additional pumps from the Defence Services. In course of time the water was brought out of the basement.

Shri K. C. Reddy: May I invite the attention of the hon. Member to the first report, which I said had already been placed on the Table of the House. There is one full page devoted to this question, why the basement of Krishi Bhawan was flooded. If he goes through that statement he will have all the information that he wants.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The hon. Minister stated that the enquiry has been completed. May I know whether any specific enquiry has been made about the extent of damage caused consequent on defective construction, sub-standard construction and also sub-standard maintenance?

Shri K. C. Reddy: No, Sir; this flooding did not take place because of sub-standard maintenance.

Mr. Speaker: He refers to general damage to buildings. He wants to know whether in the report any particular section is devoted to damage caused to buildings due to faulty construction and faulty maintenance.

Shri K. C. Reddy: As the statement placed on the Table of the House indicates the number of buildings that were affected is about 12 or 13. That is the number of buildings affected by these rains. The hon. Member is raising a general question as to whether the maintenance of these buildings or the structural quality of these buildings has been looked into. It has been looked into.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know what was the total damage in the Telephone Exchange building as well as in the prestige building, Krishi Bhawan? May I also know whether it is not a fact that even during the previous year a warning was given and no notice was taken of it which resulted in this trouble?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: There has been no structural damage whatsoever.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: My question is not confined only to the structural damage. I want to know the nature of damage in the Telephone Exchange building and in the prestige building, Krishi Bhawan. I also want to know whether in the previous year all these facts were brought to the notice of Government and no action was taken for one year.

Shri K. C. Reddy: So far as the damage to the Telephone Exchange building is concerned, I think the hon. Member would do well to put that question to my colleague, the Minister for Transport and Communications. I think a question has been asked in this House and also in the other House about this particular matter and information has been given in the past. As regards the latter part of the question, whether some notice had been given earlier and whether we had taken notice of it, I would like to have further particulars before I can answer the question definitely.

श्री नवल प्रतापकर : माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि दिसम्बर तक दूसरी रिपोर्ट आ जायेगी। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या खाने वाली बरसात से पहले सियुधर सिस्टम बनैरह ठीक हो जायेंगे, ताकि दोबारा इस तरह के डेमेजिज न हो सकें ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: On the basis of the recommendations made in the interim report, action has already been taken to de-silt the drains and the sewerage system.

Socio-Economic Planning

*500. **Shri U. C. Patnaik:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state whether any plan has been formulated for utilising the defence organisation for socio-economic planning, in regard to manpower resources for implementing the Plan?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): No special plan has been formulated. To the extent considered practicable, the Defence Services are being utilised in developmental activities.

Shri U. C. Patnaik: In view of the difficulties felt by the Planning Commission about shortage of human resources for the Plan and in view of the fact that in spite of taking recourse to the Sadhu Samaj, the Bharat Sevak Samaj and other organisations the Planning Ministry has not been able to formulate a plan to take into consideration the human resources of the country, may I know what steps are being taken by the Planning Ministry and the Planning Commission for utilising the Defence personnel, as a part of their normal peace time role, to take up various works, as in America where floods and other things are being taken up by American engineers as a part of their peace time role?

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): Sir, the assumption is not correct that our developmental programmes are suffering on account of any shortage of man-power. That is not so. On the other hand, there is the large sized problem of unemployment in the country.

Shri U. C. Patnaik: Trained and disciplined man-power.

Shri Nanda: As far as utilisation of Armed Forces is concerned, the question has been raised here very often and a reply has also been given that the Army has a special role and consistent with that it is sharing in our developmental activities to the extent it is feasible.

Shri U. C. Patnaik: May I know if the planners are taking into consideration the Defence Organisation for educational and vocational training courses, courses for...

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member has all through these two or three years, whenever an occasion has arisen, been making this suggestion. It has been equally answered that the Defence personnel ought not to be drawn away for other purposes. During Question Hour we cannot settle that difference.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I believe, Sir, a discussion is going to take place on the hon. Member's motion in regard to almost this very subject one of these days—I forgot what date has been fixed.

Shri U. C. Patnaik: That is a different subject.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am perfectly prepared; I should like, indeed, the House to consider how best to utilise the Defence equipment, Defence technical personnel and Defence ordinary personnel. The most obvious thing is to use the Defence equipment which is not fully used in Ordnance factories and the technical

personnel which is of a very high order. The ordinary people to be used raises other problems, because in this country there is no lack of man-power. But, if any suitable suggestion is made which does not affect their other duties we shall certainly consider it.

Shri C. D. Pande: As the Sappers and Miners in the Army are very efficient in road-making and bridge-making and we are having a shortage of such means of communication, will Government assign certain portions of our road-making to the Army so that the work may be completed early and we may be relieved to that extent?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. The Army is making roads and has made some very big roads like the one to Nepal and other places. They are making them and they will continue to make them. But we cannot use them for all sorts of civil purposes like this; there is no lack of people today.

Shri Joachim Alva: Has the Planning Commission at any time seriously pondered over this problem, for instance, by calling up the Defence Ministry people and having consultation on this matter?

Shri Nanda: Yes, Sir. We have had consultation with the Defence Ministry on this subject.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Now that the hon. Prime Minister has said that steps are being taken to step up production in the defence establishments, may I know whether there are steps taken by the private sector to see that the defence industries do not expand and what steps are taken by....

Mr. Speaker: We are going away from one subject to another. It does not arise out of this question. The hon. Prime Minister implicitly said that we are going to step up. He said that because we are going to step up production we do not propose utilizing them for any other civilian purposes, etc.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: One is of the ordinary rank and file of the Army and the other is of the technical equipment and personnel. Recently there was a Defence Production Exhibition here, and even now, in the big "India—1958" Exhibition, there is a big defence pavilion which shows what we have actually done. It is not a question of the future. It shows what is being done on a bigger scale than ever and the things that are made. As a matter of fact, our misfortune is that when Defence does that, objection is raised by some hon. Members in this House because they think that this affects the private sector. I do not agree with that.

Shri B. M. Banerjee: Thank you.

Shri Jadhav: Cannot this technical personnel be used for the purposes of land reclamation?

Mr. Speaker: Here is the problem where hon. Members have started giving suggestions as to how such and such a thing can be used. I am not going to allow the Question Hour for making all suggestions. They will be endless.

Shri Nagi Reddy: In view of the fact that in 1952-53 the Army personnel did a great job in the famine affected areas in Royalaseema, would the Government consider the question of expanding this facility in the areas where there is famine almost every year?

Mr. Speaker: I would suggest to all the hon. Members to send their suggestions to the hon. Prime Minister.

Shri U. C. Patnaik: One question, Sir. With regard to what the hon. Prime Minister referred to, about the rank and file, may I know what steps are being taken in this country to give necessary training to the service personnel during service in technical and other subjects, so that as soon as they are discharged...

Mr. Speaker: No "so that".

Shri U. C. Patnaik: That is what is being done in other countries.

Mr. Speaker: "So that" is not necessary. The question is; "Are any steps being taken?"

Shri Nanda: Steps are being taken. There are schemes in progress for that purpose.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: May I know whether any scheme is there to utilize all the citizens of the country? Not one should be left outside.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: The hon. Prime Minister has not replied to my question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may put down a separate question.

Textile Mills

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*502. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has permitted State Governments to take over certain close textile mills under orders from competent courts;

(b) if so, the number of mills taken over or likely to be taken over by the State Governments; and

(c) the names of those State Governments which have taken over the closed textile mills?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) to (c). Four closed Cotton Textile Mills have been taken on lease by the Government of Kerala and Bombay (2 mills each). Three of these mills have been taken over with the approval of the Courts. The fourth mill too had originally been taken over under a Court Order in 1953, but since 1956, the taking over has been in terms of a mortgage deed

between the State Government concerned and the mill Company. The question of taking permission from the Central Government does not arise in such cases. It is not possible to say how many mills will be similarly taken over in future.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In view of the fact that two mills have closed down in Kanpur,—Messrs Atherton West, Ltd. and Kanpur Cotton Mills—may I know whether the Government have decided to take over those mills and, if so, when?

Shri Satish Chandra: Investigation is being carried on in respect of Atherton West, Ltd., but the Government of India is not taking them over. We have seen press reports that the Government of Uttar Pradesh is considering the matter, but no formal communication has been received by us so far.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I mentioned two mills. The Kanpur Cotton Mills and the Atherton West, Ltd., about which investigation is going on. What about the Kanpur Cotton Mills where Mundhra was there? What has happened to that mill? Will the Government take over that mill?

Shri Satish Chandra: It is a question relating to the taking over of the mills by the State Governments. We have not received any communication so far from the State Governments.

Shri Raghunath Singh: How many mills are not working at present in India?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): 36 mills are closed and 32 partially closed.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Out of the 473 mills, how many of them are uneconomic?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is too wide a question, but a working party which went into this question in 1952-53 found that more than 80 per cent. of the mills are economic and about

20 per cent. are either uneconomic or marginal. All our efforts have been to modernize and rehabilitate them.

Shri Dasappa: May I know whether it has not come to the notice of the Government that Kapila Textile Mills in Mysore State have closed down and that a large number of employees have been thrown out of their job, and may I know what steps have been taken by the Government in this regard?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Of all the Members, perhaps the hon. Member is most aware of all the active steps we have taken to re-start the Kapila Textile Mills.

Shri Damani: May I know whether it is a fact that the labour laws and amenities are not applicable to these mills run by the State Governments as are applicable to other mills because of the lower cost of production, and may I know how it is going to affect the other mills?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is not a very correct assumption. Last time also, I had taken the opportunity to clear the misunderstanding that except in the case of the Narsinghji Mills in Sholapur where for a certain period of time labour agreed to have deferred payment of wages for some time—that also was later on restored by the Chief Minister of Bombay—there has been no non-application of any labour laws or the economic benefits accruing from them to any labour where the mills have been taken over by the State Governments either in Bombay or perhaps to be taken over in Madras and Uttar Pradesh.

श्री ए० ए० वर्मा : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि नजरगढ़ी मिल्स उज्जैन, गंदावाल मिल्स, जलवांच तथा गोपाल मिल्स, भदोच के सम्बन्ध में क्या विचार किया गया है ?

की बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में है। यह जो बहुत बड़ा सवाल है। जहाँ तक इस सवाल का तात्पर्य है वह इस बारे में है कि किस किस मिल को फोर्ट के रिजर्वर के नीचे लिया गया है। जहाँ तक मिलों के बन्द होने का सवाल है, ३६ मिलें बन्द हैं, ३२ पारवर्ली क्लोज्ड हैं। हमने जो काम किया है उसके नतीजे के तौर पर दस मिलें फिर इसी साल के अन्दर चालू हो गई हैं। हम हर मिल के नीचे जाते हैं, देखते हैं कि किस वजह से वह बन्द हुई है, क्या किया जा सकता है जिससे वह चालू हो सकती है तथा कौन से तरीके किये जा सकते हैं। हमारी तबज़्जह इस तरह है कि जितनी ज्यादा से ज्यादा मिलें हो सकें, चालू हो जायें।

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know on what terms the Government will release those mills to the owners and within what time-limit, if better times come and the owners of the various mills want to have them back?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There is nothing to prevent them from taking back. If a mill is taken over under sections 15, 16, 17 or 18 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, and if the Government is satisfied that as a result of the efforts of the various controllers the mills or the economic units started re-working and if the previous owners or shareholders apply to us, we will give due consideration. But it must be not forgotten that we must be in a position to rectify those misdeeds of years and decades in a year or two, and also, we would not hand over the factories back to them unless we are absolutely sure that the management of the new mills by the old people will improve.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if the Government have accepted the recommendations of the Textile Enquiry Committee to have a Corporation to run these closed mills and, if not, what is the alternative proposal of

the Government to run these factories?

Mr. Speaker: We are going into a larger question. The question must be confined only to attempts made to ask the State Governments to take over the mills.

Shri Raghunath Singh: 70 mills have closed down in India. That is a serious matter.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: We are going to have a discussion on the Textile Committee Report and also on export promotion very shortly. Hon. Members will kindly reserve all their questions for that occasion.

Indian Traders in Tibet

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✓*503. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Naval Prabhakar:
Shri Ram Krishan:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Association of Indian businessmen trading with Tibet submitted to him a memorandum pointing out the sad plight of Indian businessmen there;

(b) if so, the precise nature of their grievances; and

(c) the steps so far taken to remove them?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The memorandum related to a number of points for the improvement of condition of Indian traders in Tibet Region of China. Their important requests were the change in the procedure governing the issue of landing certificates for the grant of rebate on excisable goods imported to Tibet, delegation of powers to the

Indian Trade Agent at Yatung for renewal of passports held by Indian traders, running of private vehicles and purchase of lands in Tibet by Indian traders, and the recognition of Bharatiya Vyopari Sangh.

(c) These points are being examined in the light of the Sino-Indian Agreement of 1954 and Indo-China Trade Agreement. Suitable action will be taken on those which concern the Government of India and in others approach will be made to the People's Republic of China, if found necessary.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether there is any proposal to get the trade agreement revised in the near future?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: There is no such proposal.

श्री भक्त बर्षान : जब से कि सन् १९५४ में तिब्बत पर चीन का अधिकार हुआ है इस तरह की समस्यायें उठनी जा रही हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में कब तक फैसला हो जाने की आशा की जा सकती है ?

प्रधान मन्त्री तथा वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्री :
(**श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू :**) किस तरह की समस्यायें ?

श्री भक्त बर्षान : जिन तरह की समस्याओं का उल्लेख किया गया है और जो ममोरेंडम दिया गया है, इस तरह की शिकायतें प्रायः होती रहनी हैं और प्रतिवर्ष इनके बारे में आश्वासन दिया जाता है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इनके बारे में कब तक फैसला हो जायेगा ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : बेटी समझ में नहीं आता है। उन्हें चन्द तकलीफें जरूर हुआ करती हैं, कुछ मुनासिब थीं, कुछ नामुनासिब थीं, कुछ उनकी गलतियाँ थीं। यह पेचीदा सवाल है। इस गोल सवाल का मैं क्या जवाब दूँ। चीनी गवर्नमेंट के अपने कायदे हैं। उनके कायदे बदलते हैं। तो यह एक पेचीदा

सवाल है। यह ऐसा आसान सवाल नहीं है कि जिसका जवाब मैं हाँ या ना में दे सकूँ।

श्री भक्त बर्षान : माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि सूटेबल ऐक्शन लिया जायेगा। सूटेबल ऐक्शन से उनका क्या मतलब है ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : जो मतलब है वह मैं आपको बता दूँ। उसमें एक दो बातें हैं जो हमारी गवर्नमेंट कर सकती है यानी हम पामपोर्ट के बारे में कुछ कर सकते हैं। बाकी सब चीनी हुकूमत करती है। और इस मामले में ऐक्शन एक ही हो सकता है। यह जवाब तो भर्सा हुआ लिखा गया था। इस वक्त हमारे जो ट्रेड ऐजेंट हैं यांगु में वह चीनी अफसरों से बातचीत करते हैं।

Shri Ram Krishan: May I know whether these difficulties have had any effect on Indian trade?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Indian trade suddenly jumped up tremendously about three or four years ago—I mean Indo-Tibetan trade through Yatung. As a result of this, in the course of the last three years, a large number of new Indian shops were opened at Yatung because obviously it was profitable to them. But in the course of last year, conditions have changed. There are some new regulations, etc. and about 100 shops at Yatung have not got exactly these facilities which they had previously. As a result, some shops were closed down.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether a major difficulty affecting Indo-Tibetan trade is the fact that Chinese authorities are trying to make payments in paper currency and not in silver dollar or in cheques on Indian banks? If that is so, may I know whether Government have discussed this matter with the Chinese authorities with a view to resolve this deadlock?

Mr. Speaker: Is it part of the memorandum?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think so. But the Chinese Government like most other Governments are normally short of foreign exchange. Previously, i.e. before last year, good deal of silver dollars came to India, which was profitable to India by way of foreign currency coming in. Now they have clamped down this issue of silver dollars in order to save their foreign exchange, as indeed we try to do in our own country. That has led to one source of profit going away from the Indian traders. We cannot protest against that. Normally payments are really by barter. They buy things from us and they give other things to us.

Shri Hem Barua: This stoppage of payment in silver dollars is affecting Indo-Tibetan trade, because Indian traders refuse to accept the Chinese paper currency. I want to know whether this deadlock is going to be resolved or not, because our banks are under our control.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: How can we insist on our banks accepting some paper currency? I do not know how we can insist on it. We do not accept anybody else's paper currency.

Mr. Speaker: It is a matter of negotiation.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या गवर्नमेंट के ध्यान में यह बात आयी है कि सन् ५४ में जब तिब्बत के सम्बन्ध में चीन के साथ मुसाहिदा हुआ था उसके बाद से परिस्थिति में बहुत परिवर्तन हो गया है। अब तिब्बत के व्यापारी भारत के व्यापारियों के बनिस्बत चीन के व्यापारियों के साथ व्यापार को ज्यादा महत्त्व देते हैं। क्या इस सम्बन्ध में विचार किया जा रहा है ?

श्री अबाहरनास नेहरू : यह सवाल मेरी कुछ समय में नहीं आया। मैं आपसे अर्ज करूँ कि सन् ५६ तक हिन्दुस्तान के व्यापारियों को वहाँ काफी फायदा होता था और इसलिये माजूम नहीं बीस पच्चीस या तीस

नई दुकानें वहाँ एकदम खुल गयीं। अब वहाँ कुछ सक्ती हो रही है चासकर फारिन एक्सचेंज की वजह से और कुछ दूसरी दिक्कतें भी हैं, बाज मुनासिब है और बाज नामुनासिब है। मेरा मतलब है हमारे व्यापारियों के साथ नामुनासिब सक्ती हुई। अब इस बारे में हम उनसे महज कह सकते हैं कि यह सक्ती नहीं होनी चाहिये, और कोई कार्रवाई तो हम कर नहीं सकते।

Exports to West Germany

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*504. { Pandit D. N. Tiwary:
Shri Panigrahi:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether two German experts came to Delhi in September, 1958 and discussed ways and means for promotion of exports from India to West Germany;

(b) whether they visited any trade centres in India with this view; and

(c) whether any agreement has been reached for promoting exports and if so, the nature of the agreement?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir The purpose of the visit was advisory and exploratory.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: What are the places visited by these experts?

Shri Kanungo: One gentleman was mainly interested in specialising in tobacco blending and so, he visited the tobacco markets and growing places in South India. The other gentleman, who was interested in export promotion, visited several places like Bombay, Bangalore, Cochin and Madras, places from where exports are made.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: What is our export to West Germany now and what is likely to be the export after this visit?

Shri Kanungo: I have not got the figures with me. These experts have given us some advice about increasing our exports to West Germany.

Shri Panigrahi: What are the traditional exports from India to West Germany and whether there has been any fall in these exports, and if so, in what goods?

Shri Kanungo: The trade with West Germany completely dropped immediately after the war, but now it is looking up. Traditional exports are hides and skins, jute, shellac, mica and some little amount of cotton. But we are going to diversify our exports to West Germany and find out whether we can export other commodities as well.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In view of the fact that our balance of payments position with West Germany is very much adverse to us, what is the expectation of Government after the visit of this delegation as to how far we will be able to increase our exports to West Germany?

Shri Kanungo: It is difficult to anticipate, because our imports for some time will be mostly of capital goods and their valuation will be very much higher. The only way to get over that is to explore ways and means of increasing our exports so that the gap might get reduced.

Shri Tyagi: It is a serious matter, because....

Mr. Speaker: What is the question?

Shri Tyagi: In view of the rising adverse balance in our trade with West Germany from Rs. 66 crores in 1956 to Rs. 106.6 crores in 1957, and particularly because West Germany...

Mr. Speaker: What is the question?

Shri Tyagi: Now Germany is a party to an agreement with many other European countries where they have agreed to bring into effect concessional rates of tariff etc. between themselves and after this agreement known as

the European Common Market Agreement came into being. What steps are we contemplating to reduce the gap in the balance of trade?

Shri Kanungo: That agreement has not come into existence as yet.

Shri Tyagi: It will come into existence on 1st January.

Shri Kanungo: It is still under discussion. We are aware that the balancing of our trade will be difficult, because we will have to continue to import higher-priced capital goods. Therefore, we are taking all sorts of help to find out how to increase our exports and thus reduce the gap.

Shri Tyagi: Before we start trade with them on such a large scale could it not be negotiated that they have to buy from us as far as they could?

Shri Kanungo: That is what exactly is being done.

Shri Tyagi: Has that been done?

Shri Panigrahi: Recently our Minister, Shri Manubhai Shah, visited West Germany. May I know whether he had talks with West German representatives about promoting export of Indian goods to West Germany and, if so, what are those goods?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Are you referring to East Germany or West Germany?

Shri Panigrahi: West Germany.

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): The Rome Treaty Agreement, as my hon. colleague just now mentioned, is going to come into force only next year. When a common market is being established countries like ourselves, who have mostly to depend on others for manufactured articles, are likely to be adversely affected. But we are a multi-lateral country and it is not possible with those countries, excepting between East European countries, to enter into balancing bi-lateral agree-

ments. Therefore, our efforts are to diversify our trade, and when I was in West Germany I contacted several associations of merchants. It is quite possible that if our traders, with the help of our Government, make intensive efforts in Germany, there is ample market for jute, tea, cotton, textiles, shellac and various other commodities. But, as my hon. colleague has stated, we have to import capital goods. So, we must exert ourselves to the utmost to sell more to Germany through efforts between merchants and merchants and between government and merchants.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I just want to ask one question.

Mr. Speaker: I have already allowed more than seven questions.

Buildings for Central Government Offices in Chandigarh

*506. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are proposals under the consideration of Government to build multi-storeyed buildings at Chandigarh to accommodate Central Government offices in that place;

(b) if so, whether estimates and plans have been prepared; and

(c) the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes.

(b) The estimates and plans are under preparation.

(c) In a multi-storeyed building accommodation is proposed to be provided for the following offices:

- (i) Central Board of Revenue—(17,000 sq. ft.).
- (ii) Central Public Works Department—(2,000 sq. ft.).
- (iii) Ministry of Home Affairs—(15,000 sq. ft.).

Shri Ram Krishan: May I know whether it is a fact that the Central Government have purchased many buildings from the Punjab Government for accommodating Central Government offices?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: We have not bought any house in Chandigarh.

श्री भक्त वर्मान : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो चंडीगढ़ में मकान खरीदे जा रहे हैं, कब तक उस बारे में फैसला हो जायेगा और कब तक यह मकान बन जायेंगे ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I indicated in my answer that the plans and estimates are under preparation.

कपड़ा मिलों के मजदूर

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*५०७. { श्री रामेश्वर दादिया :
श्री भक्त वर्मान :

क्या श्रम और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कपड़ा मिलों के बन्द हो जान से इस समय कितने मजदूर बेकार हो गये हैं ;

(ख) क्या बंगाल की कपड़ा की मिलों में काम करने वाले मजदूरों को बम्बई और मद्रास की मिलों में काम करने वाले मजदूरों से कम मजूरी मिलती है ; और

(ग) यदि हा, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

श्रम उपमंत्री (श्री प्राणिवर शर्मा): (क) जनवरी, १९५८ से ३४,८६० ।

(ख) जी हाँ ।

(ग) पश्चिमी बंगाल के कपड़ा मिलों में मजदूरों के महंगाई भत्ते की दर कम है ।

Shri Rameshwar Tanti: When the Government chooses to re-start some of the mills may I know whether the labourers will get their accumulated wages for the intervening period?

Shri Abid Ali: No, Sir.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Minister has stated that about 34,000 labourers are idle. May I know whether it has been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister that lay-off wages have not been paid in two mills in Kanpur to the tune of Rs. 2 lakhs to 3 lakhs? What steps are being taken to see that the wages are paid?

Shri Abid Ali: Workers will get whatever amount they should get according to the rules under the Industrial Disputes Act. In cases where it is not being observed, when brought to our notice, we forward it to the State Governments concerned, who are administering this particular item.

Shri Rameshwar Tanti: As the textile industry is in trouble just now, may I know whether Government will examine the wages given to the labourers in the various States and industries and fix them in such a way that no particular State or industry suffers?

Shri Abid Ali: The Wage Board has already been appointed for this industry. So, this item will certainly be taken up by them.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: What about workers participating in the management?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Minister has stated that there is some difference between West Bengal and other States in the matter of wages and dearness allowance. He has also stated that a Wage Board has been appointed. May I know when the Wage Board is going to submit its report?

Shri Abid Ali: It will take some more months' time.

261(A1) LSD—2.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: Are the workers associated with the management of the Mills?

Shri Abid Ali: Not in this case.

श्री रा० क० वर्मा : क्या श्रीमन् को यह ज्ञात है कि बंगाल की टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में काम करने वाले मजदूरों को बम्बई और धर्मदाबाद की मिलों में काम करने वाले मजदूरों की अपेक्षा कम मंहगाई भत्ता मिलता है और वह समझौता एटक से सम्बन्धित ट्रेड यूनियन ने किया था ?

श्री सावित्र घाली : बदकिस्मती है कि कहीं कहीं कुछ ऐसे लोग भी वर्कर्स पर प्रभावित हो गये हैं जो कि इनके संगठन के मामले को अलग रख करके सियामत उसमें शामिल कर देते हैं और इसलिये वह पीछे रहते हैं जैसे कि बदकिस्मती से खामती से बंगाल में हुआ है जहां पर कि वर्कर्स को सिर्फ ६० रुपये मिलते हैं जब कि बम्बई में ११४ रुपये मिलते हैं जहां के वर्कर्स आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० के सम्बन्धित हैं ।

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: I have already allowed some questions.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Minister has stated.....

Mr. Speaker: We cannot go into details

श्री भक्त बर्मान : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे एक प्रश्न पूछ लेने दिया जाय। मेरा नाम भी उसमें है, मुझे कम से कम एक प्रश्न तो पूछ लेने दिया जाय ।

Mr. Speaker: But he did not get up.

श्री भक्त बर्मान : मैं चार, पांच बार सड़ा हुआ ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं तो देखा था, खैर आप अपना एक प्रश्न पूछ लीजिये ।

श्री जगत दर्शन : माननीय मंत्री ने बताया कि जनवरी में बेरोजगार मजदूरों की संख्या ३४,८६० थी। क्या वह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि इस समय क्या स्थिति है और उनको रोजगार दिलाने के लिये क्या व्यवस्था की जा रही है ?

श्री आबिद अली : इस सम्बन्ध में तो प्रश्न संख्या ५०२ के अन्तर्गत काफी बहस मुवाहिदा प्राज ही इस सदन में हो चुका है।

Shri Tangamani: The hon. Minister has stated that 34,890 workers are thrown out as a result of the closure. May I know whether it is as a result of the total closure of 32 mills or whether it includes also those persons who are partially employed as a result of the partial closure of the 36 other mills?

Shri Abid Ali: In answer to question 502 this matter was sufficiently discussed. My hon. colleague, Shri Manubhai Shah, has made this quite clear.

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): It is both.

Mr. Speaker: Shri H. N. Mukerjee, Shri Muhammed Elias, Shri Shree Narayan Das.

Shri Raghunath Singh: My question No. is 510.

Mr. Speaker: I have not come up to that. As Shri Shree Narayan Das is not here, we will take up the next question.

Shri Raghunath Singh: Question 510.

Shri Tangamani: Shri Shree Narayan Das is here. He is one of the sponsors of the question.

Mr. Speaker: He did not get up when I called his name. If he does not want to ask the question, I cannot force him.

An Hon. Member: He has asked it now.

Mr. Speaker: When I call an hon. Member he must ask his question.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: My name was not printed in the list of questions and that is why I did not ask it.

Mr. Speaker: I have got his name here. Very well, he may ask it now.

U.K. Transit Camps for Gurkha Recruits

+
*500 { Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Muhammed Elias:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the camps maintained in Indian territory by the United Kingdom Government for the reception and transit of Gurkha recruits to its army have been completely wound up; and

(b) if not, how long is the winding-up likely to take?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b). Of the two main depots at Lehra and Jalapahar, the one at Jalapahar has already been closed down. The other is expected to be wound up in March 1959. In addition, there is a small transit camp at Barrackpore.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether just near the border in the territory of Nepal the British Government are having a camp and whether some British soldiers are going to be stationed there?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: We do not know what is happening in Nepal.

Mr. Speaker: It is not in Indian territory. Therefore they do not know what exactly is happening elsewhere.

Shrimati Bona Chakravarty: For closing down these recruiting centres attempts have been going on for four years now. Why is it taking such a long time?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Till such time as they have their own arrangements, they will carry on with these centres.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Hon. Member is quite right that they are taking a long time, but one has been closed down at last and the other will be closed down in four months' time.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

Industrial Committee on Coal Mines

***505. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sixth Session of the Industrial Committee on Coal Mines has been held; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Not yet.

(b) The report of the Mines Safety Conference is to be placed before the Industrial Committee on Coal Mines. But as the Conference has not yet concluded its deliberations, it has not been possible to convene a meeting of the Industrial Committee

Art Silk Yarn

***506. Shri N. Keshava:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) on what basis the allotment of imported art silk yarn is being made to the silk handlooms and to the power looms;

(b) whether the system from quantity of yarn (lbs.) per loom has been changed over to Rupees; and

(c) if so, when and for what reasons?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 1].

(b) No, Sir. The system of allotment of the imported art silk yarn was never in quantity per loom. It has always been in Rupees per loom.

(c) Does not arise.

British Textile Mission

{ Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Bimal Ghose:
Shri Tridib Kumar
*510. } Chaudhuri:
Shri Jadhav:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a British Textile Mission has visited India recently and met Indian textile interests;

(b) whether any scheme for regulating exports of Indian textiles to Britain has been agreed to between the British and Indian textile interests;

(c) if so, the nature thereof; and

(d) what will be the effect of the above scheme on our foreign exchange earnings?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes, Sir. Two members of the British Textile Delegation to Hongkong are reported to have had some informal discussions recently with Shri Kasturbhai Lalbhai, Chairman of Indian Cotton Mills Federation at Bombay.

(b) and (c). Government have no definite information as yet.

(d) Any arrangement having adverse effect on foreign exchange will have to be considered by the Government at the appropriate time.

Salt Industry in Orissa

*511. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board for salt in its scheme submitted to Government has suggested any proposal for development of Salt Industry in Orissa; and

(b) if so, whether any amount has been allotted for such developmental works and various other activities concerning Salt Industry for the State of Orissa for the year 1958-59?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) The Central Board has not submitted any scheme for the development of the salt industry in Orissa; but the Regional Board for West Bengal and Orissa have recommended investigation of the possibility of development of the salt industry in Orissa as a whole and in Chilka Lake and in the Balasore District of the State, in particular.

(b) A sum of Rs. 1,40,000 has been allocated for the development of the salt industry in Orissa during the current year.

Shellac Factories

*512. { Shri Damani:
Shri Rajendra Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that nearly all the Shellac factories in Palamau district of Bihar have closed down; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for their closure and how many workers have been affected thereby?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 2].

लोकमान्य तिलक का स्मारक

५१३. { श्री भक्त वर्मा:
श्री नवल प्रभाकर:

क्या प्रवाल मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बन्दन की "लोकमान्य तिलक जन्म शताब्दी समिति" ने लोकमान्य तिलक का स्मारक स्थापित करने की योजना बनाई है ; और

(ख) यदि हा. तो यदि भारत सरकार द्वारा इसके लिये किसी प्रकार की सहायता दी जा रही है, तो वह क्या है ?

बंदेन्द्रिद कार्य मन्त्री के सभा सचिव (श्री सावल शर्मा) : (क) पता चला है कि इस उद्देश्य के लिये लन्दन में एक मण्डलि बनी है ।

(ख) इस विषय पर पूछनाछ की जा रही है । लेकिन, ग्रामतीर में, भारत सरकार विदेशों में न तो स्मारक खडे करनी है और न उन्हे खडा करने में सहायता देती है । स्मारक जिन देश में हो. उसे उम देश की जन-भावना का प्रतिनिधित्व करना चाहिये और इसलिये उसके बनाने में वहा की जनता का ही हिस्सा ज्यादा होना चाहिये ।

फिर भी, मामले को विशेष महत्त्व का समझ कर, भारत सरकार ने माडले जेल में लोकमान्य तिलक का एक स्मारक खडा करने में सहायता दी ।

Industrial Development

*515. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment made by the private sector for the industrial development during the Second Five Year Plan period so far;

(b) how does it compare with the original and revised targets; and

(c) how much more is likely to be invested in this sector in the remaining period of the Second Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) According to rough estimates made in the Planning Commission the total investment made in organised industries in the private sector during 1956-57 amounted to about Rs. 140-145 crores. It is envisaged that investments during 1957-58 would have been almost of the same order as in 1956-57.

(b) and (c). Overall investments in the organised industrial sector that is likely to materialise during the Second Plan period are estimated at Rs. 575 crores as against Rs. 685 crores envisaged at the time of formulating the Second Plan. The investments already made during the first two years of the Plan work out to about 50 per cent of total investment likely to materialise during the Plan period.

American Trade Team's visit to India

*516. { Shri Warrior:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shrimati Mafda Ahmed:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a ten-man team of American business executives engaged in trade in handicrafts and handlooms fabrics visited this country at the invitation of Government;

(b) whether there had been any discussions with the team; and

(c) if so, the result thereof? -

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir. The team consisted of 10 persons.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The visit of the team enabled its members to acquaint themselves with the range and variety of our handicrafts and handloom products. The knowledge so gained and the business contacts during the visit will be used by the Team to give in its Report, suggestions and recommendations for the expansion of our export trade with the U.S.A. in the above products.

Import of Cosmetics, Textiles and Artificial Diamonds

*517. **Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost of cosmetics, textiles and artificial diamonds imported during 1956-57 and 1957-58;

(b) whether any reduction has been made in the import of above materials during the period from March to September, 1958; and

(c) if so to what extent?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 3].

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) A statement showing comparative import figures of materials in question during March-September 1958 and the corresponding period of 1957 together with the difference is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 3].

Fertilizer Factory in Assam

*518. **Shri Basumatari:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam have submitted any proposal for establishing a Fertilizer Factory in the State of Assam; and

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been accepted and the steps taken in the matter?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request of the Assam Government is under examination along with similar requests received from other State Governments in the context of planning additional fertiliser factories.

Engineering Industries

*519. Kumari Vedakumari: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production has been affected in the Engineering industries due to shortage of steel and raw materials;

(b) if so, the extent of fall in their production; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III; annexure No. 4.]

Film Industry

*520. { Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Kunhan:
Shri Narayanankutty Menon:
Shri Kadiyan:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received further representations from the film industry regarding the crisis in the industry due to lack of raw films; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to meet the demands of the industry?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). A few representations have been received against the restriction on the import of raw film. Sometimes shortages do occur either due to the late arrivals or

irregular flow of imports. However, adequate provision has now been made and it is expected that the legitimate and normal requirements of the film industry will be met after allowing for the voluntary cut of 30 per cent. agreed to by them.

Indian Officers on Study Leave in U.K.

*521. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian High Commission in London has been experiencing difficulty in respect of Indian Officers on "study leave" in the U.K. who compelled by a paucity of exchange and such other difficulties have to fall upon the Commission for loans or advances;

(b) whether the High Commission has forwarded any suggestions in this regard;

(c) if so, the suggestions; and

(d) the action taken thereupon?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath All Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes

(c) The High Commission made the following suggestions:—

(i) Officers going on study leave or officers whose study or training is to be sponsored by the High Commission should be provided with adequate funds before proceeding to the United Kingdom to meet their essential needs for at least one month after arrival;

(ii) Formal sanction terms for study leave or training should reach the High Commission well in advance of their arrival; and

(iii) Officers should be supplied with a copy of Last Pay Certificate or Leave Salary Certi-

leave before they leave for the United Kingdom followed immediately by the Accountant General's formal authority to ensure that there is no delay in disbursements in the United Kingdom.

(d) Suitable instructions for the implementation of the recommendations of the High Commission have been issued to all the State Governments and Departments of the Government of India.

American Spice Trade Association

*522. Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India is regularly contributing any money to the American Spice Trade Association;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total amount so far contributed?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) to (c). Government of India as such are not regularly contributing any money to the American Spice Trade Association. However an amount of Rs. 28,650 was contributed by the Cashew and Pepper Export Promotion Council and Rs. 7,500 by the Central Government in March, 1958. The Association have undertaken to publicise the superior quality of Indian pepper, in addition to general publicity for other spices.

Export of Pepper and Coir Yarn

*523. Shri E. V. K. Sampath: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been any decline in India's exports of pepper and coir yarn and goods in 1957-58 as compared to 1956-57; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exports of pepper declined due to increasing competition from cheaper varieties of Indonesian and Sarawak pepper. While the export of coir fibre and coir goods showed some improvement, there was a decline in the export of coir yarn for which no specific reason can be given except the normal fluctuation in demand.

Burn and Co., Howrah

*524. Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tripartite meeting proposed by Government to discuss the holding up of priority project jobs in Burn & Co., Howrah and the lay off of workmen, has since been held; and

(b) if not, why not?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Conference was held on 17th November, 1958. With your permission, I may also add, Sir, that M/s. Burn & Co. have now reported that the steel position has improved and that their management have decided to open their Panel shop for recommencement of normal production with effect from 8th December, 1958. All the Panel shop workers, who were laid off have been asked to resume work on 8th December, 1958.

Life Insurance Corporation Employees

*525. Shri Jadhav: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain demands including payment of bonus have been made by the All India Life Insurance Employees' Association, Bombay; and

(b) if so, when the final decision about this issue is likely to be taken?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abd Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) When a report is received from the Regional Labour Commissioner, Bombay, who has taken up conciliation proceedings.

Exports to U.S.A.

*524. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any improvement in the export of the Indian goods to U.S.A. this year in comparison with that of the last year; and

(b) whether the imports into India from the U.S.A. have declined during 1958-59 as compared to 1957-58?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). A statement showing India's exports to and imports from the U.S.A. during the first eight months of 1958, for which figures are available and the corresponding period of 1957, is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Jan-Aug. 1957	Jan-Aug. 1958
Imports from the U.S.A.	98.28	74.03
Exports (including re-exports) to the U.S.A.	82.56	65.14

Figures are provisional and subject to revision.

Fire in Sindri Fertiliser Factory

*527. Shri B. Das Gupta: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a fire broke out in the Electrical Power Plant of the Sindri Fertiliser and Chemical Factory in the month of July, 1958;

(b) if so, what was the cause of fire and what is the total amount of loss;

(c) whether it is a fact that the production of ammonium sulphate has been affected by the fire and it has gone down;

(d) if so, to what extent; and

(e) whether any enquiry has been made in the matter and any report received?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (e). Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The fire appears to have started due to the bursting of some internals inside Potential Transformer Chamber of Reactor No. 1. It then spread to the Bus-bar selector switch which also burst and burning oil spread out to the adjoining oil circuit breakers, cables and bus-bars. The insulating compound on bus-bars in Section melted, caught fire and spread out. The total amount of loss is estimated to be about Rs. 7 lakhs (excluding loss sustained in production).

(c) Yes, for two days only.

(d) 1,500 tons of Ammonium Sulphate.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Retrenchment in New India Assurance Co. Ltd.

*528. Shri E. Muhammed Elias: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government of India has been drawn to the retrenchment of staff by the New India Assurance Co., Ltd.;

(b) if so, whether the employees represented their case to Government; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) to (c). An industrial dispute relating to retrenchment has been raised by the employees of the New India Assurance Co., Ltd. The Conciliation Officer intervened in the matter. His report is being considered by Government.

National Classification of Occupations

*529. { Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Rameshwar Tanti:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to publish "National Classification of Occupations";

(b) if so, the details of this proposal; and

(c) when this publication will be published?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 5.]

Indians in Burma

*530. Shri Mahanty: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indians in Burma have to pay a sum of Rs. 50 each for renewal of stay permits; and

(b) whether on this account Indians in Burma have been put to great difficulties?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) Yes. Under the Burmese Foreigners Registration Act, all adult foreigners have to pay a fee of Rs. 50 for the annual renewal of their stay permits.

(b) The poorer section of foreigners residing in Burma, including Indians, have been hit hard by the imposition of this fee.

Nomenclature for State Undertakings

*531. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 984 on the 27th August, 1958, and state:

(a) the progress made in the examination of the matter regarding new nomenclature for State Undertakings; and

(b) by what time a final decision is expected to be taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). It has been decided to exempt Government companies from the requirement of section 13 of the Companies Act, 1956, whereby companies registered as private limited companies have to use the word "private" in their names. The Hon'ble Member's attention is invited in this connection to the draft notification laid on the Table of the House on the 17th November, 1958, in accordance with section 620 of the Act.

Atomic Energy Conference

*532. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Starred Question No. 132 on the 14th August, 1958, and state:

(a) whether any decisions were taken at the Commonwealth Conference on Atomic Energy, held in London recently; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) The Conference was of an informal nature and designed to show the Commonwealth delegates the work being done at the U.K. atomic energy establishments and also to provide an opportunity for informal discussion of their particular requirements with reference to recent developments in the atomic energy field. In consequence, no decisions were taken at the Conference.

(b) Does not arise.

Supply of Wireless Equipments

*533. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Electronics (Private) Limited supply all the transmitters and receivers required by Government; and

(b) if not, which are the other agencies which do so?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The requirements of Government in respect of transmitters and receivers are also being met by a number of Indian Agents for imported stores. A list of such firms registered with the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals is placed on the table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 6].

Heavy Electrical Private Ltd.

*534. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the projects of the Heavy Electricals (Private) Limited are going to be rephased in view of the acute shortage of Foreign Exchange; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 7].

Dearness Allowance to Bank Employees

*535 { Shri Tangamani:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether banks in 'D' class areas are paying Rs. 25/- as dearness allowance to their employees;

(b) if so, whether this is based on cost of living; and

(c) if not, the basis thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). According to the Bank Award (as modified) the clerical staff in class 'D' Banks in Area IV is entitled to a minimum and maximum dearness allowance of Rs 25/- and Rs. 40/- respectively, which is adjustable for variations in the cost of living index.

(c) Does not arise.

Trade Unions

*536. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:
Shri N. Keshava:
Shri Jadhav:
Shri Jhulan Sinha:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether membership of All India Trade Union Congress, Indian National Trade Union Congress, Hind Mazdoor Sabha and United Trade Union Congress as on the 31st March, 1958 has been verified;

(b) if so, the verified membership of each organisation; and

(c) the number of unions affiliated to each organisation?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Not yet.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Export of Primary Commodities

*537. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made as to the causes and extent of fall in prices of primary commodities exported from India in the importing countries specially in U.S.A.;

(b) if so, with what result;

(c) whether it is a fact that fall in prices has resulted in loss to India to a very great extent; and

(d) what is the estimated loss of foreign exchange due to the fall in prices of primary produce exported by India?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (d), A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Yes, Sir, The fall in prices of primary commodities stems largely from the recession in the general economic activity. It is not easy to calculate the exact loss of foreign exchange directly attributable solely to the fall in prices. A statement giving the declines in the unit values of export of primary commodities exported from India is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 8]. It will be seen that the loss of foreign exchange directly attributable to the decline in these unit values has been arithmetically estimated at about Rs. 31 crores in 1957 and Rs. 18 crores during the first half of 1958. These estimates, however, naturally do not take into account the losses resulting from price declines in other commodities, declines in demand in foreign markets, pressure of competition from other sources of supply, and the steep fall in the purchasing power of the countries dependent for their foreign exchange resources on the sale of primary products.

Coal Mines Bonus Scheme

*538 { Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:
Shri Kadiyan:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1231 of 18th December, 1957 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken to amend the Coal Mines Bonus Scheme with regard to removal of attendance qualification for eligibility; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). The matter is still under examination.

Employment Pattern Survey

*539. { Shri Ram Krishna:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Starred Question No. 989 on 27th August, 1958 and state the progress made so far in conducting Employment Pattern Survey by the Delhi University in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Employment and the Planning Commission?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): Collection of data has been completed. It is being tabulated.

Vocational and Technical Training Centre under Dandakaranya Scheme

*540. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up a Vocational and Technical Training Centre in connection with Dandakaranya Scheme;

(b) the number of displaced persons to be trained in this Centre; and

(c) when and where the Centre is proposed to be established?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) A Vocational and Training Centre is proposed to be set up at Koraput for imparting training to displaced persons from East Pakistan and to the local tribals in various trades.

(b) The total number of trainees, local and displaced, will be 276.

(c) At Koraput in early 1959-60.

Per Capita Income

*541. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether any estimate is made of the actual rise in the per capita income of the people due to the Second Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the results of such estimates; and

(c) how do they compare with the plan targets?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). In 1956-57 i.e., the first year of the second plan, per capita incomes showed an increase of 3.8 per cent. over the level of the previous year. For 1957-58, the estimates are not yet available.

(c) The target of increase in per capita incomes over the plan period was indicated in the Plan Report at 18 per cent., giving an annual average of 3.6 per cent. As compared to this, per capita income in 1956-57, as already mentioned, showed an increase of 3.8 per cent. over the previous year.

Dock Labour Board

*542. Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to constitute the Dock Labour Board for the Port of Cochin;

(b) if so, the steps taken; and

(c) when the Dock Labour Board would be constituted?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) The interests concerned are being consulted.

(c) As soon as the Cochin Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme is finalised.

Austerity in Building Constructions

*543. { Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government of India has been drawn to the suggestion recently made by the Minister of Commerce and Industry in his address to the Council of Institute of Chartered Accountants regarding observance of austerity and simplicity in building constructions; and

(b) if so, the extent to which it has been put into effect?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 9].

Indians in Argentina

*544. { Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Kunhan:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether large numbers of Indians residing in Argentina wish to visit their mother country for short duration;

(b) whether the Indian Embassy in Argentina are not issuing regular Indian passports to such persons; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) to (c). So far as we know there are altogether about 250 Indian nationals in Argentina. There is no difficulty of Indian Nationals in Argentina visiting India. For people of Indian origin in Argentina who have become Argentine nationals, the question of providing them with Indian passports to visit India does not arise. In odd cases where people of Indian origin do not possess old travel documents or other records, necessary enquiries are made. There has been no case of a refusal of passport to an Indian national in Argentina to visit India.

There are at present a few pending cases in regard to whom enquiries are being made.

Displaced Persons' Colonies in Delhi

*545. { Shri Vajpayee;
Shri U. L. Patil:

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have agreed in principle to allot a certain sum to the Delhi Municipal Corporation for civic amenities in the displaced persons' colonies in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the total amount proposed to be allotted and the colony-wise allocation thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) Yes

(b) The details are being worked out in consultation with the Corporation.

Dalingkote Colliery, Darjeeling

*546. **Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dalingkote Colliery in Darjeeling District, North Bengal is threatened with closure;

(b) whether allegations of malpractices have been brought to the notice of Government;

(c) the number of workers retrenched; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Nineteen.

(d) Seven complaints have already been filed against the management in a court of law, one under the Payment of Wages Act and six under the Coal Mines Bonus Scheme. The question of taking further legal action against the management for infringement of the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 is also receiving attention.

Wool Industry

*547. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the reported statement of the Chairman of the International Wool Secretariat regarding the outmoded methods prevailing in the Indian Wool Industry; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken to improve the Indian Wool Industry?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Development Council for Woollen Industry has already been set up by Government and it will do everything possible to improve its conditions.

Border Dispute

*548. { Sardar Iqbal Singh;
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistanis have made encroachments on the Border at Hussainiwala and are

not allowing the repairs of canal on the other side;

(b) if so, details of steps taken by the Government of India in this matter; and

(c) with what results?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) to (c). There has been no encroachment by Pakistan authorities in the Hussainiwala Headworks area in the recent past. There were encroachments in the area some time after Partition, but the position as in 1956 has remained, as envisaged in the Agreement of that year between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan.

As regards repairs to the other side of the Dipalpur Canal, which takes off from the Hussainiwala Headworks and flows for a short distance in Indian territory before entering Pakistan, in February, 1957, minor repair work by East Punjab Government Irrigation Staff on the right bank of the Canal in India's possession was objected to by the Pakistan Border Police on the ground that the right bank of the Canal was in their *de facto* possession and that they would carry out the repairs. This has not been accepted by India and it has been pointed out to the Pakistan authorities that the responsibility for any extension of damage would rest with them. The Agreement between the Prime Ministers in September, 1958, envisaged the steps to be taken for a general settlement in this area. The attention of the Hon'ble Members is invited in this connection to the Statement made by the Deputy Minister in the Lok Sabha on November 29, 1958.

New Agreement between Pakistan, U.S.A. and U.K.

*549. { Shri N. Keshava:
Shri Bagnath Singh:
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of U.S.A. and U.K. are

entering into a new agreement with Pakistan in support of the Baghdad Pact; and

(b) if so, what are Government's reactions thereto?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) There have been some press reports to this effect. The U.S. authorities have assured the Government of India that the discussions now being held with the Pakistan Government do not envisage a new military treaty, but are an outcome of the Declaration issued at London by the Baghdad Pact Governments on July 28, 1958.

(b) Governments' views on the Baghdad Pact, and on continued military aid to Pakistan are well known.

Training of Indian Technicians Abroad

*551. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for training of Indian Technicians abroad for Small Scale Industries under the Ford Foundation is also continued for the year 1958-59; and

(b) if so, the total number of Technicians sent for training during the current year and to which countries?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Nine to Sweden.

Bonus for Workers

*552 { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steering Committee on Bonus for Workers employed in

various private industries has evolved any basis; and

(b) if so, whether bonus is likely to be paid by all such undertakings?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) No such Committee has been set up.

(b) Does not arise.

Employees' Provident Fund Act

*553. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1450 on the 3rd April, 1956 and state what will be the total liability on the owners of Mica Mines when the Employers' Provident Fund Act is enforced?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): According to the survey conducted in the year 1955 the total liability of the owners of Mica Mines will be approximately Rs. 39,690 on account of Employers' share of contribution at 6½ per cent. and administrative charges at 3 per cent.

Export of Jute Goods

*554. { Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that exports of jute goods are registering a decline since 1957;

(b) if so, what is the extent to which it has registered decline and the type of goods in which the decline is marked; and

(c) the nature of steps taken to arrest the decline and increase the export?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kamanga): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 10].

Import of Industrial Raw Materials

*555. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import licences for the industrial raw materials are issued to the industries concerned or whether they are issued to traders also;

(b) if to the latter, the reasons for the same; and

(c) whether any price or distribution control is exercised by Government on these traders?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Industrial raw materials are licensed essentially to the industries and in some cases to the traders.

(b) Licences to the traders are issued partly to keep the normal trade channel going and partly to meet the demand of those industries who are unable to import their requirements themselves.

(c) There is generally no price or distribution control, but in the case of certain items like Tin Plate, Tin scrap, Copper scrap, German Silver, Cinematograph films not exposed, Art Silk Yarn, Bleaching paste and bleaching powder, etc. licences are granted subject to the condition that the goods on importation will be sold to certain specified categories of persons or at prices carrying a fixed margin of profit.

Coal Mine Workers, Assam

*556. Shrimati Bena Chakravarty: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the coal mine workers in Assam especially in Assam Railways and Trading Company, Limited are working at lower wage rates than their counterparts in the rest of India;

(b) the actual rise in the cost of living index between the time of the agreement entered into between the management and Assam Colliery Mazdoor Congress in 1956 and the present time in Assam; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any steps to remove the discrepancies in wage rates prescribed by Labour Appellate Tribunal and the existing wage rates of the Company?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Not in all cases. In some cases the wages are higher and in some cases lower

(b) 6.67%.

(c) The present wage structure is based on an agreement reached between the workers and the employers and it is open to both the parties to negotiate with each other for the revision of the said agreement if they so desire.

Nepa Newsprint

*557. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are making allotments to newspapers and periodicals from Nepa newsprint;

(b) if so, how much of the Nepa newsprint is being allotted for distribution to the newspapers;

(c) whether there are other commitments for Nepa newsprint also; and

(d) if so, what are these commitments?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the half year ending the 30th September, 1958, 5228.55 tons of Nepa newsprint were supplied to newspapers.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A certain quantity of Nepa newsprint is also supplied, as required

by them, to publishers and printers of text books and books of general interest. The balance is released to the market.

Study Team on the Working of Publicity Organisations

*558. { Shri Vajpayee:
Shri U. L. Patil:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a study team to examine the existing publicity organisations of State Governments in relation to their work in Community Development areas; and

(b) the progress of work done hitherto in this regard?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. B. V. Keskar): (a) Yes. This is being done according to a resolution passed at the Abu Conference.

(b) The Study Team has, after a preliminary study in Delhi, visited a few Information Centres in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh and collected relevant information concerning the work in the two States. It proposes to continue the work further in other States.

काश्मीरी कम्बल और नमदों

*५५६. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या बाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या यह सच है कि रूस में काश्मीरी कम्बलों, नमदों तथा अन्य कलात्मक चीजों की मांग बढ़ती जा रही है और रूस ने इन चीजों को काफी मात्रा में खरीदने के लिये अपनी मांग भेजी है ?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री मनुभाई शाह) : पिछले कुछ सालों में कम्बलों, नमदों, शालों और दूसरी कलात्मक चीजों की मांगाने के आर्डर रूस से मिले हैं। ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि रूस में इन चीजों की मांग बढ़ रही है।

All India Middle Class Family Budget Survey

804 { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 854 on the 19th August, 1958 and state the further progress made in regard to the All India Middle Class Family Budget Survey?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The All India Middle Class Family Living Survey which started in July, 1958, was designed to cover a period of 12 months at each of the 45 selected centres. During this period 28,820 families have been proposed to be surveyed for family budget enquiry and another 8,940 for the study of their level of living. So far about 7,500 families have been surveyed in respect of the family budget enquiry and 2,320 for the level of living enquiry.

Industrial Estates in U.P.

805. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Industrial Estates opened in the State of Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) the various kinds of factories erected therein; and
- (c) the total expenditure incurred thereon so far?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) The U.P. Government propose to set up five Industrial Estates in the State during the Second Five Year Plan. They are the Industrial Estates at Kanpur, Agra, Deoband (Saharanpur), Loni Block (Meerut) and Kashi Vidyapith (Varanasi). These schemes are still in various stages of implementation.

Only one Industrial Estate has been completed and opened in U.P., and that

is the one at Naini (Allahabad) which had been constructed by the National Small Industries Corporation

(b) The kinds of factories erected in the Naini Industrial Estate are given in the statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 11]

(c) Details of expenditure incurred so far on the different schemes of Industrial Estates in U.P. are as follows:—

	Rs.
(1) Industrial Estate, Kanpur	29,68,300
(2) Industrial Estate, Agra	10,45,535
(3) Industrial Estate, Deoband	42,100
(4) Industrial Estate, Loni Block, Meerut	50,000
(5) Industrial Estate, Kashi Vidyapith Block, District Varanasi	58,000
(6) Industrial Estate, Naini (Allahabad)	22,73,410

Faridabad Township

806. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state the total loan and grants given to Faridabad Township under different heads so far, year-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 12]

Textile Mills in U.P.

807. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of Textile Mills situated in U.P. (big, medium and small);
- (b) the total number of spindles of each mill;
- (c) the output of cloth from each in the last five years; and
- (d) the total percentage of each mill with regard to their installed and working capacity?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the

Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 13]

Skilled Workers

808. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of skilled workers registered with the Employment Exchanges in the country as on the 1st December, 1958; and

(b) the number of them likely to be employed during the Second Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) The information as on 1st December, 1958 is not yet available. The number of skilled and semi-skilled applicants on the register of employment Exchanges on the 31st October, 1958 was 87,806.

(b) No estimate has been made.

Employment Exchanges

809. **Shri Damani:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing:

(a) the number of persons registered with the Employment Exchanges in the country upto the end of October, 1958, State-wise;

(b) whether any change in the occupational distribution of employment seekers has been noticed;

(c) whether fall in the number of vacancies has been noticeable with the increase in job seekers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the position of educated unemployed and how far their problem is being tackled?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) to (e). The information is given in two statements laid on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 14]

Bicycles

810. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the companies producing bicycles in India; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to increase the production of cycles?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Two statements giving information relating to the large scale and small scale sector respectively are laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 15]

(b) *The units producing bicycles* are given facilities to import capital equipment as well as raw materials and components, where necessary, subject to the availability of foreign exchange. The bicycle producing units in the small scale sector are also eligible to get financial assistance, as for other small scale industries, from the State Governments concerned.

Export Promotion Councils

811. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the names of goods for which Export Promotion Councils have been constituted so far?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

Eleven Export Promotion Councils have been constituted so far for the following goods:

1. Cotton Textiles
2. Plastics
3. Engineering
4. Cashew and Pepper
5. Mica
6. Tobacco
7. Leather
8. Silk and Rayon Textiles
9. Shellac
10. Chemicals and Allied Products
11. Sports Goods.

Industrial Panels

812. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the names of industries for which Industrial Panels have been set up so far?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): A statement is given below:—

1. Paper and Pulp
2. Leather and Leather Goods
3. Refractories
4. Electronics and Wireless Equipment
5. Radio
6. X-Ray Equipment
7. Surgical Instruments and Appliances

Development Councils

813. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the names of the Industries for which Development Councils have been constituted so far?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No 16]

Printing Machine Industry

814. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the nature of the steps taken so far to make India self-sufficient in printing machine Industry?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Proposals have been received from two firms to set up the manufacture of printing machinery. Question of self-sufficiency can only be tackled after some indigenous production starts.

Industries in Orissa

815. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for starting industries in the State of Orissa in

anticipation of the power supply from Hirakud and Machhkund has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). The scheme for the establishment of industries based on power supply from Hirakud and Machhkund has not yet been finalised. Some power supply has, however, been booked for a few existing industries and for industries, proposed to be set up. A list of industries which are expected to utilise power supply from the Hirakud and Machhkund systems is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 17]

Press Information Bureau

816. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branch offices of the Press Information Bureau which have been opened during the last three years and the total number of such offices at present;

(b) whether any branch office is likely to be opened in Poona; and

(c) if so, when?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Six branch offices of the Press Information Bureau was opened during the last three years. The total number of regional and branch offices of the Bureau is 15

(b) and (c). The opening of a branch office at Poona during 1960-61 is under consideration.

Bhaktinagar Industrial Estate

817. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made by the Bhaktinagar (Rajkot) Industrial Estate (industry-wise);

(b) the total loan given by Government so far industry-wise; and

(c) how this loan has been utilised

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) A statement is given below:

STATEMENT

Out of 120 units to be constructed in the Industrial Estate at Rajkot (Bhaktinagar) 108 Units have so far been constructed at a total cost of Rs. 23,07,895. 33 privately managed industrial units have been established in the Estate with a total capital investment of Rs. 18,65,000 having estimated annual out-turn of Rs. 31.91 lakhs. About 360 skilled and unskilled workers are employed in the estate. The potential employment in the estate after it is fully developed may be assumed to be about 450 workers per shift. A statement showing type of industries, the number of sheds allotted to them and the capital invested is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 16].

(b) No loan was disbursed to the units in the Industrial Estate at Rajkot.

(c) Does not arise.

Trade Unions

818. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the number of registered trade unions functioning in the country in the years 1955, 1956 and 1957, State-wise;

(b) the number of such unions which did not submit their returns during 1955, 1956, 1957 and 1958 under Section 28 of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1928, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken against the defaulting unions?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). The information relating to the years 1955-56 and 1956-57 has been published at

pages 1304-56 of the Indian Labour Gazette (June 1958), copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. Information for subsequent years is not yet available.

(c) The penalties for non-submission of returns are prescribed in sections 10 and 31 of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1928. It is not possible to detail what action was taken in each individual case.

Distribution of Raw Films

819. { Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Muhammad Elias:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has examined the request of the Association of Cine-technicians for representation in the Central and Regional Committees set up to advise Government on the distribution of raw films supplies and similar problems; and

(b) if so, what is the decision reached thereon?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request of the Association will be kept in view at the time of reconstituting the Central and Regional Advisory Committees for raw films.

Government Publications Printed in Privately Owned Presses

820. { Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Muhammad Elias:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent annually during the last three years for getting Government publications etc. printed in privately owned presses;

(b) whether the full capacity of Government Presses has been utilised during the same period; and

(c) whether there is any scheme to ensure that all Government publications are printed in Government Presses?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The amount spent on printing Government publications etc. in privately owned presses during the years 1955-56 and 1956-57 is as follows:—

1955-56Rs. 1,22,72,159-25.

1956-57Rs. 1,73,79,488-47.

The figures for 1957-58 are being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, two new presses have been established at Nasik and Faridabad. In addition, the printing capacity of the existing presses is being augmented to the extent the financial resources permit. It is the Government's intention to establish more presses and to add to the capacity of the existing presses, but the objective is not likely to be achieved in the near future.

Publication of Journals and Magazines

323. Shri A. M. Tariq: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the number of journals and magazines in different languages published by the Ministry;

(b) the total cost of production, including salaries, incurred for the purpose during 1957-58; and

(c) the total amount of money received through the sale of journals and magazines during the same period?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Konkar): (a) 31. Out of these 11 are being produced on behalf of various Ministries.

(b) Rs. 23,20,606.

(c) Rs. 12,60,121 inclusive of revenue from advertisement.

Training in Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy

323. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the institutions where Indian students are being trained in peaceful uses of Atomic Energy in the United Kingdom?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The Department of Atomic Energy has given financial assistance to a few students for training in the peaceful uses of atomic energy in the United Kingdom, and has, in addition, been sending its own scientific and technical personnel for similar training in the United Kingdom. Some of the important institutions in the United Kingdom where they have been/are being trained are mentioned below:—

- (i) Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell.
- (ii) Calder Hall Operations School.
- (iii) Chemical Research Laboratory, Teddington.
- (iv) Imperial College of Science & Technology, London.
- (v) The General Electric Company Limited of England.
- (vi) King's College, University of London.
- (vii) University of Bristol.
- (viii) Messrs. Head Wrightson Processes Ltd., United Kingdom

Exports to U.K.

324. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the value of our exports to the United Kingdom during the second quarter of 1958;

(b) what was the value of our exports to U.K. during the corresponding period of 1957; and

(c) what were the causes of decline in our exports, if any?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Rs. 20.77 crores.

(b) Rs. 29.68 crores.

(c) Does not arise.

Export of Bicycles

325. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 973 on the 7th August, 1958 and state the names of the countries to which Indian bicycles were exported?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): During 1957 and the first half of 1958, Indian bicycles were exported to Saudi Arabia, Nepal, East Pakistan, Burma, Malaya, Afghanistan and Maldives.

Cosmic Ray Research Station, Gulmarg

326. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Bhakti Darshan:
Shri Naval Prabhakar:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 35 on the 11th August, 1958 and state the further progress made with regard to the setting up of a Cosmic Ray Research Station at Gulmarg (Kashmir)?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The survey of Gulmarg-Apharwat area of Kashmir conducted by the Czechoslovakian experts assisted by our own experts with a view to making recommendations for the location of the base and high altitude laboratories and for a connecting ropeway has since been completed and their Report is under examination.

Boycott of U.N. Trusteeship Committee by South Africa

327. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Wodeyar:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the South African Government boycotted

the U.N. Trusteeship Committee proceedings concerning South West Africa and the report of the Good Offices Committee which suggested partition of the country; and

(b) the proposals made by the Indian delegation on this report and whether they were accepted?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) The Indian Delegation stated in the General Assembly that the recommendations of the Good Offices Committee on possibility of partition and annexation of the territory of South West Africa should not be accepted. As a result of joint efforts of India and several other countries the following resolution on the subject was adopted:

"The General Assembly

Having considered, with appreciation of the difficulties of that task, the report of the Good Offices Committee on South West Africa established under resolution 1143 (XII)

1. Decides not to accept the suggestions contained in the report of the Good Offices Committee that envisage partition and annexation of any part of the Territory as a basis for the solution of the question of South West Africa;

2. Invites the Good Offices Committee to renew discussions with the Government of the Union of South Africa to find a basis for an agreement which would continue to accord to the Mandated Territory of South West Africa as a whole an international status, and which would be in conformity with the principles and purposes of the United Nations;

3. Requests the Good Offices Committee in the conduct of its work to bear fully in mind the discussions held at the thirteenth session of the General Assembly;

4. Requests the Good Offices Committee to submit a further report to

the General Assembly at its fourteenth session;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Good Offices Committee with all necessary staff and facilities."

Indo-Pakistan Agreement on Movable Property

828. { Shri D. C. Sharma;
Shri Rameshwar Tantia;

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 28 on the 11th August, 1958 and state the further progress made, if any, in the implementation of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement on movable property?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri F. S. Naskar): There has been no further progress in the implementation of the Movable Property Agreement.

Religious Shrines in India and Pakistan

829. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 36 on the 11th August, 1958 and state:

(a) whether any reply has since been received from the Pakistan Government with regard to the meeting of the Joint Committee set up for the preparation of lists of Hindu and Sikh religious shrines in West Pakistan and the protection of the properties attached thereto and preservation of their religious sanctity; and

(b) if so, when the meeting is to be held?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). No Sir. The final reply of the Government of Pakistan is still awaited. The High Commission of India at Karachi are pressing them for it.

Surplus Labourers at Bhakra Dam

830. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of labourers have been rendered surplus at Bhakra Dam;

(b) if so, the number of labourers rendered surplus so far;

(c) the number of labourers to be rendered surplus on its completion;

(d) whether arrangements have been made by Government to re-employ them; and

(e) if so, the nature of arrangements made?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) No.

(b) 16.

(c) 4,000 skilled workers and 6,000 unskilled casual workers.

(d) and (e). Yes. A central coordinating unit has been set up in the Directorate General of Resettlement and Employment, Ministry of Labour and Employment, with a special officer to coordinate all deployment activities in cooperation with the major projects in the country, both in the public and private sectors. However, no immediate action at Bhakra is required at present, though the position will be constantly watched.

International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy

831. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the nature of decisions taken, resolution passed and recommendations made at the Second International Conference on the peaceful uses of Atomic Energy held in Geneva during September, 1958?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The Conference was entirely scientific and technological and, in

accordance with its Rules of Procedure, adopted no resolutions and took no decisions. The Conference served the purpose of providing an extensive and objective exchange of information over a wide area of scientific and technical knowledge on the peaceful applications of atomic energy, and also afforded opportunities for useful personal contacts amongst a very large number of participating scientists.

Factory Buildings

232. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to sell the factory buildings in the Industrial Estates; and

(b) if so, the procedure adopted and the facilities to be given to the purchasers?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) and (b). The pattern of assistance for schemes of Industrial Estates provides for factory buildings being given on rental basis, hire-purchase basis or out-right sale basis. Those who wish to take the buildings on hire-purchase basis have to make an initial payment of 20 per cent of the price. The balance 80 per cent should be paid in equated instalments spread over a period of 20 years. The procedure for giving factories on hire-purchase or out-right sale basis will have to be settled by the State Governments concerned. But all sales will be subject to the condition that the purchasers comply with the rules and regulations of the Estate

Rubber Areas in the Andamans

233. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Production Commissioner's Report on the survey of

the prospective rubber areas in the Andamans has been submitted to Government;

(b) if so, when this has been submitted; and

(c) what are the main observations made by the Commissioner in this report?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 31st December, 1957.

(c) A summary of the main observations is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 19].

खेती के औजारों का निर्यात और आयात

234. श्री वय हेब. क्या वास्तव्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि .

(क) भारत ने १९५७-५८ में कौन-कौन से खेती के औजार निर्यात और आयात किये, और

(ख) १९५७-५८ में आयात और निर्यात में कितना अन्तर रहा?

वास्तव्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री (श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री). (क) और (ख) एक विवरण सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है। [द्वितीय परिशिष्ट ३, अन्वय संख्या २०]

हिमाचल प्रदेश में औद्योगिक प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र

235. श्री वय हेब. क्या वास्तव्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतान की कृपा करेंगे कि .

(क) १९५७ में हिमाचल प्रदेश के औद्योगिक विभाग ने कितने लोगों को किन-किन उद्योगों का प्रशिक्षण दिया; और

(ख) ये प्रशिक्षित लोग कहाँ क्या काम कर रहे हैं ?

वास्तव्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री (श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री): (क) १९५७

के ३२६ व्यक्तियों को निम्न विहित कामों की ट्रेनिंग दी गयी:—

- (१) बुनाई धीर कसाई;
- (२) चमड़ा तथा चमड़ा कमाना;
- (३) लकड़ी का काम;
- (४) हौजरी;
- (५) कपड़े सीना;
- (६) तेल वेरना;
- (७) लोहारी का काम तथा बर्तन बनाना;
- (८) रस्से बनाना;
- (९) टोकरिया आदि बनाना, धीर
- (१०) मिट्टी के बर्तन बनाना।

(ख) यह जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है। लकिन ट्रेनिंग प्राप्त लोगों को खपाने के उद्देश्य से ६ उत्पादन केन्द्र खोलने की एक योजना हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार के विचाराधीन है।

Lay-off Wages

836. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether lay-off wages in Kanpur have been paid in full to the workers employed in Atherton West Kanpur Cotton Mills and Muir Mills Ltd.; and

(b) if not, the action taken by Government in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) No.

(b) Necessary action for the realization of the dues as arrears of land revenue has been taken by the State Government in all cases where applications have been received from the workmen.

Institute of Chartered Accountants

837. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed to review the working of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India has finalised its work and submitted its report;

(b) if so, the important suggestions and recommendations made;

(c) whether the report has been considered by Government; and

(d) if so, the decision taken?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement containing the information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 21].

(c) and (d). The report is under consideration.

Prime Minister's Circular to Ministries.

838. { Pandit D. N. Tiwary:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Naval Prabhakar:
Shri Anirudh Sinha:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some time back he had expressed a great concern over extravagance in administration and delays in routine administrative matters in a Circular to the Ministries;

(b) if so, the nature of suggestions made by him; and

(c) the steps taken to implement those suggestions and with what results?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) It is not customary to

disclose the contents of confidential papers. It may be stated however that the Prime Minister has frequently addressed various Departments of Government as well as sometimes Chief Ministers of States, in regard to greater efficiency and economy in the administrative processes.

(b) The principal suggestions have dealt with further decentralisation of work and the delegation of financial and administrative authority. It has also been suggested that the system of repeated noting on files should be changed and that promotion to the higher grades should be by merit.

(c) A number of steps have been taken towards decentralisation and delegation of authority. A special work study team is also studying methods of work in various Ministries with a view to eliminating waste of time and energy. Some results have already been obtained as a result of suggestions made by this team.

C.P.W.D. Godown at Vinaynagar

339. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case of misappropriation of electrical goods from the C.P.W.D. Godown at Vinaynagar, New Delhi has been reported to Government;

(b) if so, the value thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to trace the same?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes. Some electrical stores were drawn on approved indents by the duly authorised Section Officer (elec.) for the execution of day today departmental works, but these materials do not appear to have been used on the works. Nor do they appear in accounts rendered by Section Officer concerned.

(b) Approximately Rs. 70,000.

(c) Departmental inquiry in the matter is in progress and the Section Officer concerned is under suspension. The matter is also under investigation by the Special Police Establishment. The responsibility to be fixed on other concerned officers is also under examination.

Andhra Paper Mills, Rajamundry

340. { Shri Nagi Reddy:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for the allocation of foreign exchange for the expansion of Andhra Paper Mills, Rajamundry;

(b) if so, what is the amount asked for; and

(c) whether the request has been acceded to?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) to (c). No formal application for allocation of foreign exchange for the expansion of Andhra Paper Mills has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh. However, in view of the observation of the Licensing Committee that the foreign exchange requirements for their expansion scheme (estimated by the Development Wing at Rs. 2.5 crores) should be reduced, the State Government are understood to be negotiating with the Trade Representation of the German Democratic Republic in India through State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd. for import of Plant and Machinery. Their final proposals are still awaited.

Research in Handicrafts

341. { Shri E. C. Majhi:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Research Sections for conducting experiments and

research in handicrafts have been opened; and

(b) if so, how many and where they have been located?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The All India Handicrafts Board and the State Governments have opened the following Research Sections for conducting experiments and research in handicrafts:—

	Place	Number
(i) All India Handicrafts Board	Delhi	1
	Bombay	2
(ii) State Governments	Jammu & Kashmir (Srinagar)	1
	Bombay	1
	West Bengal (Calcutta)	1
	Punjab (Kulu, Dharamsala)	2
	Orissa (Cuttack)	2
	U. P. (Lucknow, Banaras)	3
	Madras (Rajapalayam, Adyar, Gudur)	3
	Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal)	2
		<hr/>

Labour Dispute Cases in Supreme and High Courts

842. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state how many cases of labour dispute are pending at present in the Supreme or High Courts of India for over four, three, two and one year respectively?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): The information is at present available in regard to Administrations of Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi and Manipur, and States of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh,

Bihar, West Bengal and Kerala. It is given below:—

Period of pendency	No. of cases pending
Pending over 4 years	3
Pending over 3 years	4
Pending over 2 years	69
Pending over 1 year	189

Core Project

843. Shri Damani: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing the extent to which capital goods needed for our projects incorporated under 'Core Projects' of Second Five Year Plan have been imported or otherwise procured?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): Attention is invited to the information given on pages 85-87 in the Planning Commission document "Appraisal and Prospects of the Second Five Year Plan" which was laid on the table of the House in May last. Foreign exchange expenditure incurred or committed in respect of the 'core' projects is almost wholly for the import of capital goods. In regard to capital goods obtained from internal production, information is not available.

State Trading Corporation

844. Shri Damani: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

- (a) the total quantity of Iron-ore exported by State Trading Corporation since it took over iron-ore exports in hand, year-wise; and
- (b) the total quantity of iron-ore exports for two years immediately preceding the State Trading Corporation taking over the business of iron ore exports?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). A statement is given below:—

STATEMENT

(a) * 1956-57 (July-June)	4,35,633 tons
1957-58 (July-June)	19,08,572 tons
1958 (July-October)	6,82,364 tons
(b) 1954-55 (July-June)	1.02 million tons
1955-56 (July-June)	1.56 million tons
1956-57 (July-June)	116,94,367 tons

*STC's quota was restricted during the period to one-third of the total quota

Industrial Estates in Orissa

845. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government have sent any proposal for starting Industrial Estates in that State during 1958-59; and

(b) whether these proposals have been approved?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) Yes, Sir. Two schemes for the establishment of Industrial Estates, one at Rourkela and another at Berrhampur have been proposed by the State Government to be implemented during 1958-59.

(b) The Government of India have accorded technical approval to both the schemes.

Orissa Textile Mills Limited

846. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government investigated into the affairs of Orissa Textile Mills Limited; and

(b) if so, the result of such investigations?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes, Sir, under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956; and

(b) The report submitted by the Inspector did not establish any criminal liability on the part of the management, nor did it call for any action under the provisions of Companies Act. Extracts from the report relating to matters concerning the Ministry of Works, Housing & Supply and the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, were, however, passed on to them for such action as they might consider necessary.

Ford Foundation Project

848. Shri Damani: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently an American Economist and Financial Expert visited the country under the Ford Foundation Project; and

(b) if so, whether any report has been submitted by this U.S. expert?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Mr Harry J. Robinson of the Stanford Research Institute visited India for a study of foreign investment opportunities.

(b) He submitted two reports which are under Government's consideration.

वैदेशिक कार्यान्वयन की विज्ञप्तियाँ

८४६. { श्री भक्त दर्शन .
श्री नवल प्रभाकर .

क्या प्रचलन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्रालय ने जो सूचनाएँ व विज्ञप्तियाँ आदि निकलती थी, उनका प्रकाशन पहले सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय का प्रेस सूचना विभाग किया करता था, किन्तु अब यह कार्य वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्रालय के सूचना विभाग ने स्वयं ले लिया है ;

(ख) यदि हा, तो यह परिवर्तन किन कारणों से व किस उद्देश्य से किया गया है ;

(ग) क्या उनके ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि प्रेस सूचना विभाग पिछले कुछ वर्षों से उन विज्ञप्तियों भादि को अंग्रेजी के साथ साथ हिन्दी में भी प्रकाशित किया करता था, पर अब वे केवल अंग्रेजी में ही दी जाने लगी हैं; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इन सब विज्ञप्तियों व सूचनाओं भादि को पूर्ववत् हिन्दी में भी प्रकाशित करने के बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

प्रधान मंत्री तथा वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू): (क) जी हां।

(ख) ऐसा परिवर्तन करने का कारण यह था कि मंत्रिमंडल के एक निर्णय के अनुसार, १५ जूलाई, १९५८ से विदेश मंत्रालय में एक नया प्रेस सम्पर्क अनुभाग (प्रेस रिलेशंस सेक्शन) खोला गया था। इस अनुभाग को एक काम यह भी सौंपा गया था कि वह विदेश कार्यालय की सारी विज्ञप्तियां और विदेश मंत्रालय के सरकारी तथा गैर-सरकारी बयान जारी करे। अभी तक यह कार्य प्रेस सूचना ब्यूरो के द्वारा किया जाता था।

इसे तथा अन्य कार्यों को एक जगह से दूसरी जगह इस स्थान से ले जाया गया कि विदेश-प्रचार की जरूरतें प्रांतरिक प्रचार की जरूरतों से भिन्न होती हैं। अन्य देशों के साथ प्रतिदिन विकसित होने वाले सम्बन्धों के साथ वैदेशिक प्रचार को अनिष्ट रूप में जुड़ा रहना चाहिए। इसलिए विदेश प्रचार से सम्बद्ध अधिकारियों को विदेश मंत्रालय के निरन्तर सम्पर्क में रहना पड़ता है क्योंकि प्रचार सामग्री को तैयार करने प्रस्तुत करने के लिए कौन सी नीति अपनाई जाय, इसके सम्बन्ध में केवल विदेश मंत्रालय ही विदेश ले सकता है। विदेश प्रचार, असल में विदेश-नीति तथा राजनय (डिप्लोमेसी) का माध्यम होता है, इसलिए वह बहुत अंतर्देशिक था कि विदेश मंत्रालय के प्रेस-

प्रचार के लिए सम्पर्क व्यवस्था किसी अन्य मंत्रालय में हो।

(ग) और (घ). प्रेस सूचना ब्यूरो से विदेश प्रचार प्रभाग में कार्य के स्थानांतरित होने में व्यवस्था संबंधी कुछ कठिनाइयां ऐसी हुई कि प्रारम्भ में, विदेश मंत्रालय की अधिकारियों और विज्ञप्तियों को साथ ही साथ हिन्दी में भी जारी करने का प्रबंध नहीं किया जा सका। अब इसका प्रबंध हो गया है और विदेश मंत्रालय की अधिकारियों और विज्ञप्तियां हिन्दी में भी जारी की जा रही हैं।

Construction of Central Government Offices at New Delhi

850. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent during current financial year so far on construction of buildings for Central Government offices at New Delhi; and

(b) total amount of money to be spent during the remaining period of the current financial year?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Soddy): (a) About Rs. 33 lakhs, upto 30-9-1968, through the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply.

(b) About Rs. 60 lakhs.

Second Five-Year Plan

851. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the revised allocations in the Second Five-Year Plan for:

(i) agriculture;

(ii) irrigation;

(iii) Power; and

(iv) the industrial projects in the public sector;

(b) the total amounts spent so far under each of the above headings, year-wise; and

(c) the physical targets set for each together with the achievements made so far?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) to (c). The anticipated expenditure and the achievement of physical targets during 1956-59 have been indicated in "Appraisal & Prospects of the Second Five Year Plan", published in May, 1958. The information regarding changes in the Plan outlay under different heads of development will be furnished in a document to be presented to Parliament in the course of this session. Some indication will also be given about the physical targets corresponding to the outlay.

Foreign Cotton Import

852. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total foreign cotton imported in India year-wise during the last 4 years;

(b) the value of such cotton; and

(c) the reasons for allowing these imports?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). The quantity and value of foreign cotton imported into India during the last four cotton seasons were:

Year	Quantity (in '000' bales)	Value (in Rs. lakhs)
1954-55	527.7	44,76.42
1955-56	580.3	48,13.35
1956-57	610.8	50,41.83
1957-58	397.8	31,70.72

(c) Cotton grown in India is mostly of the short staple varieties and is used only in the production of coarse and medium cloth. The country's requirements of long staple cotton which is used in the manufacture of fine and superfine cloth have to be

largely met by imports. Some of the Textile Mills are aligned for production of fine and superfine cloth only.

Aid to Eastern Plywood Company

853. { **Shri Warior:**
Shri Vasudevan Nair:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Eastern Plywood Company of Balipatam, Cannanore District, Kerala State regarding aid; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken thereon?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). The only representation which Government have received from the Eastern Plywood Company of Balipatam is in respect of the enhancement of their tea-chest capacity. The tea-chest capacity allowed to the factory has been assessed in accord with the policy followed by the Government and no increase of the same is possible. However, as a temporary measure of relief, it has been decided to consider proposals for transfer of unutilised capacity of certain factories to others (including Eastern Plywood Company) on "mutual agreement basis" provided the South Indian Plywood Manufacturers' Association can secure such an arrangement amongst its constituents and the Association has been advised accordingly.

Agricultural Equipment

854. **Shri Mohan Swarup:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have licensed the firm of Pashabhai Patel to manufacture a complete line of earth moving equipment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). Messrs Pashabhai Patel

& Company (Private) Limited, Bombay, have been licensed, under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, for the manufacture of certain items of earth moving equipment as detailed below:—

Item	Particulars of licence
1. Track pair for crawler tractors:	To meet the replacement requirement of about 2,000 track-type tractors per annum. Licence was granted on 17-4-1957.
2. Ball loader and Scraper attachment.	60 Nos. per annum of each attachment. Licence was granted on 2-8-1957.

Salt

855. Shri P. R. Patel: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether prospects of salt manufacture in Santalpur Taluk of Banaskantha District have been explored;

(b) whether any requests to grant licences for manufacture of salt in this area have been received; and

(c) if so, action taken in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) A request for the grant of a licence for manufacture of salt on an area of 100 acres in the Banaskantha District was made to Government in August, 1958.

(c) In view of the overproduction of salt in the country and the consequent slump in the salt industry, the Government of India have decided, on a recommendation made by the Central Advisory Board of Salt, that no new licences for the manufacture of salt or for extension of existing salt works should be issued for the present. Accordingly, the party was informed that no licence could be granted to him.

Salt Manufacture

856. Shri P. R. Patel: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for salt manufacture in less than ten acres of land, the District Magistrate cum-Collector is authorised to grant licence for salt manufacture and also to grant lands for the purpose;

(b) whether such requests to grant licences and lands for salt manufacture have been rejected for the Banaskantha District; and

(c) whether the Central Government had received any communication in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Licences for salt manufacture are granted by the Salt Department as laid down in the Central Excise Rules, 1944. In the case of lands belonging to the State Government, the District Magistrate-cum-Collector is authorised to grant leases of land for salt manufacture.

(b) It is understood that requests for lease of land for salt manufacture were rejected by the State Government in the light of the decision reached by the Government of India on the recommendation of the Central Advisory Board for Salt, that in view of the overproduction of salt in the country and the consequent slump in the salt industry, no new licences for manufacture of salt or for extension of existing salt works should be issued for the present.

(c) The action taken by the State Government was in consultation with the Salt Department.

N.E.F.A.

857. Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) how many offices of the N.E.F.A. Administration are located in rented houses in Shillong and the

amount paid as house rent yearly; and

(b) whether Government have any scheme to construct buildings to accommodate these offices and if so, where?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) There are altogether seven offices of the NEFA Administration located in rented houses at Shillong. These include the offices of the Heads of Departments and the Inspector-General of Assam Rifles. The annual rental for these buildings amounts to Rs. 92,724.

(b) There is a scheme for the construction of a permanent NEFA Secretariat building at Shillong but its implementation has been deferred pending a firm decision regarding the ultimate location of the Headquarters as well as due to general financial stringency.

Bicycle Factory in Assam

858. Shrimati Masda Ahmed: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that licence has been given by Government to start a bicycle factory in Assam in Private sector?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Yes, Sir. A licence has been issued to Messrs. Everest Industrial Corporation, Gauhati, in July, 1958 for the establishment of a bicycle factory at Gauhati for the manufacture of 60,000 bicycles, per annum on single shift.

Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme

859. Shri E. Madhusudan Rao: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that the houses constructed under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme in Telengana (Andhra Pradesh) have remained unoccupied since long;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes.

(b) The Andhra Pradesh Government have reported that out of 2,356 houses built at various places in Telangana Region (Andhra Pradesh), 480 houses built at Warangal are now lying vacant for want of amenities like water and electricity etc.

(c) The State Governments are endeavouring to provide the essential amenities.

Accommodation for Workcharged Staff of C.P.W.D.

860. Shri Tangaman: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had agreed to allot 100 'G' Type Quarters to the workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the quarters have been actually allotted to them; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The quarters could not be allotted earlier as they have become ready for occupation only recently. Eligible members of the work charged staff have been invited to submit applications for their allotment by December 6th. Allotments will be made soon thereafter to the applicants in the order of their seniority determined according to the length of stay in Delhi.

Development of Rock Salt Mines

861. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rupees one crore was provided

during the First Five Year Plan for the development of Rock Salt Mines in Mandi District and the setting up of a factory at Jogindranagar; and

(b) if so, the amount spent so far on it year-wise upto October, 1958.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Before launching on the actual programme, it was considered necessary to make a detailed geological and technical survey. As a result of the geological survey, it was decided to first prove the existence of deposits by means of drilling. The drilling operations at a cost of Rs. 2.19 lakhs commenced in 1952 and ended in 1955. Although the finding indicated that the reserves would last for at least 10 years, the geological survey was of the view that the result was inconclusive and advised a further programme for proving the deposits. Accordingly a project for sinking two shafts was undertaken in 1957 at an estimated cost of Rs. 13.61 lakhs. The cost of the portion of work completed so far is about Rs. 60,000. This project will not only help in estimating further reserves, but is expected to double the present production.

The original scheme for installing a salt refinery at Joginder Nagar has had to be deferred for the time being.

Tibetan Refugees in India

862. Shri Wodeyar: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have imposed certain restrictions on the Tibetan Refugees in India; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). A number of persons from the Tibet region of China are now residing in India. They have been asked not to indulge in any political activities while they are in India.

361 (A) L.S.D.—4.

Employment in Small Scale Industries

863. Shri Jhulan Saha: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether any assessment has been made about the progress of employment during the last five years in the small scale industries as compared with the large scale industries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): No, Sir. No such survey has so far been undertaken.

T.B. Patients in Tripura

864. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of T. B. patients among the displaced persons of Tripura, examined in 1955, 1956, 1957 and 1958;

(b) the number of women and children among them;

(c) what measures are being taken to treat them in Sanatoria and Hospitals, and

(d) whether it is possible to create a segregation centre in Tripura for these patients?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No. 22.]

Import Licences

865. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2798 on the 25th September, 1958 and state:

(a) the number of applications for import licences for raw materials for use in manufacturing medicines during 1957-58 and 1958-59 so far; and

(b) the number of applications rejected?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). The raw materials that go into the manufacture of medicines are many and they fall under different serial numbers of the Import Trade Control Schedule. Further, the same raw materials or at least many of them are used in the preparation of products other than medicines. It is, therefore, not possible to say how many applications were received for import of raw materials for use in manufacturing medicines only and how many were rejected.

Sanction of loan to West Bengal Government

366. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the West Bengal Government asked from the Government of India a sum of Rupees three crores (approximately) for distribution as loans to the displaced persons living outside camps; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) and (b). The Government of West Bengal have asked for a provision of Rs. 3.18 crores for disbursement of loans to the displaced persons living outside camps during 1959-60. The demand relates to the Budget proposals for 1959-60 received from the State Government and the matter is under examination along with the other budget proposals of the State Government.

Borahora Colliery, Assam

367. Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the instruction sent to the Regional Labour Commissioner, Calcutta to proceed to Assam to try for a negotiated settlement between the workers and em-

ployers of Borahora Colliery, Assam has not been carried out; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). The Regional Labour Commissioner, Calcutta, has been asked to discuss outstanding matters with the representatives of the management and the workers during his forthcoming visit to Shillong.

Technical School at Takyal (Manipur)

368. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has finally decided to start the technical school proposed to be built at Takyal in Manipur as originally planned;

(b) whether the proposal to merge it with the Adimjati Technical Institute was turned down; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) The Institute will be located in a place considered most suitable by the Manipur Administration

(b) Yes.

(c) It was not possible to integrate the training programmes of both the Institutes.

Silk Processing Factory in Punjab

369. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a silk processing factory is proposed to be set up in the Punjab;

(b) if so, whether the details of the project have been worked out;

(c) the total amount to be spent to set up the factory; and

(d) whether this factory will be run in public sector or private sector?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise

Small Industries Service Institute,
Bombay

870. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the small factories of Bombay have taken technical assistance from the Regional Small Industries Service Institute of Bombay; and

(b) if so, the extent thereof?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) Yes, Sir

(b) 4,300 Small Scale Units in Bombay State were given technical assistance up to the end of October, 1958

Handicrafts

871 Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend any assistance to the Bombay Government for the development of handicrafts during the Second Five Year Plan, and

(b) if so, the total amount allotted and proposed to be allotted during the remaining period of Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A provision of Rs 35 lakhs has been made in the Second Five Year Plan for the development of handicrafts in Bombay State. However, in view of the re-appraisal of the Plan, this provision may have to be revised. Actual allotments are made from year to year depending on the over-all financial position, the types of schemes proposed by the States, the progress made etc etc. The following assistance has been sanctioned by the Central Government so far during the period of the current Plan:—

	Grant Rs	Loan Rs.
1956-57	4,37,920	10,000
1957-58	2,42,620	1,63,625

The allocation of Central assistance for 1958-59 is Rs. 2.5 lakhs as grants and Rs 1.5 lakhs as loans.

समाचार-पत्रों की विज्ञापन

द्वारा श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बनाने की इच्छा करते कि पिछले पांच वर्षों में दिल्ली में प्रकाशित हिन्दी उर्दू और अंग्रेजी समाचार-पत्रों को अलग अलग विज्ञापन-शुल्क के रूप में कितनी घन-राशि दी गयी?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (डा० केशवर्) मार्ग हुई सूचना नीचे दी जा रही है —

वर्ष	हिन्दी	उर्दू	अंग्रेजी
१९५३-५४	₹ १६,७१६	₹ १०,३३५	₹ ५७,७१५
१९५४-५५	१६,६६४	१०,१६५	६३,८२१
१९५५-५६	३८,८७६	२६,५६६	३,३६,४६३
१९५६-५७	५१,०३६	३६,५६५	२,६६,०४८
१९५७-५८	४६,८६१	४४,६३८	३,०६,३५७
योग	₹ १,३०,१८३	₹ १,३४,६००	₹ १०,८६,४०४

१९५३-५४ तथा १९५४-५५ की मध्याह्न में वर्गीकृत विज्ञापन (Classified advertisements) पर होने वाले छूटों को नहीं जोड़ा गया है क्योंकि इन विज्ञापनों का केन्द्रीयकरण, डायरेक्टोरेट आफ एडवर्टाइजिंग एण्ड विज्ञापन पब्लिसिटी में अगस्त १९५४ में किया गया।

Factories in Punjab

878. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of factories, if any, and labourers in Punjab which come directly under the Government of India at present; and

(b) the names and the location of such factories?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b).

Name and Location of the factories	Average daily employment.
(1) Government of India Printing Press, Nilokheri, District Karnal.	89
(2) Government of India Press, Faridabad, District Gurgaon.	99
(3) Government of India Press, Simla	547
(4) K. S Railway Workshop, Kalka, District Ambala.	1,809
(5) Carriage and Wagon Repair Centre, Jagadhari, District Ambala	1,977
(6) Northern Railway Workshop, Amritsar.	1,396
(7) Bridge Workshop, Jullundur Cantt.	790
(8) Northern Railway Wheel Shop, Rajpura, District Patiala.	105

Besides the above, there are some Defence factories located in the State of Punjab. It will not be in the public interest to disclose their names and locations.

Cashewnut Factories

874. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cashew-nut industry is in great difficulty in

Malven District Ratnagiri, Bombay State;

(b) whether it is a fact that some factories are already closed and the remaining are going to be closed;

(c) whether Government have made any attempt to solve their difficulties;

(d) whether Government is aware that unemployment is increasing day by day owing to the closing of cashewnut factories; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to re-open the factories?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) to (e). A statement is given below:—

STATEMENT

The cashew-nut industry in Ratnagiri District of Bombay State has been experiencing difficulties for the last several years. It is reported that 4 factories have closed down in the last 4 or 5 years and only one factory employing about 500 workers is in operation. The main reason for the closure of the factories is the shortage of finance. Difficulty experienced in getting regular supplies of raw cashew-nuts is also one of the many other reasons.

The State Government have launched a 4-year Scheme for increasing cashew-nut cultivation in the district by giving financial help in the form of loan to cultivators, in addition to leasing out Government lands for cashew cultivation. The possibility of organising the industry on a co-operative basis is being explored.

Rehabilitation of Ex-Criminal Tribe Families from Pakistan

875. { Shri Nagi Reddy:
Shrimati Parvathi
Krishnan:

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-criminal tribe families who migrated to East Punjab from Pakistan after partition;

(b) the number of such families who were originally settled on land in Multan, Montgomery and Jhang districts;

(c) whether they were allotted land in East Punjab after migration in lieu of lands held by them in Pakistan;

(d) whether it is a fact that some of those families have been served with eviction notices; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the arrangements being made for their alternate settlement?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) and (b). Statistics on the basis of the status or occupation of persons who migrated to India from West Pakistan were not maintained and it is, therefore, not possible to give the number of ex-criminal tribe families who migrated or the number of such families who were originally settled on land in the various districts of East Punjab

(c) Land was allotted to all displaced persons who had claimed that they were displaced agriculturists from West Pakistan. Allotments were made either on the basis of documents in the possession of these persons or on the basis of oral evidence.

(d) and (e). Eviction notices have been served on such of these temporary allottees as were found on a scrutiny of jamabandis not to have owned land in Pakistan and who had, therefore, obtained their allotments originally by making false statements. Notices have also been given to those persons who had secured excessive allotments on the basis of exaggerated claims, to surrender the extra land in their possession. There can be no question of making alternative arrangements for persons who secured land allotments by misrepresentation or fraud.

Documentary on the life of the People of Hilly Regions of U. P.

876. Shri Bhakt Darshan: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the documentaries produced so far depicting the life of the people of hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh particularly Pauri-Garhwal and Tehri-Garhwal;

(b) the other proposals for the production of documentaries regarding the above regions; and

(c) the steps being taken for the implementation of above proposals?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Two documentary films, namely, "Holy Himalayas" in black and white and "Kumaon Hills" in colour have been produced about the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh. In addition to these, Government have produced four documentaries, viz., "Ganga", "Indo-Gangetic Plain", "Physical Features of India" and "Call of the Mountains" which contain shots of Garhwal area

(b) None at present

(c) Does not arise.

Hostile Nagas

877. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Vikhety Sema, a Naga interpreter of Mokoklung was shot dead in his village on Saturday on 8th November, 1958 by Naga hostiles and his brother was also kidnapped and killed; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the incidents?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). According to our information two Dobhashis, Vikheto Sema (not Vikhety Sema) and Hukiya Sema, were

kidnapped by Naga hostiles on the night of 10th September, 1958. Some villagers who went to secure their release were asked to provide Rs. 25,000 as ransom for the release of both. Vikheto Sema was, however, released by the hostiles on the 0th October, 1958, and he returned to his village.

Vikheto Sema who was staying with an army picket returned to his house on the 8th November, 1958, but he was shot dead the same day at 10.30 hours.

Hukiya Sema was kept in detention and it is not known whether he has also been murdered.

Five suspects in this case have been arrested so far.

Second Five Year Plan

878. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab Government have submitted to Planning Commission the estimates of financial resources for the remaining years of the Second Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and suggestions made in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The estimates furnished by the Government of Punjab were discussed between the Planning Commission and the State Government in October. These estimates are included in a document which was submitted to the National Development Council earlier this month. The document will be placed on the Table of the House shortly. At these discussions, measures for raising additional resources, such as assessment and recovery of betterment fees, special assessment on agricultural land used for non-agricultural purposes, improvement in tax administration, intensification of the small savings drive, etc., were considered

jointly by the Planning Commission and the State Government. Further discussions on the resources position for 1959-60 will take place shortly.

Employment Exchange

879. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons registered with the various Employment Exchanges in Punjab from the 1st January to the 31st October, 1958; and

(b) the number of them who have been provided with jobs?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) 139,663

(b) 25,085

Export of Coir Products

880. Shri Achar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the quantity and value of coir products exported in the years 1956, 1957 and 1958 so far?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No. 23.]

भूमि का दर्जन

क्या { नवल प्रजाकर :
श्री भक्त दर्शन :

क्या निर्वारण, आवास और सभरण मंत्री एक ऐसा विवरण तथा पटल पर रखने की कृपा करके जिनमें निम्नलिखित जानकारी दी हुई हो :

(क) चाल वष में सरकार ने दिल्ली में विकास तथा मकान बनाने के लिये कितने एकड़ भूमि अजिन की ;

(ख) ये जमीनें कहाँ-कहाँ हैं :

(ग) इन जमीनों के लिये अनिपूर्ति के रूप में कितनी धन राशि दी गयी ;

(घ) इन जमीनों पर कितने प्लाट बनाये जायेंगे, और

(ङ) विकास कार्य पूरा होने के बाद इस जमीन की अनुमानित प्रति वर्ग गज क्या कीमत होगी ?

निर्वाह, आवास तथा संभरण मन्त्री (श्री श्री ७० रेड्डी): (क) ११०० एकड़ भूमि-प्रजन की कार्यवाही की जा चुकी है। इसमें से अधिकतर भूमि का कब्जा १९५७-५८ में और शेष का १९५८-५९ में लिया गया।

(ख) यह जमीन नई दिल्ली के दक्षिण रिंग रोड (Ring Road) क्षेत्र में है।

(ग) इस जमीन की क्षति पूति क लिय निर्धारित रकम लगभग १,४१,००,००० रुपये है, जिसमें से ६५ लाख रुपये का भुगतान किया जा चुका है।

(घ) यह जमीन सरकारी इमारतों को बनाने के काम में लायी जायेगी; इसलिये इसमें प्लाटों में विभाजित करने का मसाला पैदा ही नहीं होता।

(ङ) लगभग ७ रुपये प्रतिवर्ग गज।

Publicity Vans

332. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States in which publicity vans of the Central Government are operating; and

(b) the main items which they release for public education?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix III annexure No 24.]

(b) The main object is to publicise and educate the public on the Five Year Plan, its salient features, targets and attainments. This is done through film shows, distribution of

publicity literature and display of posters.

फिल्म प्रदर्शन

८८३. { श्री नवल प्रसाद :
श्री भक्त दर्शन :

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) पिछले दो वर्षों में सूचना और प्रसारण मन्त्रालय द्वारा आयोजित फिल्म प्रदर्शनों में कितने मसाला-चित्र और प्रलेखीय चल-चित्र (डाक्यूमेंटरीज) दिखाये गये; और

(ख) इन प्रदर्शनों में उक्त अवधि में कितनी आय हुई ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मन्त्री (डा० केशकर): (क) सरकार ने ३० नवम्बर, १९५८ तक पिछले दो वर्षों में ७६.५७ करोड़ तथा २८६ का डाक्यूमेंटरी फिल्मों का जिन पर टिकट लगाया गया।

(ख) १६,६१७ ४२ रुपये।

Ashoka Hotels Limited

334. **Shri Radhamohan Singh:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of the construction of the Ashoka Hotels was carried out by the Ashoka Hotels Ltd. through its own agency or through a contractor; and

(b) whether Government lent or deputed any of its officers to supervise the work of construction in view of the huge sum of money granted to the Company?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The work of construction of the Ashoka Hotel buildings etc was entrusted to contractors.

(b) Yes Government lent to the Company, on foreign service terms, a number of its officers, to supervise the work of construction

12.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS OF CENTRAL SILK BOARD

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of two Half-Yearly Administrative Reports of the Central Silk Board for the period from 1st October, 1957 to 31st March, 1958 and 1st April, 1958 to 30th September, 1958. [Placed in Library, See No LT-1069/58.]

REPORTS OF TARIFF COMMISSION

Shri Manubhai Shah: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951, a copy of each of the following papers:

- (i) Report (1958) of the Tariff Commission on the continuance of protection to the Caustic Soda and Bleaching Powder Industry.
- (ii) Government Resolution No 32(2)-T.R./58 dated the 29th November, 1958. [Placed in Library, See No. 1070/58.]
- (iii) Report (1958) of the Tariff Commission on the continuance of protection to the Electric Motor Industry.
- (iv) Government Resolution No. 11(1)-T.R./58 dated the 29th November, 1958. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1071/58.]

AMENDMENTS TO COMPANIES (CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S GENERAL RULES AND FORMS).

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of Section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956, a copy of each of the following Notifications making certain further amendments to the

Companies (Central Governments) General Rules and Forms, 1956:—

- (i) G.S.R. No.1026 dated the 1st November, 1958.
- (ii) G.S.R. No.1108 dated the 22nd November, 1958 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1072/58].

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
THIRTY-FIRST REPORT

Sardar Hukam Singh: (Bhatinda): Sir, I beg to present the Thirty-first Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

RAJGHAT SAMADHI COMMITTEE

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): Sir, I beg to move:

That in pursuance of clause (d) of sub-section (1) of Section 4 of the Rajghat Samadh. Act, 1951, as amended by the Rajghat Samadhi (Amendment) Act, 1958, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Rajghat Samadhi Committee subject to the other provisions of the said Act

Mr. Speaker: I will put this to the vote of the House, but in view of what transpired yesterday regarding disqualification of hon. Members, I would suggest that whenever any hon. Minister moves that any hon. Member of Parliament should serve on any committee outside the Parliament he should also state whether that will entail any disqualification. I would like that in the margin it may be noted whether there is any disqualification to be incurred or no disqualification is to be incurred. Then it will improve the situation and hon. Members will get to know what exactly is the position.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat): I want to know whether if we pass it by the vote of the House it will automatically remove the disqualification. If we have once passed the Bill, I think it will be the interpretation of the Bill that will come in.

Mr. Speaker: No. A law is necessary. By mere Resolution we cannot remove the disqualification.

It is only for the purpose of knowing that I said that. If hon. Members have an idea as to what exactly is the position then they will look into it and raise an objection whether the motion ought to be allowed or ought not to be allowed.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): May I point out that already hon. Members have accepted officers of certain bodies at the behest of Parliament. Now they are rendering themselves liable to the penalty because it is not yet certain, even after passing the present Bill, whether they will be disqualified or not. Therefore I submit that something should be done on that score.

Mr. Speaker: Not on this motion I have merely referred to it to bring it to the notice of the House the disqualification or otherwise because they have no opportunity to look into the details of the proceedings and what they have to do in relation to any particular committee. That is the object of my statement and nothing more. The other matters will be considered at the proper time.

The question is:

"That in pursuance of clause (d) of sub-section (1) of Section 4 of the Rajghat Samadhi Act, 1951, as amended by the Rajghat Samadhi (Amendment) Act, 1958, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Rajghat Samadhi Committee subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted

12.06 hrs.

PARLIAMENT (PREVENTION OF DISQUALIFICATION) BILL—*contd*

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the Parliament Prevention of Disqualification Bill, 1957, as reported by the Joint Committee and the amendments moved thereto.

Shri D. C. Sharma may continue his speech. We have already exceeded the time allotted. The total time taken is 17 hours whereas time allotted was 15 hours. I will apply the guillotine in half an hour.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Sir, I was submitting yesterday that the principle enunciated in clause 3 is at variance with the principle that we are going to follow in the Schedule Part I and Part II. The principle in clause 3 is the principle of inclusion. We are throwing open the gates of the Lok Sabha to several categories of persons. But the principle enunciated in the Schedule, Part I and Part II is contrary to that. There we follow the principle of exclusion and, I should be permitted to say, with a vengeance. Now, as if this was not enough an hon. Member of this House has moved amendments in which he has listed a large number of companies whose membership will incur disqualification for being a Member of Parliament. I think this is contrary of practice, contrary to usage and also contrary to the very principles that are being enunciated in this Bill.

There are certain bodies to which we are entitled for representation under certain Acts passed by this House. We have got so many bodies. So many statutory bodies are there. At the same time there are certain bodies to which persons are entitled for representation by the Acts passed by State Governments. I ask the question of the hon. Minister. Do we mean to say that we passed that in a fit of absent mindedness? Do we

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

mean to say that we passed, these Acts without knowing their implications and their repercussions? Do we mean to say that the State Governments passed those Acts without having the objectives of the Welfare State in view?

12.09 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

I think the answer to all these questions will be found to be in the negative. These Acts were passed with full knowledge of the duties of the Lok Sabha, the duties of the Members of Parliament and the duties of the Members of the State Legislatures. I do not think that any purpose will be served by taking away from them those duties which they have been normally discharging all these days.

Again take the distinction which has been made between Chairman, Secretary and Members. There are some bodies where the chairmen are disqualified, secretaries are disqualified and the members are also disqualified. There are other bodies where the chairmen and secretaries are disqualified but the members are not disqualified. I do not see any principle involved in this. What is the function of the Chairman of a statutory body or a non-statutory body? What are the functions of a director or a member? I think they are there primarily in an advisory capacity. They are the sentinels of this House kept on those bodies to see that the policies of the Parliament are implemented as fully and as judiciously as possible. Therefore it is a very invidious kind of distinction to say that the Chairman is going to be a person who comes under the mischief of the office of profit and the members do not. I think neither the chairman nor the member nor the secretary should come within the mischief of the provisions of this Act.

After all, I am taking my cue from the speech of the hon. Law Minister

He said that we should widen the scope of our activities, that Members ... Parliament and State Legislatures should try to touch life at as many points as possible. It is a very welcome thing that he said it, but he takes away with one hand what he gives with the other. For instance, he tries to pass an Act while at the same time he wants us not to go in for those things which are our legitimate right.

Just now there was a motion to elect two Members to the Rajghat Samadhi Committee. If a thing like that also comes under the provision of this Act, I will be very unhappy, but it will come because I know that any kind of thing which we do outside this House mostly and mainly, by far and large, will be affected by the provisions of this Bill.

Therefore, I say he should not proceed with the schedule, either Part I or Part II. It is because the schedule will lessen the usefulness of the Members of the legislature. It is because the schedule will not enable us to discharge our functions either by our people or by our country. We are here as the trusted of the nation, we are here as the sentinels of the people, and I think if we do not know anything about the bodies which the Government brought into being in order to implement their policies, we will be doing less than justice to our work.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should be brief now.

Shri D. C. Sharma: So, I would say that this kind of disqualification should not be done away with.

If the hon. Minister is very keen on ruling out the chairman and directors, if he thinks that they exercise much more power than perhaps can be given to Members of Parliament, I think at least membership should not incur any disqualification. At the same time, I say that the privileges which are given to the Ministers should be

shared if not equally with the Members, at least in some proportion. If the Ministers cannot incur disqualification on account of doing all these things, I do not see any reason why the Members should be called upon to incur disqualification because they deal with some outside bodies.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: (Mukandapuram): Have you changed your view now?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I do not think there should be this kind of discrimination against Members *vis-a-vis* the Ministers. So, I would say to the hon. Minister that he should scrap the schedule.

Shri Mohammed Imam rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does he want to speak? Only five minutes.

Shri Mohammed Imam (Chitaldrug): I have got an amendment to move.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yesterday we exhausted all those who had intended to move amendments

Shri Mohammed Imam: It is to the schedule.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes, he might move. But did he indicate previously?

Shri Mohammed Imam: Yes, Sir

I beg to move:

Page 8, after line 18, add

"Housing Board constituted under
Mysore Housing Board Act

Khadi and Village Industries Board

City Improvement Trust Board of
Bangalore and Mysore"

This is quite simple and I do not expect the hon. Minister will have any difficulty in accepting this amendment. This concerns the schedule relating to the States. I find the list is not uniform, that the disqualification to be incurred by being members of committees is not uniform to all the States.

For example, here I have indicated that the Housing Board constituted under the Mysore Housing Board Act should be included in the schedule. Membership of such a Board acts as a disqualification in other States—in the case of the Bombay, Saurashtra and Vidarbha Housing Boards. In other States like Mysore, if a Member is a member or a chairman of the housing board, he does not incur disqualification, and he can still contest the elections. I am anxious that at least in these matters there should be uniformity and that is why I have suggested that the Mysore Housing Board should be included.

If I remember correctly, the committee recommended that the chairman and members of the Khadi Board should be disqualified and that they should not contest, but somehow that board has been excluded. Similarly, there are City Improvement Trust Boards constituted in cities like Bangalore and Mysore. A person who is the chairman or a member of such a Board can still aspire to become a Member. They hold not only offices of profit, but as members of these boards, they can exercise considerable influence. So, it is but reasonable that this amendment be accepted and these bodies included in the schedule. I am only anxious that the exemptions must be uniform to all the States, and I appeal to the hon. Minister to accept the amendment.

12.18 hrs

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has spoken.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Hisar): Yesterday you were pleased to tell me that I should speak after all the persons who have moved amendments are allowed to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes, he might speak now, but perhaps he was here

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

when the hon. Speaker announced that this should be concluded within half an hour.

Shri Naryanankutty Menon: The whole Bill? Only the second reading.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I will be very brief.

I oppose the amendment moved by Shri Narayanankutty Menon by which he practically asks us to reconsider what we have already passed. We have already passed sub-clause (i) of clause 3 which says that certain offices given in the schedule are to disqualify members. Similarly, the chairman, secretary and members of certain bodies are now disqualified because the hon. Minister has been pleased to accept an amendment of my hon. friend.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: That is Part II of the schedule.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: The subject matter of the schedule is under consideration, as to which committee should come in and which should not. So far as the question of having a schedule is concerned, we have already taken a decision under clause 3 (i). That is my submission. So, we should not reopen that. Therefore, that part of the amendment is out of order.

Secondly, Shri Morarka pleaded for the inclusion of several bodies. In this connection I am very sorry to say that I have to take exception to the view taken by the hon. Law Minister. He was pleased to say that the question is not of addition to the schedule but of subtraction. In regard to those committees which we have not examined, my humble submission is that he should keep an open mind, because after scrutinising them, he may come to the view that certain committees should not come within

the schedule. They may be allowed. In regard to the committees which have not been examined at all, they must be allowed to come in if the House is of the opinion that they should disqualify their holders.

For instance, there is the Hindustan Steel Limited, Oil (India) Limited, and there are several other bodies which are exactly of the same nature as the bodies included in the schedule. There is no reason why they should not be added to the schedule. I do not think the hon. Law Minister meant that in no case he would allow an addition to the schedule by this House. I do not interpret it that way. I only interpret it this way, namely that the hon. Minister is of the view that the committee has already undertaken a strict view, and therefore, he is not inclined to accept any additions. I can understand that. But I would rather request him and the House to consider it from a different standpoint. 30 Members of the Joint Committee and the Sub-committee of the Joint Committee have given their opinion already. They have considered the pros and cons about every committee, and in their wisdom, they only selected 137 committees out of about 1300 committees, and all the others were excepted, because we took the same view as the hon. Law Minister. His view is perhaps wider than that of ours, but we also thought that Members of Parliament ought to be allowed to go on those committees, for, otherwise, the work of the country might suffer, so far as the developmental activities are concerned. It was from that point of view that we exempted the other committees.

So, this has already passed through one cauldron, and, therefore, we have to consider seriously whether we ought to allow this schedule to be amended. Unless there are good reasons for it, we should not amend it.

It will not be the right way of looking at it, and it will be dealing with it in a cavalier fashion, if whenever anybody says, 'All right, exclude it', we exclude it; for, day after day, for several days, the Joint Committee went into the question, and many Members of the committee took very great pains to find out if certain committees should be included or not. After this, the entire committee gave its approval to it. Thereafter, the hon. Law Minister gave his approval to it, and other committees were excluded at his instance which he thought should not have been brought within the schedule. Therefore, my humble submission is that only on merits certain committees can be included or excluded, and this general principle of adding or not adding or subtracting is not correct.

In regard to two other committees referred to by my hon. friend Shri Morarka, namely the Central Council of Gosamvardhana and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, I have to submit to the House that these two were considered by the Joint Committee in detail and at page 29-32 of the Report of the Sub Committee, these two have been included in the category of committees which are not objectionable. This is a schedule which is not part of the schedule given by the Joint Committee, and this schedule gives the list of committees membership of which is non-objectionable, and at page 29 in this list, item 88 is 'Central Council of Gosamvardhana', and similarly at page 32, item 186 is 'Indian Council of Agricultural Research'; that is, both these committees have been regarded as committees membership of which is unobjectionable.

Now, an attempt is being made to add these two in the schedule. My humble submission is that unless this House is of opinion that these two committees are of such a nature that they should be included, we should not lightly include them, simply be-

cause some hon. Member objects and says that they should be included. For, the position was looked into, and then it was held that membership of these committees was not objectionable.

Similarly, in regard to the other committees, I would submit that in a book published by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, called "The Report of the Committee on Office of Profit. Part II (b)", the composition and constitution of the various committees have been given, and a perusal of that will show that only such committees were accepted by this committee which in their opinion were such as whose membership should disqualify. If you will kindly go through this book, it will appear that in regard to two or three other committees of which notice has been given, they are really of such a nature that we would not be well advised in exempting them. For instance, there are the committees relating to the religious trusts, and the Gaya Temple. If you will kindly look at their composition, you will find that they actually do such things as do partake of executive and judicial functions as well as functions which give patronage, etc. Very large properties come within the purview of these religious trusts, and those properties are also managed by these committees. Similarly, in regard to other trusts also, it so happens that their functions are of a different nature. Now, our difficulty is this. The sub-committee of the Joint Committee and the Joint Committee have gone deeply into this question after devoting their full time after having gone through the constitution, etc. and then arrived at this schedule. Here, every hon. Member gets up and says, such and such a committee should not be included in the schedule, because the members of the local legislatures can become members of these committees, and if that be the case, why Members of Parliament should not be allowed to become members of those committees. They do not realise that this Bill only

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

relates to disqualification of Members of Parliament. If a Member of the local legislature goes on these committees, that is no ground for Members of Parliament also going on these committees. I do not think that is a good argument or that is justifiable.

I would rather like that if any subtractions or additions are to take place, then the composition of the committees in question should be gone into, and after going into the composition, if we find that the sub-committee or the Joint Committee made a mistake, then there will be a good case for a revision. But merely because it is said that Members of the Assemblies can serve on these committees and, therefore, Members of Parliament should also be allowed to go on these committees, if we make any changes, that is not proper.

If you look into the composition of certain committees, in regard to which notice has been given of amendments, you will find that nothing but patronage is being exercised in these committees. For instance, there are the committees which deal with allotment of land, grant of scholarship, allotment of officers, etc. If Members are allowed to serve on these committees, then they will exercise patronage, which we do not want.

After all, whatever may be said about this Bill, one point is absolutely certain, and that is, that there is one uniform principle followed, namely that the independence of the Members should not be weakened, and they should not be put in such a position where they themselves begin to distribute patronage. I understand the point of view of the hon Law Minister. He is anxious and constantly goes on harping on the point that Members should be allowed to go on these committees because otherwise the work of the country might suffer. I appreciate this viewpoint, and I submit that that was exactly the point of view which we had borne in mind. So, there is no difference of opinion

between us. The only difference of opinion is in regard to the emphasis. He lays too much emphasis, while we lay only a balanced emphasis. Apart from this, he also subscribes to the principle that the independence of the Members of the House should be kept intact, and the question of purity etc should remain as it is

There is just one other thing that I must bring to the hon. Minister's notice and the notice of the House also. Previously also, we had come to this conclusion. In fact, our Election Commissioner, the elder brother, perhaps, of our Law Minister, was of the same view. His judgment has been published. Then, Dr. Ambedkar and Shri C C Biswas were also of the same view. If you consider the laws of other countries, not only of Great Britain but of other countries also, you will find that this is the very basis on which they have all proceeded. So, we should not get away from this principle, and try to harp on the principle that the country would go to pieces if the Members of Parliament are not allowed to go on these committees, and that this House would become only a talking House. That sort of argument is not right. We have to see where there should be a greater emphasis.

Therefore, I would beg of the hon. Law Minister to kindly consider this question from this point of view from this one principle which has been accepted, before he accepts any of these committees; and then, if he likes, he can make or mar the schedule; if he stands up and says, I accept it, then nobody is going to oppose him, and his statement will be enough. I would, therefore, beg of him to kindly consider this question from this point of view which has been accepted by all these committees, by the previous Law Ministers and also by all the legislators in other countries. This is the only criterion, and this yard-stick must be observed. Otherwise, it is no use merely saying in a cavalier

fashion, I drop this, I drop this. That will not be fair either to the Joint Committee or to the House.

Shri Radha Raman (Chandni Chowk): I just want to ask one thing. I have given notice of several amendments in respect of certain committees in which we are serving.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Did the hon. Member indicate the numbers and move them in the beginning, when the schedule was taken up?

Shri Radha Raman: Yes, I have moved them.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: They were moved yesterday.

Shri Radha Raman: The numbers of the amendments are 99, 98 and 100. In spite of the fact that there is a schedule in which a list is given, I am not very clear whether those committees which are referred to in my amendment will be exempted or not.

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): They are not in the disqualifying list at all.

Shri Radha Raman: That is what we want to know.

Shri A. K. Sen: The schedule speaks for itself. If those committees are not mentioned, then they are not disqualifying.

As I said before, we are prepared to accept amendment No. 91 moved by Shri Dasappa regarding the advisory committees of the Air Corporations, so that they may be put in Part II of the schedule. We are also prepared to accept amendments Nos. 107 and 108 moved by Shri K. N. Pandey, regarding the Employees' State Insurance Corporation.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): If amendments Nos. 107 and 108 are accepted, my amendment No. 105 should also be accepted because it deals with the same corporation.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Shri Pandey happens to be a member of only the Central Board. So he moved his amendment.

Shri Tangamani: Amendment No. 107 deals with the ESIC proper; 108 deals with the Standing Committee of the ESIC; whereas amendment No. 105 deals with Regional Boards appointed by the ESIC.

Shri A. K. Sen: We shall accept that. On a parity of reason, amendment No. 105 should also be accepted.

As regards the rest of the amendments, including Shri Morarka's amendments, I am afraid it will not be possible for us to accept them. I would beg of hon. Members not to make any additions now, specially in view of the fact that a Standing Committee is going to be set up which will review the entire position from time to time and report to Parliament. Frankly, I do not think we have had more time to examine the constitution of these several committees than what the Joint Committee or the Sub-Committee had. And if those two Committees, after considering it for such a long time, thought it fit not to include them in the disqualifying list, we should not hurry in including more committees without really examining the implications of their being included in the Schedule.

I am sorry Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava did not really follow me properly. It was due to my own defect in not expressing myself properly.

Shri Radha Raman: What is the position of the Members who hold any office in those committees which are not in the excluded list?

Shri A. K. Sen: They are exempt. The Schedule is a Schedule containing specifically the names of those committees or boards which are disqualified. Those which are not disqualified naturally are not disqualified.

[Shri A. K. Sen]

What I meant to say was that we should not be in a hurry to include more committees in the Schedule simply because they might strike us for the moment as similar to those which have been put in the disqualifying list, without really examining the constitution of these committees more elaborately. And since this is not the final thing, since we are going to have a Standing Committee of this House and also of the Upper House to examine this matter, I request hon. Members not to include more committees without the matter being absolutely obvious to all of us. That was what I intended to say, not that we are not going to consider any inclusion whatsoever.

Therefore, I request hon. Members who have moved other amendments for including various other bodies not to press those amendments to vote, specially because we are going to have, as I have already said, a Standing Committee, to whom these references may be made by hon. Members for examining the constitution of these committees for the purpose of seeing whether they should be included or not. That would really give more time to the Standing Committee to devote to this very important aspect; because once we put in a disqualification, we may be disqualifying many Members of Parliament from taking part in the activities of these bodies.

Therefore, I accept amendments Nos. 91, 105, 107 and 108 and oppose all the other amendments, and I would commend to the House that the Schedule, as amended, be accepted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

(i) Page 4,—omit lines 5 to 10; and

(ii) Page 9,—after line 28, add—

“Advisory Committee for the Air-India International Corporation appointed under Section 41

of the Air Corporation Act, 1953 (27 of 1953)

Advisory Committee for the Indian Airlines Corporation appointed under Section 41 of the Air Corporation Act, 1953 (27 of 1953)”.

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 6,—omit lines 9 to 11.

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 5,—omit lines 29 and 30.

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 6,—omit lines 12 to 14.

The motion was adopted.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Amendment No. 104 may be put to vote separately.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 5,—omit lines 19 to 30.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put all the other amendments to the vote of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 5,—

after line 4, insert—

“Board of Directors of the Hindustan Antibiotics Private Ltd., Pimpri.

Board of Directors of the Hindustan Cables Private Ltd., Roopnarayanpur.

Board of Directors of the Hindustan Salt Company Private Ltd., Jaipur.

Board of Directors of Nahar Foundry Private Ltd., Nahar.

Board of Directors of Indian Rare Earths Private Ltd., Alwaye.

Board of Directors of Travancore Minerals (Private) Ltd., Quilon.

Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay.

Board of Directors of the State Bank of Hyderabad, Hyderabad.

Board of Directors of the State Bank of India, Bombay.

Board of Directors of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Calcutta.

Board of Directors of the National Projects Construction Corporation (Private) Ltd., New Delhi.

Board of Directors of the Tata Locomotive and Engineering Co. Ltd, Bombay.

Board of Directors of the Sindhu Resettlement Corporation Ltd, Bombay.

Board of Directors of the Orissa Mining Corporation (Private) Ltd., Bhuwaneshwar.

Board of Directors of the Hindustan Steel (Private) Ltd., New Delhi.

Board of Directors of the Eastern Shipping Corporation Private Ltd., Bombay.

Board of Directors of the Indian Telephone Industries Private Ltd., Bangalore.

Board of Directors of the Western Shipping Corporation (Private) Ltd., Bombay.

Board of Directors of the Ashoka Hotels (Private) Ltd., New Delhi.

Board of Directors of the Hindustan Housing Factory (Private) Ltd., New Delhi.

Board of Directors of the Oils India (Private) Ltd."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 9,—
after line 28, add—

"All India Cattle Show Committee, New Delhi."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 9,—
after line 28, add—

"Central Council of Gosamvadhana, New Delhi.

The Central Provident Fund, New Delhi.

The Coal Mines Provident Fund, Dhanbad.

Coal Mines Welfare Fund, Dhanbad."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 11,—
after line 18, insert—

"Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi."

"Mica Mines Welfare Fund, Dhanbad.

Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund Advisory Committee for Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund Advisory Committee for Andhra, Nellore."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 4, line 3,—
omit "PART I".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 9, line 27,—
omit "PART II".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 11,—
after line 35, add—

"Bombay

Board or any of the committees constituted under it under the Nanded Sikh Gurdwara Sachakhand Shri Hazur Apchalnagar Sahib Act, 1956."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 12,—
after line 14, add—

"Shromani Gurdwara Prabhandhak Committee or any other Committees constituted under it under the Punjab Sikh Gurdwara Act VIII of 1925."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 11,—
after line 6, insert—

"Inaccessible Areas Committee under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 5,—
after line 4, add—

"Board of Film Censors and its panels."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 6,—
after line 5, add—

"Programme Advisory Committee of All India Radio."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 5,—
after line 4, insert—

"Board of Directors of public and private companies, the subscribed capital of which is one lakh rupees or above."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 4,—
omit lines 5 to 10.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 5,—
omit lines 15 and 16.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Pages 4 to 9,—

for "Part I of the Schedule" substitute "Part I

Bodies under the Central Government. Such organisations or bodies as are determined by Parliament from time to time".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 8,—
omit lines 26 to 28

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 8,—

after line 18, add—

“Housing Board constituted under Mysore Housing Board Act.

Khadi and Village Industries Board. City Improvement Trust Board of Bangalore and Mysore”.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That the Schedule, as amended, stand part of the Bill”.

The motion was adopted.

The Schedule as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

Shri Hajarnavis: There is a small verbal amendment. It is of a consequential character.

I beg to move:

- (i) That the re-numbering of clauses consequential on the amendments made by the House be carried out.
- (ii) That the word “or” be inserted after the word “Chairman” in clause 3, sub-clause (i) on page 3, line 4.

The first part of the amendment relates to re-numbering of clauses. It is consequential.

As regards the second part of the amendment, the House will recall that the Bill, as proposed by the Joint

Committee, stated that the office of chairman, secretary or member of the standing or executive committee shall not be exempt. Government accepted an amendment for deleting the words ‘member of the standing or executive committee’. That being so, the word ‘or’ should come in between ‘chairman’ and ‘secretary’. It is also consequential.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

- (i) That the re-numbering of clauses consequential on the amendments made by the House be carried out.
- (ii) That the word “or” be inserted after the word “Chairman” in clause 3, sub-clause (i) on page 3, line 4.

The motion was adopted.

12.38 hrs.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA in the Chair]

Shri A. K. Sen: I beg to move:

“That the Bill, as amended, be passed”.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: First of all, I congratulate the hon. Law Minister on doing a very inconvenient task of salvaging whatever that was possible dictated by his conscience both when he introduced the Bill and also when he piloted it in this House.

At this last stage of the Bill, I only want to submit to the House that the House has undertaken a very serious and dangerous measure by passing this Bill in a very haphazard way, because not only the implications of the provisions of this Bill in relation to the Members of this House, and the consequent uncertainty which prevails as far as qualification and disqualification in terms of article 102 of the Constitution, is concerned, remain without being clarified, but a more dangerous step has been taken as to how far, as a matter of policy, members of

[Shri Narayanankutty Menon]

Parliament, legislators in this country, should be associated with the implementation of the plan of national development. Today by accepting the principle we have accepted, the House has almost negated the basic policy underlying the Second Five Year Plan and also the basic policy underlying the Government's own developmental plans. I make an appeal both to the hon. Law Minister and to the Members of this House that having passed this Bill, having laid down that the Bill will come into force only after some time, some more consideration should be given to the provisions of the Bill *and also the principles underlying it*, and not to stand on prestige hereafter. If after future deliberation, before the Bill comes actually into force, the Law Minister and the Government are convinced that we have today taken a very dangerous step, a step, which is derogatory to the basic policies and also to the implementation of the policies, the Law Minister himself should come before this House for a repeal of the whole measure—after a consideration of the facts that have been placed before the House during the debate and also which were placed before the Joint Committee.

I should, at this stage, like to give a warning to those who have been very vehement in this House that hon Members of this House should be excluded from all those activities of national development that they are completely unconcerned about the way in which public corporations which are the keystones of our industrial and economic development are run. Many of the speeches in this House have made it clear as to how these corporations or public undertakings are being run by persons who are not at all directly responsible to the House. If this is the state of affairs that is to come in future, and if this is the indication that the hon. Law Minister on behalf of Government is going to give to this House, I should like to say that it is one of the most sorrowful moments so far as the

future nationalisation of the industries of the country is concerned.

I wish to emphasise only one main point at this stage that the whole basic policy, the industrial policy and the economic policy of the nation so far as the Second Five Year Plan is concerned is that we make a solid departure from encouraging the private sector. It is a policy of containing the private sector to its proper position in the economy of the country, a policy of getting the co-operation of every available talent in the country. If by passing this Bill it is an indication that the talent of the country, the representatives of the people, in whatever manner or principle, are to be excluded from these, the only logical conclusion arising out of it is that we will be making these national undertakings full of Trojan horses and these undertakings, from the very nature, will be sabotaged from within. These undertakings and policies that have been formulated are not to the liking of that particular sector which you have decided to contain in a particular place in our national economy. But we are inviting today these very sectors whose antagonism we have achieved by formulating the basic principles.

Therefore, this Bill, even though it is called the Prevention of Disqualification of Members of Parliament Bill, is definitely the prevention of qualification of the talents of the country from being associated with these public undertakings, the prevention of the most active and conscious element of our country who subscribed their views to the Plan, who are the most capable persons who are responsible to the House for the implementation of the Plan. They are being kept out and instead of them, the very antagonists, the very enemies and the very persons whom we have deprived of these properties are being brought in. That will be the most sorrowful day.

Therefore, in the name of the development of the national economy in

the implementation of the Plan to which the House stands committed, in the name of the implementation of the socialist pattern of society to which the hon. Members of this House stand committed, I make an appeal to the hon. Members of this House to reconsider the most dangerous measure that they have passed today before it comes into operation in September 1959—before the whole dangerous structure comes into force in this country—in the light of subsequent deliberations and follow the real policy that has been laid down by this House

In concluding I wish once again to congratulate the Law Minister in adopting a stand, in whatever name it may be, against the amendment sought to be introduced by my hon friend, Shri Morarka to include whatever salvaged material was there. That gives us an indication that so far as the mind of Government is concerned it is left open in this matter.

With this expression of hope that the Government itself will come forward before September 1959 with the repeal or amendment of this Bill suitably, I thank you for giving me this opportunity

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): The object of the third reading is to assess the net effect of legislation as amended by the House during the second reading. Some beneficial changes have been made in this Bill and for that we are thankful to Government. But there lingers the uncertainty which was sought to be removed, namely, whether a particular Member of a Legislature or Parliament will be disqualified or not. We thought that we are making something more definite. A little more precision has been brought into this Bill; but what is happening?

Today there are many Members of this hon. House who are on various committees. Their position is not clear yet in spite of this measure. In the morning the Hon. Speaker was

pleased to observe while dealing with the question of elections to the Rajghat Samadhi Committee that in future, whenever Parliament asks any Member to be on a committee, there should be a note attached to it stating whether that office incurs a disqualification or not. Then I pointed out, what about those committees on which hon. Members still happen to serve and which have not been included in the list and which were not even considered by the Joint Committee whereby they may have already incurred disqualification.

Supposing, as the Hon. Speaker directed today, a note is put down that a particular committee does not entail disqualification. Is a Court bound by that note? Not at all. Notwithstanding the fact that the officer might *bona fide* believe that it does not incur a disqualification the court may come to the conclusion that it does incur disqualification. The result would be that the Parliament asks an hon. Member to serve; the hon. Member obeys the Parliament and incurs a disqualification. That fact, that danger continues to remain—even now.

Therefore, I am asking whether the hon. Minister while taking this Bill to the other House will not consider certain amendments. There may be cases where one can straightaway say that this is an office of profit or not. But, there are numerous marginal cases where it becomes extremely difficult to decide. An office may be declared to be an office of profit not because it carries any monetary emoluments but because some sort of trifling patronage might be attached to it to which we may not pay much attention.

As I said the other day, I am not sure, for instance if an hon. Member of this House, a medical practitioner, is asked to hold a sort of honorary position in a government hospital, very probably that might be an office of profit though it may be absolutely honorary. Having accepted to render

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

some service to the hospital, the person incurs a disqualification. Then, what happens? Because we have decided, because a Committee appointed by us has decided or because a Standing Committee which is going to scrutinise in future these offices decides, we are not safe. That is the point I am trying to drive home. If the court thinks that a particular office incurs a disqualification what happens? Then, the Standing Committee, instead of being a helpful body becomes a misleading body. Unfortunately, that is not the fault of the Government. In this particular case, the difficulty arises from the wording of article 102. But, then, it should be our duty to take care of all these aspects by incorporating certain amendments within the scope of article 102.

Unfortunately, I was called away to Bombay for urgent work. But, one of the amendments which I had suggested was that even where the court is of opinion that an office held by a Member is an office of profit by virtue of any honour or patronage attaching to it, if the court is of opinion that an ordinary prudent man would not be influenced in his judgement as a Member of the Legislature or of Parliament in the discharge of his duties, then, notwithstanding the fact of such an office being an office of profit the Member shall not incur disqualification. And that would have covered a very vast number of marginal cases which it is impossible for a layman to decide. I, therefore, appeal to the hon. Law Minister to bear these facts in mind, and try to remove uncertainty and suspense which may prove to be very real and substantial in the case of several of the hon. Members. I, therefore, hope that when the Bill goes to the other House, the hon. Member might consider the suggestions along the lines indicated.

Dr. Krishnaswami (Chingleput): Mr. Chairman, I have only a few observations to make and I shall be brief. My hon. friends of the Communist Party are justified from their

point of view when they suggest that corporations should be manned by legislators. According to their theory, there is no distinction between the civil servant and the legislator. They suggest that partymen are as good as civil servants. But I affirm—and that we have taken a dangerous step by including this principle somewhat unobtrusively into this Bill.

For the proper functioning of a democracy, unless there is a clear distinction between the political and the executive offices, it would be disastrous for the growth of democracy in our country. I also wish to point out that if we wish to adopt that principle which has been adopted by the United Kingdom, namely, that Members of Parliament should have nothing to do with the working of corporations, we would be taking a proper and desirable step, the corporations would be more effectively controlled, and there would be no whisper or scandal attached to Members of Parliament when they make suggestions for the better working of these bodies. But if they are associated with these undertakings then, apart from their being involved in matters of day to day administration, they will incur a great deal of unpopularity and loss of prestige. For, let us realise that patronage is a dangerous thing which ought not to be exercised by us, Members of Parliament. Indeed on a famous occasion, a former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Mr. Gladstone, observed that for every appointment he made, he created twenty enemies. I suggest that if Members of Parliament are kept free from patronage and are not associated with these corporations, they would be able to discharge their duties more effectively. Above all, discussions in Parliament would be conducted in a more detached and impartial atmosphere. Whatever may be said of corporations, however highly placed the chairmen, directors or members of such bodies might be, let us realise that they are executives and that they have to carry out the policies laid down by Parliament or

the directives issued by the Minister. This is precisely the reason why I would not wish legislators to be associated with these bodies. Today it might be expedient to have some members of Parliament on those bodies. But from the point of view of proper functioning of our democracy, which should be our paramount consideration it is necessary that members should be kept away as far as possible from such bodies. I do hope that the Standing Committee which is to be constituted will go into these matters thoroughly and adopt this principle so that democracy may function properly in our country.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): Mr. Chairman, I am generally in agreement with the Bill that has come before this House. I congratulate you, Sir, upon the success you have been able to achieve in persuading the Joint Committee and the Law Minister and all of us agree to so many of the essential principles that have come to be incorporated in this Bill. I had the honour of working under your chairmanship when the first Committee was functioning. I could see how much trouble and time you had to devote to this work. Even though you have not been called upon to become a Minister, you have been able to discharge very much more, I think, than a Minister could be expected to do in connection with the formulation of this Bill and its piloting also in this House. At the same time, I wish to congratulate the House for having given you this opportunity of making this contribution. I am all in favour of what my hon. friend Dr. Krishnaswami has said that we should keep in mind this very important and essential distinction which there should be between the role of a Member of Parliament as a legislator and as a champion of the people, keeping vigilant watch, on their behalf, upon the activities of the executive of the day and the members of the civil services and the Ministers themselves.

I can understand Ministers being asked to become the chairman of some of these boards because Ministers are always responsible to this House and can be held responsible at any moment through the numerous processes and procedure that we have provided to bring to book any activity of a Minister. But that is not the case with Members of Parliament. I may be made a member of a number of committees, whose activities at the end of the year would come up before Parliament in the shape of their annual reports, if at all such an annual report is expected to be presented to Parliament. But I myself as a member cannot be held to be responsible by any other Member of Parliament directly for anything that I did on any of these committees. I can be held responsible in a vicarious manner because that particular committee comes to be condemned. It is not oftentimes that they come up for discussion in this House either for approval or for condemnation. They would come up only through the manner in which they work influence or is supposed to have influenced the activity of the Minister and therefore, the concerned Minister comes to be arraigned before the bar of this House and that is exactly the reason why there should be a great distinction drawn between the activities of members of various committees and the Ministers themselves. Therefore, a Member of Parliament should not be approximated by any means with a Minister in any Cabinet.

There is also the other difficulty. It is not a question of salary or allowances, it is a question of power that he wields. Does he wield this power directly in his own name, through his own responsibility as a Member of Parliament and is chargeable here in this House or does he wield it in an indirect manner behind all sorts of veils and *purdahs*? That distinction has also got to be kept in view. There is also the relationship between the Ministry on the one side and the Members of the Party to which the Ministry itself belongs. ~~There~~ there is

[Shri Ranga]

the relationship between the Ministry on the one side and the opposition on the other side. It is most essential that the Ministry of the day should not be given such opportunities as to be able to influence and weaken the sense of responsibility and the sense of complete independence of each one of the Members of Parliament, more especially the Members belonging to the Opposition. Even in regard to the spirit of independence of each one of the Members belonging to their own party, Ministers have got to be protected from the temptation of trying to get at them and also the private Members or what you call individual Members and make them soften in their awareness and vigilance and in their sense of responsibility and independence on behalf of the people, even though they belong to their own party....

Shri Narayanankatty Menon: You can safely exclude the Opposition; the Opposition is already safe here.

Shri Ranga: The Opposition also can be reached and has been reached, if not in this country, in several other countries. Even in this country, I do not know whether it is being done in this particular session, in this particular Parliament. Anyhow even in this country it is being done. What is the earthly use of being blind to the facts.

13 hrs.

It is true that another principle is obtaining in Soviet Russia. I do not mean to say it is a bad principle. It seems to be good for them. No one can possibly become a member of their Supreme Soviet unless he, first of all, is employed in one of the State organisations, concerns, trusts, combines and so on. He can be elected only by his fellow employees, by the other employees of these various co-operatives, collectives, trusts and so on. Therefore, each member of the Supreme Soviet is directly and indirectly connected with the activities of the

Government, each one is more or less a part and parcel of the Executive of that State.

That is not our position. Here we believe in the parliamentary system of Government, in checks and balances, in party in power and parties in Opposition, and in the Opposition always being ready to take charge of the Government the moment it is able to obtain a majority and defeat the party in power. We believe in the Opposition always being ready to discharge these duties with a due sense of responsibility of having to take charge of the Government some day or the other. When we are committed to this system of Government—and I am glad we accept this parliamentary system of responsibility—we cannot be too careful, Sir, in avoiding the taking of all such steps as would weaken the independence, the strength of mind and the sense of vigilance of Members of Parliament.

Take, Sir, for instance, the new organisations that are being brought into existence. A number of new organisations are being brought into existence because of our planned economy. I am all in favour of this planned economy. I am also in favour of taking up a number of these industries under State control and management. I am also of the view that more and more of our Members should be called upon to advise Government in the management and in the laying down of policies for many of these trusts and combines that we ourselves are bringing into existence. But we should know where to stop. If it is a matter of advice it is all well and good. But, if it goes beyond that and begins to entrench on the executive functions of Government, if it begins to give to these Members powers to make important appointments and also to control the executive there in a more direct manner approximating as nearly as possible to the kind of control that the Ministers are expected to

have over their executives, then we would be treading on very dangerous ground and we cannot be too careful about it.

Sir, there is this great thing, the Hindustan Steel (Private) Ltd., that has been brought into existence. There are also the HAL, HMT, ITI, BEL, Chittaranjan, a number of these multi-purpose projects, Neiveli and so on. There are other Corporations or Commissions like the Village Industries Commission, the Handloom Board, the Handicrafts Board and many other organisations like that. There is also the new Oil Company which has come into existence. If we were to stretch this permission that we want to give to our Members of Parliament to make their own contribution in order to supplement the activities of the Ministry, in order to buttress their authority, also derived through Parliament, by enabling them to work on these things not merely as Members but as Chairman, as Vice Chairman and as members of the Executive Committee or standing committees, then, Sir, it would be very dangerous indeed. He would be a very great Minister, indeed, powerful and conscientious, who would be able to rise above the temptation of reaching that Member of Parliament who is the best and most effective and constant critic of Government saying: "Look here, why don't you take charge of these things?" What happens thereafter? That Member would be sharing so much of the responsibility and power of the Minister that he would be obliged to go soft. Not everybody would go soft, but where is the guarantee that every time any Member of Parliament is chosen for discharge of such responsibilities you would be able to stumble upon that Member of Parliament who cannot be weakened to that extent?

Shri Vasudevan Nair (Thiruvella):
Why so much suspicion?

Shri Ranga: My hon. friends have come to this particular point of view since they have undertaken this res-

ponsibility in one of the States. My suspicion is for this reason. We are having experience in the States. We are also having experience here also, in this Central Government. I am completely impartial. We are having experience in Kerala also. Wedded as they are to the other theory, the Soviet theory, where is the guarantee that in that particular State the Ministers would not go out of their way in order to see that as many of the Members of their own State Legislature as possible can possibly be brought within the softening influence of this great sense of responsibility placed upon their shoulders through appointment as executive members, Chairmen and all such things.

Therefore, Sir, it cuts both ways. We should not take it for granted that all the time Congress alone would be in power in all the States. There are bound to be other parties also who would come into power in various other States also. If we are genuine parliamentarians we should contemplate such a possibility. Therefore, we should try to approach this problem with that particular perspective and with due sense of responsibility.

It is said here that the 500 Members here are all chosen by the people. In the States also we have hundreds of M.L.A.'s chosen by the people themselves. It is asked, why do you deny yourself of their gift, talent, ability, experience and so on? I agree. I have also held that view. They should not be barred. But, at the same time, we should not be under the illusion that we alone hold the monopoly of all the wisdom that is to be found in all our masses in our country. There are so many other people also who have not been fortunate enough to get themselves elected to these legislatures, including our Parliament. They are also capable enough. Very often they are much more capable than ourselves. They should also have an opportunity. Apart from that, it should be possible for the Government to pick and choose any number of people from amongst

[Shri Ranga]

them. It is not necessary that for all these places only civil servants should be chosen. There are many experienced people, sensible people, wise people, people with a sense of responsibility and ability among the ordinary general public. They should also be called upon to come and co-operate with the Government. They need not be confined to any one particular political party; they can be chosen irrespective of their political affiliations, and it ought to be done so. Therefore, Sir, it would be wrong to think that we alone are capable of providing this particular assistance and advice to Government and that all these facilities should be created specially for us.

Having said these things, Sir, I certainly hope that the Standing Committee, if and when it comes to be appointed, would be able to go into the present schedules and also all those committees whose operations and activities, including the Government orders for their appointments, are brought to its notice. I hope that the Committee would be able to go into these things as carefully as possible and give necessary advice to Government. Sir, I want these two Schedules for very good reasons; one Schedule in order to enable as many Members as possible to play a very effective role in advising Government and assisting Government in an advisory capacity, and the other to warn our Members as to what committees they should avoid if at all they care more for membership of Parliament than for taking up executive activities.

Shri A. K. Sen: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have listened with very great attention to the speeches of my esteemed friend Dr. Krishnaswami and professor Ranga. I am very sorry to note that they feel that the participation by Members of Parliament in the great activities of the nation may have the effect of undermining their vigilance or independence. In fact, when the Parliament voted for the public sector and accepted the public

sector's future dominant role in our economy, they had *ipso facto* accepted the responsibility for sustaining the development of the public sector. It is no use clouding our minds with facts or concepts which are relevant to a parliamentary democracy which has not accepted the public sector or where the public sector does not function.

Parliamentary democracy is not a set of rigid patterns. Its working must depend upon the ideologies and the functions which are entrusted to that democracy. Its functions will also depend upon the patterns which a democracy accepts for its own economy and for its own society. Therefore, where in a society and where in an economy the public sector is accepted as having a dominant role and on its development depends the development of the country and where the Parliament is the supreme protector of that sector and that dominant role, it is blinding oneself to one's own responsibility to see that the Parliament will accept the guardianship of the public sector without sharing its responsibility.

It is also equally fallacious to sustain that argument by borrowing analogies from other countries where the Parliament is not called upon to watch the development of the public sector. What is the use of looking for guidance to a country like England where the public sector has not been accepted—

Shri Ranga: It has been accepted by the Labour Government and the Conservative Government is implementing it.

Shri A. K. Sen:—where the public sector has not yet been accepted as a future pattern of its economy. I have very carefully studied the programme of the Labour Party, and apart from nationalizing certain key industries I have not found any plan which has been placed by them before the country, accepting the public sector as a key of the nation's economy.

Shri Raaga: Are we then more socialistic than England and the Labour Party?

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: What doubt is there?

Shri A. K. Sen: I am not so enamoured of socialisms in other countries. I am only enamoured of our own socialism and I prefer to follow my own socialism and my own pattern rather than borrow upon the programmes of other countries having a different social and economic context altogether. It may be that it may suit England's economy not to nationalize steel yet, and yet we have accepted that steel must be in the public sector. I am not certainly willing to concede the point that our dedication to socialism is weaker than anybody else's. Anyway it may be weaker in execution but not certainly in its devotion,—not certainly in its devotion,—and the weakness flows from certain doubts which might cloud our minds from time to time. But, nevertheless, I have no doubt that we have accepted the public sector as a key to our economy, and as I said, neither it will do credit to the Parliament nor will it make its function more efficacious if the Parliament desires to shed its responsibility for keeping alive and keep running the public sector. It is no use trying to say that others will run the public sector and Parliament will only criticize it. I do not conceive that there is a golden path by which the public sector succeeds. The success of the public sector will depend upon the wholehearted and active co-operation not only of Parliament but of the entire nation, and the public sector will never succeed unless the entire nation, the whole Parliament, the people here and outside, show themselves in complete dedication for the success of the public sector. And that dedication cannot possibly be achieved if we only play the role of critics and not accept direct responsibility in the functioning of the public sector.

It is no use trying to look back upon what has been left behind. We have

to forge new concepts of parliamentary functioning within the framework of our Constitution, and the Constitution itself envisages it when in article 102 it provided for Parliament's removing the disqualification in regard to certain offices of profit. What was the meaning of that provision if the framers of the Constitution had not in view the new role which Members of Parliament had to play? There was no point in removing the disqualification for offices of profit if the Constitution-makers did not foresee a future where persons who might be holding offices of profit would be required to be Members of Parliament for the success of the Constitution and for the development of our country.

Therefore not only is it inherent in the Constitution itself but also inherent in our acceptance of the public sector that Members of Parliament must play a vital role in the development of the country and in the success of the public sector. I do not want to repeat myself except to say that many things which have been said by Shri Narayanankutty Menon this morning find ready acceptance in me though I must remind him that while preparing the field for the active participation of Members of Parliament in the new role which would be increasingly coming to them, we should, at the same time, take all possible precaution to see that we do not devise a procedure which might have the least chance of affecting the independence of the Members of Parliament. So, whatever measure we may seek to introduce or accept must be the result of a complete harmony between these two dominant requirements, namely, the requirement of independence in Members of Parliament and, at the same time, the requirement of active participation by Members of Parliament in the development of the nation and its economy.

I must frankly admit that it is not always an easy task to effect this harmony, but we may, however, try to achieve this harmony as best as possible. My submission is that this Bill,

[Shri A. K. Sen]

with all the criticisms which have been levelled against it, in its entirety or in regard to particular provisions, has not been such a bad harmonization as has been made out by some.

As I said, the necessary adjunct to this Bill, namely, a permanent Standing Committee, to keep under its review the functioning of the various statutory and non-statutory bodies, would be a healthy device by which the defects which might become apparent in the working of the Act itself might be remedied from time to time. With these words, I request that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

The motion was adopted.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: A very dangerous measure is passed.

13.20 hrs.

HIMACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (CONSTITUTION AND PROCEEDINGS) VALIDATION BILL

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to validate the constitution and proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of the New State of Himachal Pradesh formed under the Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur (New State) Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): May I make a submission?

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister has not yet moved the motion and explained the provisions of the Bill.

Shri V. P. Nayar: There is an obvious difficulty. That is why I said I am making a submission. It is neither

a point of order nor anything else. This Bill has been before the House for some days, but the Bill itself has resulted from a judgment of the Supreme Court, which is a very very important judgment. Unfortunately, we could not get copies of that judgment till yesterday. As you know very well, it involves many complicated matters and a variety of Acts have to be referred to viz., the General Clauses Act, the Constitution, the old Acts of Himachal Pradesh and so on, and it is very difficult for us to be prepared to make our contribution to the debate today.

Day before yesterday when the Business Advisory Committee was meeting, I represented to the Speaker this difficulty and I was informed by him and also the Chief Whip that this would be postponed for two days. Only yesterday we could get copies of the Supreme Court judgment. The whole of yesterday we were in the House witnessing the debate on a very important Bill. So, my submission is that after the hon. Minister has finished his speech, further discussion may be put off for one or two days to enable Members to take part in the debate and to make some useful contribution. I am also unable to find out the particular provision in the Constitution under which we are bringing forward this legislation.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): I would like to support Mr. Nayar in his request that further discussion on this Bill may be postponed for the obvious reason that we could not get copies of the judgment till yesterday.

Mr. Chairman: I would like to know the reaction of the hon. Minister to the request by Mr. Nayar and another Member. A request has been made for the postponement of the Bill for two days. Has the hon. Minister got any objection to that?

Shri Datar: Copies of the judgment have been given already.

Mr. Chairman: It was given to Members yesterday morning. Copies were available at the counter and many Members got their copies. Perhaps a majority of the Members must have taken care to go through the judgment. The judgment is not very long.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It is not long, but it raises several controversial issues.

Mr. Chairman: At the same time, it is quite clear that we will not be able to finish this Bill today. At 3 o'clock, there is the other business coming up. So, Members will get ample time to read it; discussion is not going to finish today.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It is true, but when we start speaking, we have to put forward our whole case. I do not think many Members will speak at this stage. Secondly, nothing would be lost by postponing it for two days, because it is not necessary that this Bill should be rushed through. The ordinance is valid for six weeks from the date of commencement of the Rajya Sabha session.

Mr. Chairman: It is not the desire of the Chair or the hon. Minister to rush through this Bill at all. This Bill has been in the hands of Members for some time. Only the judgment was missing, but copies of it were given to Members yesterday morning. After all, it will not take more than 45 minutes or 1 hour to go through it. Also, we are so situated that we will not be able to finish this today. We will have more time for preparation of amendments, because amendments are not likely to come today. So, Members will get ample time to give notice of amendments.

I do not see how we are rushing through this Bill. There is ample time for preparation of amendments and there was ample time previously also. The Bill was already in the hands of Members. I do not feel we are rushing through this Bill.

Shri V. P. Nayar: As you know, the Supreme Court judgment raises certain fundamental issues. This House has to consider whether a Supreme Court judgment has to be nullified by an Act of Parliament. It raises several other questions also along with it. You know me for seven years and I have never chosen an occasion for a Bill to be put off even by one minute.

Mr. Chairman: There is no doubt about the importance of the Bill, and all its aspects have to be considered by this House. At the same time, this is not the first time when a judgment of the Supreme Court is being superseded by a Bill of this nature. But I do not deny that it is an important Bill. To say that the judgment is superseded in this way, etc. is all relevant and it must be gone through. But I do not think we will not be able to do justice to this measure by proceeding with it today.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I went to the Speaker personally and I saw Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha also. I was informed that it will be postponed at least for two days after the Home Minister had spoken. We never knew that this was coming up today. Only after seeing the order paper, we knew it. It is only a question of adjustment. I only request that further discussion may be postponed after the speech of the hon. Minister. It is not difficult to make a speech for 15 or 30 minutes, but we would not have made the contribution which the hon. Minister and the House would like us to do.

Shri Easwara Iyer (Trivandrum): Our anxiety is, let it not be again declared *ultra vires*. There are certain constitutional difficulties also in respect of this Bill and we have to examine it thoroughly.

Shri Thirumala Rao (Kakinada): There is some other business coming up at 3 o'clock today and I understand this discussion will go on the

[Shri Thirumala Rao]

whole of tomorrow. So, if the hon. Minister makes his speech and we go on with this till 3 o'clock, the necessity for postponement will not arise. They will get two days time.

Mr. Chairman: Yes. In about 1½ hours, the other discussion will start. Such of the hon. Members as cannot speak today may speak tomorrow. Not tomorrow; I do not think it will come up tomorrow. Whenever it comes up, they shall get ample time. We are not finishing the discussion today. Those Members who are not ready to speak today, may get time to speak later. The hon. Minister.

Shri Datar: This Bill and also the ordinance which preceded it have been necessitated by a recent judgment of the Supreme Court in a case known as Vinod Kumar and others *versus* the State of Himachal Pradesh. The judgment was pronounced on 10th October, 1956 and according to the orders passed, a particular Act which had been passed by the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly was declared to be *ultra vires* on the ground that the H.P. Legislative Assembly which passed this particular Act had not been properly and validly constituted.

As a result of the passing of the orders in this case, certain very great difficulties have arisen. The effect of the order that has been passed is that whatever was done by the H. P. Legislative Assembly between 1-7-54 and 1-11-1956 has all been rendered invalid. In order to appreciate the position that has been newly created, I might state a few introductory facts. As you are aware, under the Constitution that was passed in 1950, we had a categorisation of States. We had certain States known as "Part C States". Then in 1951 an Act was passed, known as the Part C States Act, according to which it was open to have a Legislative Assembly and a consequent Ministry in certain parts of these Part C States. Now, as

per this Act of 1951, a Legislative Assembly was formed for the Part C State of Himachal Pradesh. There was also another Part C State, but it was not brought under the purview of the Part C States Act, and that was the small Part C State of Bilaspur, which joined Himachal Pradesh.

Now, as I have said, in the general elections in 1952 members were elected to this Himachal Pradesh Assembly and it functioned till 1954. While this Legislative Assembly of the Himachal Pradesh was functioning, a Bill was then brought forward, known as the Himachal Pradesh Abolition of Big Landed Estates and Land Reforms Act, 1954. That was done in 1953, and that Bill was pending for consideration before the Legislative Assembly. In the meanwhile, in 1954 an Act was passed by Parliament, known as "Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur (New State) Act (Act 32 of 1954)". What was done by this Act of Parliament was that the territories under both these Part C States, namely, the former Himachal Pradesh and the Bilaspur territory were unified under one administration, known as the Himachal Pradesh. The name was continued. That Act was passed by Parliament and it came into effect from 1-7-54.

Now there were two interpretations so far as the position created by the passing of the Act of 1954 was concerned—one was as to whether the original Legislative Assembly for the former Himachal Pradesh was or was not continued; the other interpretation was that inasmuch as the Act of Parliament of 1954 purported to point out that was a new State, therefore, it was held by the other school, as a result of the passing of this Act of 1954, the old Legislature as also the old Part C territory ceased to exist and a new State was formed, known as Himachal Pradesh territory. The name was continued, but inasmuch as it was called a new State, therefore,

an interpretation was placed on the position then existing, and that is the interpretation which has been accepted by the Supreme Court.

Now, coming back to the narration of further events, may I point out that the Bill that was introduced in 1953 before the first session of the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, that was taken up for consideration some time after the passing of this new Himachal Pradesh Act. Then certain things have been done, which have been called in question and which have been held to be invalid. After the new Act came into force—as I pointed out just now, it came into force on 1-7-54—the Lt Governor of Himachal Pradesh, by his direction dated 7-5-54, called what purported according to him and according to the notification “the second session” of the Legislative Assembly. That was called on 16-7-54. During this session of the Legislative Assembly the Bill of 1953 regarding the abolition of zamindari and also the introduction of certain reforms was taken in hand and was passed by this Assembly, and consent was given on 23-11-54 by the President of India. Then this Act was brought into force on 26-1-55, and certain actions were taken. Then, inasmuch as the Land Reforms Act had been passed, certain landlords, believing that their rights had been curtailed, filed applications before the Supreme Court of India. There were as many as 28 applications, and two questions were placed before the Supreme Court—one related to the matter now being dealt with here and the other was regarding the merits of the particular Bill or Act. The contention was that it contravened certain fundamental rights guaranteed to private parties. So far as that question is concerned, it did not become necessary for the Supreme Court to go into the other question for the simple reason that on the first question, the constitutional question that was raised by the landlords, they came to the conclusion that the Legislative Assembly

that considered and passed the Bill of 1953 was not competent to do so, because it had not been validly constituted. And the Supreme Court have given their reasons. They stated that in the old Legislative Assembly of Himachal Pradesh, as constituted by the Act of 1951, there were 36 members. Now, under the Act of Parliament of 1954 it was stated that these 36 members would continue to be the members of the new Legislative Assembly and, in addition to this, so far as the added area of Bilaspur was concerned, five more persons were to be elected by the new Legislative Assembly.

Now what was done was the Lt. Governor called the Assembly after the new Act had come into force and, as a matter of fact, before elections were held for the five seats that had been newly created, so far as Bilaspur was concerned. The Lt. Governor in his notification, which has been referred to in the judgment of the Supreme Court, called or convened the Legislative Assembly, not under the Act of 1954, but he purported to state that it was the second session of the Legislative Assembly for Himachal Pradesh territory. That is what he has stated, and it has been quoted in the judgment of the Supreme Court. It said:

“The Lt. Governor, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 9 of the Government of Part C States Act, 1951, has been pleased to direct that the second session, 1954 . . .”

This is where he stated that it was the second session. Now whether it was the second session or not, that is the very question which the Supreme Court had to consider. It said:

“..has been pleased to direct that the second session, 1954, of the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly will commence from Monday, the 18th August.

[Shri Datar]

1954 at 9-30 a.m. in the Council Chamber, Simla."

That is what he did. As a result of what he did, as a result of the convening of this session of the Legislative Assembly, the Act, to which I have referred to, regarding the abolition of zamindari and giving certain rights, was passed by the Legislature.

Now the Supreme Court has held that as a result of the passage of the Act of 1954, the old Legislative Assembly created by the Part C States Act of 1951 ceased to function; and that a new State was formed though it was called the Himachal Pradesh territory and that under this Act, in view of what I have already pointed out to the House regarding the expression 'new State', the Supreme Court came to the conclusion that inasmuch as the old State along with the old Legislature had ceased to exist or to function. Therefore a new State and in particular a new Legislature had to be duly constituted.

For the constitution of such a Legislative Assembly it is necessary to issue a notification under section 74 of the Representation of the People Act. Now, in this case it was true that two things were not done. One was that no elections were held so far as these five seats for the Bilaspur portion of the new Himachal Pradesh territory was concerned.

An Hon. Member: Why?

Shri Datar: That is point number one. The second point is that no notification was issued as required under section 74 of the Representation of the People Act.

Shri V. F. Nayar: Could you tell us at least now why it was so?

Shri Datar: In fact, if the hon. Member had followed me, as I just pointed out there were two interpretations. That is exactly what I was pointing out. Actually what was done was that to the Himachal Pradesh territory that was already there the

territory or the region in the former Bilaspur, Part C State was added. Therefore it was *bona fide* believed that what was done was the merger or the union of the Bilaspur region in the Himachal Pradesh territory. That is exactly the reason and that is why the Lieut-Governor purported to call it the Second Session. That is why it so happened and, naturally, no objection was taken at all. But the Supreme Court have stated that inasmuch as in this particular case there was no notification issued under section 74 of the Representation of the People Act, there were no elections held so far as the five seats for Bilaspur area were concerned and they also made a passing reference to the fact that where a new legislature is formed then even though some members would be deemed to be members of the new legislative assembly, still the process of the members taking the oath was not gone through at all. That was held as an additional ground. Therefore the Supreme Court came to the conclusion that there was no validly constituted legislative assembly. Naturally on this Constitutional issue the landlords succeeded and therefore orders were issued that that Act was passed by an invalid Legislative Assembly or by an Assembly which had not been formally and Constitutionally brought into being. This is the position.

Other questions also arise. It is not merely a question of one Bill, but you will find that during the period that I have stated, i.e., from the 1st July, 1954 to the 1st November, 1956, many Bills were passed. Now, this other date also is an interesting date. Under the States' Re-organisation Act, as you are aware, Part C States Act was abolished and therefore automatically the Assembly, wherever it was in respect of the Part C States Act including this Assembly which purported to act as an Assembly, was also naturally abolished. Under the States' Reorganisation Act, as the

House is aware, some of the Part C States were merged in the adjoining States and some remained only as territories under the direct superintendence of the Government of India.

Now what happened is that apart from this Act which was naturally a very valuable Act as this Act gave very great powers to the tenants or the occupants, it abolished the zamindari and made provisions for the acquisition of certain lands from private landlords and so this Act by itself, may I point out, is one of the very important Acts to which naturally the Government of India attach the greatest importance because we are pledged to certain land reforms.....

Shri Braj Raj Singh: That is not denied, but why were they careless not to see whether it was extended or not?

Shri Datar: It is a question of *bona fide* belief. There is no question of carelessness at all. That is the reason why I was explaining that it was possible to have two interpretations. One interpretation was the one that I pointed out first and I repeated it just now and the other was the one which was ultimately accepted by the Supreme Court.

I was dealing with the case so far as this particular Land Reforms Act was concerned. That was important enough. But on account of the Constitutional difficulties which the Supreme Court felt, they declared that the Act had not been validly passed by a competent legislature. The greater difficulty that we had before us was the fact that a number of other Acts had been passed by this Legislature, as I stated, between the two dates, i.e., the 1st July, 1954 and the 1st November, 1956. I have got a very long list and I might point out that in 1954 three Acts had been passed, in 1955 fifteen Acts had been passed and in 1956 nineteen Acts had been passed. As a result of the view that the Supreme Court has taken

all these Acts are likely to be held invalid.

Now this has created naturally a very difficult and an anomalous position. That is the reason why the President had to issue an Ordinance. As I stated, on the 10th October, 1958, this judgment was given and on the 25th October, 1958, as the House was not sitting, the President had to issue an immediate Ordinance in terms similar to those which we have in this Bill. After the commencement of this Session of Parliament, the present Bill was introduced and now we desire to have the whole thing regularised. That is the reason why this Bill has been called the Constitution and Proceedings Validation Bill.

Now the Constitution itself has been called in question and reasons have been given by the Supreme Court. They have stated that this Assembly was not validly constituted and if the Assembly is not validly constituted then all the proceedings held by or before that Assembly are bound to be invalid according to the view taken by the Supreme Court. It is for these reasons that the present Bill has been brought forward.

An hon. friend suggested or rather asked as to under what articles of the Constitution this particular Bill was brought forward. May I point out to the hon. Member that this is the supreme legislative body for the whole of India in general and so far as these territories are concerned, we have now no legislative assembly for them. There is no Legislative Assembly for Himachal Pradesh at all. Himachal Pradesh consisting of the former Bilaspur region is a territory and for all legislative enactments we have to approach the Parliament.

In view of the great anomaly that has been created I submit that it is perfectly open to the Parliament to pass a validating Act. Unless a validating Act is passed great anomalies would arise. Certain difficulties would

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arise because a number of very important Acts have been passed. Therefore it has become necessary to sponsor this Bill. I am quite confident that the provisions of this Bill will appeal to hon. Members of this House.

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta-East): Sir, before you place the motion before the House, I want to raise a point of order.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. Motion moved:

"That the Bill to validate the constitution and proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of the new State of Himachal Pradesh formed under the Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur (New State) Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Sir, I want to raise a point of order on this motion. My point of order, briefly, is that this House is not competent to enact a measure of this kind. Shri V. P. Nayyar had raised a point as to under what provision of the Constitution this Bill was sought to be enacted. The hon. Minister answered it by saying simply that we are the supreme legislative body in this country and we have power to make laws for the territories which now comprise the Union Territories of Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur, which were formerly Part C States of Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur.

My objection is this. We are not making an ordinary law by this Bill. For example, if we were validating all the laws made by a Legislative Assembly, we could have done so, because in that case, we could have exercised the law making power which the Constitution grants to us for legislating in respect of the Union Territories. You know, we have practically plenary powers to legislate on all subject matters in respect of the Union Territories. Therefore, if we had been validating numerous Acts, which are, I believe, about 25 or 30, which have

been passed by the erstwhile so-called Himachal Pradesh legislature, we would have been perfectly within our rights. What we are seeking here is to validate the constitution and proceedings of a body which was not the Legislative Assembly of Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur, which we seek to set up as the Legislative Assembly of Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur after it has ceased to exist. In this case, we could have done so if we had the power to constitute that Legislative Assembly for these Territories today. A power to enact retrospective legislation necessarily presupposes, first, that we can make a similar provision today and then also that our powers are so plenary that we can make it not only for today, but for any past time. Under article 240 of the Constitution as it stood prior to the amendment, this House had an express power to constitute Legislative Assemblies for Part C States. That article 240 is no longer there in that form. It has changed and the power to constitute Legislative Assemblies for the Union Territories or, for the matter of that, for any territories in India, has been taken away. Therefore, that power no longer exists. It existed at some time; but that power has been taken away today. Because of that, it is impossible to say today that this House has power to constitute a legislature and still more to say that this House could enact retrospective legislation validating the constitution of the Legislative Assembly. The fact that we have supreme law making power does not make any difference. Constitution of the legislature stands on a different footing. It is analogous to what may be called fundamental laws or organic laws in some States and it stands on a completely different footing. We are the supreme law making power in regard to the other States of India. But, we cannot say on that ground that we shall constitute a Legislative Assembly for the city of Lucknow, for instance, or for the city of Bombay or Calcutta. If we cannot do it, we cannot constitute a Legislative Assembly

for a Union Territory. If we cannot constitute a Legislative Assembly for a Union Territory, we can still less enact a legislation which will retrospectively validate the constitution of a Legislative Assembly, because that power under the Constitution no longer is given to us.

On this ground, I would submit that it would be more advisable to bring forward a law validating each individual Act passed by the so-called Legislature and include it in some kind of a Schedule. Of course, I must make it clear that I have every sympathy with some of the Acts passed. They are very important and they are absolutely essential for the progress of our country. This is not the way to validate those laws. The only way to validate those laws, which is open to us under the Constitution, is to bring forward a legislation individually validating each individual Act that has been passed.

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): May I reply now or shall I reply to all the objections together?

Shri Keshava (Bangalore City): May I say a word on this point, Sir? My colleague on the other side was just now suggesting that we have no powers at all to enact this kind of legislation. I think the very last argument that he put forward that the Government can bring forward each legislative enactment itself which have now been invalidated before this House and we can validate all such enactments from the date they came into force, leads us to the inevitable conclusion that we have got powers to validate the entire set of laws, and regularise the irregularity that has led to the invalidating of the several Acts. If we can validate one Act, it also goes without saying that we can validate all the 133 Acts. He was pleased to concede that supreme legislative powers are vested in Parliament. There are no two opinions about that. Whatever we can do, the President can do in our absence. As article 240 stands today, it is only the President

that can administer the Union Territories. On all these grounds, I respectfully submit that the present procedure that has been adopted by the Government is absolutely valid and we are there as the supreme legislative body to regularise irregularities that have been brought about by some unfortunate circumstance or other. We are not going into the merits of the Acts. In fact, I was to move for postponing consideration of this matter on the ground that a copy of the Supreme Court judgment had not been placed before us. That has been placed for the benefit of the Members of the House. I have absolutely no objection to withdraw that motion which I have put in for postponement of consideration. We have absolutely no ground to suggest that we cannot go ahead with this legislative enactment.

Shri Mohammed Imam (Chitaldrug): Sir, so far as the legal aspect is concerned, we want time to study the judgment and then take part in the debate. This is a very important point because the legislative body had no right to exist. It had no right to frame laws. A body which had no right to exist, in fact, which did not exist, had appropriated powers to which they were not entitled. Can we enact a law? If we enact the law, what will be its standing? It requires detailed consideration. Better we are given time to study.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khadesh): I think that the point of order raised by my hon. friend is quite correct. The distinction to be borne in mind is this. There are certain functions which can only be performed under the Constitution by certain authorities named in the Constitution. It is true that we have got power to enact legislation for Union Territories, but here it is not a question of enacting legislation for Union Territories. Here is a question of an Assembly, or rather, a body of men who purported to call themselves an Assembly, who sat there without taking oath and without electing the Speaker and passed some legislation

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

which had already lapsed. The Bill had lapsed when the first Himachal Pradesh Assembly was dissolved by the Act and a new State came into being. Therefore, the question is whether we can legislate in order to validate a piece of legislation which was not in existence and which was purported to have been placed before a certain group of persons who were not Members of the Assembly, but a body which was called by an order which was not a correct order, the members of which sat without taking oath and passed the particular legislation without complying with certain provisions of the Constitution itself.

14 hrs.

Now, take for instance the question of taking oath. It is not so simple as it seems. Until an oath is taken, under article 188 of the Constitution itself, a Member is not a Member of the Assembly, and the functioning of the Assembly does not commence. Neither the President by an ordinance nor this House can by any law say: never mind what article 188 says about taking the oath; whether they have taken the oath or not, let them be called a properly constituted Assembly. The issue that arises therefore is: has this House the power to override certain provisions of the Constitution, viz., articles 188, 186, 183, 196 and 198? All these will be involved as I shall show later on in the course of my speech in greater detail. In other words, this House is completely incompetent to override the specific requirements of these articles, and therefore, we have got no power whatsoever to pass a legislation like this.

Therefore, what the hon. Member raising the point of order said is quite correct. We must re-enact every piece of legislation that was purported to have been enacted by the so-called Himachal Pradesh Assembly.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I am afraid that the point put forward by Shri Sadhan

Gupta was not properly understood by Shri Keshava. His point is that we must take this Bill into consideration in this way that today we do not have any specific power under the Constitution to legislate on such a matter. It is not merely a question of validating certain Acts. As the hon. Minister will agree, by reading these provisions we find that it is not a question of re-validating certain laws. Here, by this Bill, we seek to confer a status upon a body of persons which the Supreme Court does not recognise as the Assembly; here we say this is the way in which this Assembly has to be considered. It is very strange also that the Assembly which was not in existence for the last two years has to be considered as a new Assembly by this Bill.

So, the point which we have to consider is whether this House, after the deletion of article 240 as it stood then and after certain other provisions have been made in the Constitution, has the power to set up a body and call it the Legislative Assembly of a Part C State. Only if we have such a power to set up a body under the Constitution at present, can we with retrospective effect validate the existence of, or confer a status upon, an Assembly which has ceased to exist. Therefore, this distinction must be understood. I support with all the vehemence at my disposal the point of order raised by Shri Sadhan Gupta and also very ably supported by Shri Naushir Bharucha.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: I rise to support the point of order raised by Shri Sadhan Gupta.

It will be appreciated that section 15 of the Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur (New State) Act, 1954 stated:

"Every sitting Member of the Legislative Assembly of the existing State of Himachal Pradesh representing a constituency of the said State shall on and from the

commencement of this Act (the new Act) represent the constituency of the same name in the new State and shall be deemed to have been elected to the Legislative Assembly of the new State by that constituency."

All that this new Act provided was that fresh elections shall not be required for the composition of the new Assembly of the new territory which was to come into existence.

After the passing of this new Act of 1954, what happened was this. Without holding elections for the other territories, i.e., Bilaspur, and without giving these people a chance of making affirmation or taking an oath, this notification.....

Mr. Chairman: This is the basis of the point of order. This is the point which has been taken up by the Supreme Court. This has been brought out in the judgment of the Supreme Court. So, this is already known to the Members

Shri Braj Raj Singh: I have to submit only one thing, that this House is not at all competent to bring into existence the Legislative Assembly for Himachal Pradesh today. By our supreme power of enacting laws, we can only enact a law for that territory today. We can give life to the law which has been declared null and void by the Supreme Court, viz., the Himachal Pradesh Abolition of Big Landed Estates and Land Reforms Act 1954. We cannot today bring into existence, or put life into the Assembly which never existed, and by that method we cannot retrospectively give legal shape to the laws which the so-called Assembly passed in that period of two years. So, we cannot discuss the Bill as it stands at present. We can only discuss a Bill seeking to validate the law which has been declared null and void by the Supreme Court.

Shri Mohammed Imam: What about my request to postpone consideration?

Mr. Chairman: All the other Members are prepared. They are going on with this point of order. So, it appears that hon. Member alone is the person who thinks that he cannot go on with this point of order. All the others are making their contribution. They are considering the matter. This is not a point which requires a day for study. When a point of order is raised, it is usually decided there and then unless the Chair wants to take time for consideration. Points of order are not to be postponed for days together for the purpose of study only.

Shri Mohammed Imam: Please permit me to say something on this point of order.

Mr. Chairman: The point of order is not new. Even when the Bill was there, it was quite apparent. It was mentioned in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that there was a Legislative Assembly which passed a law, that the Supreme Court held that it was not a legally constituted Assembly, and the Bill is being brought to validate the Bills passed by that Assembly. It is not a new point of order. This could be anticipated by every Member beforehand.

Shri Mohammed Imam: I want to say something about the point of order. I want to support it

Mr. Chairman: There can be no postponement of this point of order. Shri Manabendra Shah.

Shri Manabendra Shah (Tehri Garhwal): I want to raise this issue. We are empowered to legislate for Union Territories. Himachal Pradesh became a Union Territory on 1-11-1956 and this appertains to a period prior to that, viz., from 1-7-1954 to 31-10-1956. At that time we were not empowered to legislate for Himachal Pradesh because they had their own legislature. The question is: when we were not empowered to legislate then, how are we now empowered to validate laws which we were not empowered to legislate then?

[Shri Manabendra Shah]

The second point that I would like to raise is whether the procedure adopted by the Government in introducing this Bill is correct or not.

I would like to quote the Bihar case. A similar situation arose in 1951. The Bihar Legislature passed an Act for the abolition of zamindaries in Bihar.

"The Patna High Court held that the Act was bad. Parliament had decided to validate that law; Parliament did so by an amendment of the Constitution. Articles 31A and 31B were then added to the Constitution. A new Schedule IX was also added to the Constitution, and Schedule IX contains a list of all the laws which were validated."

Now, the present Bill that has been introduced is a thing which covers all the Bills. We are not aware of what those Bills are which we are supposed to validate, because they have not been made a part as a schedule. So, I feel that this Bill as presented is also incorrect.

In this case, there is also a moral issue, and the moral issue is this. How are we morally bound or justified or correct in passing those Bills automatically by one comprehensive Bill as is suggested now, without knowing what those Bills passed by the previous Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly are?

Therefore, I feel that this requires a thorough study and a decision from the Chair.

Shri Shankaraiya (Mysore): I have a constitutional issue to raise, namely whether this House has got the competence to validate all those Bills passed by the previous Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

Under the Constitution, in 1950, Himachal Pradesh was a Centrally administered State. But, in 1951 when an Assembly was constituted,

Himachal Pradesh as a separate territory lost the character of being administered by the Centre. The Centre had no power to legislate over the Assembly as constituted in Himachal Pradesh. The State Assembly assumed the power of legislation, and this House ceased to have any power of legislation either for supervision or revision or for repeal. So, it ceased to be a Centrally administered State.

Up till 1954, there was this legally constituted Assembly, and when it could not legislate properly, in 1954, another legislative enactment was passed under which Bilaspur was merged with it. Still, the Central Government did not resume their power of administration over that State. The legally constituted Legislative Assembly of the State was there. Whether it was constituted by election or otherwise is a different matter. But the Centre did not get the power of administration over Himachal Pradesh till 1956, when the States' reorganisation came in, when Himachal Pradesh again came to be Centrally administered.

So, between 1951 and 1956, there was a legally constituted legislature there; whether it was really legally constituted, whether it was functioning or not, is a different thing. But during 1951 and 1956 the Centre ceased to have any power of administration, and in respect of any Act that was passed in between, whether it was legally done or not, Parliament has no power. It is only the State Legislature which has to review or correct or modify or repeal or re-enact it.

Therefore, my point is that inasmuch as the Central Government had no power of administration over Himachal Pradesh between 1951 and 1956, we cannot legislate.

Shri Naldurgker (Osmanabad): I want to point out that this legislation has been validly introduced. I think

some constitutional or legal point has been misconstrued or confused. It is an admitted fact that every legislative body is fully empowered to enact any legislation giving it retrospective effect.

In this case, there is rather a confusion as far as the constitutional points are concerned. What are we doing here? We are only validating the proceedings or the Acts passed by the body known as the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly. Whether that Assembly was properly constituted or not is not an important question at the present time. While doing that thing for validating all those Acts passed by that body, we are giving them a sort of retrospective effect. Since these territories were Centrally administered at that time, Parliament has full powers to enact laws, so far as those territories are concerned. The question now is not whether at the time when these laws were passed, that Assembly was competent or not, whether it was constituted properly or not, but the question is whether at that time these territories were Centrally administered, whether Parliament could give retrospective effect to all the laws passed by that body; whether that body was illegal or legal, is a different thing altogether.

By this Bill we are seeking to validate all those Acts. It means that it is tantamount to giving retrospective effect of law to all those Acts passed by that Assembly, whether they were properly passed or not.

Therefore, I submit that Parliament is fully competent to give retrospective effect, and that power of Parliament cannot be challenged. That is an admitted fact. By this Bill we are only giving retrospective effect to all the laws passed by that State. Therefore, Parliament is fully competent to enact such laws. Therefore, the point of order is not in order, according to my opinion.

Shri Hajarnavis: I must at the outset say that I entirely agree with Shri Sadhan Gupta and Shri Naushir Bharucha that one of the ways by which the Act which has been successfully impugned and the other Acts which may similarly be assailed could be validated is by Parliament itself undertaking straightway legislation on that subject.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: That is the only way.

Shri Hajarnavis: But we examined that possibility, and we thought that it could be done by the way in which we have framed an ordinance which this Bill seeks to replace.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: He is riding for a fall that way.

Shri Hajarnavis: And we thought that this was the better method.

The question is whether that could be done. The first point that was raised was whether Parliament would have power to enact such a law, and if so, where the Constitution gives that power to Parliament.

The first article, of course, would be article 245 (1) which says:

"Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, Parliament may make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India, and the Legislature of a State may make laws for the whole or any part of the State."

Then, we go to article 246 (3) which says that certain territories are constituted into States and certain subjects are confined to the State legislatures, subject to that, the power of Parliament remains. Therefore, if we look to the interpretation of articles 245 and articles 246 (1), 246 (2) and 246 (3) alone, there would be no doubt that those territories of India which are not included in any particular State would be under Parliament, and Parliament's power would

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be unlimited, that is to say, it will have plenary powers. But if there is any scope for argument, that is completely eliminated by the express words of article 246 (4) which says:

"Parliament has power to make laws with respect to any matter for any part of the territory of India not included in a State notwithstanding that such matter is a matter enumerated in the State List."

Further on, under article 248 (1):

"Parliament has exclusive power to make any law with respect to any matter not enumerated in the Concurrent List or State List."

So, I believe there could be no scope for any doubt to be entertained in any quarter whatsoever that so far as the Himachal Pradesh territory is concerned, this Parliament has the power to pass any law on any subject. As the House is aware, and as the hon. Member who spoke before me has mentioned, power to legislate includes power to legislate retrospectively. It has been so held in several of the Privy Council cases.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: That is not disputed. What is disputed is this. In enacting this, you are overriding the provisions of the articles of the Constitution.

Shri Hajarnavis: I shall come to that point presently. So, the first objection is out of the way. I am pointing this out because it has been mentioned by Shri Manabendra Shah that retrospective legislation cannot be undertaken. I do not think any lawyer or anyone who is acquainted with law will seriously entertain any doubt on this point. The matter has been decided by the Privy Council as also by the Federal Court in Atiqua Begum's case, I think.

Coming to the objection whether we are in fact reviving a legislature

which no longer exists, I would submit that if you would read the ordinance and the Bill, you will find that what is sought to be done is to give validity or life retrospectively to the legislature itself.

In doing this, we create two fictions. Firstly, we enact the law. But we enact a legal fiction saying that the legislature itself was validly constituted. Now it is a point of law with which the lawyer-Members of this House must be familiar that where a legal fiction is sought to be created, it is no argument against that fiction to say that the fact—which the fiction seeks to create—did not exist. As a matter of fact, the very reason for creating the fiction is that the fact did not exist.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: He cannot create a legal fiction against the Constitution. That is the point. He can create any fiction in respect of facts or laws, but not against specific provisions of the Constitution.

Shri Hajarnavis: I will come to that. I should be allowed to proceed step by step.

Therefore, it is conceded that legal fiction can be created. It is no argument then to say that the legal fiction did not exist. Shri Naushir Bharucha argued with considerable vehemence that the legislature was not validly constituted. Of course, it was not validly constituted; in point of law, there was no legislature. The Supreme Court has said that there was no legislature. But we are creating a legal fiction retrospectively that there was a legislature. It is no use Shri Bharucha arguing that in fact there is no legislature. So far as the present law stands, it is conceded that there is no validly constituted legislature. But we are trying to create the legislature retrospectively. Can we or can we not do it?

If Parliament has plenary powers, is it suggested that Parliament, which has unlimited power, cannot create a

legislature? Take the British Parliament. Are the powers of this Parliament any the less than those of the British Parliament?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Very much less.

Shri Hajarnavis: Then such a limitation has not been brought to the notice of the House.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: He cannot ignore the Constitution. (*Interruptions*). As a Law Minister, he ought to know.

Mr. Chairman: This sort of running commentaries may be avoided.

Shri Hajarnavis: I can deal with any point that is raised.

I suggest there is no limitation in the Constitution by which a legislature with a limited power cannot be constituted. Then if it can be constituted today, it can be constituted retrospectively. But assume that there was any room for argument on that point, what is the operative part of the Ordinance and the Bill? It says that the laws that were made shall be valid as if Parliament had made them. Forget the preamble; forget the first part. Take into account the operative part of it. It is nobody's case that we are trying to create the Assembly and that it will enact the laws. What is sought to be done is to give validity, to give life to those Acts which today are in danger of being struck down. That is the only thing that is being done.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: They can validate Acts which are in existence though suffering from curable irregularities; not Acts and Bills not in existence at all.

Shri Hajarnavis: That is why we are trying to validate. If there was the legislature in existence, there would have been no need for this legislation.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: How can they validate an Act which is wrongly enacted?

Shri Hajarnavis: I will answer my learned friend by saying this. Suppose the Act is 'A'. Parliament can either enact 'A' or say that the law it declares as valid is the Act 'A' which was enacted by the Himachal Pradesh Assembly. The result is the same.

So far as we are concerned, we did not reach this conclusion without giving deep thought to it. Then we came to the conclusion that so far as the people of Himachal Pradesh were concerned—they are the only persons who are connected with it—it would be more convenient for them if the Acts as they had always understood them remained as they were, rather than put them in the form that these Acts are being imposed upon them later by this Parliament.

After all, what is the objection to the Bill? A technical objection. It was a regular legislative activity of a legislative body. Of course, certain things which were required to be done in terms of the Constitution—I should have said 'in terms of the law'—were not done. We are validating laws which the body purported to pass but were invalid because certain acts which the Act prescribed to be done were not done.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: 'Constitution' is the correct word.

Shri Hajarnavis: Therefore, what we are trying to do is this. Our law says that instead of saying that these are the laws which we made, we say all the laws which the Himachal Pradesh Assembly or that body which is called itself the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly made are the laws made by Parliament, and we give it a legislative foundation. What is wrong with it? That is the Ordinance. That is the Bill.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Some village or gram panchayats may pass an Act and will you validate it here!

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. The hon. Member had had his say. Now it

[Mr. Chairman]

is not fair on his part to go on interrupting the hon. Minister in this manner. If he is interrupted at every stage, he will not be able to finish his arguments. Let him finish what he has to say.

Shri Hajarnavis: Whatever points are raised, I am here to answer.

Another point raised was that there was in existence the Himachal Pradesh Legislative body at that time and it was not possible for this Parliament to make the law. It can be answered in two ways. Firstly, when the Government of Part C States Act was enacted, it was clearly stated under section 21(2) that nothing in sub-section (1) shall derogate from the power conferred on Parliament by the Constitution to make laws with respect to any matters in Part C States. Therefore, Parliament did retain that power or did bring to the notice of all those who administered the Act that Parliament did retain that power, and if it was necessary to do so, it had power of legislation. Unless it be that Parliament had abdicated its power completely of legislation with respect to 'C' class States, Parliament would still retain the over-riding power. If there was any ambiguity about it, it was completely removed by section 21(2).

Then again, Parliament is not legislating in 1954; it is legislating in 1958, that is to say, when it has the power.

Then an argument was raised that the power now given to the President is only in respect of making regulations. I say that article 240 of the Constitution is no limitation on the power of Parliament at all under Articles 245, 246(4). It is an additional power. The powers of Parliament are to be read in articles 245, 246(4) and 248.

These are plenary powers. No one can suggest that the powers—plenary powers—which have been

conferred on Parliament in those articles have in any way been curtailed by the powers given under article 240. Previously whereas under the Constitution, provision was made for a certain type of legislature, today, according to our reading of the Constitution, the powers of Parliament now are absolutely unlimited. That being so, I submit the point of order should be overruled.

Mr. Chairman: The House is already aware that whenever a question of constitutional competence so far as this House is concerned arises, the practice is that the Chair does not take upon itself the responsibility to decide whether the House is constitutionally competent or not. So ultimately if the House feels that it has got no constitutional competence, it can reject the Bill. Therefore, as a matter of fact, it is unnecessary for the Chair to give any opinion on the point of order raised by Shri Sadhan Gupta.

All the same, I would state my personal opinion on this point. In my humble opinion, today in 1958 we are legislating and we must see whether article 245 of the Constitution covers this point or not. To my mind, there is no question of article 248(1) coming in. At present, Himachal Pradesh is one of the Union Territories. Therefore, article 248 comes in only when the question of residuary powers comes. Here there is no question of residuary power at all. I should say that articles 245 and 246(4) apply. And, so far as they are concerned, this House has got sovereign powers. It has been said about the House of Commons that it can pass a law whereby it can order all blue-eyed men in the country to be killed. I do not know whether this is a limitation on the power of Parliament or not if it can turn a woman into a man. But, so far as the sovereign powers of Parliament are concerned, it is absolute. This Parliament is capable of passing any law it pleases.

And, so far as constitutional propriety is concerned, it is a different matter.

Hon. Members have raised the point that they are not conversant with the provisions of the 15 or 20 Acts which have been passed during these two years by that Legislature which have been regarded as unconstitutional. Whether all these Acts should be validated or not is a question of propriety. So far as the question of constitutional competency is concerned, I believe, it is idle to raise a question in this House that this Parliament is not competent. What other body is competent to enact a law of this nature? Anything which can be regulated by law can be ultimately regulated by this Parliament alone.

If it is a question of clash between the State Assemblies and Parliament, the question may arise whether it comes in this list or that list and that would be settled by article 248(1) because residuary powers are with this Parliament. The burden is upon these hon. Members who say that this Parliament is not competent to point to any provisions in the Constitution that competency is not there. But, nobody has pointed that out. The point that we were not competent to enact these laws in 1954, 1956 does not arise at all. We are enacting in the year 1958 and we have got all these powers.

As was pointed out by the hon. Law Minister, even then there was provision in section 21(1) of Part C States Act. That is beside the question. We are enacting today and we are validating these Acts. The hon. Members may be well advised not to support the measure by their votes if they think that the Bills that were enacted and are being validated were not proper. I can understand that. But, at the same time, to say that this Parliament has got no power to pass the measure is not right. In my humble opinion, this Parliament has got full powers to enact a Bill like this.

As pointed out by another hon. Member the House fully knows that there was an appeal pending in the Supreme Court so far as the zamindaries were concerned, in Patna. The High Court had given their verdict in regard to those matters. At that time, a Bill was pending before this House and a similar objection was raised and the House decided that the House was competent.

As a matter of fact, it is quite true that whenever a High Court or the Supreme Court gives a judgment which says that a certain Act was unconstitutional, then, we really respect the view of the judiciary when we enact a law contrary to their decision. They have got the power to say by their verdict that such and such a law is unconstitutional. This House has got the responsibility to see that whatever they point out in their judgment as objectionable is removed, as this House has got the over-riding power and responsibility to do what it thinks proper in the interests of the entire country.

Laws are there for the purpose of giving convenience to the people and for determining their rights. And, this House is the final authority for that. It is not for the High Court or the Supreme Court to decide what is proper so far as legislation is concerned. It is the right of this House alone to enact legislation; and, if in the wisdom of this House all these laws should be validated, I do not find any constitutional incompetency in validating these laws. Therefore, I am of the opinion that the objection contained in the point of order cannot be accepted.

So far as the other question is concerned, I would rather like the hon. Law Minister just gives a list of those laws which have been enacted by that Legislature during those two years so that hon. Members may be able to see, when they are validating those laws, what the provisions of those laws are which will be validated by this House.

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An Hon. Member: They are not available in the Library.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The hon. Minister may give us the names of these enactments; but he must give us the copies of the enactments also because most of them are not in the Library.

Mr. Chairman: Perhaps, in the Library all these laws may be available because every enactment passed by State Legislatures is available in the Library. There is no reason why they should not be found in the Library unless any hon. Member comes and says he searched in the Library and could not find it. That is a different matter. The names may be supplied so that the House may know what laws will be validated.

So far as the particular law is concerned, I am rather mindful that, as a matter of fact, when we are validating this law, we are not taking away the right of those landowners who have appealed to the Supreme Court. Only one point has been decided and the other remains to be decided whether this legislation is contrary to articles 14, 19 and 31 of the Constitution. That point has to be decided by the Supreme Court. It is unfortunate that a mistake as pointed out by the Supreme Court was made on the part of those concerned. But, whatever that may be, we are not concerned with that aspect. At the same time the house must be anxious to preserve the rights of those landlords who brought their appeals before the Supreme Court. It has been held that the Legislature was invalid. The other question has not been gone into in this Bill. The other aspect will, perhaps, be gone into by the Supreme Court when they take up that part of the argument. It may be that they may have to file a fresh appeal or this appeal may be revived. I do not know what exactly will happen. But we are not taking away the rights of those landlords and deciding that the Abolition Act is in consonance with the provisions of the Constitution. It is

a matter of opinion whether the abolition of the zamindari or the restriction of the rights of landlords is good and valid or not. That will be decided by the Supreme Court—whether this legislation is in accordance with the provisions of the constitution.

We are only concerned with the competency of this Parliament; and, for that, I am clear in my mind that this Parliament has got ample powers and it is constitutionally competent to enact this legislation.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: On a point of clarification, Sir. Which of the two rulings that you gave should prevail; that the Chair does not decide or, in your opinion, the Parliament has the power? Which of the two is taken as the official ruling?

Mr. Chairman: In so far as the ruling is concerned, it is quite clear. But the hon. Member himself knows that in regard to many other Bills the Chair has always taken up the position that whatever be its decision, the House has to decide on the question of propriety or competency. It is left to the House if a particular Bill is to be voted or not. But so far as the Chair is concerned, it does not take the responsibility because after all it is much better for the House to decide the question rather than the Chair.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: On a point of clarification, Sir.

Mr. Chairman: What is the clarification? I have given my ruling. There is no question of clarification.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: You have given your ruling, Sir. . . .

Mr. Chairman: I am not to be cross-examined here. There can be no question of a clarification of a ruling in the House.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Is it still open to us to decide whether we are competent, after your ruling?

Mr. Chairman: Every person has to decide for himself what he thinks proper because the Chair does not rule in such a way that it takes away the right of the House in the matter. So far as the Chair is concerned, it has given its ruling and there can be no discussion of the ruling of the Chair.

Now, this motion is open for discussion.

श्री चण्ड बेश (बम्बा) : सभापति महोदय, श्रीमती जो विषय विचाराधीन है, वह हिमाचल से सम्बन्ध रखता है जोकि एक छोटा सा इलाका है जिस की आबादी ११ लाख के करीब है और जिन का रकबा ११,००० मुरब्बा मील है। यह प्रदेश इस वक्त मैटर का टैनेट एट विल है।

मेरी समझ में नहीं आया कि उन लोगों की भलाई के विनों को पारित करके तथा जो और कार्रवाई उम असेम्बली में हुई क्या वह नारी कायदे कानून के खिलाफ थी। इस आधार पर उसको माना नहीं गया है कि जो धार्मिक बातें वहा होनी थी वे उम असेम्बली में नहीं की गईं, जिन के कारण उसकी कार्रवाई को अर्थव्यय घोषित किया गया और उसके बाद अब यह पार्लियामेंट उनको बंध घोषित कर रही है। अब मुझे नहीं मालूम कि इसके अन्दर क्या घडवनें आती है।

14.41 hrs.

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair]

जब सन् १९५२ में हिमाचल में लोकप्रिय सरकार बनी तो जैसा कि स्वाभाविक था उसके सामने सब से बड़ी बात यह आई कि लोगों का सुधार कैसे हो, लोगों का उद्धार कैसे हो। ट्रांसपोर्ट डेवलपमेंट हुआ, पंचायत एकट बना, कोऑपरेटिव एकट बना, भाषा के सम्बन्ध में विधेयक पारित हुआ और इसी तरीके से स्कूल, नर्सरी और कई दूसरी प्रकार के अधि-

नियम, कई दूसरी प्रकार के विधेयक वहां पारित हुए। लेकिन सब से बड़ा और सब से महत्वपूर्ण अधिनियम जो वहां पारित हुआ वह सम्बन्ध रखता था बड़ी जमींदारियों से और भूमि सम्बन्धी सुधारों से। इन अधिनियम में क्या क्या बातें थी, मैं उस सम्बन्ध में कुछ आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हू।

मैं से बड़ी बात तो यह थी और यह लोगों को बड़ा दुःख भी दे रही थी कि लोगों का इजैक्टमेंट हो रहा था और इसको बन्द कर दिया गया। इससे जो धारणी गरीब लोगों के साथ हो रही थी वह बन्द हो गई। लेकिन लोगों के दिलों में इसके प्रति—मेरा मतलब भूमि में सम्बन्ध रखने वाले लोगों से है—बड़ा रोष उत्पन्न हुआ। दूसरी बात यह है कि वहां पर काश्तकार जो लगान देते थे वह जमीन की उपज का ५० प्रतिशत था। इनना ही काश्तकारों को नहाना पड़ना था लेकिन और भी बहुत सी चीजें थीं जो कि काश्तकारों को देनी पड़नी थीं। लेकिन इस अधिनियम ने यह व्यवस्था कर दी कि केवल १/४ उपज का भाग मालगुजार को देना पड़ेगा। मालगुजार खुद अपनी जमीन में आ करके अपना हिस्सा लेगा, इस किन्म की कोई बात थी, जो स्वभावतः मालगुजारों को बुरी लगनी थी और लगी और उसके प्रति उन्होंने अपना रोष व्यक्त किया। इसके साथ ही साथ एक चीज यह भी रही कि जो मीरसी मुजायरे हैं और जो गैर-मीरसी मुजायरे हैं वे भी मलकियत ले सकते हैं मालिक जमीन से। अगर वे मीरसी हैं तो २४ गुना मालिये का और गैर-मीरसी हैं तो ४८ गुना मालिये का अदा करके वे मालिक बन सकते हैं।

इस पर भी चूंकि वहा पर मानिया बहुत थोड़ा है और जमीन की कीमत भी कई जगहों पर बहुत थोड़ी पड़ी। मालगुजारों को कष्ट हुआ और यह बहुत स्वाभाविक ही था। इसके साथ साथ एक बात और हुई और वह यह थी कि हिमाचल में जमीन के तोल माप के

[श्री पद्म देव]

ऊपर उसकी एसाटमेंट किन्स नहीं हुई बल्कि मालिये के मुताबिक हुई। कहीं पर जमीन अच्छी थी और कहीं पर बुरी थी और इसके मुताबिक यदि जमीन की फिक्सेशन जमीन के तौल याप पर होती तो लोगों को कसान था। इसलिए मालिये के आधार पर इसको रखा गया। १२५ रुपया सालाना मालिये की जमीन तक वह अपने पास रख सकता है, इससे अधिक जमीन नहीं रख सकता। इसके साथ एक बात और हुई कि अगर किसी मालगुजार के पास जमीन नहीं है और उसकी जो जमीन है वह सारी की सारी टैनेंट्स के पास है और अब अगर वह अपने पास कुछ जमीन रखना चाहता है तो उसके लिए उसको पांच एकड़ तक की सुविधा दी गई। लेकिन इसमें शर्त यह थी कि टैनेंट से १/४ हिस्सा जमीन ही ले सकता है। इस में कोई शक नहीं कि इससे वहाँ पर लोगों को बड़ा कष्ट हुआ और यह स्वाभाविक भी था। सम्भव है इसके सम्बन्ध में फिर कभी इस सम्माननीय सदन में विचार हो। लेकिन इससे जो कष्ट हुआ में उसे आपकी बतलाना चाहता हूँ। मान लीजिये कि एक मालगुजार के पास चार सौ बीघे जमीन है और वह बिलरी हुई है। एक जगह पर दस बीघे हैं, दूसरी जगह पर दस बीघे हैं और इसी तरह से कई जगहों पर वह बिलरी हुई है। जहाँ पर दस बीघे हैं उनका चौथा हिस्सा यानी १ई बीघे उनका मिल गया, दूसरी जगह में भी इसी तरह से ढाई बीघे उसे मिल गया और इसी तरह से सभी जगहों में चौथा हिस्सा उसको मिल गया। इस तरह में ढाई ढाई बीघे जमीन जब उसको कई जगह पर बिलरी हुई मिली तो उसको बड़ा कष्ट हुआ और यह स्वाभाविक ही था क्योंकि अगर उसको दम जगह पर इस तरह से जमीन मिली तो उसको इन ढाई ढाई बीघों की कास्त करने के लिए दस जगहों पर जाना पड़ा। एक और भी बहिसस पैदा हुई और वह यह थी कि जो कीमत जमीन की रखी गई वह स्लाइडिंग स्केल में

थी। इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि जिस के पास बहुत अधिक जमीन थी उस जमीन की आखिरी जो कीमत हुई वह ५० परसेंट ही रह गई जिसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि जो मालगुजार थे उनको बहुत कष्ट हुआ। इसमें शक नहीं कि कुछ ऐसे मालगुजार भी हैं जो दो बीघे के या चार बीघे के या दस बीघे के ही मालिक हैं। ऐसी सूरत में जिन के पास इतनी जमीन थी और वे खुद कास्त नहीं करने थे तो वह सब की सब कास्तकारों को चली गई, उसके बाद मालगुजार खुद बिना जमीन के रह गये। इस तरह से हिमाचल की उस विधान मन्ना का जहाँ तक ताल्लुक था उसने तो इस आधार को सामने रख कर कि लंड टू दी टिल्लर, जमीन उसकी होगी जोकि कास्त करता है, कानून बना दिया। लेकिन मालगुजारों की श्रावत दूसरे ढग की थी। नौकरिया उन के पास थी, लम्बरदारी उनके पास थी, बैलदारी उनके पास थी, लीडरी उनके पास थी और जमीन भी उनके पास ही थी और उपज का कुछ हिस्सा भी उनके घर पहुँच जाता था। अब उनके सामने कठिनाइयाँ पैदा हुईं और बड़ा सकट का समय उनके सामने आया और उस सकट को लेकर के वे सुप्रीम कोर्ट में पहुँचे। सुप्रीम कोर्ट में जैना कि अभी आपने माननीय मंत्री महोदय के मुँह में सुना तकरीबन ३१ अज्ञिया गईं जिन में दो बातें उठाई गईं थी। एक तो यह कि जिस प्रसेम्बली ने इस विधान को, इस विधेयक को, इस अधिनियम का पारित किया, वह इसको पारित करने के योग्य नहीं थी और दूसरा यह कि भारतीय विधान के अर्च्याय ३ और ८ के अधिनियम के वह विरुद्ध था, इसलिए इनको अवैध घोषित किया जाये। जैना कि अभी आपने सुना, सुप्रीम कोर्ट के सामने जिस वक्त यह सारी कार्रवाई की गई, तो उस ने सारी चीजों को सामने रख करके एक बात का फैसला दिया और वह इन प्रकार है :—

"In our opinion the so-called Legislative Assembly which was

convened and which purported to pass the Abolition Act was not the Legislative Assembly of the new Himachal Pradesh created by the new State Act and therefore, the impugned Act cannot be regarded as a piece of validly enacted legislation. . . .

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon): Sir, there is no quorum.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Bell is being rung.

Dr. Krishnaswami: There is seldom quorum.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, there is quorum.

Shri Padam Dev: "That being the position the interference with the rights of the petitioners in and to their respective properties cannot for a moment be justified or permitted and the first question raised on behalf of the petitioners must be answered in their favour."

इसलिए जो वैधानिक आपत्ति उठाई गई थी, उस के मुताबिक जो कार्रवाई अप्रैल, १९५४ में ले कर अक्टूबर, १९५८ तक हुई वह प्रैधानिक आपत्ति की गई।

अभी यहां पर कई प्रकार के विचार प्रकट किये गये। मैं माननीय सदन के सामने यह कह देना चाहता हूँ कि वहां पर जितने भी अधिनियम पारित हुए १९५४ में १९५६ तक, वह सब नियमपूर्वक वहां की लेजिस्लेटिव असेम्बली के द्वारा पारित किये गये। कानूनी अद्वैत सिर्फ इतनी हुई कि जो पुराना हिमाचल था उस के ३६ मेम्बर थे और जब नया हिमाचल बना तो उस के ४१ मेम्बर हुए, और ४१ मेम्बरों ही ने सारा लेजिस्लेशन १९५४ से लेकर १९५६ तक पास किया। इस के अन्दर यह आपत्ति उठाई गई कि जब नया हिमाचल बना और वहां के मेम्बरों ने नये ऐक्ट को पारित किया और उस के अनुसार जब अप्रैल में हिमाचल असेम्बली का नया अधिवेशन हुआ

तो वहां के सदस्यों को नये तरह से घोष लेना चाहिये था। नये तरह से स्पीकर का और नये ही तरह से डिप्टी स्पीकर का निर्वाचन होना चाहिये था और उसी तरह की नोटिस भेजनी चाहिये थी। चूंकि इस किस्म की वैधानिक कार्रवाई नहीं हुई, इसलिये उस सब कार्रवाई को प्रबंध करार दे दिया गया। जैसा मैंने पहले निवेदन किया, जिन मेम्बरों द्वारा हिमाचल असेम्बली बनी उन्होंने, पुराने मेम्बरों की तरह ही सारा काम किया, उस के अन्दर वही स्पीकर, वही डिप्टी स्पीकर, सब के सब उन्हीं तरह से रहे। लेकिन कानूनी नुक्ता यह साया गया कि कसम इस के लिये नहीं ली गई थी, पुक्ता तौर पर दुबारा उस को घोषित नहीं किया गया कि यह नई असेम्बली का पहला सेशन है। उस के अन्दर यह कहा गया कि यह सेकेण्ड सेशन है, और इसलिये कहा गया कि वहां पर सब कार्रवाई गलत की गई।

इस समय इस माननीय सदन के सामने प्रश्न यह नहीं है कि उस के अन्दर जो अधिनियम पारित हुए, वे क्या हैं। अभी जैसी कि माग की गई है, अगर वह मारे के मारे अधिनियम यहा पर हों, तो इस माननीय सदन को पूर्ण अधिकार है कि उन में जिस प्रकार का संशोधन चाहे करे, चाहे वह भूमि मुषार के विषय में हों, कांफ़िडेंसियल के विषय में हों, पचायत के विषय में हों या नरमदी के विषय में हो। जितने भी अधिनियम वहां पर पारित हुए उन में यह संशोधन कर सकता है या उन को गलत कह सकता है। लेकिन मुख्य प्रश्न यह है कि मन् १९५४ में ले कर १९५६ तक जो भी कार्रवाई वहां हुई है, उस में केवल वही अधिनियम नहीं हैं जिन के जरिये से हिमाचल के अन्दर बड़ी उन्नति हुई, कई प्रगतिशील कार्य हुए, कई ऐसे कार्य हुए जिन के लिये कहा गया कि वे बड़े इस्टिबल स्टेप थे, बाल्क इस दम्यान में मिनिस्टर थे, असेम्बली के मेम्बर थे, स्पीकर महोदय थे, उन सब के ऊपर जितना पैसा खर्च किया गया उसको

[श्री पद्म देव]

भी नाजायज करार देने का प्रश्न है, जितनी भी उस की कार्रवाइयां थीं, उन सब को नाजायज करार देने का प्रश्न है। अगर यह माननीय सदन अपने को इस के लिये कम्पीटेंट नहीं समझता कि उस सब कार्रवाई को वैधानिक रूप दे दे, अगर यह उस के काबिल नहीं है कि जो पिछली असेम्बली थी, जो कि अब खत्म हो चुकी है तो आखिर हम को ठीक कैसे किया जा सकेगा? इतना रुपया खर्च हुआ, सारा काम हुआ है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह सदन ही एक ऐसा सदन है जो कि इस का वैध रूप दे सकता है। इस सदन को छोड़ कर कोई भी दूसरा सदन ऐसा नहीं है, जहाँ उसको मान्यता दे सके। उभी मान्यता को देने के लिए हमारे गृह मंत्रालय ने कदम उठाया है और मैं समझता हूँ कि वह इस के लिये बर्खास्त का पात्र है। अगर बोर्डे दिनों पूर्व राष्ट्रपति की ओर से प्रॉविनेन्स जारी न हो जाता तो वहाँ लड़ाई शुरू हो जानी थी। पता नहीं वहाँ के लोग क्या क्या करते और कितना झगडा हुंता, कितने जलसे जलस निकलते, उस वक्त जो भी कदम उठाया गया वह बहुत उचित काम था। उस के निर्माण के बाद जब यह माननीय सदन बैठा तो गृह मंत्रालय ने 'मे वॉलिडेशन ऐक्ट के नाम से यहाँ पर रखा है। इस वक्त केवल एक ही काम हमारे सामने है कि जिम लेजिस्लेटिव असेम्बली की रचना ठीक थी, उस में स्पीकर भी थे, डिप्टी स्पीकर भी थे, सारे के सारे लोग वहाँ थे, मिर्फ इम सदन की मंजूरी नहीं हुई थी, जिम की वजह से उस को इन्वैलिड करार दे दिया गया, उस को वैलिडेट कर दे।

अगर जिमीधारों की तरफ से ऐतराज न होता जमीन के सम्बन्ध में, तो कोई बात न उठती। वहाँ कोअपरेटिव का काम चल रहा था, हर किस्म का काम चल रहा था, किसी को उस के ऊपर ऐतराज नहीं था। वह कानून जैसे बने हुए थे जैसे ही चलने दिये गये। तो मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि इस

वक्त प्रश्न यह नहीं है कि उन कानूनों के अन्दर क्या है, वह कानून बड़े सक्त है या नर्म है, वह मासगुजारों के हक में है वा कास्तकारों के हक में है। केवल यही चीज इस के सामने है कि इस वर्म्यान जो भी कायदे कानून पास हुए, जो भी खर्च हुआ, उन को अपनी मजूरी दे दे। हमारे सामने आज जो दि हिमाचल प्रदेश लेजिस्लेटिव असेम्बली (कास्टिट्यूशन ऐंड प्रोसीडिन्स) वैलिडेशन बिल है, उस का इतना ही उद्देश्य है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश असेम्बली में जो भी कानून बने, उन को उसे वैध करना है। यह माना जा सकता है कि शायद कुछ कानूनों को कार्य रूप देने में गवर्नमेंट को अडचन पड़े। मुमकिन है कि गवर्नमेंट भी यहाँ पर उन कानूनों के बारे में संशोधन पेश करे। इसी तरह से मासगुजारों के सम्बन्ध में भी कुछ हो सकता है। जैसा मैंने कहा हिमाचल प्रदेश के अन्दर लोगों को अपनी जमीनों में बहुत प्यार है, अपने बच्चों में भी उन को उतना प्यार नहीं है। हर एक आदमी चाहता है अगर कहीं पर कोई पत्थर भी हो तो उस पर मिट्टी रख कर मे उस को जमीन बना लू। वहाँ का आदमी समझता है कि वह जमीन पर जिंदा है। किसी आदमी का अगर बैंक बैलेंस हो तो वह उस का भी उतना नहीं समझता जितना कि वह जमीन को समझता है। हो सकता है कि हम में कुछ लोगों को तकलीफ हो और उस के बारे में भी कोई संशोधन आये और इम माननीय सदन को उस पर विचार करना पड़े। यह माननीय सदन उस के ऊपर काफी गौर व खोज कर सकता है, वाद विवाद कर सकता है। लेकिन इम सब के होते हुए भी मेरा निवेदन है कि आज इम सदन के सामने जो विषयक उपस्थित है, अर्थात् सन् १९५४ से ले कर १९५६ तक हिमाचल प्रदेश असेम्बली की जो कार्रवाई हुई है उस को वह वैधानिक रूप दे दे, इस पर इस सदन को विचार करना चाहिये। जैसा मैंने कहा कि हिमाचल तो आज डीमोक्रैटिक

बिल है, सेक्टर के मातहत है, इसलिये प्राप
वहाँ की सीब पर जितना भी विचार कर
सकते हैं, करें, क्योंकि अगर इस में देर हो
जायेगी तो और ज्यादा प्रश्न पड़ जायेंगी।
इसलिये इस सदन को चाहिये कि वह इस
विषयक को पारित करने की कृपा करें।
इस में और कोई लम्बी बात नहीं है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Jogendra
Sen.

Shri Jadhav: Sir, before the hon.
Member begins to speak, let us be
fortunate enough to know how many
Acts are there and what are their
names.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That point was
already disposed of, I am told, by the
Chairman.

Shri Jadhav: What difficulty is there
in stating the names?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Chairman
has given directions that the list be
given

Shri Jadhav: After this Bill is pass-
ed?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Before it is
passed

Shri Jogendra Sen (Mandi): Mr.
Deputy-Speaker, Sir. At the very start
I should like to thank you for having
given me this opportunity to speak on
a very important piece of legislation.
The Bill which is before us does not
even mention any of the Acts which it
seeks to validate. It does not also
mention the resolutions and other
things which the defunct Assembly
passed from 1st July, 1954 to 31st
October, 1956. I will not, therefore,
say anything at this stage on the merits
of the legislations of which even a list
has not been supplied to us. But the
Chair has very kindly said that a list
will be supplied by the Government.
If and when that list is supplied to
us and, as my hon. friend on the
opposite benches just said—when
these Acts also are supplied to us, or

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at least made available to us some-
how—I mean those so called Acts
which are said to have been already
passed—the defunct Assembly of
Himachal Pradesh.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then he might
speak after the list is supplied. We
shall now proceed to the next item—
Present Trends in the Export Trade.
Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri.

15 hrs.

PRESENT TRENDS IN THE EXPORT TRADE

**The Minister of Commerce and
Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):**
Sir, I beg to move:

“That the present trends in the
export trade of India, and the state
of the textile industry which con-
tributes materially to that trade,
be taken into consideration.”

I am thankful to you that an oppor-
tunity has been given to us to have a
full discussion on the problems of the
textile industry as also on general ex-
ports. It is well known that the pro-
gress of rapid industrialisation in the
country is largely tied up with our
capacity to pay for the import of
machinery, industrial equipment and
industrial raw materials. We have
used up a greater part of our foreign
exchange reserves in building up the
country's industrial potential. Our
import requirements to maintain a
steady rise in industrial and agricul-
tural production continue to be heavy.
We can pay for these requirements
only if we succeed in augmenting our
export earnings. The setback which
our efforts in this direction have
recently received is, therefore, a
matter of great concern to us all.

With your permission, Sir, I will try
to place the present position in its
proper perspective. It was in the
year 1954 that the Commerce and
Industry Ministry initiated special

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steps to build up the country's export potential. One of the first such steps was the formation of Export Promotion Councils for specific commodities with considerable export potential. The Cotton Textile Export Promotion Council came into being in October, 1954, and ten other Councils each dealing with the specific commodity were set up in the following years. The Commodity Boards for Coffee, Tea, Coir, Handicrafts and Handlooms were asked to pay special attention to export markets and the State Trading Corporation and the Export Risk Insurance Corporation were organised in 1956 and 1957 respectively in an effort to build up our export trade.

Steps were also simultaneously taken to strengthen a Directorate of Exhibition and Commercial Publicity to re-vitalize the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics and to strengthen our trade representations abroad. In July, 1957, the Foreign Trade Board was set up to co-ordinate and guide the country's commercial effort and the Directorate of Export Promotion was organised to implement the Board's decisions and to provide prompt and effective service to the exporter.

These organisational efforts, together with the number of other measures which were taken over the last two to three years and to which I propose to refer a little later, made it possible for the country to claim for itself a share of the improvement in international trade.

It will be recalled that in 1954 our export earnings stood at Rs. 558 crores. In 1955 our exports reached the figure of Rs. 602 crores. A further improvement was recorded in 1956, bringing up the total for that year to Rs. 613 crores. This improvement was maintained for the first nine months of 1957. But the effects of recession in economic activity in some of the highly industrialised countries of the world began to be felt in the last quarter of that year.

In October, 1957, exports shrank by Rs. 8 crores and although there was some improvement in November, the downward trend was resumed in December, 1957. Export earnings continued to decline over the first five months of the current year until the lowest point was reached in June, when partly because of the strike in our ports, we earned only Rs. 28 crores.

I am, however, somewhat relieved to report that from July, 1958, the trend can be described to have taken a hopeful turn. In July, the earnings mounted up once again to the more satisfying figure of Rs. 54 crores and in September, 1958, the performance was on par at over Rs. 58 crores with the figure for the corresponding month in the last year.

There is reason to believe that the hopeful trend in our export trade which has been noticed in the third quarter of the current year will endure. True we cannot afford to be complacent but I would also like to suggest that we need not, at the same time, feel unduly depressed by the disheartening experience of the nine months ending June, 1958. This decline, as I have said before, had in fact resulted largely from the decline in commodity prices, and from the setback in economic activity in some of the highly industrialised countries of the world, more particularly in the United States and later in Western Europe.

The House will be interested to know that imports into industrially advanced countries suffered a significant decline during this period, and consequently most of the undeveloped countries dependent on the export of primary products were unable to maintain a high level of imports. The export earnings of some of the South American countries declined by nearly 25 per cent and of some of our neighbours shrank by as much as 20 per cent. My colleague had occasion to tell the House this morning

that on an average the unit value of the export of some of our primary products slumped during this period by as much as 18 to 20 per cent. So, there has been a widespread recession in international trade and we have also been effected by it.

I would also crave your indulgence to call attention to some bright spots in this otherwise depressing picture. It is important for the House to know what we have been able to achieve during the last nine months. Partly as a result of the fall in prices of imported industrial raw materials and partly in consequence of the tight import policy we have been following, it has been possible, even during this period of nine months, to narrow down the gap between our exports and imports. For instance, during the months January to September, 1957, the adverse balance of trade had aggregated to Rs. 265.8 crores. During the same period this year, the gap between total imports and exports had come down to Rs. 157.5 crores only. Indeed, the trade figures for the month of September 1958, which are the latest available, show that during this month, we were fortunately able to realise a small surplus. It is also somewhat encouraging to note that in the face of falling demand, it was possible for us to secure quantitative increases in the export of tea, cashewnuts, tobacco and linseed oil. We also succeeded at the same time in improving significantly our cash earnings from the export of some of our manufactures, notably sewing machines, fire extinguishers, some small machinery items, leather manufacturers, woollen piecegoods and artificial silk fabrics. It is true that manufactured items still constitute only a small fraction of our foreign trade. But the success of our concentrated efforts we have been able to achieve in this limited field, coupled with quantitative increases in some traditional items, serve to reinforce confidence in the resilience of our economy.

Nevertheless, for many years to come, we have to continue to depend

for our export earnings mainly on our staple items of export. It is for this reason that the fall in export earnings from cotton textiles, manganese ore, gunnies, castor oil, hides and skins, raw cotton and raw wool, has caused us special concern. I propose to deal at some length with the problems of the textile industry. In exporting textiles we really face an uphill task.

Exports for the January to September, 1958 both mill made and handloom, were about 467 million yards. On this basis, our annual exports for the current year would be of the order of 625 million yards. Judging from the 1957 figures, which stood at 878 million yards, the drop has been considerable. I would, however, say that such drops have occurred in the past. In 1950, for example, we exported over 1,100 million yards, but in 1951, they dropped to 778 million yards and further dropped to 602 million yards in 1952. That, of course, gives us no satisfaction and we have to go carefully into the causes of the current decline.

Apart from the general recession in the western countries in the latter half of 1957, there has been a shrinkage in the international trade in cotton textiles. Many countries are setting up their own textile mills. We have also had to face more serious competition in this shrinking field; and some countries have had, because of their own foreign exchange difficulties, to restrict imports.

When the first signs of this decline were noticed earlier in the year, I had set up a high power committee on which all interests were represented, to go into the several problems of textiles. This committee, as you are aware, has examined all these aspects. Certain specific suggestions were made by the committee to improve our exports and Government have, after careful consideration, implemented several measures in pursuance of those suggestions.

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In the import policy programme for the current half year, facilities have been provided to exporting mills to obtain their requirements of textile chemicals and dyes; in the case of co-operatives, they have been enabled to import finer counts of yarn in addition to dyes. We have also permitted mills to obtain their requirements of special machinery. Facilities for importing foreign cotton have also been provided subsequently on the recommendations of the Cotton Textile Mills Federation.

Hon. Members would be naturally much concerned with the state of our textile machinery. Our this morning questions were asked about the closure of mills. The textile enquiry committee noticed that a large majority of the machines in existence today were installed more than 40 years back and had outlived their usefulness. In fact, it would perhaps be almost impossible to revive some of the closed mills. Their machines are so old and outmoded that these mills may have to be wound up and it will be almost impossible to revive them. Against this background the Committee also referred to the definite preference in the markets abroad for flawless cloth produced only on automatic looms and indicated that our mills in due course should equip themselves with a large number of such looms. I hope the industry, in co-operation with labour, would take note of these observations and avail more liberally of the facilities available to them. In regard to additional automatic looms for export promotion, the stringent conditions for installation have been sufficiently relaxed and I hope the industry will fully avail of these facilities and install 3,000 automatic looms under this scheme at an early date. I also hope the industry will make better use of the facilities available with the National Industrial Development Corporation and devote greater attention to the re-equipment of the industry at an early date.

I do not now propose to deal at length with other commodities. But I would only like to say that with some difficulty, we have been able to maintain the exports of iron ore and other minerals at a reasonably high level. But the difficulties of the steel industry in the United States and in Europe have caused a sharp fall in the international demand for manganese ore, the impact of which has been more keenly felt in producing areas such as India, which are situated at considerable distances from consuming mills.

As regards agricultural products, however, the position is somewhat different; our agricultural products, notably cotton, oil seeds, oils, oil cakes, spices, tobacco, fruits and vegetables are well-known throughout the world. But because of the rising level of demand at home, we have been unable to release sufficient surpluses for sale in overseas markets. Recently in spite of the fear that the prices of vegetable oil or groundnut oil will rise, we have announced quotas for the export of groundnut oil and other edible oils and a substantial part of the quota announced for the groundnut oil has been utilised. It is essential that we should concentrate on the export of edible oils. There is no doubt that there is a great demand for our oils in foreign countries. We have to concentrate on the export of oils, and I have no doubt that in a few months time it should be possible for us to release larger quotas for export. But, side by side, it is essential that our production should also increase, in all kinds of oils whether it is groundnut oil, mustard or other oils. We have recently discussed that with the Food and Agriculture Ministry and every effort is being made to increase our production of oil seeds etc. If production goes up, it will not affect internal consumption and our consumers in the country and it will also help in the furtherance of the export of those commodities.

There are many other items which can reasonably be expected to yield

increased export earnings. These are raw wool, hides and skins, coal and coffee. The real difficulties in all these items is not one of salesmanship but of production and prices. The problem of production has to be solved, and it is true it may take some time. But we must pursue that effort. Nevertheless, I would like to tell the House that we are doing our best in this regard and given determined effort on the part of those concerned, it should not be too difficult for us to generate significant surplus for export to overseas markets.

So far as Government are concerned, we are constantly engaged in making it possible for exporters to improve the competitiveness of Indian products. Export duties have been withdrawn from all items, except one or two. Import duties paid on the imported content of as many as 80 items of export are now refunded. Exporters are also able to claim refund of excise duty. Special schemes for supply of accessories and raw materials, imported or indigenous are in operation. Measures for the control of quality have been introduced. Railways are offering special concessions to stimulate export traffic. Ship-owners have also shown some awareness of the need to provide better shipping opportunities and to adjust freight rates in an effort to increase export cargo from India. The impact of all these efforts in diverse fields is bound to be felt on our export earnings at no distant date. But the experience of the nine months during which we suffered a set back emphasises the fact that we can reasonably expect to improve export earnings only if international trade continues to expand. It is for this reason that the heavy adverse balance we have for some time been running up in our trade with some of the more advanced countries of the world have worried us. The problem posed by these adverse balances has been recognized in the Conferences which were recently held at Montreal, New Delhi and Geneva. It is also to be

hoped that the trade agreements which have recently been negotiated with some countries will also enlarge exports and to balance the trade at a high level.

I have almost finished. I have endeavoured to place before the House all the facts of the situation which have been undoubtedly a difficult one. I referred to certain developments in the international economic situation. Still I fully realise that we have to be alert, and vigilant. Above all, we have to discover the deficiencies, wherever they are, and take necessary steps to remedy them. So far as Government are concerned, we have during recent months taken a number of steps with a view to providing facilities and opportunities for an expansion in our exports. I have also taken several opportunities of having discussion on this matter with the representatives of industry and trade and various chambers of commerce. I do hope there is greater awareness now for the need to take bold and imaginative action for stepping up our exports. Our policy should be to produce goods at competitive prices with due regard to quality and the taste of consumers. Each industry has to take definite steps towards that end. Indeed, this is a continuous process in which Government would always be prepared to participate and to render every possible assistance.

It will be wrong to take one item or two or three items and to feel concerned over the decline of export of those items. It will also not be taking a very correct view to take up one or two countries in the case of which our exports have declined. It is necessary that we should take an overall view. I do not deny that there has been a decline. But this decline has been there for some time. It has not happened all of a sudden. So, I would appeal to House to take an overall and balanced view of the matter. They should also realise that in this difficult situation during the last five or six months we have made a special effort, concentrated effort, to arrest

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the decline. I do not want to depend upon the export and import figures of one month or two months. It is not quite correct to do so. Correct Agreement will be for the period of at least six months or one year. So, I do not want to claim much. But I merely want to mention to the House that a sincere effort has been made to tackle a very difficult problem and a very difficult situation, and the slight improvement that I see gives me some satisfaction, only to this extent that it may be possible for us to arrest the decline. But I will not merely be satisfied by arresting the decline. We must go further and we should be able to export much more. In fact my idea is that the real problem and the real solution of the foreign exchange difficulty is only by exporting more. Unless we are able to improve our exports, we will have to depend on other countries for a very very long time to come. Foreign loans, we may have to take and utilize. But we should try to be as much self-reliant as possible. So, in these circumstances, I fully realise the importance of increasing our exports and our efforts are in that direction and I am not at all pessimistic about it. I have full hope that we should be able to go ahead with our export targets and achieve better results.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved

"That the present trends in the export trade of India, and the state of the textile industry which contributes materially to that trade, be taken into consideration."

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur) May I submit that the statement made by the hon. Minister may be circulated to the Members of the House

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Members so desire it can be done.

Some hon. Members: Yes it is very necessary.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Tomorrow it can be done.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are two substitute motions. I want to know whether they are moving them.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhri (Barrhampore): I am moving my motion.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: I am also moving my motion.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Both the substitute motions are also before the House

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhri: I beg to move:

That for the original motion the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered, the present trends in the export trade of India, and the state of the textile industry which contributes materially to that trade, expresses its deep concern at the steady fall in our export trade and the shrinkage of our traditional export market is textiles, tea and other goods and the increasingly adverse balance of trade which results therefrom

The House is of the opinion that all steps taken by the Government so far for export promotion and for improving our trade balances have proved a complete failure and the House therefore, urges upon the Government to appoint a high powered Committee consisting of representatives of the Planning Commission, of the Ministries of Finance and Commerce and Industry, a few representative of both the Houses of the Parliament and of the principal trade bodies, as well as those of the Central Trade Union organisations, in order to take all emergency measures that might be found necessary in order to regain

our position in the world export market, to increase the volume of our export trade and attain a favourable balance of trade commensurate with the needs of the present tempo of India's economic development and re-construction."

Shri Braj Raj Singh: I beg to move.

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This House, having considered the present trends in the export trade of India, and the state of the textile industry which contributes materially to that trade, expresses its very deep concern at the declining trend in our export trade and the shrinkage of our traditional export market in textiles, tea and other goods,

This House is of the definite opinion that the Government have miserably failed to take adequate steps to maintain the volume of our export trade in tact. This House recommends to the Government that a Committee of Members of Parliament belonging to both Houses of Parliament assisted by technical experts be appointed immediately to go into the matter thoroughly and suggest ways and means by which the situation could be set right."

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I hardly need read out the motion, but I want to mention one or two facts that are here in it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Just a minute May I have an idea as to how many hon. Members want to participate in this debate?

Several hon. Members rose—

Shri C. D. Pandé (Naini Tal): There are many.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I see about 25 rising in their seats or even 30.

Shri C. D. Pandé: May I suggest that time may be extended.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is what I am coming to. We shall have to limit the speeches. There are six hours. Shall we extend it still?

Shri C. D. Pandé: Let it be tomorrow full day in addition to today. That means we will have five hours tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let the debate proceed. Then we will see. In the beginning six hours seem quite a lot. Now, I suppose 15 minutes would be enough for each hon. Member.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia (Sikar) rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have seen particularly the hon. Member.

श्री रा० का० तन्तिया : (निमाड) :
श्रीमान जी मेरा यह सुझाव है यह एक महत्वपूर्ण मसला है इसलिये जिन लोगों की इसमें खास दिलचस्पी है और जिनका हमसे खास सम्बन्ध है उनको कुछ ज्यादा समय दिया जाय ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय देखा जायगा ।
प्रान्तबले मेम्बर को उन खास लोगों में शामिल कर लिया जायगा ।

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: It is not enough that we should express concern at the falling trend of our export trade which I have sought to do in my motion. We should also put on record that attempts so far made by our Government to boost up our export trade have proved a failure. The hon. Minister sought to derive some comfort in the fact that in recent months' trends there is some slight indication of an improvement, but it is very doubtful whether that improvement will be sustained.

One thing that I want to emphasise is that our Government has not been

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sufficiently impelled by a sense of urgency about this matter. I remember early this year at the time of the Budget discussion in answer to one of the questions our new Finance Minister was asked as to what effect the recession in the United States was having on our foreign trade and on our economy in general and he replied very boldly that ours is a developmental economy and the U.S. recession does not affect us. It is some satisfaction that the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry at least does not take that view and is more realistic in these matters.

I need not detail, because of shortage of time, the seriousness of the situation, but even then if we look at the long-term trends revealed over the past one or two years the situation is really alarming—much more alarming than the Government is prepared to admit. Here in my hand is the Reserve Bank of India Bulletin, October 1958. That is the latest available number that I could procure. Here there is a table on page 1182 giving us figures of India's exports of principal commodities. I am not taking one or two commodities but those commodities on the export of which the bluk of our volume of exports rests.

Here, in regard to Food, Drink and Tobacco, I find that the figure for January-June 1957 is Rs. 96.4 crores. In July-December, 1957 the export was Rs. 105 crores. There is a slight improvement. Then in January-June 1957 it was Rs. 94.8 crores. There is a decline in Tea which is included in the same item. From Rs. 62.0 crores the figure has come down to Rs. 57.8 crores in January-June 1958.

Similarly, with regard to raw materials we find that from Rs. 88.6 crores in January-June 1957 it has come down to Rs. 34.4 crores in January-June 1958. I am mistaken it has come down to Rs. 72.6 crores in January-June 1958. With regard to articles wholly or mainly manufactured I find the figure has come down from Rs. 141.2 crores in January-June 1957 to Rs.

118.7 crores in January-June 1958. In jute manufactures, which is our biggest dollar earner, there is a decline of Rs. 10 crores from Rs. 62.2 crores to Rs. 52.7 crores. In regard to cotton manufactures, of course, the position is well known. Here we find that the decline is from Rs. 43.3 crores to Rs. 31.5 crores. This gives the overall picture in a nutshell.

I need not add to the detailed figures which the hon. Minister has already given, but even then to illustrate my point it will be necessary to mention that in cotton textiles the decline this year has been Rs. 11.8 crores. The causes for this are keen competition from China, Russia, Japan and Hong Kong in the eastern and western Asian markets. In Tea export last year i.e. from 1956 to 1957, the decline was to the order of Rs. 30 crores. In U.K. markets the decline was to the tune of Rs. 27 crores and this year the decline is Rs. 9.9 crores. Here the main reason is detailed in this Bulletin as reduced offtake in the United Kingdom. The United Kingdom has reduced its offtake of tea from India but it has increased its offtake—I might mention incidentally—from East Africa, Kenya and Uganda side.

In jute exports the decline last year was Rs. 8 crores. This year, i.e., in 1957-58 the decline has been Rs. 10 crores. Regarding vegetable oils I have not been able to get the figures for 1957-58 but in 1956-57 the decline was Rs. 11 crores. In raw cotton the decline was to the tune of Rs. 8 crores.

Now, are we satisfied and are the Government satisfied that proper steps are being taken? I am prepared to believe the hon. Minister when he says that he is making very sincere efforts. We know that there are three export promotion advisory councils. We also know that there are eleven export promotion councils and a number of commodity boards, but if I may quote the hon. Minister against himself, I find that in this address to the Central Advisory Council for Industries, he said this year only that he

was shortly going to convene a big conference.

"It is my idea", he said then, "that shortly the representatives of each of our important industries should be invited to Delhi for discussions with the Director-General of Foreign Trade and the Ministry so that we may be able to better appreciate the difficulty that has to be resolved and what further steps could be taken for increasing the exports for each industry."

I do not know whether that has been done.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: It has been done in the case of many industries.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: I also find here, there are laid down certain principles and I will very soon show how those principles are being observed in practice. Only a few days ago, on the 29th of November, there was a question put by several Members of this House to which written answer were given, wherein it was said that Export Promotion Advisory Committees in the three major ports were established. What was their function? It was, undertaking a detailed study of export potentialities of various commodities in their respective regions and to recommend specific steps for exploiting these potentialities. But, I find from an answer given earlier this year that the function of the Export Promotion Advisory Committees in these three ports is somewhat different. Their activities have been detailed with regard to all the three ports. This was also given in answer to a question put in the month of August in this House. Here I find that the major recommendations of these committees concern the difficulties that the exporters experience in the ports in regard to the export of their goods. So far as export potentialities of particular commodities, of particular goods of the different re-

gion are concerned, they hardly concern themselves with that.

So far as Export Promotion Councils are concerned, we are informed that there are 11 Export Promotion Councils. Excepting the Council appointed in regard to cotton textiles, I find that the other leading export goods do not have any Export Promotion Council. I am not against diversification of exports. But, the Export Promotion Councils which have been formed do not concern our most important export goods industries.

I do not have the time to go into the other details. But, I generally find that even in regard to incentives promised, the hon. Minister detailed the various types of incentives that they had awarded. Here, I may mention one. Some scheme for the grant of rebate of railway freight has been announced recently. What are the goods in respect of export of which these rebates have been announced? Motor vehicle batteries, Dry cells and batteries, Oil pressure lamps, Hurricane lanterns, Steel files, Bicycles, Textile machinery and parts, Wood screws, Fruit and vegetable preserves. Do the Government seriously want us to believe that they are really giving more facilities and more concessions to our export trade industries?

Lastly,—I must cut short my speech —I do not want to go into the details of my suggestions with regard to the textile industry. But, I feel that so far as the textile industry is concerned, we must modernise our industry. Whether we like it or not, we have to do it if we have to preserve our position in the international market. The steps taken by the Government up till now have not been very effective in that regard and I want that all the interests concerned, that is the employers, industrialists, the Government and the workers also should sit together and find out what sacrifices they can impose on themselves and find out what steps they need concretely take to step up the position and to improve the position of our cotton textile export trade.

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I do not have the time to go into the position of our principal export markets. But, I find there is one telling instance which I cannot resist the temptation to mention. The hon. Minister mentioned about vegetable oils. I find here in a report about Indo-German trade, that, in 1956-57, so far as vegetable oils are concerned, we supplied groundnut oil to Germany to the tune of German Marks 69.8 million. But, in 1957, it was just nothing. How can this sort of a thing happen? How are the possibilities and potentialities of export trade in the different markets not properly explored and definite steps taken to improve our position there? That is why suggest a Committee. I have suggested a Committee. But, it is not just an addition of one more Committee to the spate of committees that we already have. I want some sort of a committee with executive powers, which will take decisions and see that those decisions would be carried through and will not let those decisions to be smothered under heaps of files.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Four hon. Members have just now written to me that they will not be in Delhi tomorrow and therefore I will try to accommodate them first. Shri Morarka.

Shri Morarka: (Jhunjhunu): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, we are very grateful to the Minister of Commerce and Industry for making this statement which is so assuring and so hopeful. I say so particularly in the context of a question which he answered only a few days ago. The question was tabled by the hon. Member from Dehra Dun, Shri Tyagi and in the answer it was indicated that our exports this year might fall by Rs. 100 crores. The hon. Minister has given many reasons why our export trade is failing. But, I think, over and above those, there are three main reasons why our exports are not picking up and unless you do something basically, our export trade cannot pick up notwithstanding the various steps the Government may take and whatever

official agency the Government may organise and whatever new departments the Government may create.

The first thing is, our means of production have become outmoded. Take, for example, the textile industry.

This industry is completely worn out by the strain of production imposed on it during the war for increased production.

Pandit J. P. Jyotishi (Sagar): But how do these markets come there?

Shri Morarka: If you have some patience, you will listen.

If we want to export goods to other countries, we must have the capacity to compete with all other countries. If other countries have modern means of production, labour saving devices, if they can produce better goods and cheaper goods, and if we cannot do that then certainly the importing countries would go to them; they will not remain with India.

Whatever export trade we have in textiles was developed during the war and a few years after the war. Unfortunately, we could not keep that market. The reason was that even at the time when India could export we gave more importance, priority, to the consumption at home. We did not want our home needs to suffer. We rather sacrificed the foreign market. I remember that firm contracts had been entered into for which letters of credit had been opened, and suddenly by one notification the Government asked all the textile mills to cancel those orders irrespective of the consequences. True that was the emergency of the home market and the Government acted in the best interests of the country, but certainly by that action we scared the foreign purchasers the result is if they can buy the goods from any other country today for the same price for price for quality for quality they would not come to us.

My point is that if we want to keep our export markets, we must allow not only rationalisation, not only the rehabilitation of the textile industry,

but we must take active steps to see that our production is not only ~~abundant~~ but also better in quality. For that we may have even to import raw cotton from other countries.

The second reason why I feel our exports cannot pick up is the rigidity of our cost structure. Whatever the reasons may be—it may be the cost of raw materials, it may be the cost of labour, it may be the cost of management or anything—the cost structure in this country even in our exporting industries is becoming more and more rigid every day.

You would be surprised to know that this year the Government has exported sugar to some countries at a price of Rs. 33 per bag while the price of sugar to the consumer in this country is about Rs. 107 per bag. Just consider the difference. Our cost of production today per bag of sugar is much more than Rs. 33. Today the consumer in this country pays not less than Rs. 107 and even Rs. 110 per bag. The other day the Commerce and Industry Minister, in answer to Shri Tyagi, said that we cannot compete with China because China has a controlled economy, that the export price of that country has no relation to the cost of production. That is true, but in the case of sugar the same thing applies to this country which applies to the goods exported by China. Even in the case of cement, the consumer here has to pay more than what the foreign importer has to pay. If in other countries the cost of production of sugar can be Rs. 30 to Rs. 33 per bag, why can it not be less in our country? These are the basic things which must be examined. It is no use creating a Government agency and blaming the Government. The Government must tackle this problem basically, must go into the root cause of these things and must know how the industry can be made more efficient—whether it is in the public sector or the private sector is a small point in this context.

The thing reason which I want to point out is that for most of the indus-

tries in this country we have a secure market. The producer never feels the necessity of going in search of a market. He always finds a ready-made market at home. The price which the Indian consumer pays is always more than the price that the seller can get by exporting the goods. So, he never feels the urge or the necessity of going in search of markets. He is quite happy, quite content, and he gets more by selling the goods to the domestic consumer. Therefore, whatever other steps the Government may take—no doubt they would be useful—in my humble opinion they would be only temporary. If the Government wants to create a real export potential for this country the Government must make our industries efficient, must create certain incentive for the producers here to sell the goods in foreign markets. The cost structure must be made flexible, so that the industries can compete with the countries of the world.

My one criticism against the Government is that the Government does not regard, or has not organised, export promotion on an emergency basis, on the same basis as it was organised in England. I remember in 1948 when I went to England, it was facing almost the same situation in foreign exports which we are facing today. There, in the cold inter, England was exporting coal. The Englishmen could not purchase any woollen clothes which were of good quality in England. Everything was going for export. Even baby food, chocolates, sugar—all these things were earmarked for export. And look at the condition here. Last year there was a great cry against exporting groundnut oil because it was the poor man's food, and soon thereafter a ban was imposed on the export of guar because it was a cattle food. This is our emergency and we cannot export oil because it is the poor man's food. We cannot export guar because in Rajasthan and Punjab the cattle are accustomed to eat that food. If that is the priority

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of importance we give to our exports, I wonder how soon we can solve this problem.

Coming to incentives, there have been many incentives given by the Government. One incentive which has worked very well is the incentive of import quotas. That has been a very good incentive. It really persuades people to export because they export goods at a loss and that loss they make up and earn more money by importing against these quotas.

The Commerce and Industry Minister this afternoon told us that the export of artificial silk or such yarn, etc., is improving. That is only an artificial improvement. That improvement is not real. There is no demand for this type of goods, and India cannot compete in price. The exporters are incurring a loss, but they can afford to incur a loss because the import quota they get is much more lucrative.

This, in effect, means a selective devaluation of your currency. I must congratulate the Government on allowing selective devaluation of currency rather than resorting to general devaluation of currency. Our import pattern is so rigid that by devaluing the currency, you would not be able to cut down your imports. You have your commitments for different projects, for machines, and for various other things. You have no choice. You are bound to import them, whatever the cost may be, and therefore, instead of devaluing the currency in general and paying a higher price for the same goods, it is much better to give such import incentives allowing people to export even at a loss and make up that loss by importing other goods.

In this connection, I would make the suggestion that Government should fix a percentage of import quota for the foreign exchange that an exporter can earn—10, 15 or 20 per cent, whatever it may be, but let it be general. Do not tie one commodity with

another. Whatever one may export, allow him 10 per cent of foreign exchange for import, and let him import whatever he likes. Even if he were to make more money, that profit would only be temporary, because more importers would import the same things, there would be a bigger supply and the price would adjust itself, and ultimately only those commodities will come here which are needed.

So, I suggest for the serious consideration of Government whether they could not evolve a method under which imports may be allowed as a certain percentage of the export earnings that a person makes.

16 hrs.

I have one more criticism to make, and that is that Government appoints committees and commissions from time to time, but they do not take decisions on their reports quickly. Now, Government has appointed a committee, and that committee submitted its report quite some time back. The subject is quite urgent and emergent, and yet Government take their usual time in taking a decision on those recommendations. I am referring to two committees. The first is the Export Promotion Committee which was appointed in early 1957, which submitted its report some time in August, 1957, and the other is the Textile Enquiry Committee which submitted its report also quite some time back, but decision was taken on it only recently, some time in the middle of November.

If our export needs are so great—and I have no doubt that they are great—and the situation is so emergent, I think Government must wake up to the needs of the day and they must set up a special machinery now to re-examine these recommendations and accept them or reject them. They can take whatever decision they like, surely, but they should not keep things in suspense. The trade today looks to Government.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: May I inform the hon. Member that so far as the Report of the Textile Enquiry Committee is concerned, it was considered fairly quickly, and the resolution of Government was announced within about three months' time?

Shri Morarka: I am sorry my conception of quickness differs from that of the hon. Minister. According to the hon. Minister, certainly it was pretty quickly done, but I made the same criticism even in one of the consultative committee meetings, and even thereafter it took quite some time before the decision came. However, that is a small point. I would only suggest to Government to consider it, and if they find it possible, Government may accept it

I am sorry I have to oppose the amendment to the motion standing in the name of Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri. Among other things, the amendment of the hon. Member says:

"... the House is of the opinion that all steps taken by the Government so far for export promotion and for improving our trade balances have proved a complete failure."

If for no other reasons, only on this one ground, I should like to oppose it. It is a very sweeping statement to make that all steps taken by Government have proved a complete failure. I think but for the steps taken by Government, the position today would have been much worse. Whatever improvements we see, such as the arrest in the falling of our exports of textiles, and the improvement in the exports of manganese and iron ore, etc., are all mainly due to the incentives provided by Government. So, to say that Government policy has proved a complete failure is too sweeping a remark.

I am grateful to you for having given me this chance.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): I have carefully listened to the statement of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. I do not want to discuss all the points, but I shall confine myself to the Report of the Textile Enquiry Committee, and especially, to the chapter on exports. When we read the report, what do we find? We find that the only way to accelerate our exports is the immediate introduction of automatic looms. As explained to this House by the hon. Minister, there is a recession in the capitalist world, he has not used the words 'capitalist world', but the words 'international world'.

Previously, whenever this question was raised, and any question was asked whether this recession had any effect on our economy, we were told in this House unhesitatingly that ours was a developing economy, and, therefore, it had no effect. But now we have come to the conclusion that this recession in the capitalist world has had an adverse effect on our country's economy.

I should like to read a few lines from the Textile Enquiry Committee's report. At page 25, we find:

"It has been suggested to us with great force that exports cannot be maintained even at their present level and will continue to fall steeply unless we export cloth produced on automatic looms. The reason stated is that the preference in the markets abroad is definitely for flaw-less cloth which can be produced only on automatic looms and other countries including Japan and China have equipped themselves extensively with automatic looms."

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one other thing. He has also said here in this House that in 1950, our export figure was 1,100 million yards of cloth. Was it produced on automatic looms? I fail to understand the reason. Was our cloth, which was exported to the tune of 1,100 million yards in 1950 to foreign

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countries full of flaw, and did those countries accept it at that time, taking into account our dependence on them? Was that cloth full of flaws? Our export figure in 1950 was the highest according to the information given by the hon. Minister. I do not know what happened in 1948 or 1949, but the 1950 figure is available, and that is the highest, and that indicates clearly that our cloth was of good quality.

When we discuss about the introduction of automatic looms, I realise that India has to keep pace with the world markets. India has to keep pace with the expansion and modernisation of the textile industry as such with the world. But are we in a position to do so? Why is there opposition from the labourers? The Textile Enquiry Committee has also stated that the labourers should be taken into confidence in implementing this scheme. But they have also stated that there had been indirect introduction of rationalisation in various textile mills. As you know, at the time of the Fifteenth Labour Conference, certain agreements were reached between the employers, Government, and the employees' representatives regarding the introduction of rationalisation; and those conditions are very well known to this House and to the hon. Minister. But without respecting those decisions, those agreements and those conditions, there had been indirect rationalisation in most of the mills. That has been clearly admitted by the Textile Enquiry Committee in their report, and that has been reproduced also in their report. I would read out that particular portion. At the bottom of page 25, they say:

"We have noticed, however, that as in other forms of rationalisation of the industry including modernisation, labour have been progressively responsive and we have no doubt that in the field of introduction of automatic looms also, they would respond well."

I do not know when the labourers and the workers responded well to this indirect rationalisation. I come from Kanpur, and I know there was an 85-day old strike in Kanpur against the introduction of power looms. Ultimately a Committee was appointed called the Bindubhasini Committee. It submitted its report. It gave certain suggestions. That particular report has not yet been accepted. So the suggestion that the workers accepted introduction of rationalisation, even through backdoor, is not correct.

Then I am surprised to see that this particular Committee did not meet the many labour organisations in the country. It met only those who were in favour of introduction of automatic looms.

In the concluding remarks of the Committee, they say:

"Our country is well set on planned, progressive economic development. The demand for cloth, must, therefore, inevitably grow. In this total demand, the textile industry is assured of a steady and major share. The industry is also the best organised among various sectors producing cotton textiles."

Yet my hon. friend, Shri Morarka, says that the entire industry is worn out! The Committee says that we have a bright future. But the bright future is that today 34,000 workers are on the street and about 34 mills are closed and some more are partially closed—I do not remember the exact number stated by Shri Manubhai Shah.

So I say that the workers' organisations should be consulted. I feel that there is internal market also. But what did we do to modernise these mills? Why did some mills produce only coarse and medium cloth? They were also interested in producing that particular cloth because there was reduction after reduction in excise duty. When the market was full,

when there was stock, they said: 'We want a further decrease in the excise duty.' Certain impossible conditions were placed on the Government by saying 'Either you accept or we close our mills.' I feel the closure of certain mills has no reason behind it. Many mills are likely to be closed because of their pressure tactics on Government. That is clear. They ask the workers, 'Either you accept retrenchment and starvation or agree to the introduction of automatic looms or at least rationalisation through the back door.' This is not fair.

My submission is that the problem has to be considered from a different angle.

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): What does the hon. Member mean by 'rationalisation by back-door'?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: They were never consulted about rationalisation. It was introduced at the pistol point. It came through the back-door. The hon. Minister knows about it much more than I do.

I know that a section of the working class led by some organisations want automatic looms to come. We do not oppose it. But we want to have a proper discussion on this. Are we in a position to introduce automatic looms in this country without having any retrenchment? Will it not involve tremendous retrenchment? Will it not increase our number of unemployed people?

They could not have rationalisation introduced in the name of internal market. Now they are trying to do it by invoking the excuse of exports. They say that if exports have to go up, automatic looms have to be installed. They want to do it in the name of shrinkage of exports.

As stated by my hon. friend, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, our future is not so bad. Even the figures of export from July, 1958, till November are

encouraging. So let us analyse the whole thing as to what is in the mind of the millowners. What do they actually want? In the name of exports, they want to introduce automatic looms. In the name of exports, they want to throw thousands of workers on the streets and aggravate the situation and make it impossible for the Government and the working class leaders to tackle the situation. They want to create chaotic conditions in the industry.

This particular Committee led by Shri Joshi went to Kanpur and wanted to consult some people. Whom did they consult? There are organisations led by the I.N.T.U.C. and the Sooti Mill Mazdoor Sabha. They never consulted them. They only consulted the Kapada Committee. Only that Committee was allowed to place its views before the Committee. What is the Kapada Committee? They are the selling agents of some millowners! They were allowed to place their views before the Committee; they were allowed to present their memorandum. Actually the workers were never consulted. They were not allowed to express their viewpoint before this Committee which was actually appointed at the instance of the working class. It was appointed when this matter was exhaustively discussed at the Nainital Conference at which my hon. friend, Shri Manubhai Shah, was present. He was very helpful in having this Committee appointed. But what has happened is that the workers were not allowed to place their views before them.

Now when the question of export comes, they say that there is shrinkage in exports. So automatic looms will have to be introduced. They say 'either accept automatic looms and retrenchment or the foreign exchange position will deteriorate'. This sort of threatening will not work.

Let us discuss this entire question with the workers' representatives. In this regard, I am sure all the central trade union organisations will be

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unanimous, though it said that the Madhya Pradesh textile organisation has expressed a different view. I do not know whether it is the I.N.T.U.C. or some other body. It must be I.N.T.U.C. They say they have no objection to automatic looms and they have already sacrificed 5,000 workers from 1948. That stand cannot be taken by us because we represent the workers, not at the cost of the nation. If there is something really wrong, on behalf of the workers I assure you I shall not back up their cause. But we cannot tolerate this kind of coercive methods, trying to force on workers something which they do not want, unless there is a national emergency and the entire economy of the nation is in jeopardy and it becomes a matter of national necessity. It has been clearly stated in the Labour Conference that unless there is a real national emergency, rationalisation should not be implemented.

As regards Kanpur, I am very much indebted to Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, Shri Kanungo and Shri Manubhai Shah. They are giving their constant attention to the Kanpur problem. But the Kanpur problem has become a cancer. It has been created by the friends of the Government, and we have to solve it. Nothing is acceptable in Kanpur now. No scheme, whether good, bad or indifferent, is acceptable. The suggestions of the Bindubhasini Committee are not accepted. There the J.K.s, Birlas and the notorious speculator, Mundhra and others are interested in putting up a common front against the workers. These millowners are robbing the Government of their receipts. In reply to an unstarred question of mine wherein I had asked about the receipts of income-tax realised from them and the total of the amount yet to be realised. The reply is: 'Yes. Steps are being taken under the Income Tax Act. The total amount collected upto 31st October, 1958, from the different mills is Rs. 55,20,486. The amount to be collected is Rs. 24,25,438.' This is

the income-tax arrears. Sales tax will run to the tune of lakhs. The provident fund which they have not paid amounts to Rs. 15,75,000. Electricity charges come to Rs. 2 lakhs; water charges Rs. 3 lakhs. They do not want to pay anybody, not even the lay off wages to the workers. This is what is happening in Kanpur. I would request that specially in Kanpur action should be taken against these anti-national and anti-social elements. He should have enough power in the hands of Government to take over these mills. Otherwise, we will become a sad spectator of this entire show. I do not expect that our Government should become so weak when it is a question of Padampat Singhanla or Jaipuria and others. I am facing this trouble

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When the hon. Member says Kanpur, everybody is covered. Why name individuals?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Because I represent Kanpur and I have the privilege of meeting these persons.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No need to repeat individual names.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I will rectify.

Shri Tangaman: The names are an institution.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I will only request this House to take note of it. The hon. Minister and the Government may be honest about promoting our export trade. But in the name of export another swindling may not take place and the speculators and sharks may not take advantage of it and slaughter thousands of workers. Today there are 34,000 men—and if we take the families into account, at least 1½ lakhs of men, women and children—on the streets. Let there be no slaughtering of the workers.

With these words I request that this matter be discussed at the highest level. The workers' organisations

should be invited and a full-fledged discussion should take place. That is my submission and I hope the hon. Minister will take note of the suffering and distress of the workers in Kanpur at the hands of these sharks who are a nuisance to society.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member does not seem to be in a hurry; he was saying these things as if he was going to catch a train.
Shri Damani.

Shri Damani (Jalore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset I want to thank the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry for moving a motion on the present trends in the export trade of India and the state of the textile industry which contributes materially to that trade.

This has given an opportunity to the hon. Members of this House to express their views on this vital subject. Our exports during the current year are rather disappointing. According to the estimates, our exports during the current year will be about Rs. 550 crores as against our export during 1956 of Rs. 613 crores and in 1957 of Rs. 605 crores. That means that during the current year our exports will be about Rs. 63 crores less than what it was in 1956 and about Rs. 55 crores less than it was in 1957, last year. When this fall is there at such a critical moment when we want foreign exchange and when in the next two years we will require more of foreign exchange, it is essential that every effort should be made to augment our exports to the best of our ability.

During the current year Government have taken several measures to augment our export trade. They have reduced the export duty on several items; they have also appointed several advisory committees to augment exports. They have given several import licences for raw materials in order to augment our export trade. In every way Government have tried their level best to increase our exports. But shortfall is experienced due to competition from China, Japan and other

communist countries. Therefore, it is the duty of the industry and Government to meet these competitors in the traditional markets which are the Near East, the Middle East and U.K.

Our major exports are jute and textile goods. Now, iron ore and manganese ore are also coming up as foreign exchange earners. Now, I take the textiles.

During 1956, our export of the textile goods was worth about Rs. 87 crores. It amounted to 860 million yards. But this year, according to the figures available or estimates made, our exports will be only about 600 million yards which would amount to Rs. 40 crores. Out of the total fall of about Rs. 55 crores in our export earnings, about Rs. 25 crores is attributable to the fall in the exports of textile goods alone. This fall is due to the keen competition from Japan and China and other communist countries in our traditional markets. Previously we had to compete with Japan only but now China has come in. Their prices are so low that it is very difficult for the manufacturer here to compete with them. So, it is essential that some special incentives should be given to the textile industry to maintain the export trade. We export mainly medium and coarse varieties and it amounts to 92 per cent of the total exports of textiles to the Middle-East and Near-East countries. There are some other reasons for the fall in our exports, apart from the keen competition. So, it is essential that we should contribute more towards augmenting these exports and see how the exports could increase. Recently the Government has announced some incentives for import of dyes, chemicals and colours against our exports and it has also formulated some scheme for importing raw cotton against the export of textile goods. The scheme for import of raw cotton, will, according to me, be of doubtful benefit because most of the cloth exported is of coarse and medium counts and the coarse and medium count cloth mills are already running at a heavy loss. All these mills which

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have closed down were also manufacturing coarse and medium count cloth and the foreign exchange earned by the export of cloth is mostly by those mills. Therefore, I want to suggest that against the export of cloth, import of cotton should be allowed on a percentage basis. Certain percentage should be fixed for importing cotton against the exports. That will be a proper incentive and it will be helpful in augmenting our exports to these countries. The percentage of import of cotton should be fixed on the basis of textile exports. Certain targets had been fixed. But the percentage should be fixed on the basis of exports as I explained.

We have to stand keen competition in these countries. They have controlled economy and modern machinery. Therefore, it will not be possible to reduce our selling price without sufficient incentives. Therefore, my submission is that this matter should be considered by the hon. Minister seriously and I think, if proper incentives are given, we would be in a position to regain our exports properly. I think, Sir, this is the proper time when something should be done immediately to augment our export trade.

Dr. Krishnaswami (Chingleput): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, my hon. friend the Commerce Minister in the resolution that has been moved states that we should consider the present trends in the export trade of India and the state of the textile industry which contributes materially to that trade. I should like, with your permission, Sir, to just present a few figures which I have culled from official statistics. They serve to underline the seriousness of the situation, and before one suggests any prescriptions to be followed it would be proper to have a correct diagnosis. The total exports were of the order of Rs. 594 crores in 1957-58 as compared to Rs. 637 crores in 1956-57 and Rs. 641 crores in 1955-56. If these exports are compared with

earlier years it will be found that in 1954-55 our exports were of the value of Rs. 596 crores, in 1953-54 Rs. 539 crores and in 1952-53 Rs. 602 crores. I exclude the year 1951-52 which was the year of the Korean War when we achieved a maximum export trade of the value of Rs. 732 crores.

What is important to remember,—and I think it is proper that I should refer to this fact at the outset,—is that while exports are currently around the 1952-53 level, imports have arisen from Rs. 633 crores in 1952-53 to Rs. 1,175 crores in 1957-58. In fact, Government imports, apart from food and defence, for almost entirely for developmental purposes. These have gone up from Rs. 190 crores in 1952-53, Rs. 190 crores in 1953-54 to about Rs. 493 crores in 1957-58 and probably currently, they are running at a higher rate. In short, while exports have remained around the same levels, imports have very nearly doubled.

This is reflected in the trade balance, which has worsened over the last five years. In 1952-53 the adverse trade balance was Rs. 31 crores, whereas in 1957-58 it was Rs. 580 crores. Let us realise that we as a nation could afford this only because we had accumulated savings in the form of sterling balances. But these have declined now from Rs. 746 crores in 1955-56 to about Rs. 160 crores, and this decline is in spite of the withdrawal of 200 million dollars from the International Monetary Fund and the accelerated repayment of pension funds from the United Kingdom under the Pension Resettlement from the United Kingdom and other miscellaneous aids.

Obviously this state of affairs cannot continue. The alternatives would be either to reduce imports and/or increase exports and/or seek additional foreign aid. Already we have cut imports down to the barest minimum for the maintenance of our economy. The stocks of consumer goods and, even more, the stocks of imported raw materials have run

down to dangerous levels. No further curtailment is possible, and in fact, any further increase in industrial production would depend on the additional raw materials which we can import from abroad. Our import requirements are likely to increase rather than diminish in the process of industrial development which we have embarked upon. It would be futile to seek relief by a further curtailment of imports. This leaves only three courses open to us: either we seek additional foreign assistance and/or we export more, or else we reduce the size of our developmental effort with all its social and political consequences which would be of a serious nature.

Let us face the fact squarely, that without a considerably larger volume of exports our entire developmental effort would remain tied up with the availability or otherwise of foreign aid. No doubt, Sir, foreign aid is essential in the early stages of development. But ultimately even the quantum of foreign credits which a country can receive is dependent upon its own efforts in the field of exports. The servicing of foreign loans in the way of interest and repayment of capital would place a further burden on our balance of payment in 1960 or roundabouts. By the time the second Plan ends, we would have an external liability of over a thousand crores of rupees and the very servicing of this loan would entail a net burden of at least Rs. 50 crores to Rs. 60 crores on an average. In some years it probably would be much more. This provides the context for a consideration of our export policies. The problem to my mind is not one of merely encouraging exports. It is really a problem of either we export or we stagnate. For some years to come, we will be exactly in the same position as the United Kingdom in the immediate post-war years was or Japan is even today. We will have to live on our exports and our development will, therefore, be conditioned by our success in the promotion of exports.

In stark and rough terms this is our position. One-fifth of the value of our exports is obtained by exporting tea. Raw materials of all kinds constitute one-fourth, and manufactures including cotton and jute textiles constitute forty per cent. Indeed, unlike a number of other undeveloped countries we are not, fortunately for us, dependent on a few primary commodities the prices of which fluctuate widely. Malaya for instance can have a justification for saying that because its exports of rubber declined in a particular year it had to face a depression. But we have, no one else to blame except ourselves for our poor performance.

A part of our decline in exports has been up to now—and I do not blame the present Commerce Minister but ourselves for what has happened—the result of our policies. The classic example is of course the export of vegetable oils. Because of our restrictions on exports, our export earnings declined from about Rs. 40 crores in 1955-56 to a mere bagatelle of about Rs. 13 crores in 1957-58.

Shri Ranga: Much earlier it used to be much better.

Dr. Krishnaswami: But I am narrating the story from 1955-56. By the time we released vegetable oils for exports, world prices had fallen; other suppliers had captured our traditional markets and in spite of our removal of restrictions very little business has been transacted.

In the case of tea we have lost and we are fast losing our pre-eminence as exporters. By persistently refusing to lower export duties or remove them, by encouraging excessive wage demands and by allowing the State Governments to impose all kinds of sundry taxes, we have created a new tea industry in East Africa. I wish the Government would advert to some of the consequences of their policies. The result has been to create a new tea industry in East

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Africa which is growing in strength and which in the next three years will bring our whole tea industry into jeopardy.

I want the Government of India and I want the various State Governments to realize the seriousness of this threat. It is in the context of this threat that we will have to re-think our labour policies, our systems of taxation and the incentives that we will have to offer to various export industries. I know it will be suggested that the State Governments have the right to levy certain taxes and that, therefore, they are availing themselves of what is constitutionally permitted. But I am surprised that in the National Development Council, the threat to the existence of an industry should not have been brought to the notice of the various State Governments, and the seriousness of the threat to the tea industry in Assam and Bengal should not have been brought to the notice of the State Governments. Had the seriousness of this threat been brought to their notice, I am sure that they would have acted as patriotically as any right thinking citizen would have done that they would have been the first to realize that some of these taxes which they are levying are only pennywise and pound-foolish.

The plain truth of the matter is that in spite of the marginal concessions and encouragements which my hon. friend has given quite recently, we still tend to accord exports only a secondary place.

It is time we realised that exports should be given a primary place; it is time we realised this, because without doing thus, all talk of having a gigantic third Plan would be but empty talk. I suggest to my hon. friend, the Commerce Minister, that he should take special steps to bring about a greater co-operative atmosphere not only as between labour and capital, but also as between States

and the Centre, and to remind the States that the seriousness of the threat has to be taken into account by them. If the States do not act with wisdom now, in another four or five years, our tea industry will be a thing of the past.

It is time we orientated the whole complex of our policies towards export promotion. This would imply, firstly, provision of special incentives to those engaged in export trade and those units manufacturing for export. The Government has only recently introduced certain concessions in the shape of special facilities bill market, which according to it would give a valuable incentive to exporters. But if we compare the concessions that are given here in India with the concessions given in the U.K., it will be found that the concessions provided by the Reserve Bank are of a very nominal character and do not appreciably afford incentives to exporters.

Therefore, I suggest that the provision of additional facilities to the export trade by way of concessional finance should be taken in hand by the hon. the Commerce Minister. This is a matter which has to be dealt with immediately. I am aware that in the Government of India, the rivalry between the various departments is much greater than the quarrels between different empires. But when the problem in its full complexity, faces us and the seriousness of it is apparent, I am sure the hon. Commerce Minister will bring to bear his tact and persuasion on other Ministers of the Government and make them realise that they can ill afford to adopt a departmental approach that there should be a comprehensive approach to these various problems.

In addition certain other steps will have to be taken by the Ministry of Commerce. My hon. friend referred to the textile industry. I am aware of the concessions that have been given by the Government. The

recent concessions given to the textile industry, valuable as they are, do not solve the basic difficulties of that industry. We have not permitted the textile industry to modernise its structure and bring down its costs. I realise that in this matter, we are faced with certain social difficulties. I realise the value of employment. But surely, and this is a point of view which I wish to put forward to those who are interested in the welfare of labour, it is time that we emphasised the value of productivity. In the history of many countries, it is with the increase in productivity that there has been an increase in employment opportunities, and often—I do not say that we should commit ourselves always to it—we would have to strike the balance in favour of productivity.

Shri Tangamani: Are you suggesting that the productivity has fallen now?

Dr. Krishnaswami: Yes, productivity in the textile industry is low compared to what it would have been if the machinery had been modernised. I am certain that if automatic looms had been installed there would have been an increase in productivity.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member must continue addressing the Chair.

Dr. Krishnaswami: I am addressing them through you. I would not dream of addressing them direct.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He is turning his face to that side.

Dr. Krishnaswami: I am certain that when we are dealing with productivity, we have also to take into consideration the questions of employment. But it is possible to over-stress this factor of unemployment. If 6,000 or 7,000 people are unemployed as a result of rationalisation, we should find alternative schemes for absorbing them in other employments.

That is what we should do. Because if there is a possibility of increasing the productivity of the textile industry, there is also a possibility of our seeing to it that these 6,000 or 7,000 unemployed are absorbed in alternative occupation, and for achieving this our thought-process has not started functioning. We must realise that there will be many difficulties in our exports increasing in different areas of the world. We must realise that there will be keen competition from China. There is going to be keen competition from Japan. Indeed, we would have to meet these threats by organising and putting our house in order, by organising our industry in a more efficient manner. It serves no purpose to adopt a doctrinaire approach.

My hon. friend stressed the fact of the State Trading Corporation having played a notable part. Now, the State Trading Corporation may have many achievements to its credit. But certainly increasing the export trade of our country is not one of its achievements. Indeed, when the time comes for this House to have a discussion of the State Trading Corporation's activities, I venture to think we will have a lot to say on how that body can be improved upon and what steps should be taken to give it a new life and dynamism instead of making it purely bureaucratic and all enveloping in character.

But it is not so much the creation of new bodies that is important. It is the approach to this problem that is important. I venture to think that the Prime Minister, who has been suggesting that those who want the Plan to be curtailed are doing a disservice, —I venture to think that the Prime Minister should take a more intimate interest in how these exports should be promoted that he should see to it that in the National Development Council these matters are brought up for consideration before the various States representatives. The larger the volume of our exports, the greater

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would it be possible for us to have a larger Plan. Indeed, the real enemy of the Plan is not this or that individual but the atmosphere of stagnation that threatens to creep and overwhelm us today and which can be transformed only by increasing our exports.

श्री रा० क० वर्मा : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपने विचार रखने के पूर्व यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इसके लिये समय बहुत थोड़ा रखा गया है और मुझे इन विषय में बहुत अधिक कहना है ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप कहना तो शुरू करे ।

श्री रा० क० वर्मा : माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने जो अपने स्टेटमेंट में टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री का जिक्र किया है, उस टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री से मेरा १६ वर्ष की उम्र से सम्बन्ध रहा है और आज भी उसी तरह से है । जहाँ तक टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री और कपड़े के एक्सपोर्ट का सवाल है, मे यह मानता हूँ कि हमारे देश में इस इंडस्ट्री के लिये सभी प्रकार की सुविधायें हैं जिससे हम अपने देश की जरूरतों को तो पूरा कर ही सकते हैं किन्तु एक्सपोर्ट करके उससे काफी फायदेन एक्सचेंज भी प्राप्त कर सकते हैं । लेकिन इस उद्योग के सम्बन्ध में मुख्य बात दृष्टिकोण की है वह होना चाहिये । दृष्टिकोण में तीन बातें मुख्य हैं । पहले उत्पादन, दूसरे क्वालिटी और तीसरे उद्योग का सुसंचालन । इसके सम्बन्ध में बोलते हुये मैं पहले यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ तक टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री का सवाल है, हमारे देश की टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री अग्लेन्ड, अमरिक्नोल्ड और मिससिपि है । अगर यह तीनों बातें हमारे शासन के ध्यान में आ जाती हैं और शासन उन पर विचार करने के लिये तैयार हो जाता है, तो मैं ऐसा मानता हूँ कि इन दिशा में हम काफी तरकीब कर सकते हैं । मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि टेक्सटाइल

इंडस्ट्री के सम्बन्ध में, एक कमेटी, दो कमेडियंस, तीन कमेडियर्स, टैरिफ बोर्ड सब की रिपोर्टें शासन के सामने आती हैं लेकिन क्यों शासन उनके ऊपर गम्भीरता से विचार नहीं करता । मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि शासन को जितनी विसवस्ती टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री के बारे में लेनी चाहिये वह उतनी नहीं लेता है, उसकी ओर उसकी उदासीनता है । दूसरे मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि हमारे देश की जनता को भी टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री के बारे में अधिक जानकारी नहीं है । इसलिये जितनी भी एम्बेयरी कमेटियों की रिपोर्ट होती है उनसे मासूम होता है, और अनुभव भी होता है कि हमेशा टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में गड़बड़ी रहा करती है । कपड़े का उत्पादन भी बढ़ता है लेकिन लोगों को रुचि और आवश्यकता के अनुसार कपड़ा नहीं मिलता । इस का मुख्य कारण क्या है, यह सारी बातें देखने के लिये मैं मदन में अपने विचार कुछ विस्तृत रूप में रखना चाहता था ।

श्रीमान्, मबाल यह हीं रहा है कि हमारी टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री के जो मंचालक लोग हैं वे उत्पादन करने में जनता की चिंता का कोई ध्यान नहीं रखते और हमेशा अपने प्राफिट के आधार पर यह सारा उत्पादन करते हैं और बड़े मज्जे की बात तो यह है कि टेक्सटाइल एम्बेयरी कमेटी की रिपोर्ट में प्रोडक्शन फीज करने का एक सुझाव भी आया है और वह एक सुझाव यह आया है कि बड़े सिप्ट बन्द की जायें और स्विडिस और नूमन पार्टनी बन्द किये जायें . . .

श्री कानूनगी : कौनसी रिपोर्ट में यह कहा गया है ?

श्री रा० क० वर्मा : इसी रिपोर्ट में यह कहा गया है । मैं आपको बड़ाडंडा । उसने एक सुझाव यह भी दिया है कि मज-

दूरों की पन्द्रह दिन की सचेतन छुट्टी जो कानून के अनुसार होती है वह कपड़ा क्रीम करने की गरज से अमिकों को साल में पन्द्रह दिन के लिये बंद भेज दिया जाय ।

मुझे समझ में नहीं आता कि जब द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्दर हमने साढ़े १८ गज प्रति व्यक्ति टारगेट ठहराया है और धातु जो हमारे पावर लूम, हैंडलूम और मिलों का उत्पादन होता है, एक्सपोर्ट और इम्पोर्ट किया जाता है उन तमाम का आउटपुट प्रति व्यक्ति १६.८ गज आता है और अब हमें १६.८ गज से १८.५ गज तक ले जाना है । और जब द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में यह बात आ रही थी कि प्रति व्यक्ति साढ़े १८ गज कपड़ा रक्खा जाय तब पूंजीपति और मिल उद्योग के मिल मालिक यह जोर दे रहे थे कि प्रति व्यक्ति १८^१/_२ गज कपड़ा बहुत कम होता है और वह २१ गज और २५ गज क्यों नहीं रक्खा जाता है और यह १८^१/_२ गज क्यों रक्खा जा रहा है । जब कि एन्वयामरी कमेटी में सुझाव है कि १७^१/_२ गज रक्खा जाय हालांकि द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में १८^१/_२ गज के लिये कहा है तो उस समय यह मिल मालिक २१ गज और २५ गज की बात करते थे । द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में १८^१/_२ गज के ऊपर भी हम नहीं पहुँचे हैं और आज १६.८ गज कपड़ा प्रति व्यक्ति हमारे बहा धा रहा है और मिल मालिक अब १७^१/_२ गज पर उतर कर आ गये हैं । श्रीमान्, मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि गवर्नमेंट के अन्दर काफी कनफ्यूजन है और जनता को इसकी जानकारी नहीं है कि यह जो कपड़ा उद्योग के मासिक है वह इतने किचर सिन्वे जा रहे हैं । धातु काफी मास भरा हुआ है । श्रीमान्, वह बेचना की ज़रूरत है कि धातु जनता का टूट क्या है और जनता की पकड़नी क्या है ? धातु जनता फाइव और सुपरफाइव के ऊपर आ रही है । जनता

मिडेड और फिनिश गृहस के ऊपर आ रही है लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि फाइव और सुपर-फाइव घटा कर मीडियम और कोर्स कपड़े का डेर लगा दिया गया है । इसके अलावा अब आप देखिये कि क्रेंट कपड़े का (कट पीस) का परसंवेब भी कितना बढ़ गया है ? क्योंकि मिल मालिक एक्सट्राण इयटी बचाने के लिये कपड़े के अच्छे धातों को पीने तीन गज के टुकड़े करके बाजार में बेचते हैं । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट को इसकी जानकारी है कि नहीं और यदि है तो वह इसको रोकने के लिये क्या कदम उठा रही है ? मैं गवर्नमेंट के ध्यान में यह चीज भी लाना चाहता हूँ कि आर्डर के बमुताबिक उद्योगपति कपड़े की जात का रजिस्टर मेंटेन करते हैं उसमें तो यही लिखते हैं कि कपड़े की किस्म ४० गीज और ४० पीक है लेकिन एक्चुअली डाली जाती है ३६ गीज और ३६ पीक । इस तरह से कमी कर यह लोग १० परसेंट सूत की तो गीज और पीक से ही चोरी कर लेते हैं और कंज्यूमर्स को धोखा देते हैं । जब मैं यह चीजें टैक्स-टाइल कमिश्नर साहब और गवर्नमेंट के सामने रखता हूँ और इसकी बाबत उनको लिखता हूँ तो मुझे कोई माफूल जवाब नहीं दिया जाता है और ऐसे मामलों में उनकी धोर मे कह दिया जाता है कि कोई खास बात नहीं है । इस प्रकार की जो गड़बड़ी टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री के सम्बन्ध में चल रही है, इसको मैं एक नहीं बल्कि दो, तीन यज्ञा फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब और उद्योग मंत्री महोदय के ध्यान में लाया और टैक्सटाइल कमिश्नर महोदय का भी इधर ध्यान दिलाया लेकिन उनका कोई खास कतीबा नहीं निकला ।

हरमसल में हूँ अपने देश की जनता की रुचि के अनुसार उद्योगों को पूरा करने के लिये ७ अरब ५० करोड़ गज कपड़े की ज़रूरत है जब कि धातु हमारे पास ६ अरब ५८ करोड़ गज कपड़ा है जो ७ अरब ५०

[श्री रा० क० वर्मा]

करोड़ के बहुत कम कपड़ा होता है। वह जो कपड़े का अधिक उत्पादन नहीं हो रहा है उसका कारण क्या है? श्रीमान्, टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में काम करने वाले मजदूरों से अपना उत्पादन किस तरह से बढ़ाया है वह हमारे देश के लिये भीर इस इंडस्ट्री में काम करने वाले मजदूरों के लिये एक बड़े गर्ब की बात है और हमारे शासन के लिये भी गर्ब की बात है। लेकिन मुझे अफसोस के साथ यह भीष कहनी पड़ती है कि हमारे वे पूंजीपति जो कि २०० पाँड से ज्यादा धन वाले होते हैं और कड़क टोपी, लम्बा झब्बा और डीली धोती पहनते हैं उनको उत्पादन बढ़ाने की चिन्ता नहीं रहती और वे तो केवल अपनी जेबें भरने में लगे रहते हैं और न उन्हें टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री की पड़ी है और न वर्कर्स की पड़ी है और न ही उन्हें अपनी इस द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना को कामयाब बनाने की कोई परवाह है। उत्पादन को हानि पहुंचा, टैक्स माफ करा मुनाफा कमाना ही उनका धंधा है।

श्रीमान्, टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री की जो वर्तमान स्थिति है उसकी ओर सरकार द्वारा ध्यान दिया जाय ओ: इस सारे ट्रेंड के ऊपर गौर से ध्यान दिया जाय। अगर आप आज भी जो इस इंडस्ट्री में मिसमैनेजमेंट चल रहा है उस मैसेजमेंट को आप निकाल कर दूर नहीं करेंगे और ठीक से आप इसको कंट्रोल नहीं करेंगे तो इस इंडस्ट्री को जैसा कि आप उसे देखना चाहते हैं, नहीं देख पायेंगे।

श्री श्री बनर्जी ने आटोमेटिक लूम्स का जिक्र किया और यह बतलाया कि मध्य प्रदेश में आटोमेटिक लूम्स डाले गये हैं जिससे ५००० मजदूरों को कम किया गया है। मैं इसके बारे में यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि उन्हें पूरी जानकारी नहीं थी। टैक्सटाइल एम्प्लायरी कमेटी के सामने मैंने अपना जो मेमोरेण्डम दिया है वो वक्रा मेरी एविजेंस हुई है और मुझे एक मर्तबा बम्बई

बुलाया गया और दूसरी बार इंदौर बुलाया गया। वहाँ तक मेरे प्रदेश का ताल्लुक है, मेरे प्रदेश में एक भी आटोमेटिक लूम नहीं डाला गया है और न ही कोई श्रमिक फोरलूम चलता है।

इंडियन लेबर कान्फेंस के अन्दर जो निर्णय हुआ है और द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में जो श्रम नीति ठहराई गई है उसका पालन करना हमारे लिये उतना ही आवश्यक और पबित्र है जितना कि भारतीय संविधान का पालन करना आवश्यक है। द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना पर प्रयत्न करना और उसको कामयाब करना हम अपना धर्म समझते हैं। हमारे प्रदेश में ५ हजार मजदूर कम हुये लेकिन बेकार किसी को नहीं होने दिया गया और आज भी हम इस बात को मानते हैं कि देश के विकास के लिये, प्लान को कामयाब बनाने के लिये और अपने देश को मजबूती से अपने पावों पर खड़े होने के लिये, हम और आप प्रागे बढ़ने के लिये तैयार हैं। हमारे सामने एक ही सवाल है कि कोई श्रमिक बेकार न हो। आदमियों को कोई काम दिया जाय। अब जहाँ तक आटोमेटिक मैशींस के इस देश में लगाने का सवाल है, उनका लगाना तो दुनिया की आज की गति और स्थिति में रुक नहीं सकता है। आज जब हमारे पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर प्लेन (हवाई जहाज) से उड़ना चाहते हैं और उसके लिये फी पास चाहते हैं और उसकी लोक सभा में चर्चा करते हैं तब एक देहाती आदमी यह कहे कि भाई हमारी बैलगाड़ी ही हमेशा चलाई जाये रेलगाड़ी नहीं, हवाई जहाज नहीं तो उसके वास्ते कौन तैयार होगा? अगर हम वाकई प्रोग्रेसिव हैं और हम विकास पथ पर आगे बढ़ना चाहते हैं तो हमारे लिये यह बहुत जरूरी हो जाता है कि हम दुनिया के साथ साथ विकास के पथ पर बढ़ते चलें। हमारे लिये एक तो एम्प्लायमेंट का सवाल हीना

चाहिये और दूसरा कंजूमर्स की शक्तों को पूरा करने का सवाल होगा चाहिये। इसके प्रतिरिक्त गवर्नमेंट जो एक बात धरती है और एक टैक्स-टाइल पालिसी रखती है, उस पर हमें कामयाब रहना चाहिये और उसे कामयाब बनाना चाहिये। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं गवर्नमेंट से यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि वह टैक्स-टाइल के उत्पादन और उसकी भवालिटी कंट्रोल की तरफ सावधानी पर ध्यान रखे और जब तक कि उसके उत्पादन और बनाविटी पर ठीक से कंट्रोल नहीं करेंगे तब तक वह इंडस्ट्री इस तरह झोले जाती रहेगी। सरकार को ध्यान जो इस इंडस्ट्री में अनुचित मुनाफाखोरी चल रही है उस पर भी बन्दिश लगानी चाहिये। मुझे यह देख कर खेद होता है कि धाब जो टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में मिलवैनेजमेंट चल रहा है और बढ रहा है उसे रोकने के लिये कोई सक्रिय कदम नहीं उठाया जा रहा है।

यह जो नई प्राथुनिक मशीनरी और धाटोमेटिक लूम का बिक्रि किया गया तो उसके बारे में मुझे यह कहना है कि धाब होता यह है कि एक मिल जिसकी कि मशीनरी ५० साल पुरानी है और उसको धापने १०,००० स्पिन्डिल्स और ४०० नये लूम्स डालने की इजाजत दे दी तो वह धापको पता है कि कैसे डालता है? वह उसी ५० साल की पुरानी मशीनरी में नई मशीनरी ठूस देता है जो तरीका कि बिलकुल गलत है। धाप स्वयं समझ सकते हैं कि जब वह नई मशीनरी को उसी पुरानी मशीनरी के बीच में डाल देता है तो धापको उसका वांछित रिजल्ट कैसे मिल सकता है। पुराने लूम्स नये स्पिन्डिल्स कैसे ठीक बैठ सकते हैं और फल दे सकते हैं? इसलिये मेरा कहना है कि नई और पुरानी मशीनरी को एक में मिलाता नहीं चाहिये और जो नई मशीनरी हो उसका उत्पादन एक्सपोर्ट ही करना

चाहिये। ऐसा करने से धाप अपनी टैक्स-टाइल इंडस्ट्री को ठीक से चला सकेंगे और उत्पादन के धपने लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त कर सकेंगे।

17:8 hrs.

कितने ही ऐसे फैक्टर्स हैं जिन पर गवर्नमेंट को विचार करना चाहिये। सिर्फ इतना ही नहीं है। कम्पनी एक्ट है। वीने टैक्सटाइल एन्वयारी कमेटी के सामने भी निवेदन किया था और मिनिस्टर साहब को भी लिख कर भेजा है। उदाहरण के तौर पर एक मिल मालिक है और साल में ५ लाख रुपये ब्याज के देता है लेकिन एक दफा मिल साल में २५ लाख मुनाफा कमाता है। अब वह सट्टे के आधार पर उस रुपये से एक खराब मिल के शेयर खरीद लेता है। तो धाप देखें कि उस मिल और मजदूरों को इस दूसरी मिल जिसके शेयर खरीदे हैं क्या लेना देना है और क्या लाभ होगा?

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी तो माननीय सदस्य बहुत कुछ और कहना चाहेंगे।

जी रा० क० बर्मा : जी हां।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : प्रच्छा तो फिर धाप धागे जारी रखेंगे।

17-01 hrs.

*MEDICAL STUDENTS

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Pali):
I am so grateful to you for allowing this half an hour discussion which raises a point of great concern to us in Rajasthan in a particular part, and which also raises an issue of great national importance to my mind.

I put a very simple question to the hon. Minister asking him the number of graduates in the medical colleges who are taking their course at present and our capacity for training in medical science. I also asked him what was the expenditure which every

[Shri Harish Chandra Mathur]

student has got to incur. It was a simple question, but it was really surprising that the hon. Minister gave a still simpler answer by saying that he was collecting the information.

Knowing the hon. Minister to be so capable as he is, I could never conceive that he even did not know how many students were there in our medical colleges. We are developing, we are having our plans and programmes, and if the hon. Minister does not know even this much as to what our capacity is, it only gives me a surprise. He even does not know what each student is supposed to spend in getting this education, and his Ministry could not collect this information even in one month's time. It is really amazing that this blissful ignorance prevails, and I hope the hon. Minister will take a little better care to see that we get the information which should, as a matter of fact, be readily available.

In answer to certain supplementaries the hon. Minister stated that he was committed to give a medical college to Rajasthan during the Second Five Year Plan, but because there was a dispute about the location, because the Rajasthan Government did not come in time, the money had been given away to some other colleges, and he had not got the amount. I wish the hon. Minister now takes note of the issue which I am raising, and confines himself to it in his reply without wandering away from the issue.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He is taking note of it.

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): I will not wander anywhere.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: The hon. Minister said that he had given a commitment, that commitment was there, but because the Rajasthan Gov-

ernment had defaulted and because they did not come in time, he had given away the money. I am particularly now restricting myself, I wish to ask the hon. Minister to note, to the assistance which he gives to all places and the assistance particularly inside of the non-recurring grant. I do not want to go to the recurring grant at all which he gives to every college.

The hon. Minister himself knows that they themselves appointed a committee which was called the Patel Committee to examine where the college should be located. The Patel Committee made an interim report. Even before the final report came in, the Rajasthan Government took an immediate decision and accepting their recommendations, said that Bikaner will have a medical college. There was dispute between Bikaner and Jodhpur. Jodhpur has a very good claim, but, mind you, the Rajasthan Government never hesitated, and without a day's delay, they immediately announced that Bikaner was going to have a medical college. In spite of the fact that Jodhpur had a good claim—I wish to convey this to this House—not even a little finger was raised by anybody from Jodhpur that this decision should not be given effect to. Nobody represented, and we were quite happy that whatever might be Jodhpur's claim, the college would go to Bikaner. That was why we never raised any controversy or trouble about it.

The Rajasthan Government were very quick in this matter. On the basis of the definite undertaking given not only by the hon. Minister but also his predecessor that they would give them a medical college there in the Second Plan, the Minister in Rajasthan committed himself on the floor of the Rajasthan legislature and told the Members of the Assembly that they were going to have a second

medical college. I have been an unsparing critic of the Rajasthan Government always, but in this particular matter, I find that the Rajasthan Government have been quicker than I could even imagine or anticipate. Not only did they take the earliest decision, but they even set up a committee to raise donations so that they might be able to find funds from their own side also.

I wish to convey this also to the Minister, that a certain target was set for the Rajasthan Government for the Second Plan, and they not only fulfilled that target but they were given a revised target. You know that here and there are complaints that the targets have not been fulfilled in many States. But the Rajasthan Government fulfilled that target by raising additional taxation. So, the Rajasthan Government was given a revised target. They fulfilled also that revised target for additional taxation. See the anxiety of the Rajasthan Government. They have been approaching the Minister from time to time, and they get an assurance from the Minister. Then, the Patel Committee is appointed by the Central Government; even their interim report is accepted, a decision is given and announced, no one raises his finger against it, and the Rajasthan Government goes all the way out to set up a committee to raise donation, and the Rajasthan Government are determined to go and open a college. In spite of this, my hon. friend says that because there was a dispute, because there was a conflict, or because the Rajasthan Government did not come in time, he had given away the money. I do not understand how this attitude could be justified.

I thought the hon. Minister will have a better understanding, particularly, in respect of those areas which are under-developed. We all talk glibly here about the under-developed areas, and we give all sorts of assur-

ances. I expected a much better understanding from the Minister, because the Rajasthan Government have not only done all that could possibly be expected of any Government in this particular matter, but they have fulfilled their promise.

I do hope even now that the hon. Minister will take stock of the whole situation and will realise the position of the Rajasthan Government which has committed itself in the Assembly, and also realise what they have got to do. I do not wish the hon. Minister to plead inability, because this commitment was, before the Patel Committee was set up. Now, the hon. Minister says, let them raise donations and let them spend the money, and by the time they spend the money which they realise, he would give them something. That would be absolutely besides the point, because my point is this. The hon. Minister's contention is that the Rajasthan Government did not come in time and did not make the demand in time, and, therefore, he has given away the money. He must substantiate that particular statement of his, and say what he is going to do now.

I was still more shocked while asking other supplementary questions of larger implications. I asked him about the expenses which a student had to incur. And he very approvingly mentioned the instance of a place where a medical college is being opened, and where seats have been reserved by the parents up to 1963, meaning thereby that seats have been booked for students who have hardly passed their 8th or 9th or 10th class examinations. And for what consideration? For a huge amount to be paid. For those parents are in a position to give Rs. 5,000 or 10,000 as a donation—I will call it black money. I will not call it a sort of debased commercialised education. Donations are entirely different. We are raising donations. There is no harm in that, in raising donations

[Shri Harish Chandra Mathur]

from people. But selling away seats in a medical college in advance right up to 1963 is something most abominable which I could conceive of. Is this our socialist pattern? Is this how we are going to give equal opportunity to all? Is it not a clear case where merit goes to hell and it is only money that counts? Simply because we lack resources—that is a temporary phase—are we going to demoralise to this extent? Are we going to commercialise education to this extent?

You are talking of noble profession of doctors. What kind of doctors are you going to produce? The doctors after they pass out would be concerned about earning money and not in serving the nation. What is the type of education that the students will have? Just because a student's parents can afford to pay a sum—it is not at all a donation. We are raising donations and I would have no objection to them if they are donations—for admission, he gets admission. I would put it to the hon. Minister that this policy raises a very serious issue. I think it is against all conception and I do not think we should permit our education to be commercialised to that extent. I do not think we should sink to that level and permit such sort of things.

When I mentioned this to the Minister of Scientific Research regarding the engineering colleges, he could not believe it. He has now, as a matter of fact, taken active steps to see that in all the engineering colleges no donations from students for admission are accepted. There is a college in Bangalore. I know he has seen that the Government pay the expenses of that college, Government takes all the necessary steps to see that admissions are on merit and no donations are realised like this from students. You may select students who have got 70 or 80 per cent. That is a thing the hon. Minister can look into. Admission should

be on consideration of merit. That is a thing which I think the hon. Minister should give serious thought to. I wish he at least assures this House that this sort of thing will not be permitted. Not only that; for those students who get 60 or 75 per cent—whatever the limit he may fix the facility of admission should be given. So that students should be taken on considerations of merit and given free education.

If you are talking about equality of opportunity, if you mean really that there should be belief in social values, I do not think this sort of thing can be permitted and our medical education commercialised to this extent; I do not think the noble profession of doctors could be commercialised to this extent.

I have in essence raised three points. First is about the absolute ignorance on the part of the Minister even in such matters as the number of students in colleges. We know by heart, as a matter of fact, how many engineering students are there in the colleges. The Hon. Minister does not even know that information.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has said that. Now he should leave as much time for the Minister to reply.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: The second point is that he says that the Rajasthan Government did not come in time and he has given away the money. The third point is the attitude and policy regarding admissions to colleges.

Shri Karmarkar: Commercialised education.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: It should not be commercialised to that extent.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how this question about a Rajasthan medical college has become a national issue?

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I said.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Members cannot decide among themselves this matter in this way.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I was just explaining my position.

Shri J. R. Mehta (Jodhpur): After having made a firm commitment as conceded by the hon. Minister himself to give a second college to Rajasthan, after having appointed a committee to make recommendations as to the location, after the Committee had reported, and after the hon. Minister had accepted its recommendation—which was to the effect that the college may be located at Bikaner—and after having approved this recommendation and having passed this order.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Would it be a resolution or a question?

Shri J. R. Mehta: And after the recommendation has been accepted in its turn by the Rajasthan Government, and after they had made a formal announcement to this effect—which was done without any loss of time. May I know what were the extraordinary reasons or circumstances which led the hon. Minister to divert the money meant for this college to other purposes, and to do so without taking the Rajasthan Government or this House into confidence?

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: At least know from them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Barupal.

Shri J. R. Mehta: I have not finished my question, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the other questions be of the same length.....

Shri J. R. Mehta: They are not as long as this; they are not even half.

2. Whether the hon. Minister will be good enough to rectify the position

and devise ways and means or find funds which would enable the Rajasthan Government to proceed with the establishment of the proposed Medical College at Bikaner as early as possible?

3. Whether the policy of making admissions to some of our Medical Colleges contingent on the payment of a sum of money is not repugnant to our Constitution and to the socialistic pattern of society in so far as—

- (a) it contravenes one of the most valuable fundamental rights embodied in the Constitution—namely, equal opportunities to all;
- (b) it adds insult to injury so far as the poorer sections of the community are concerned, by placing poor students under a distinct and additional disability vis-avis moneyed students.

An Hon. Member: Very good.

श्री ए० ए० बास्पाव (बीकानेर, रकित, अनुसूचित जातियां) : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि राजस्थान के जिले बीकानेर के अन्दर मेडिकल कालिज खोलने का जो सरकार का निर्णय था, क्या भारत सरकार ने उसको बदल दिया है, यदि हाँ, तो माननीय मंत्री जी मेरे प्रश्न के उस उत्तर के बारे में, जो उन्होंने गत अधिवेशन में दिया था कि यह निश्चय हो गया है कि बीकानेर डिवीजन में ही मेडिकल कालिज की स्थापना होगी। इसी आधार पर हमने एक कमेटी का निर्माण किया और लाखों रुपया मेडिकल कालिज बनाने के लिये बन्दे के रूप में लिया है। क्या हम उस रुपये को वापस लौटा दें। अगर ऐसा हुआ तो वहाँ घोर असंतोष फैल जायेगा।

श्री हरिश्चन्द्र माथुर : उन रुपयों से प्राय कालिज खोलें, वह लुप्त नहीं होंगे।

Shri Karmarkar: Mr. Deputy-Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to my esteemed friend.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: In this House, there is only the Deputy-Speaker and not the Deputy Chairman.

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, I beg your pardon. I am really grateful to my hon. friend Shri Mathur for having raised this question on the floor of the House because this enables me to give very useful information to the House so that other people who are in the same situation may know better than they already know.

There are three points and lest I forget I will summarise them. Firstly, about information. With regard to answers to questions it is obvious that our answers have to be precise and not like the questions. If anybody puts a question we have to give responsible answers....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Even questions are to be brief and precise. It is not as if questions are vague and answers are precise.

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, we have to ask the State Governments. There are about 50 colleges in the country and the information changes every year because the number of admissions is larger. I could have said that roundabout 4,000 admissions are made every year. But that would not have satisfied myself. I get the figures since then and the total number of admissions, I find according to the latest information, the number of admission this year in all the colleges in the country is 4,053—subject to correction here and there.

I find that the average expenses per student per month vary from place to place from Rs. 100 to Rs. 120 and Rs. 150. About the fees, the information that I have with me is about the colleges that are being run directly under the aegis of the Government of India. The tuition fee proper—Library fee, game and magazine fee are all there—but the tuition fee in the Medical College at Pondicherry which is running under our auspices is Rs. 200. The other fees come to roughly about Rs. 50. In the Lady

Hardinge Medical College, the fees come to about Rs. 200 annually and the sundries come to about Rs. 80. Maulana Azad Medical College—the tuition fees are Rs. 240. The All India Institute of Medical Sciences is a post-graduate institution in a sense. But it has an under-graduate college also and the tuition fees come to about Rs. 300, apart from the gymkhana fee and the laboratory fee. This information is available with me today and I am in a position to give definitely this information because it arrived in time for this discussion. Otherwise, you can easily see the undesirability of giving vague information in reply to specific question.

The other point was about the College of Bikaner. It has almost been made to appear that the starting of the college at Bikaner was our responsibility. In this matter apart from the fact that we give money, we do not anywhere come into the picture

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: We only want money.

Shri Karmarkar: I know. That is the one thing that is missing because you are late. Now, it is the responsibility of the State Government to start the college; it is the responsible agency to do everything. They have to get this approved by the Indian Medical Council which is a statutory body. Therefore, any one can start any college without our permission, even without our knowledge if they do not want our money. If they want our money, of course the college has to come to us for our money; it comes to our knowledge. When my friend Shri Mathur asked that question, I had occasion to observe—and I am prepared to stand by every single word of it today—and I said:

"I do not think that there is any outstanding promise so far as Delhi is concerned. Regarding Rajasthan, I think the State Government—I am not quite sure—was not able to arrive at the suit-

able site. There was competition between one place and another and they were not able to make it up. If they had come in time, they would have got it."

"It" means aid. Every word of it stands justified.

The first time when this request was made to us was at the meeting of the State Health Ministers' Conference in June last year. The Minister for Rajasthan—I will not say, timidly—cautiously happened to mention about the second college in Rajasthan. I made enquiries and said: "What is the difficulty? Why do they not come forward with the proposal?" It was then that I learnt that there was a very serious controversy as between Jodhpur and Bikaner. There was a controversy between Jodhpur and Bikaner. Which of these two places should have the college? Jodhpur had a hospital and Bikaner had a bigger hospital, it seems. So, pleadings and urgings were made. I would almost use the word 'pulls'. There was this utilisation of all possible regional influences on either side. This is what I mentioned and I did not want to go into all these details at that time. When I happened to know about this, both the parties said to me: "Can you find a solution?" They tried to have my good-will for one of the two places. Obviously, I cannot have my good-will for both the places and I told them that the Government of India had no opinion in this matter and whichever place the State Government chose, the State Government was free to choose. The State Government then requested us, because they could not perhaps find out a third party there, to suggest some person or committee so that it could go into the right and wrong of the matter and make a suggestion. Obviously, the choice for us was the President of the Indian Medical Council and we suggested his name. And that Committee was appointed not by us—we came to lend our good offices with the President also. We said: "Look here, we are helpful to the State Government. Be helpful....."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am always
.....(Interruptions).

Shri Karmarkar: We said so to the President of the Indian Medical Council. That Committee was appointed by the Government of Rajasthan and not by the Government of India. We lent our good-will and our good-offices in finding a person about whom both the parties would feel objectively satisfied. This Committee went into the matter. That was in September, 1957.

That Committee went into the pros and cons and visited the places. It did not decide that one was more suitable than the other. If I remember right, it made a recommendation in a sense satisfying both and said that Bikaner may be taken up straightaway, Jodhpur may be considered next year or the year after that. Therefore, the decision ultimately came to this that for immediate establishment of a college Bikaner was the best situation. Then the Rajasthan Government took up the matter—round about February or March, I think. The Rajasthan Government approached us for aid in 1958. Now, an amount of Rs. 6½ crores was placed at our disposal by the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry. Out of that amount, during the first two years, even before this question came up, when the Committee was sitting and the Government was considering and all that, a commitment for seven colleges was made. We could not wait till the end of time. We had these colleges; one at Kanpur, another at Ranchi, a third at Jamnagar, one at Bhopal, one at Jubbulpore, one at Hubli, one in Kozikode and one at Kurnool by way of part assistance. All this happened even before the Rajasthan Government was able to decide where the venue should be. We also appointed a committee to determine how much assistance we should give. The Committee came to the conclusion that for a college, to have proper buildings and all that, Rs. 80 lakhs would be a proper estimate for a college proper. We do not give any aid for the hospital;

[Shri Karmarkar]

that is for the State Government. Out of this we were committed to give three-fourths for the seven colleges which had been newly started and for which we had promised aid much earlier than the Rajasthan Government was able to make up its mind.

We promised them this aid and we allowed each college up to an extent of Rs. 60 lakhs. We also kept a little money for upgrading, for increasing the number of students from 50 to 100, because we were technically advised that 100 students would be a real unit of students which would make a college economic.

Then we took a decision—that was also much earlier than the Rajasthan Government was able to make up its mind—to aid the colleges at Madurai, Mysore, Agra, Kanpur, Dibrugarh, Gwalior, Indore, Jaipur, Trivandrum, Laheriasseri and Cuttack for upgrading themselves. We promised them aid and the money that was with us was over months before the Rajasthan Government came to us for aid.

Still, Sir, I must say we did consider Rajasthan as an area which needed a college. What we did was, by way of giving our token support to the idea that Rajasthan should really have a college we, perhaps, went a little out of the way—not wrongly, but rightly—and said that we are agreeable to give recurring expenditure for two years—normally we give to a new college three-fourths of the non-recurring expenditure and 50 per cent. of the recurring expenditure. We addressed the Government of Rajasthan in April, 1958 that we are prepared to meet as a special case, though they had come late—we did not mention it in the letter, but we had that in our mind—because Rajasthan had a rightful claim to have a college, three years recurring expenditure. It seems, before the Patel Committee a representation was made that an amount of Rs. 50 lakhs would be collected and given to the college.

We thought that if official support was given to the college it might coax the donors to readily give money, because they will be able to say that the Government of India have also supported the idea of having a college to the extent of two years recurring expenditure. That was as far back as April 1958.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Did the Rajasthan Government say that they will give Rs. 50 lakhs?

Shri Karmarkar: It was in the Patel Committee's report. I do not know whether it is good to divulge private conversation, but I may say that in private conversations even very responsible people like hon. Members of this Parliament and Ministers have given me to understand that donations would be coming up.

Shri M. D. Mathur (Nagaur): May I know the names of Members of Parliament who promised donations?

Shri Karmarkar: They said that donations would be forthcoming. The Particular Member or Members I intended might imagine for themselves; I do not want to raise any controversy. I had every reason to believe what they said.

Shri M. D. Mathur rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Perhaps the Minister can assure him that the hon. Member is not the Member who is being referred to.

Shri M. D. Mathur: I want to know the basis for that. If he is not prepared to show the name of the hon. Member or any other person, I want to know the basis for saying that Rs. 50 lakhs would be forthcoming. I want to know the basis for it and I want to know who promised Patel that Rs. 50 lakhs would be forthcoming.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is another question.

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. That is another question and a subject for another half-an-hour discussion on the Patel Committee Report. It is officially recorded in the Patel Committee Report that when they were examining this question, they were assured that a donation of Rs 50 lakhs would be forthcoming.

Shri M. D. Mathur: Who assured Mr. Patel? We want to know that thing. The report is in the hands of the Government of India.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order order. The Minister cannot tell who told Mr. Patel. He cannot say that.

Shri M. D. Mathur: The report is there.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: It is absolutely a very relevant material required here. Even it is mentioned in the Patel Committee Report, he has to go by the commitment that the Rajasthan Government makes,—assuring him that Rs 50 lakhs would be forthcoming.

Shri Karmarkar: There was an earlier hope from whoever was there in charge of this, in the Rajasthan Government that this subscription would be forthcoming. And the Minister himself told me that the subscription might be coming in. Later on he said donations are difficult to come by. Nothing is lost now. And we have nothing to gain by depriving the Rajasthan Government of a college. God bless them. Let them have a college and collect subscriptions. In fact, my object in mentioning these things is to enable my hon. friends to go ahead with the college and collect as much donation as possible.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He ought to be in a greater co-operative mood if a college is to be given.

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Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Co-operation with no payment!

Shri Karmarkar: There is also another offer from Punjab. But that is another matter. That will come later on. As regards recurring expenditure, on the basis of 40 admissions per annum, we said in the official letter dated 1st April that it is estimated that the Government of India would be prepared to pay a grant-in-aid of Rs 4,80,000 spread over a period of three years, and on the basis of 50 per cent, pay Rs 8,000 per annum per student. The Government of India will be prepared to pay this amount to the State Government for the establishment of a medical college at Bikaner. That is a promise by which, though late, we stand. That is the recurring expenditure.

Now of course, if this House or the Finance Ministry or the Planning Commission enables us to expand the resources beyond Rs 6½ crores—if my hon. friend from Rajasthan or other hon. Members are able to persuade both the Finance Ministry and the Planning Commission—and if more money is forthcoming, possibly that might be the first commitment, since we have agreed to pay the recurring expenditure, and it will help the Government of Rajasthan and my friends because we have agreed to pay this recurring expenditure. Thereafter—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If he has much more to say, he might lay a statement on the Table of the House.

Shri Karmarkar: I have nothing more to say on this point. I wish my hon. friend, the Member from Rajasthan as also the Rajasthan Government, if I may say so without any offence, take a little courage in both hands and go ahead with the college.

Shri M. D. Mathur: We are going ahead.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I assure the hon. Minister that we are going ahead. We want his assistance. That is all.

Shri Karmarkar: I am very happy about it. Those who go ahead deserve support, whatever support is possible. So much for the college proper.

Now, let me be very frank to this House about this matter. We are interested in having the number of colleges increased, and personally also, and my Ministry feels very miserable that the amount at our disposal is not larger. Really, we should have another 8 or 10 colleges in the country because the need for medical graduates is very, very great. Therefore, I would give all possible support—material and moral—as the case may be to the proposal from Rajasthan. I am very happy to learn that they are going ahead with the college

Only, controversial atmosphere here and there sometimes creates difficulties. There has been sufficient time lost. If only the controversy had been over by March, 1957, instead of by March, 1958, the Rajasthan College would have been in the list of aided colleges. But the misfortune is that the controversy ended in March, 1958. Any way, it is always good to wish well and wish goodspeed to the Rajasthan College. Our offer, to the extent that who have offered, does stand in spite of the fact that there has been delay and in spite of this discussion, but this discussion does not affect the aid that we have offered to give to the college.

There was one other point mentioned which is rather important. As I said, in the establishment of these colleges, no one need inform the Government of India because we do not come into the picture unless our money is sought for. Now, it did happen and my hon. friend and other colleague was asking the question about the colleges which are charging what might be called a capitation fee. As I said, and I repeat it again, wherever a rightful effort is made in the sense that affairs are conducted in as normal, regular manner—subject to this observation—we could help the cause. I still maintain that if tomorrow a rich society comes into

existence and says, "We do not want any aid from Government. We would start a college", we say, "All right. Go ahead". There have been two colleges, one in Manipal in Mangalore and the other recently started in Andhra Pradesh where donations have been collected from some donors who have been assured one seat. With regard to that, both myself and my Ministry gave a lot of thought to this matter and we came to the considered conclusion that other things being right, in the present predicament in which the country is placed, in view of the urgency of the number of medical graduates that are required by the country and also in view of the fact that beyond a certain limit, Government are not able to give financial aid to these colleges, we should not stand in the way of self-help colleges coming up.

With regard to the college in Mangalore, the Chairman of as responsible a body as the Medical Council of India found the staff to be first class, the training course to be first class and the management to be quite adventurous. The students also were not below the mark, because one of the first rules of admission to the college is that no student shall be permitted to be admitted to the college unless he has secured the minimum percentage fixed by the University, because they have to be affiliated to the University. I could have well understood the objection if a normal student requires 50 per cent. marks in the I.Sc. and the sons or sons-in-law of the donors are admitted with 30 per cent marks.

Shri Heda (Nizamabad): The minimum is much less for the donors' seats.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Those who get 70 per cent. marks are not admitted, but those who get 40 per cent. are admitted because of the donation.

Shri Karmarkar: That is because the donor has been promised one seat,

provided the student satisfies the minimum requirements laid down by the university. So far as my information goes, that is the system adopted in both the college. After giving the fullest consideration to the question, we came to the conclusion that whereas such colleges will not come under the pattern of our assistance, there was absolutely no reason why we should come in the way of such college developing. If Government does not itself start more colleges, and if it prevents the coming up of such colleges, we thought that it would be wrong.

So far as the Government of India are concerned, they come into the picture only when they give aid. Otherwise, the Medical Council of India, the university and the State Government concerned are absolute arbitrators with regard to the starting of any medical college in this country.

Finally, my hon. friend said something about engineering colleges. Perhaps it is his information that the Minister of Education recently visited, laid the foundation-stone or open-

ed a building for an engineering college in the Mangalore district precisely started with this kind of donation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Half-an-hour discussion should be confined to thirty minutes.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Not the Minister of Education, but the Minister of Scientific Research. He told me last week in the Consultative Committee.

Shri Karmarkar: I do not want to join issue on a subject which does not pertain to my Ministry. About medical colleges, I have made the position clear. With regard to requests for aid to start new colleges, we shall be very happy to consider them on their own merits.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

17.39 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 4th December, 1958.

(Wednesday, 3rd December, 1954)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS		COLUMNS	WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—contd		COLUMNS
S.Q. No.	Subject	2789—2825	S.Q. No.	Subject	
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858	Bicycle Factory in Assam	2884
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860	Accommodation for workcharged staff of C.P.W.D.	2884
861	Development of Rock Salt Mines	2884-85
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U. S. Q. No.	●	protection to the Caustic Soda and Bleaching Powder Industry	
865 Import Licences	2886-87		
866 Sanction of loan to West Bengal Govern- ment	2887	(ii) Government Re- solution No. 32(2)- T.R./58 dated the 29th November, 1958	
867 Borahora Colliery, Assam	2887-88		
868 Technical School at Takyel (Manipur)	2888	(iii) Report (1958) of the Tariff Commis- sion on the conti- nuance of protection to the Electric Motor Industry	
869 Silk Processing Factory in Punjab	2888-89		
870 Small Industries Ser- vice Institute, Bombay	2889		
871 Handicrafts	2889-90	(iv) Government Reso- lution No. 11(1)-T.R. 158 dated the 29th November, 1958	
872 Advertisements to Newspapers	2890		
873 Factories in Punjab	2891		
874 Cashewnut Factories	2891-92		
875 Rehabilitation of ex- criminal Tribe Families from Pakistan	2892-93	(3) A copy of each of the following Notifica- tions under Sub-section (3) of Section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956, making certain further amendments to the Companies (Central Government's) Central Rules and Forms, 1956—	
876 Documentary on the life of the People of hilly regions of U.P.	2894		
877 Hostile Nagas	2894-95		
878 Second Five Year Plan	2895-96	(i) G.S.R. No. 1026 dated the 1st Novem- ber, 1958	
879 Employment Exchanges	2896		
880 Export of Coir Pro- ducts	2896	(ii) G.S.R. No. 1108 dated the 22nd November, 1958	
881 Acquisition of Land	2896-97		
882 Publicity Vans	2897-98		
883 Film Shows	2898		
884 Ashoka Hotels Limited	2898		
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	2899-2900	REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLU- TIONS PRESENTED.	2900
The following papers were laid on the Table :—		Thirty-first Report was presented	
(1) A copy of each of two Half-Yearly Ad- ministrative Reports of the Central Silk Board for the period from 1st October, 1957 to 31st March, 1958 and 1st April, 1958 to 30th September, 1958		ELECTION TO COMMIT- TEE	2900-01
2) A copy of each of the following papers under Sub-section (2) of Section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951—		The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K.C. Reddy) moved for the election of one member from among the Members of Lok Sabha to be a member of the Rajghat Samadhi Committee. The motion was adopted	
(i) Report (1958) of the Tariff Commission on the continuance of		BILL PASSED	2902—39
		Further clause-by-clause consideration of the Parli- ament (Prevention of Disquali- fication) Bill, as reported by the Joint Committee, was concluded. The Bill was passed as amended.	

HILL UNDER CONSIDERATION**COLUMNS**

2939-82

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar) moved that the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly (Constitution and Proceedings) Validation Bill be taken into consideration. The discussion was not concluded.

MOTION RE. PRESENT TRENDS IN THE EXPORT TRADE

2962-1030

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri) moved for the consideration of the present trends in the export trade in India. The discussion was not concluded.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION**COLUMNS**

3030-50

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur raised a half-hour discussion on points arising out of the answer given on the 16th November, 1958 to Starred Question No. 39 regarding Medical students. The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar) replied to the debate.

AGENDA FOR THURSDAY, 5TH DECEMBER, 1958

Further discussion on the Motion for the consideration of the present trends in the export trade in India.