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LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Fifth Session)



(Vol. XIX contains Nos. 11-20)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, 3rd September, 1958.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Jail Manual Committee

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- *641. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Sanganna:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2099 on the 9th May, 1958 and state:

- (a) whether the Jail Manual Committee has since submitted its report;
(b) if so, the important features of recommendations made; and
(c) the stage of implementation of these recommendations?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri B. N. Datar): (a) No.

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

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know when this Committee was constituted and for how long has it been holding its deliberations?

Shri Datar: It is likely to take about eight to ten months.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I wanted to know when this Committee was formed—how long ago it was constituted?

Shri Datar: The Committee was constituted last year and the first meeting was held between 24th and 26th June, 1957.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know who are the members of this Committee?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Ranga: Sir, this Committee has taken such a long time to.....

Mr. Speaker: Every blessed matter assumes very great importance. The Jail Manual Committee has been appointed. Jails are the subject-matter of the State Governments. The Committee has to go into the matter. There may be a Central Jail here. That is all. Is that to be confined only with respect to this matter?

Shri Ranga: I think so.

Mr. Speaker: Is the Jail Manual Committee meant for the Delhi State?

Shri Datar: No, Sir.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Is the Jail Manual Committee has been appointed. Next question. I am not allowing any more questions. The Committee has been constituted. Are we to substitute that Committee here? Shall I ask the hon. Minister to note down the speeches of all the hon. Members regarding the suggestions as to what has to be done. A Committee has been appointed. I have allowed one question: "when was this Committee constituted". The Minister has answered it.

Shri Ranga: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Next question. There are a number of important questions. The hon. Members must know, first come first served. If the question that is taken up first is exhausted and all the time and attention are spent on that, can we allow all the other questions to come to go unheard.

Shri Tangamani rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will have a dozen opportunities later. Next question.

Shri D. C. Sharma: This question is very important.

Mr. Speaker: Next question—Shri Subodh Hansda.

Building for National Academies

*842. **Shri Subodh Hansda:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plot of land has been selected for the building of the Three National Academies:

(b) if so, where it has been selected;

(c) whether the construction of the building has since been started; and

(d) if so, what progress has been made up-to-date?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the Ferozshah Road area.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether there are difficulties for the construction of the building and, if so, what are the difficulties?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The difficulty till now has been that last year there was a suggestion that this building should not be constructed during the

second Five Year Plan. We have overcome this difficulty, but there are some hutments which would have to be demolished before the building can be constructed, and we are taking action to see how quickly it can be done.

सेठ गोबिन्द दास : बुकि ये अकादमियों की इमारतें हैं, इस लिए क्या इन के बनाने में इस बात का स्थाल रखा जा रहा है कि ये एक खास तरह की कलापूर्ण इमारतें हों और क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कोई कलात्मक लोगों से राय ली जा रही है कि इस का नक्शा और बिल्डिंग किस प्रकार का हो ?

श्री हुमायून् कबीर : गवर्नमेंट को हमेशा यह स्थाल रहता है कि इस तरह की बिल्डिंग कलात्मक हों और इस के लिए वह हमेशा कोशिश करती है। यह बिल्डिंग आर्किटेक्ट के मन्विरे के मृताबिक बनाई जायेगी। मानरेबल मेम्बर ने जो सजेस्थान दी है, वह सजेस्थान फार एक्शन है लेकिन उस का स्थाल रखा जायेगा।

Shri Basappa: May I know the cost of this building and also may I know where these national academies are situated now and how much rent is paid now to those buildings?

Shri Humayun Kabir: They are situated in different areas at the moment. The Sahitya Academy is in Connaught Circus; the Lalit Kala Academy is housed in the National Gallery of Modern Art; and the Sangeet Natak Academy was originally in rented buildings in Connaught Circus but now it has been shifted to rented buildings in the Golf Link Area.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: May I know the cost of these buildings which are to be built, and how many storeys will there be?

Shri Humayun Kabir: That question was asked by another hon. Member

just now. When the building will be completed, it may cost about Rs. 22 lakhs, but the present proposal is for a building of Rs. 9 lakhs only.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Sivasan Singh: One question. What is the cost for all these buildings together, and may I know how many storeys they will have?

Mr. Speaker: Is it for all the three buildings?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have already said that these three academies will have a joint building.

Price Structure of Petroleum

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Shri V. P. Nayar:
 Shri Ram Krishan:
 Shri Vasudevan Nair:
 Shri N. R. Munisamy:
 Shri Tangamani:
 Shri Supakar:
 Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
 *842. { Shri Harish Chandra
 Mathur:
 Sardar Iqbal Singh:
 Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
 Shri Bishwanath Roy:
 Shri Sadhan Gupta:
 Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the main terms of agreement reached between Government and the Oil Distributing Companies regarding the reduction of petroleum prices;

(b) the total annual amount to be saved on account of the agreed price; and

(c) the extent to which these consumers will be benefited by the agreement?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) The terms of the agreement reached with M/s. Burmah-Shell Oil Storage and Distributing Co. of India Ltd., are given in a statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 1.] The other oil dis-

tributing Companies have also agreed to follow the same.

(b) The actual reduction on this account in the receipts of the companies will depend on their actual sales. On their sale estimates, the agreed reductions were estimated to amount to Rs. 49.5 lakhs per month for Burmah-Shell, or, roughly about Rs. 10 crores in a year for all companies.

(c) Attention of Hon'ble Members is invited to the "Statement of Objects and Reasons" to the Mineral Oils (Additional Duties of Excise and Customs) Bill, 1958, discussed in the Lok Sabha on the 13th August, 1958; this Bill sought to replace an Ordinance promulgated on the 30th June, 1958 whereby the benefit of the price reductions (with effect from the 20th May, 1958) accrued to the Government.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The reduction in the prices effected would amount to ten per cent, as far as I understand. I want to know how this compares with the reduction in prices consequent on the recession in world oil.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am afraid I cannot accept the percentage of 10 indicated by my hon. friend, nor am I in a position just now to correlate this reduction of price to the present recession.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Could we know whether the price reduction now being effected will have any real relation to the reduction consequent on the recession in the world oil market and, if so, to what extent?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I think the present reductions and the ultimate reductions which will be agreed to between the two parties will reflect the present recession.

Shri Supakar: May I know how the reduced price compares with the price that is prevailing in our neighbouring countries like Pakistan and Burma?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Now they are comparing very well.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if the oil distributing companies have also agreed to see that any reduction in world prices of oil in future will be reflected in the oil price in this country also and, if so, was it discussed at the time of the agreement with these oil distributing companies?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No such specific point was agreed upon or considered necessary to be put in the agreement as we already were agreed that all reductions as a result of the present recession will have to be reflected in all the prices that will be agreed upon between the two parties. I might remind the hon. Member that the prices are under examination and the Cost Accounts Officers are busy examining the accounts and unless we come to a sort of decision as to the cost pattern of selling price, we cannot say anything just now.

Shri Tangamani: In view of the fact that there is a further reduction of four pence per gallon in the London price, and in view of the fact that 774.5 million gallons is the yearly consumption, may I know whether price parity between Bombay and London will be imposed by which there will be a saving of at least Rs. 50 crores?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am afraid I cannot say about parity in the Bombay and London prices just now.

Shri C. D. Pande: Sometime back the hon. Minister told this House that the price of petrol is based on a certain formula called the gulf price. As the prices throughout the world are governed by that formula, and as the prices in the United Kingdom and Germany had come down by 30 per cent., may I know whether the same reduction has taken place in this country or not?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The selling price in other countries is regulated and governed by many factors which are not present here, as for instance,

the per capita consumption and other reasons. Therefore, it is not reasonable to compare the selling price in this country with that in other countries where more such products are consumed than what might be consumed in this country. But I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to paragraph (4) of the statement laid on the Table of the House which will perhaps clarify some of the points that might be occurring to him.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know what progress has been made since this *ad hoc* agreement has been reached?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The accounts are being examined and I suppose we will take some more months to come to some sort of a decision.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether after the work of the Cost Accounts Officer is completed, and in case there will be any reduction in the prices whether that reduction will be passed on to the consumers?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: So far as the first part of the question is concerned, after the accounts are examined, a new price formula will have to be agreed upon between the Government and the companies. As to what will happen to the savings after the reduction, I am afraid I am not able to say it now.

Shri Damani: May I know whether Government is considering or will consider utilising the saving in making the prices of petroleum products uniform throughout the country.

Shri Goray: Just now the Minister said that we cannot compare our prices with the prices obtaining in other countries because they are more fortunately situated. May I ask how our prices after reduction will compare with the prices in Pakistan, which is not fortunately situated?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I said there are many products where our prices are comparing very favourably. Some

products are being sold in Pakistan where perhaps our prices will not be very much lower than their prices, but on the whole the prices of petroleum products in our country compare very well with those in Pakistan.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know if the prices prevailing in India have any bearing on or any relation with the cost of production and distribution in India?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am afraid, no.

Shri Hem Barua: From the statement, it is evident that the Government propose to evolve a new price formula based on the structure of cost of production. May I know if Government have fixed any time-limit for this?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes; the original time-limit contemplated was six months, but afterwards it may be extended upto nine months.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether there is any proposal by the Government to take over the whole or some part of the distribution and if so, what will be the saving?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Government are not thinking of taking over the distribution of any of these companies. Government by themselves are considering various aspects and implications of running their own organisation or creating a small nucleus for distribution.

Delhi School Teachers

344 { **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shrimati Parvathi:
Krishnan:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ascertained that all teachers employed

in private and Government aided schools in Delhi have been paid their salaries up-to-date and that no salaries are in arrears; and

(b) what steps have been taken to ensure that the salaries of teachers in Delhi do not fall in arrears in future?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimail): (a) An enquiry is being made

(b) To enable the school managements to pay the salaries to the teachers regularly, it is proposed to pay to them quarterly grants-in-aid in advance. I would further like to inform the hon. Member that in April and May last, some cases were brought to my notice where the salaries were not paid for sometime. I ordered the administration to make payments of grants-in-aid immediately in advance in a relaxation of the normal rules, so that the salaries of teachers may be paid.

In most cases, the salaries were paid except in seven schools where there were certain alleged malpractices by the school management. These cases are being enquired into. Even in these cases, I have asked the director to find out whether he could not draw the grant and make payments directly to the teachers. I am taking every possible care to see that this chronic disease in the Delhi Administration, namely, irregular payment of salaries to teachers, is stopped and the malpractices of the school management are removed.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know what is the percentage of grants-in-aid given by the Central Government to private agencies and what are the conditions precedent before making the grants available?

Dr. K. L. Shrimail: Normally, it is 90 per cent. of the expenditure. Formerly the school management had to submit their accounts before the grants are sanctioned. I am now getting the whole matter properly examined.

Shri Anagar Harvani: May I know whether in some of the aided schools in Delhi, the real amounts of salaries are not paid to the teachers and if so what steps have been taken?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: That matter is also being looked into and we have ordered the closure of some of the educational institutions for this kind of malpractice. Some schools have been closed for this malpractice and where the schools are being closed, action is taken to open new schools.

Pandit D N Tiwary: May I know what control the Government exercises over these aided schools and whether there is any Government nominee in the committee of management of these schools?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: With regard to that particular information, I require notice.

Shri Thimmaiah: Is Government aware that there are certain private institutions which advertise seats and also collect fees from distant places and when the fees are paid and when the students come here, they find that no such institutions exist and they are all bogus institutions?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: This question was also raised sometime back. We have made enquiries and we have also told the public to beware of such bogus institutions.

श्री भक्त बर्दान मानवीय मंत्री जी ने अभी बताया कि जो कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं वे सहायता प्राप्त स्कूलों के सम्बन्ध में हैं। लेकिन दिल्ली में बहुत से ऐसे विद्यालय भी हैं जो प्राइवेट तौर पर चलाए जा रहे हैं। क्या उन पर नियंत्रण करने की भी कोई व्यवस्था की जा रही है ?

डा० का० ला० श्री.माला: अभी कोई कानून नहीं है जिस के द्वारा उन सम्पत्तियों के उपर नियंत्रण किया जा सके।

Shri Nath Pai: The hon Minister stated that there have been some malpractices. If malpractices have been

indulged in by the management, why should teachers be penalised for that?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: That is what I have said. I have now asked the director to see whether he could not draw the grants-in-aid directly and pay the salaries to the teachers directly, without bringing in the management. That question is being examined.

श्री नवल प्रसाद क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जा सहायता प्राप्त या रिकग्नाइज्ड स्कूल हैं उनमें अभी कितना रकम टीचर्स को देना बाकी है तथा जो सरकार द्वारा चलाये जा रहे स्कूल हैं उनमें कितना रकम एरियर्स का अभी टीचर्स को देना बाकी है ?

डा० का० ला० श्री.माला: इसकी इतना अभी में पाम नहीं है।

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Is it a fact that in the Government-run schools also, the salaries are not paid regularly?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Yes, unfortunately in some cases that was also true and I am taking strong action in the matter and also to see that salaries are paid regularly.

Beggary

*845 **Shri Mohan Swarup:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the steps taken to eradicate beggary in the Union Territories and to rehabilitate the beggars?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): In the Union Territory of Delhi, Section 397 (1)(a)(ii) of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act and Section 151 of the Municipal Act, as extended to Delhi, make begging an offence. Persons found begging are taken to the Poor House where they are provided with food, clothing and shelter. Vocational training is also imparted.

Beggary does not present any serious problem in the other Union Territories.

Shri Mohan Swarup: May I know how many beggar homes have been set up so far?

Shrimati Alva: There is one in the Union Territory of Delhi. As I said, this need does not arise in the other Union Territories.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the total number of beggars in Delhi—both proper beggars and those who have become beggars out of starvation?

Shrimati Alva: That figure is not available.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister must have figures of those in the beggar homes.

Shrimati Alva: The Poor House provides for 500 beggars.

श्री पद्म बेत्र : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि हिमाचल के अन्दर जो बरडों की एक क्लास है और वह जगह जगह मांगती फिरती है, उसको बसाने के लिए सरकार ने क्या प्रबन्ध किया है ?

Shrimati Alva: In this Union Territory, there is no such acute problem of beggary. We take the information that the hon. Member gives and we shall consider the position.

Shri Jyotishi: May I know the number of beggars in the Poor House actually receiving shelter and those actually undergoing vocational training?

Shrimati Alva: The beggar home provides for 500 beggars and they come and go. So, the number always fluctuates.

श्री नवल प्रसाद : जो भिखारी दिल्ली में पकड़े जाते हैं उनको थोड़े दिन रख करके या एक हफ्ता रख करके बाद में छोड़ दिया जाता है और वे फिर बाजारों में भीख मागना शुरू कर देते हैं, क्या इसको रोकने का कोई प्रबन्ध किया गया है ?

Shrimati Alva: It is not done so in all cases.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: In view of the fact that the number of beggars is increasing day by day in the Union Territory of Tripura, may I know whether Government have made any arrangements to keep a record?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): I do not agree with the view that the number is increasing.

Mr. Speaker: Does the Government contemplate taking any action?

Pandit G. B. Pant: As the number is not increasing, the question does not arise.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: I am the president of the yogies. My friends ask me how are we to be protected. In Hindu religion beggary is allowed.

Technical Education

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*846. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1287 on the 28th March, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the proposals for the expansion and development of technical education in India under the T.C.M. (Point Four Programme) have been finalised for the year 1958-59; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1. The assistance to be provided by U.S.A. in the current year comprises:

(i) 26 U.S. Experts in selected fields of engineering and technology to develop post-graduate studies and research in our institutions and to

assist in a programme of training of technical teachers.

- (ii) Facilities for the training of 20 Indians in institutions in U.S.A.
- (iii) Scientific equipment worth \$ 80,000.

An agreement for the above assistance has been signed by T.C.M. and the Government of India.

2. U.S.A. has also offered this year under T.C.M., 60 Fellowships for the advanced studies of 60 Indian engineers and technologists in American institutions, who will serve as teachers in Indian institutions, after the training.

Shri D. C. Sharma: From the statement it is seen that facilities will be provided for the training of 20 Indians in institutions in USA. May I know how they have been selected?

Shri Humayun Kabir: These 20 Indians are to be selected by a Special Selection Committee. Of the 60, some have gone and others are in the process of going.

Shri D. C. Sharma: It is stated in the statement that scientific equipment worth \$ 80,000 have been given under this agreement. May I know how these equipments are going to be distributed to institutions all over India?

Shri Humayun Kabir: They have not come yet. The agreement was signed on the 19th June, 1958, and we expect that the equipments will be received fairly soon. In the present year the programme is to concentrate the equipments in five major institutions.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know the names of the five major institutions which will be provided with these equipments?

Shri Humayun Kabir: They will be in the four different regions, namely, the Bengal Engineering College, Sibpur, the Roorkee University, the

Poona University and the Guindy Engineering College, and the all India institution is the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know how the 60 engineers, who will be sent to America for training, will be selected?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I said just now that they have been selected by a Special Selection Committee.

Shri Tangamani: This is a different question. That reply was to the question about the 20 students who have been selected and who are going in the current year. Then there are another 60 fellowships for Indian engineers and technologists for going to America. May I know whether these 60 persons have been selected and, if not, what will be the basis for selection?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have already said that they have been selected. These 60 are mainly young graduates who have passed either this year or last year or people with a very short experience. They have been selected on the basis that on their return they will join a teaching institution and serve in that institution for a stipulated number of years.

Shri Jadhav: Where will the US experts be posted?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have already said that we are now concentrating on programmes for five institutions throughout India.

Shri Prabhat Kar: Who are the members of the Selection Committee?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I require notice for this. There are different people from all over India. I cannot carry the names in my head.

Mr. Speaker: If he gives the names then there will be a suggestion that some others ought to have been included. After all, the Government has to do it.

Shri Damani: Apart from aid under the TCM, what efforts are being made

to develop technical education in the country with the collaboration of other technically advanced countries?

Shri Humayun Kabir: A very large scale programme has been undertaken. On the 30th of August I laid a statement on the Table of the House, giving complete details. But if the hon. Member wants information again I may tell him that we have received till now 77 experts from a number of countries in different parts of the world. 88 fellowships and equipment etc. of the value of Rs. 68.55 lakhs up to the 30th of June, 1958.

Appointment of a Senior Technical Representative for Durgapur Steel Works.

*847. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Construction Co. Ltd., London have appointed a senior technical representative as required under clause 5 (d) of the agreement with them for Durgapur Works;

(b) if so, what are the duties of this technician; and

(c) his name and qualifications?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) He gives day-to-day advice on such matters as he need not refer to the Consulting Engineers' office in London.

(c) The name of the technical representative is Mr. H.M. Crowe. He is a qualified steel works engineer who has been in the employ of the Consulting Engineers for a number of years.

Shri Morarka: May I know the date on which he was appointed?

Sardar Swaran Singh: This representative arrived in India in May 1956.

Shri Morarka: Is he the same person who was appointed under the general agreement?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Under the general advice agreement of the Durgapur Works the International Construction Company, London, is required to appoint and maintain at their cost a senior technical representative in India for giving day-to-day advice on such matters as need not be referred to the consultant offices in London. It is under this agreement that this technical representative has been appointed.

Shri Morarka: There are two separate agreements, and each agreement provides a separate fee. Each agreement says.....

Mr. Speaker: What is it that he wants?

Shri Morarka: I am telling you, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I am not here to hear from the hon. Member. Let him put the question to the hon. Minister.

Shri Morarka: Under the agreements two separate persons are required to be appointed. May I know whether only one person is appointed under both the agreements?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I do not accept the presumption of the hon. Member that two separate individuals are necessarily to be appointed.

Shri Nath Pal: May I know how do the technical services rendered by this firm, to whom we are obliged to pay about Rs. 2 crores, differ from the technical advice to be rendered by another firm, the Indian Steel Construction Works Limited, London, to whom we have to pay Rs. 14 crores?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think there is considerable confusion, if I may use that word.

Shri Nath Pal: Hence this question.

Sardar Swaran Singh: There is some confusion with regard to the

so-called fees. So far as the consultation fee is concerned, that is the normal consultation arrangement. So far as the part of the technical services which go into the cost structure of the entire plant to be installed is concerned, that is separate from the amount mentioned by the hon. Member. One is really a part of the cost of the plant, coming under the various heads, under which this expenditure is incurred.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members are anxious to know the difference in the kind of technical advice. I do not think that can be done in the Question Hour. If the hon. Minister has no objection, he can make a statement, because the other day also a similar question was put down—Rs. 14 crores for one and Rs. 2 crores for the other with respect to the same plant. Hon. Members are naturally anxious to know the difference. Why should there be an apparent duplication or overlapping? If the hon. Minister has no objection, he may put down the details in the form of a memorandum. I will circulate it to all hon. Members to avoid further questions.

Sardar Swaran Singh: There is a definite difference between the two functions which I will clarify, as has been suggested by you, in the form of a statement, which I am prepared to make on any of the days.

Mr. Speaker: I will have it circulated to the hon. Members. If the hon. Members have got any suggestion to make on any particular points, which may be elucidated in the memorandum, they will kindly pass it on either to the Secretariat, in which case I will pass it on to the hon. Minister, or communicate directly with the hon. Minister on the points on which they want elucidation. If it is in the public interest, he will certainly give the information. He should certainly make the memorandum as complete as possible, full and complete.

Ranikhet Cantonment

*248. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have received a representation from the civilian inhabitants of Ranikhet cantonment about the position of fresh water supply to them; and

(b) if so, what steps have Government or the Military authorities taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from the civilian population of Ranikhet cantonment regarding inadequate supply of water to them.

(b) A scheme for improving the supply and distribution of water at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.135 lakhs was sanctioned by Government in June, 1951. This was implemented in 1953. As a result, however, of considerable increase in the population of Ranikhet since that scheme was sanctioned, the whole question of improving water supply for the station is now being re-examined.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Is it a fact that an additional pipeline was allowed to augment the supply and very recently it has been removed?

Sardar Majithia: I am not aware of the additional pipeline. But an additional tank was put up some time ago to augment the water supply, not at the source but at the storage tank.

Mr. Speaker: Has it been removed?

Sardar Majithia: I am not aware of the pipeline. I said that an additional tank was installed in addition to the one that existed previously.

Mr. Speaker: Is it there?

Sardar Majithia: It is there.

Shri C. D. Pande: May I know if the Government is aware that even according to the existing plant last

year 35,000 gallons were supplied every day to the civil population and this year it was reduced to 25,000 gallons? Why should the existing capacity, which was workable last year, not be so this year?

Sardar Majithia: There was a break-down in one of the plants. The tanks broke and as a result the water supply was restricted. I should also like to add that that restriction was applicable both to the military and civil population.

श्री भक्त इश : श्रीमन्, माननीय मंत्री जी ने बतलाया कि अधिक पानी देने के बारे में विचार किया जा रहा है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन को कब तक उम्मीद है कि ज्यादा पानी मिल जायेगा ?

Sardar Majithia: That is a very complicated question.

Some hon. Members: What are the complications?

Mr. Speaker: Crankshaft is a complicated matter?

Sardar Majithia: Not that, but the supplementing of the water supply to this cantonment. We have asked for the advice of the Geological Survey of India and they have had a spot inspection. They are taking up detailed exploration in 1959 because they are busy before that and they cannot do it before that. So, until we get that expert advice from them, we cannot start supplementing more water to this cantonment.

श्री भक्त इश : माननीय मंत्री जी ने बतलाया कि सन् १९५६, ६० तक जाच पड़ताल ही जारी रहेगी, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस बीच में क्या कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था की जा रही है कि कम से कम अगली गरमी में वहाँ के निवासियों को कुछ पानी मिल सके ?

Sardar Majithia: As I said, it is a natural source and I cannot do anything about it. We are exploring alternative means, but that, as I said, requires expert advice. We have already got the advice of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. We also want the advice of the Geological Survey, which is being done and, as I said, I cannot do anything until I get their expert advice.

Production of Steel in Rourkela

*850. **Shri Supakar:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the average cost of production of one ton of steel under the L.D. process in the Rourkela Steel Plant; and

(b) how does this cost of production compare with that of Bhilai and Durgapur Steel Plants?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha): (a) and (b). An estimate of the likely costs of production was made by the Consultants in the respective project reports. In each case different assumptions had been made about the likely capital cost, the prices of raw materials and operating expenses. As such it is difficult to compare the costs of production with any exactitude. The Department of Iron and Steel, in consultation with the Hindustan Steel Private Limited, is in the process of revising these estimates so as to bring them on a common basis and to take account, as far as possible, of changes in capital costs and in the costs of raw materials.

The works costs of one ton of ingot steel, as calculated in the respective project reports are:—

ROURKELA; Open hearth steel—	Rs. 117
	per ton
L.D. steel	— Rs. 98
	per ton
BHILAI; Open hearth steel	—Rs. 112
	per ton
DURGAPUR; Duplex steel	—Rs. 104
	per ton.

Shri Supakar: Since the inventors of this LD process say that the cost of erection of this plant as well as the cost of production under their process is much cheaper than the open hearth process, do the Government contemplate the adoption of this process in future when they go in for expansion or for establishing additional plants?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): Depending on our experience of the LD process that is now being introduced for the first time in the country, we would certainly like to benefit by that experience and if the expectation comes out to be true, viz., that it is cheaper in production and also less on capital cost, certainly it could be advantageous and in the interest of the country to adopt this new process in the new expansion programme.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Is it a fact that the Metallurgical Laboratory at Dhanbad has advised the adoption of the LD process for all the steel plants?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think the hon. Member perhaps means the Metallurgical Laboratory at Jamshedpur.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Yes, at Jamshedpur.

Sardar Swaran Singh: They have been carrying on experiments and their general opinion also is in favour of the adoption of the LD process.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether this LD process is popular elsewhere also in the manufacture of steel?

Mr. Speaker: In other parts of the world.

Shri Basappa: Yes, Sir.

Sardar Swaran Singh: The process according to the information in our possession is applicable in a fairly large number of countries and it is claimed that the present production of steel on this basis is of the order of eight to ten million tons a year.

Shri Morarka: The hon. Parliamentary Secretary said that the cost of steel of this LD process would be about Rs. 98 per ton. I want to know, in view of the fact that the limestone would now be coming from Sutna about 500 miles away from this Rourkela project, whether the production cost of the LD process will go up and if so, by how much.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think my colleague, the hon. Parliamentary Secretary, made the position very clear that these estimates are rather indicative of the order of cost and that they do not represent the actual estimates. He has made it clear that the actuals will depend upon a number of factors. In each of the reports the assumptions made with regard to the prices of raw materials, cost of power and water, credit for by-product etc. have all been given. All of them also give the depreciation charges assumed. There are, however, differences in the rates of depreciation and the method of calculating depreciation. Certain charges have been taken as part of depreciation in one case and part of working expenses in the other. There are also differences in carrying over costs from one department to the other.

Then again, with regard to the raw material prices also, certain assumptions have been made, but if for valid reasons we push up our coal prices, maybe for valid reasons, or we push up our freight rates or the sources of actual supply are changed, all these are reflected in the ultimate picture that is evolved.

Mr. Speaker: I understood Shri Morarka's question as this. Rs. 98 is said to be the price per ton. Is it on the basis of the availability of limestone or something nearby or has it been calculated taking into account the lead of 500 miles that is now discovered? That is all the small point that he wanted to know.

Sardar Swaran Singh: There was an assumption with regard to the price of limestone at the plant site.

and in that certain rough calculation was also made with regard to the freight element.

Mr. Speaker: What difference will it make if the lead is 500 miles?

Sardar Swaran Singh: It is obvious that if the lead is more, the price of the material will increase. But what I wanted to add really was that not only in the case of limestone but in the case of other raw materials also, for instance, coal, the price is being calculated as being available from a particular colliery. If it is changed, price will be changed.

Mr. Speaker: Nobody denies all this. All that he wants to know is: as they are not able to get the required quality of limestone close by, what difference does it make on account of the lead? From Rs. 98 how much does it increase? If the hon. Minister has got the facts let him give them; otherwise he will calculate later on for another occasion.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Actually, cost of limestone from any particular quarry even in the original estimate was not calculated and those detailed calculations were not made. It is really the availability of limestone or any other raw material at the plant site for which a notional figure was taken into consideration.

Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact that the Hindustan Steels have been asked to work out an estimate? Why not we depend on it and wait for it?

Sardar Swaran Singh: That, I think, is a suggestion which the hon. Member who has been persisting in asking questions will be well advised to accept.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: On a point of order, Sir, it must be made clear that this question does not create the impression that we did not like the delegation's coming here. We were very glad that the delegation came. We would have been very glad if it remained here for months.

Mr. Speaker: That has been clear by the hon. Minister himself. Shri Vajpayee, Shri Bibhuti Mishra—Absent. That kind of fear is set at rest. Next question.

Foreign Exchange Budgeting

*553. **Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Economic Affairs Department of the Ministry of Finance or any other agency under the Ministry prepare any foreign exchange resources budget annually, or on a six monthly basis, in order to determine the position in respect of the country's foreign exchange earnings and expenditures;

(b) what is the system of co-ordination between the Finance Ministry which manages the country's foreign exchange resources and the Commerce and Industry Ministry which decides about the country's import policy both in respect of private sector and public sector;

(c) whether there is any machinery either on the Cabinet or Ministerial level or on the Planning Commission level, or else on the Secretariat level entrusted with fixing priorities in the matter of imports and the country of these imports; and

(d) if so, what is the constitution of such machinery?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Yes, Sir. A six monthly foreign exchange budget is prepared by the Department of Economic Affairs.

(b) The commercial import policy, depending on the availability of foreign exchange, is formulated in close consultation between the Department of Economic Affairs, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry and the Planning Commission.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Priorities are considered through Inter-departmental meetings with representatives of the

Planning Commission first at official level and then at the level of the Planning Commission, the ultimate decisions being taken at the Cabinet level.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know if any principle or principles have been laid down in the matter of allotment of foreign exchange so that less essential articles like foreign toys, foreign liquors, art silk, nylon and similar other chemically manufactured luxury fabrics do not get any priority over essentials like drugs and medicines and industrial raw materials?

Mr. Speaker: The question must be short.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: That in short is the question.

Mr. Speaker: Is there any priority? It is common knowledge that they have been trying to do that. What is the new fact that he does not get from any of the papers?

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: That I have asked. Have any principles been laid down so that less essential articles, luxury articles do not get priority over more essential articles?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: Yes, Sir.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: May I get an indication of these principles?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: In the present scheme of things, the main items which come in the maintenance of industrial economy get the first priority. Then, items which come under contractual obligations for which we have obligation to buy like buying rice from Burma and others—they get another priority. Then priority comes to the core projects. Other items get very low priority. These are very well defined principles with which we regulate imports

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: While formulating the foreign exchange budget, may I know whether the Finance Ministry has co-ordination

with the other Ministries and takes into account the requirements of those Ministries or they simply do it on an ad hoc basis?

Mr. Speaker: These principles relate to four different Ministries. So far as rice is concerned, possibly, it is the Food Ministry. So far as raw materials for industries are concerned, it is the Commerce and Industry Ministry. It is rather queer that a thing which a layman like myself is able to understand, an industrialist is not able to understand.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: With regard to the last item mentioned about which the hon. Minister says that they get a very low priority may I know on what basis decisions are taken with regard to the import of luxury goods which I mentioned just now?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: There is no import of luxury goods these days. As I said, if some amount is available for these items which get a low or the lowest priority, they are considered. Otherwise they are completely banned.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: In the year 1957-58, after the foreign exchange difficulties, may I know under what priority, horses were allowed to be imported into India and for what purpose?

Mr. Speaker: Horses?

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Horses and ponies.

An Hon. Member: Black horse?

An Hon. Member: Race horse?

Shri Feroze Gandhi: No race horse

Mr. Speaker: Thank God.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: The type of horse is not specified.

Shri B. E. Bhagat: I want notice of that question.

Shri Heda: May I know whether it is a fact or not that in certain cases, with a view to promote our exports,

we have to purchase certain items from those countries since they insist upon it as a condition?

Mr. Speaker: He has said so. In the four principles, he has said, in view of any arrangement entered into with other countries, we have to import some things.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Are we to understand that all imports of toys, nylons and silks, and foreign liquor have been stopped altogether?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: I cannot commit myself that during this period no amount of the items that the hon. Member mentioned has come. It is our policy....

Mr. Speaker: He did not say that it is stopped. All that I understood was, their priority was in that order and if still there is some money, any of these may be purchased.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: He said that so far as luxury goods are concerned, they have been stopped. That, he said just now.

Shri B. E. Bhagat: We have not allowed any luxury goods to come.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Not luxury goods; you should not have allowed any of these goods.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will put a straight single question: "What are the luxury goods imported?" The Minister will reply Yes or No. Then he may ask what is the price. The Minister will give the price—this much or that much. Instead of doing this, the hon. Member is asking a general question about luxury goods.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: The hon. Minister said that all luxury goods have been stopped. He ought to have checked it before he committed that way.

Shri B. E. Bhagat: May I say, for individual items, the question should refer to the Ministry of Commerce

and Industry. I stated the policy. In a particular period, we have not allowed any luxury goods.

Copyrights of Indian Authors

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*856. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Bhogji Bhal:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of Indian writers is being translated in the Soviet Union;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such translations have been and are being done without the prior approval of the Indian writers; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to safeguard the copyrights of the Indian authors?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) As the Soviet Union is not a party to any international convention on copyright, works published in India do not have copyright in U.S.S.R.

May I, with your permission, add to this answer? Government as such cannot take any action. But, individual authors have certain action open to them. They can institute a civil or criminal suit against the marketer of the book in India. Or they can file an application to the Government for preventing the import of the infringing copies. Thirdly, they can also ask for a restraining order from the court against the sale of such books in India.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know how many books have so far been translated in the Soviet Union, written by Indian authors?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I want notice. Since there is no copyright, we have no information.

Shri Hem Barna: May I know if there is any royalty for the translation of Mahabharata and Kalidasa's works in the Soviet Union?

Shri Humayun Kabir: So far as the Mahabharata and the works of Kalidasa are concerned, the question of copyright does not arise.

Mr. Speaker: Not for Shakespeare here.

Ration for Border Security Force

*858. **Shri Padam Dev:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3690 on the 9th May, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the examination of the scheme to supply free rations to the border security force has since been completed;

(b) if not, when it is likely to be completed; and

(c) when the scheme will be implemented?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The matter is still under examination with a view to devising maximum uniformity in arrangements for border forces in all the States.

(b) Consideration of the proposal is likely to take some time more.

(c) Does not arise at this stage.

Shri Padam Dev: In Hindi also

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

श्री दातार . (क) इस मामले में अभी इस आशय से जांच जारी है कि जहां तक हो सके सभी राज्यों की बार्डर सिक्यूरिटी फोर्स का इन्तजाम एक सा हो।

(ख) इस जांच में अभी कुछ समय और लगेगा।

(ग) फिलहाल यह सवाल नहीं उठता।

श्री पद्म देव : माननीय मंत्री जी को यह मालूम है कि यह स्कीम कोई चार साल से चालू है। और उनको यह भी मालूम है कि

हिमाचल प्रदेश में खास तौर पर तिब्बत बार्डर में पुलिस वालों को एक महीने का खर्च कम से कम ५० रुपये कनवोएंस का पड़ता है। उतना उनको कम्पेन्सेटरी एलाउंस भी नहीं मिलता। चार महीने केवल मार्ग खुला रहता है, बाकी बन्द रहता है और जाड़ा भी यहाँ पर बहुत होता है। ऐसी स्थिति में सरकार कब तक इस स्कीम की पूरा करने के बारे में सोचती रहेगी।

गृह-कार्य मंत्री (पंडित गो० ब० पन्त) : उम्मीद है कि चन्द महीनों में मामला तय हो जायेगा।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सीमांत के बारे में जो यह सूछताछ की जा रही है यह केवल हिमाचल प्रदेश के तिब्बती सीमांत पर ही की जा रही है या कि जितना और सीमांत प्रदेश है उसके बारे में भी जांच पडताल की जा रही है ?

पंडित गो० ब० पन्त : बार्डर एरिया में जो पुलिस रहती है उसके बारे में विचार हो रहा है। सवाल यह है कि जिनको इस वक्त २५ रुपया माहवार एलाउंस मिलता है उसके बदले में उनको वहा अनाज और दूसरी चीजें जैसी कि आर्मी में दी जाती है दी जायें या यही एलाउंस कायम रखा जाये।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, मेरे प्रश्न का यह उद्देश्य था कि क्या इस तरह की कठिनाइयों के बारे में गवर्नमेंट के पास शिकायतों केवल हिमाचल प्रदेश से ही मिली है या उत्तर प्रदेश के तिब्बती सीमावर्ती इलाकों या और इलाकों से भी मिली हैं और क्या वहां के बारे में भी विचार किया जा रहा है ?

पंडित गो० ब० पन्त : यह तो जेनरली देखा जा रहा है कि जितने बार्डर एरियाज हैं, वहा एक यूनिफार्म रेट हो। इसी लिये टाइम लग रहा है।

Polytechnic Institute at Agartala

*858. **Shri Bangshi Thakur:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Polytechnic Institution for Diploma course has been established at Agartala, Tripura, by the Government of India;

(b) if so, the total number of seats, and

(c) how many of the total seats are reserved for the Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes candidates respectively?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) The Polytechnic at Agartala is being established by the Tripura Administration

(b) Initially, 60 candidates are proposed to be admitted. After the institution has been fully established, the admissions will be 120 candidates per year

(c) 25 per cent of the total number of seats are reserved for candidates belonging to Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes. No seats are reserved for other Backward Classes.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether the Government is considering the introduction of a junior course of study in this institution for the non-matriculantes who form the majority among the unemployed?

Shri Humayun Kabir: This question is about a polytechnic, and the supplementary does not arise

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether degree course will be introduced in the institution in the near future?

Shri Humayun Kabir: This is a polytechnic. The question of any degree course has not yet been considered

Shri Dasaratha Deb: May I know whether any provision has been made to admit tribal students free of cost?

Shri Humayun Kabir: Not only has provision been made, but a number of tribal students have actually been admitted

Board of Enquiry at Ordnance Factory, Kanpur.

*860. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state

(a) whether a Board of Enquiry has been appointed at the Ordnance Factory, Kanpur to enquire into the loss of 58 tons of 50 inch blooms, and

(b) if so, whether a report has been submitted?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) As a quantity of 5 inch (and not 50 inch) blooms drawn by the Bar Mill of Ordnance Factory, Kanpur, were reported as not properly accounted for, a Board of Enquiry was held to look into the matter

(b) Yes, Sir. The report is at present being examined by the Director General of Ordnance Factories

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the value of the 58 tons of 5 inch blooms?

Shri Raghuramaiah: The report has not yet come to Government. It is under the examination of the DGOF. I understand that the finding of the Board is that there has been no loss. In any case the value of the articles involved is roughly Rs 30,000. I have not yet seen the report, it will be submitted later

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether any officer from the DGS or from the Ministry or a local officer was appointed chairman of this committee?

Shri Raghuramaiah: First of all, there was a fact-finding committee appointed to look into this. They could not establish whether, in fact, there was any loss. Subsequently there was a preliminary board of enquiry also set up. It is the report of that board which I just mentioned.

International Students' House in Delhi

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*861. { Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri Vajpayee:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to refer the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1334 on the 17th March, 1958 and state the progress so far made in regard to the setting up of an International Students' House for foreign students in Delhi?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): The construction of the building for the International Students' House in Delhi has not yet started, but a temporary International Students' House has been started by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations from 21st August, 1958, in a rented house near the University of Delhi.

Shri P. G. Deb: May I know whether the Foreign Students' Association of Delhi feel the need of it soon for guidance and know-how in problems of adjustment.

Shri Humayun Kabir: That is a separate question, but we do provide orientation courses for some of the foreign students who come here

Aligarh University

*864. { Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri P. R. Patel:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the number of students of engineering, medical and other technical faculties of Aligarh University who have either migrated to Pakistan or joined service in Pakistan during the last 10 years?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): The University has stated that it is not possible to keep track of all the students after they leave University, as thereafter they are not subject to the discipline of the University. It is only indirectly that the authorities or the teachers

of the University come to know about their later career, which may or may not be authentic.

According to the data provided by the University which is available only for 1956-57 and 1957-58, during these two years only 5 and 3 students of the Engineering College went to Pakistan after passing out of the College.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : इस स्टेटमेंट के देखने से जाहिर होता है कि दो बरस के अन्दर सिर्फ पांच और तीन स्टूडेंट्स, जिन्होंने अलीगढ़ यूनिवर्सिटी के इंजीनियरिंग कालेज से इंजीनियरिंग पास किया था, पाकिस्तान गये हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन दस बरसों में पाकिस्तान जाने वाले ऐसे स्टूडेंट्स की संख्या क्या है, जिन्होंने वहाँ इंजीनियरिंग और साइंस का अध्ययन समाप्त किया था।

डा० का० ला० श्रीवालो : यूनिवर्सिटी से यह दर्याफ्त किया गया था, लेकिन उस के पास इस की पूरी जानकारी नहीं है। बात यह है कि जब तक विद्यार्थी यूनिवर्सिटी में रहते हैं, तब तक तो उनके बारे में यूनिवर्सिटी में पूरी जानकारी होती है, लेकिन जब विद्यार्थी बाहर चले जाते हैं, तो यूनिवर्सिटी को उनकी जानकारी नहीं रहती।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : जिन लोगों को वहाँ अध्ययन के लिये स्कालरशिप दिये गये थे, उनमें से कितने लोग हिन्दुस्तान में हैं और कितने लोग हिन्दुस्तान से बाहर चले गये हैं ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीवालो : इस की मुझे अलग इंतिला चाहिये। तब मैं पूरी जांच कर के बाद में हाउस को इनफॉर्मेशन दे सकता हूँ।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या सरकार इस बात की कोशिश करेगी कि जो लोग सरकार से स्कालरशिप पा कर अलीगढ़ यूनिवर्सिटी में इंजीनियरिंग या और विषयों में अध्ययन कर के परीक्षा पास करते हैं, वे हिन्दुस्तान में ही रहें ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : जी हां, यह तो साफ़ जाहिर है कि जिन विद्यार्थियों को हम यहाँ पढ़ाना चाहते हैं, पढ़ाते हैं, जिन पर हम खर्च करना चाहते हैं, वे यहाँ ही रहें। यह एक स्वाभाविक बात है, लेकिन कुछ लोग बाहर जाते हैं—खाली पाकिस्तान ही नहीं, बल्कि और देशों में भी बाहर जाते हैं और वहाँ बस जाते हैं। उसका क्या किया जाय ?

शेठ गोविन्द दास : मंत्री जी ने अभी यह कहा कि इन दस बरसों में कितने विद्यार्थी पाकिस्तान गये हैं, इसकी कोई तालिका विश्व-विद्यालय में नहीं है, परन्तु जो लोग यहाँ से बाहर चले जाते हैं, उनकी तालिका किसी न किसी सरकार विभाग में—विशेषकर गृह मंत्रालय में—रहती है। क्या उसके आधार पर पता लगाया जा सकता है कि इस प्रकार के कितने विद्यार्थी इन दस बरसों में भारतवर्ष से पाकिस्तान गये हैं ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : सरकार के पास इस तरह की कोई इतिला नहीं है।

Mr. Speaker: He does not have details.

Shri Nath Pal: The hon. Home Minister may be having details.

Mr. Speaker: He must put a separate question as to how many passports have been given to students, and they must be students who go to Pakistan.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: Is it not a fact many of our freedom workers were educated in England? So, if these people go to Pakistan, they will bring Pakistan and India together. Where is the harm?

Explosions in Delhi

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 *865. { **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Vajpayee:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been cases of explosions (of dangerous crackers

and bombs) in Delhi in the past 3 months;

(b) whether there is any link between the new explosions and old explosions; and

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

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) A statement giving full information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 2].

(b) As two of the cases are still under investigation, it is not possible to say anything definite at this stage.

(c) As already stated in reply to the Starred Question No. 88 on the 13th November, 1957, a special squad has been organised in the police and effective action is being taken to check the possession of explosives.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: In view of the fact that even after great care these explosions are taking place in Delhi, may I know what steps have been taken up till now to prevent these explosions?

Shri Datar: As I have stated already, a special squad has been appointed and they are carrying on the work.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any foreigner has been found connected with these explosions?

Shri Datar: Not to my knowledge.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What is the strength of the special police squad that is there to check the explosions?

Shri Datar: I have not got the figure here at present.

Shri Tangamani: In the statement we find that there were three explosions, one in June and two in July, and the matter of the explosion of 25th June is still under investigation. Has he got any latest information about the explosion, and if so, what action has been taken?

Shri Datar: As I have already stated, there were three cases in all.

Investigation is being carried on in respect of two. In respect of the other one, the matter is before the court.

Shri Tangamani: But the point is that one case is still under investigation. In the statement we find there are three instances of explosions. The first explosion took place on 25th June and that matter is still under investigation. I would like to know whether the investigation has advanced and how many arrests have been made.

Shri Datar: The question relates only to three months period and the matter is under investigation because further information is called for.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

U.N.E.S.C.O. Employments

*840. **Shri Abdul Salam:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of Indian Nationals employed in UNESCO is low; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking in the matter?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter has been taken up with UNESCO.

Delay in Customs clearance of Explosion-proof Motors

*849. **Shri N. R. Munisamy:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the explosion-proof motors imported under valid licences before April 1958 were detained by the Customs authorities;

(b) whether any representations have been made to Government to release these motors; and

(c) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) No Sir. Some consignments of motors were detained at Bombay and Madras because they were believed to have been imported under licences which were not valid.

(b) Yes sir: Some importers had made representations.

(c) The representations were examined in consultation with the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports and appropriate instructions were issued to the Customs authorities at Bombay and Madras. On the basis of these instructions, adjudication proceedings have been completed in 91 out of the 95 consignments detained at Bombay. The cases at Madras, which are 24 in number, are expected to be finalised very shortly.

Tour of Nepalese Defence Delegation

*851. { **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**
Shri Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the duration of the stay of the Nepalese Defence Delegation headed by the Commander-in-Chief of the Nepalese Army which toured India recently; and

(b) the places visited by them?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) 12 days from the 13th to the 24th May, 1958.

(b) Delhi, Ambala, Bhakra-Nangal and Dehra Dun.

Odissi and other forms of Indian Dances

*852. **Shri B. C. Mullick:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Expert Committee has been appointed by Sangeet Natak Akademy to study and lay down conditions to recognise Odissi and other forms of Indian dances as classical;

(b) whether this Expert Committee has examined or will also be examin-

ing the validity of recognition of (1) Bharat Natyana, (ii) Kathakali, (iii) Manipur and (iv) Kathak as classical dances; and

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

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) No, Sir; the Expert Committee will not be concerned with the four classical dance schools already recognised as such

(c) Does not arise

University Grants Commission

*854. { Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Ghosal:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) what is the actual amount allotted and so far disbursed, by the University Grants Commission to affiliated Colleges in West Bengal,

(b) whether any steps are being taken to overcome the technical or other difficulties experienced by such colleges in being able to utilise moneys already allocated by the University Grants Commission, and

(c) whether money granted by the Commission but not lifted on account of such difficulties by the colleges concerned within the financial year will lapse back to the Commission?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrivalli): (a) The University Grants Commission has so far paid Rs 4,43,000 to the Calcutta University for this purpose

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Strikes in Essential Services

*855. **Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he assured the House to bring legislation

to check and prevent periodical strikes in essential services;

(b) if so, when it is going to be done, and

(c) why was not the recent Dockers' strike declared illegal and prevented?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) Such strikes cause disturbance to the normal life of the community and should be avoided but I do not remember having given such assurance

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Central Bureau of Educational and Vocational Guidance

*857. { Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Bureau of Educational and Vocational Guidance is organising a training course for training of counsellors;

(b) the main subjects of training, and

(c) the steps taken so far?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrivalli): (a) to (c) The one session post-graduate course in Educational and Vocational Guidance, organised by the Central Bureau of Educational and Vocational Guidance for the training of counsellors started on July 14, 1958

The course covers the following subjects —

- (i) Development Psychology;
- (ii) Measurement and evaluation in Education and Psychology.
- (iii) Curriculum development and organisation including the education system in India,
- (iv) Principles and Procedures of guidance and counselling psychology, and
- (v) Vocational education including job analysis, occupational

information, youth employment services in U.K. and some other countries.

The course also provides for practical training in the different subjects.

Sanchi Stupa

*862. { Shri Shivananjappa:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Department has taken up the renovation work of Buddhist Stupa at Sanchi;

(b) the estimated cost of repairs; and

(c) when the work will be over? .

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) No renovation work is being taken up but repairs in the shape of grouting work with a view to consolidating the Stupa are being carried out.

(b) A sum of Rs. 36,300/- is proposed to be spent during 1958-59.

(c) It is hoped to complete the work by the end of the current financial year.

Oil Drilling School

*863. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open or establish any school for training young men in oil drilling; and

(b) if so, its location?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). It is proposed to establish a training school for drilling personnel at Jawalamukhi.

Sand Stowing Scheme for Raniganj Collieries

*866. Shri Ajit Singh Sarhad: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed by the Coal Board to draw up central schemes of stowing and supply of sand for stowing for the collieries situated in the Raniganj area has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, whether Government have initiated any action on the basis of the recommendations of the Committee?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir. The Committee submitted its report to the Coal Board in May, 1958.

(b) This report, as well as the one submitted by a similar Committee constituted by the Board in respect of the Jharia coalfield, are under examination by the Board.

Report of Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

*867. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has submitted the Report for the year 1957-58; and

(b) if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the Table?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, as soon as printed copies are available.

All-India Petrol Traders' Association

*868. Shri Warrior: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received representations from the All-India Petrol Traders' Association regarding the rigid one-sided agreements imposed on them by the foreign Oil Companies; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not possible for Government to go into minute details of these commercial agreements that the Oil Companies operating in India, as principals, have with their dealers. But Government can exercise their good offices to bring about broad improvements, and have done so. For instance, M/s Burmah-Shell are now replacing their agreements with their dealers by a revised form of agreement which provides for an arbitration clause and a notice period of three months by either side for termination.

"Robbery on Land Customs Office, Malda"

*869. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an armed robbery was committed at the land Customs office, Malda in the first week of August, 1958;

(b) if so, the amount of money stolen; and

(c) whether the miscreants have been arrested?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that an armed robbery was committed in the office of the Superintendent of Land Customs Raiganj, headquarters at Malda at 20.00 hrs. on 1st August, 1958.

(b) The Government cash stolen amounts to Rs. 9,479.88 np.

(c) None of the miscreants has yet been arrested. Two Sepoys of the Land Customs Circle and an ex-sepoy recently discharged from service have been arrested by the police on suspicion.

Purchase and sale of Pakistani Rupees by the Reserve Bank of India

*870 { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India have decided not to buy and sell Pakistani rupees;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the alternative arrangements made for trade and other invisible payments between India and Pakistan?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Yes.

(b) The Reserve Bank of India does not normally buy and sell any currency except sterling but special arrangements were made in February 1951 when a Trade Agreement was concluded with Pakistan so as to facilitate financial transactions which had come to a standstill on the 19th September, 1949 due to the devaluation of India rupee and non-devaluation of Pakistan rupee. Under this arrangement surplus funds held in the accounts of the two Central banks were convertible into sterling instead of the individual balances of the authorised dealers who were to transact business with Pakistan, in India or Pakistan rupees. Thus the Reserve Bank of India had to buy and sell Pakistani rupees from the authorised dealers. An agreement having now been reached with Pakistan that the financial transactions between India and Pakistan can be settled on the same basis as with other sterling area countries, for example, Burma, Ceylon etc. and in any sterling area currency, the special circumstances requiring the Reserve Bank to buy and sell Pakistani rupees do no longer exist.

(c) Trade and other transactions between India and Pakistan can now be financed in India rupees, Pakistan rupees, sterling or any other sterling area currency.

Prisoners Wage Earning Scheme

*871. **Shri Arjun Singh Bhaduria:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of prisoners in Delhi Jail who have benefited under the prisoners wage earning scheme since its introduction in Jail in 1956;

(b) the total amount distributed each year to the prisoners since the

introduction of the scheme; and

(c) the number of prisoners who have not drawn any wages under the scheme?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) None.

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

Delhi Electoral College (Election of Members) Rules, 1958

*872. { Shri Tangamani:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether elections to Delhi Electoral College have taken place;

(b) if so, the procedure followed; and

(c) the reasons for laying the Delhi Electoral College (Election of Members) Rules, 1958, on the Table after the said elections had taken place in New Delhi?

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The procedure followed for election to the Delhi Municipal Corporation is laid down in the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957, and the rules made thereunder; and the procedure for election of 10 members from the Cantonment and New Delhi areas is laid down in the Delhi Electoral College (Election of Members) Rules, 1958.

(c) According to paragraph 61 of the Third Report of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation presented to the Lok Sabha on the 2nd May, 1958, the statutory rules and orders required to be laid before the House are to be so laid within a period of 15 days after their publication in the Gazette, if the House is in session; and if the House is not in session, within 15 days after the commencement of the following session. The Delhi Electoral College (Election of Members) Rules, 1958, were published in the Gazette of India on the 11th July,

1958 when the House was not in session. They were laid on the Table well-within the period indicated by the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

Oil struck in Madras State

*873. { Shri Pattabhi Raman:
Shri E. Narayanswamy:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether gas and liquid are sprouting from a tube-well at Vallampadugai near Chidambaram in Madras State;

(b) whether the liquid has been found to be inflammable; and

(c) if so, whether Government of India are proposing to take any steps in the matter?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Committee on Drug Control and Customs Laboratories

*874. { Shri Shree Narayan Dass:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1199 on the 25th March, 1958 and state:—

(a) whether the consideration of the recommendations made by the Expert Committee on Drug Control and Customs Laboratories has since been finalised; and

(b) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). The report is still under consideration.

Re-Organisation of Commercial Education

*875. Shri Subodh Hansda: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Joint Committee of the Inter-University Board, the All

India Council for Technical Education and the University Grants Commission has been constituted to examine the question of re-organisation of Commercial Education as recommended by the All India Board of Technical Studies in Commerce; and

(b) the Members appointed to the Joint Committee?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 3].

Teachers in Technical Institutions

*876. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Un-starred Question No. 3682 on the 9th May, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the scheme for meeting the shortage of teachers in technical institutions has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main features of the scheme are as explained below:

Bright young graduates and diploma holders in engineering and technology are selected and sent to certain selected technical institutions for training as teachers. At the institutions concerned, the candidates are attached to professors and senior teachers as under-studies and trained in various aspects of teaching work viz. curriculum construction, lecturing, laboratory instruction, tutorials, etc. The method of work followed will generally be the same as in a Practice School, the necessary facilities being provided by the institutions concerned. The candidates are gradually given teaching work to be carried out under the supervision of professors and senior teachers.

The duration of training ranges from two to three years depending upon the previous experience and qualifications of the candidates. During this period, the graduate-trainees will also undergo a post-graduate course in a selected field or do research work which will equip them suitably for teaching positions later on. The diploma-holders will spend stated periods in industry to acquire the necessary practical experience.

Each trainee will have assurance of a teaching position in a technical institution on completion of the training. He is also required to give an undertaking to serve as a teacher.

During the training period, graduates are paid fellowships of Rs. 350—25—400 and diploma holders fellowships of Rs. 200—20—240.

It is proposed to select in the first year of the scheme 75 graduates and 50 diploma holders for the training. The number will be increased gradually in subsequent years.

Revision of District Administration

*877. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any common pattern of district administration with a view to democratisation has been finalised;

(b) what steps, if any, have been taken by the State Governments in this direction; and

(c) whether this matter has been discussed in the Zonal Councils?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) and (b). The matter is one which is within the purview of the State Governments.

(c) No

Kidnapping of Children in Delhi

*878. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many children were kidnapped in Delhi during 1958 (upto the 31st August, 1958); and

(b) how many have so far been recovered out of these?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). Complaints involving the alleged kidnapping of 90 minors were lodged with the police during the period, of whom 79 were recovered. Thirty-four cases involving 35 minors were cancelled as reports in them were found to be without substance; twenty-one cases are still under investigation.

Use of Non-metric System in Durgapur Steel Plant

*879. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state the reasons for not adopting the metric system of measure at Durgapur Steel Plant as has been done in the case of Rourkela and Bhilai?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): The drawings for construction of the Durgapur Steel Plant are on the Foot Pound second units of measurement. But production, which is really what is important, will be on the New Indian Metric Standards in all the three plants.

In Durgapur, the construction is entrusted to a consortium of British firms. As these have been working primarily on the FPS system, it was feared that construction of the plant would be delayed if it was insisted that the designs and working drawings be expressed in metric units. There was no particular advantage in insisting that the metric system of measurement be used during construction.

नेपाल को सहायता

*८८०. श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या वित्त मंत्री निम्न जानकारी देने वाला विवरण सभा-पटल पर रखने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) १ अप्रैल, १९५७ से ३१ मार्च, १९५८ तक की अवधि में कोलम्बो योजना के

अन्तर्गत भारत सरकार ने नेपाल की सरकार को कितनी सहायता दी ; और

(ख) सहायता की रकम किन-किन कामों पर खर्च की गई ?

वित्त उपमंत्री (श्री ड० रा० दात) :

(क) १९५७-५८ के वित्तीय वर्ष के खाते अभी बन्द नहीं हुये हैं। १९५७-५८ में दी गयी सहायता पर लगभग ८५,००,००० रुपये खर्च हुये।

(ख) सिचाई और जल पूर्ति की छोटी-छोटी योजनाएँ

भू-सर्वेक्षण, सड़को का निर्माण और रखरखाव

हवाई और त्रिकोणमापन सर्वेक्षण और नक्शे तैयार करना

हवाई अड्डे का सुधार

त्रिशूली पनबिजली प्रायोजना के संबंध में सर्वेक्षण और प्रारम्भिक जाच-पड़ताल

रक्सौल से अमलेख गज तक नैरोगेज (सकरी लाइन) रेलवे को मीटर गेज (छोटी लाइन) में बदलने और उसे हितौरा तक बढ़ाने के लिये इंजीनियरी और यातायात संबंधी सर्वेक्षण

भू-गर्भ-सर्वेक्षण

ग्राम विकास

इंजीनियरी, शिक्षा, डाक और तार, विधि और संसद संबंधी विषयों, वित्त और लेखापालन आदि क्षेत्रों के विशेषज्ञों की सेवाएँ

नेपाल सरकार द्वारा नामजद व्यक्तियों के लिये प्रशिक्षण स्थानों की व्यवस्था।

Voluntary Organisations

*881. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the details of the scheme to afford financial assistance to voluntary organisations, and

(b) the nature and fields of the organisation to be helped under this scheme?

The Minister of Education (Dr K. L. Shrimall): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Education have a scheme for financial assistance to Voluntary Educational Organizations for strengthening and developing their existing services, and for introducing new services for which there is a clear need. Details of the scheme are given in this Ministry's pamphlet entitled "Assistance to Voluntary Educational Organizations under the Second Five Year Plan", copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

Employment Organisation for the Handicapped

*882. **Shri Vajpayee:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether a final decision has since been taken on the proposal to establish an Employment Organisation for the handicapped?

The Minister of Education (Dr K. L. Shrimall): No, Sir.

Gandhi Bhawans in Universities

*883. **Shri Shivananjappa:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission proposes to establish Gandhi Bhawans in the different Universities, and

(b) if so, when a beginning is likely to be made?

The Minister of Education (Dr K. L. Shrimall): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The scheme is under discussion with Universities

Dogri Folk Songs and Paintings

*884. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state whether Government have made any attempt to collect, preserve and popularise Dogri folk songs and paintings of the Kangra and Kulu Hills?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (i) The Government have acquired about 3000 Pahari Drawings and Paintings for the National Museum and the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi and the Lalit Kala Akademi has published a brochure entitled "Krishna Legend" based on some Pahari paintings.

(ii) The Sangeet Natak Akademi has made some collection of Dogri Folk Songs

(iii) These institutions are preserving and popularising paintings and folk songs through their publication programmes and/or by displaying

ड्रैक्टर

*८८५. श्री मोहन स्वरूप क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि .

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में ड्रैक्टर बनाने की योजना प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय द्वारा शीघ्र ही कार्यान्वित की जायेगी, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है ?

प्रतिरक्षा उपमंत्री (श्री रघुरामैया) :

(क) प्रतिरक्षा सेवाओं की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिये ड्रैक्टर बनाने का विचार है लेकिन योजना को अभी अन्तिम रूप नहीं दिया गया ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Agricultural Engineering Courses

*886. Shri Subodh Hansda: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for under graduate courses in Agricultural Engineering in Technological Institutes; and

(b) what is the minimum standard of education required for studying such courses?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). 1. Agricultural Engineering is one of the subjects generally included in Bachelor's Degree Courses in Agriculture.

2. Separate Bachelor's Degree Courses in Agricultural Engineering are available at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur and Agricultural Institute, Allahabad. The Admission qualification for the course at the Kharagpur Institute is Intermediate in Science (with Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics) and for the course at Allahabad Institute, it is Intermediate in Agriculture or equivalent.

The Kharagpur Institute also offers postgraduate courses for Master's Degree in Agricultural Engineering. The subjects for specialisation are (i) Soil & Water Conservation; (ii) Farm Power Machinery.

3. The question of further expansion of facilities for training in Agricultural Engineering is under the consideration of the All India Council for Technical Education.

National Cadet Corps

*887. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for training and expansion of the National Cadet Corps for 1958-59 has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement of the training syllabi is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 4.]

As regards the expansion of the N.C.C. it was decided with the approval of the Planning Commission to expand it by 30,000 cadets every year during the Second Five Year Plan. Due to financial stringency the State Governments have not been able to contribute their share of expenditure for expansion at this rate. The expansion which has actually been achieved during the Second Five Year Plan is about 20,000 per year. All demands of the State Governments for NCC units have been accepted in full.

Sales Tax in Union Territories

*888. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) in which of the centrally administered areas sales tax has not been levied; and

(b) what precautions have been taken to ensure that these areas are not utilised for purposes of tax-evasion?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Sales tax is not levied at present in the Union Territories of Himachal Pradesh, Tripura, Andamans and Nicobar Islands, and the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands.

(b) The East Punjab General Sales Tax Act, 1948, has now been extended to Himachal Pradesh and sales tax at the rate of 7 per cent. will be levied on 15 special goods in this Union Territory with effect from 1st October, 1958. As regards Tirpura, having regard to its peculiar geographical location, there is no problem of evasion of sales tax in this Territory. The same holds true about Andamans

and Nicobar Islands and Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands which are surrounded by sea.

UNESCO's Major Project on the Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values

*889. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the decisions taken at a meeting of the Advisory Committee on the UNESCO'S Major Project on the Mutual Appreciation of Eastern-Western Cultural Values; and

(b) the steps taken to implement the decisions taken thereat?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) The Advisory Committee on the UNESCO Major Project on the Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values, at its meeting held at Paris from 17th to 27th February, 1958, approved the draft Work Plans on the Major Project for 1959-60, prepared by the UNESCO Secretariat, and also made general recommendations on the basic thinking underlying the Major Project and ways and means of implementing it.

(b) The implementation of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee is largely the responsibility of UNESCO. Such action as is required to be taken by the Government of India in the matter will be considered by the Indian National Commission as and when the specific proposals are received from UNESCO.

Tax Evasion

*890. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the effects of the new tax measures on the evasion of income-tax, super-tax etc.; and

(b) if so, what are their findings?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

District Gazetteers

*891. { **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Hem Raj:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the conference of the State Editors for the revision of District Gazetteers, was held in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the main decisions and recommendations of this conference; and

(c) which of them have been accepted by Government?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes Sir, on the 6th and 7th June, 1958.

(b) The following main decisions were taken:—

(i) Acceptance of the plan of the District Gazetteers as drawn up by the Central Unit with a few modifications.

(ii) Agreement was reached in regard to the questions connected with title, printing, format etc. in the preparation of District Gazetteers with a view to evolving a uniform pattern in the publications.

The major recommendations were:—

(i) In view of the difficulties involved in finding good paper for printing the District Gazetteers, it was recommended that the Government of India should arrange for the supply of paper.

(ii) The State Editors expressed the view that the allocation

of Rs. 20 lakhs by the Centre for the preparation of the District Gazetteers was very inadequate, and it was essential that the Government of India should contribute larger sums for the purpose. Also that the present mode of allocating the sum amongst the States, namely, Rs. 6,211 per District or 40 per cent of the actual expenditure, which ever is less, was not proper and it was urged that a more equitable scheme of distribution should be evolved.

(iii) The State Editors should meet at least once a year at different centres to discuss common problems.

(c) The decisions of the conference on the planning of and other technical matters in connection with the District Gazetteers have been accepted by the Government of India, while other recommendations of the conference are under consideration of the Central Government.

Fund for Natural Calamities

*892. { Shri Hem Raj:
Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri Panigrahi:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1663 on the 15th April, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the required information for the establishment of funds for Natural Calamities has been received from the remaining States; and

(b) if not, the steps taken by Government to expedite it?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) The Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bombay, Mysore and Orissa have since agreed to establish the Funds for natural calamities. No final decision has been communicated by the Governments of Uttar Pradesh,

West Bengal, Bihar and Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) The State Governments concerned have been requested to expedite a decision. All State Governments have been informed that Central assistance for natural calamities will be calculated only in respect of such expenditure as is in excess of the amounts which the State Governments have been advised to set apart each year.

National Conference on Reading

*893. Shri Bibhuti Mishra: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state how far the recommendations of the National Conference on Reading held during May, 1958 are going to be implemented?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): The recommendations of the National Conference on Reading are to be accepted by the Central Government, State Governments, University Grants Commission and Universities in their respective spheres.

So far as the Central Government is concerned, it has already made a grant for the continuation and extension of the Reading Project in Delhi and has agreed to make grants to the State Governments for starting similar projects. The Central Government will also convene annual conferences on Reading to review the progress made and to recommend what steps should be taken to promote further the reading movement in the country. The implementation of other recommendations which concern the Central Government are under examination.

So far as the State Governments, University Grants Commission and Universities are concerned, it is too early to state the extent to which the relevant recommendations will be implemented by these agencies as they will require some time to consider the report.

University Grants Commission

1387. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the amounts sanctioned by University Grants Commission to various Universities in the country during 1958-59 so far?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 5.]

Libraries in Bombay

1388. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount has been allocated for extension of libraries in Bombay during 1958-59; and

(b) if so, the number and names of places where libraries are to be opened during this period?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the Bombay Government and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is received

Libraries for Children and Women in Bombay

1389. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Social Welfare Board have sanctioned any grant to voluntary social welfare organisations for the libraries for children and women in Bombay; and

(b) if so, how much has been allotted for this purpose in 1958-59?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1958-59 so far Rs. 19,325 have been sanctioned by the Central Social Welfare Board to 55 institutions in Bombay State for this purpose.

Primary and Basic Education, Bombay

1390. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the amount of grants allocated to the Government of Bombay for primary and basic education schemes during 1958-59 so far?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): According to the new procedure introduced this year regarding payment of Central assistance to State Governments for the implementation of Development Programmes under the 2nd Five Year Plan, separate sanctions for individual schemes are not being issued. Instead, Lump sum "ways and means advances" to the extent of 3/4 of the admissible Central assistance for all sectors of development are being released in regular monthly instalments beginning in May, 1958

The amount of Central grants that will be admissible to any State Government for any category of Schemes will be calculated during the 4th quarter of the year on the basis of the actual progress achieved by them during the first three quarters and estimates for the 4th quarter and scheme-wise sanction of Central grants will be issued accordingly at that time.

Coal Production

**1391. { Shri Damani:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:**

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coal Council of India has advised Government to fix 100 million tons as coal production target for the Third Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether the Council has suggested detailed breakup of the tentative targets of 100 million tons of coal;

(c) if so, the nature thereof; and

(d) whether Government have considered the matter and have taken any decision?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, tentatively, but this target is only for purposes of such preparatory planning as may have to be initiated even now.

(b) to (d). It is too early to indicate any thing definite with regard to these matters.

Elections

1392 { **Shri Hem Raj:**
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether the elections to the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies are held simultaneously under any provision of law or they are held simultaneously as a matter of convenience by the Election Commission;

(b) whether it is a fact that in the Second General Elections the elections in the hill snow bound areas were held separately after the results of almost all the constituencies were declared and that the candidates of the snow bound areas were debarred from taking part in the election of the President and the Vice-President; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to hold simultaneous elections in all the constituencies?

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): (a) The general elections to the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies are held simultaneously not under any provisions of law, but in the interests of economy and administrative convenience, and also because the five-year terms of the Lok Sabha and the various State Assemblies come to an end at about the same time.

(b) General elections in three Parliamentary constituencies in Himachal Pradesh and one Parliamentary constituency and one Assembly constituency in Punjab could not be held at the same time as in the rest of the country as parts of these constituencies were then snow-bound. The

representatives of these constituencies could not, therefore, participate in the election of the President; the election of the Vice-President was uncontested.

(c) Considering the extremely small number of constituencies in which the general election could not, for unavoidable reasons, be held simultaneously with the rest of India, the Government do not think it necessary or practicable to take any special steps in the matter.

Reservation of posts for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

1393. **Shri Siddiah:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 2868 on the 28th April, 1958 regarding reservation of posts for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and state whether the information has been collected and will be laid on the Table?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): A statement containing the information so far received is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix IV, annexure No 6] The remaining information will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as available

Educated Unemployment

1394. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of grants given to the Government of Bombay during 1957-58 for relieving educated unemployment; and

(b) the total number of persons employed during 1957-58 in that State under the above scheme?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Central grants totalling Rs. 28,03,410 were sanctioned.

(b) No appointment under this scheme was made in 1957-58. The last

year during which appointments were made under this scheme was 1955-56. In terms of the Scheme, Central assistance at the rate of 25 per cent of the expenditure involved in continuing the services of the persons appointed in 1955-56 was payable to the State Governments in 1957-58 and this is why Central grants were sanctioned even though no appointments were made during that year.

Educational Institutions of Bombay

1395. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the private educational institutions of Bombay which applied for non-recurring grants to the Central Government since January, 1955 to December, 1957;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned to each institution;

(c) whether some such cases are still pending disposal; and

(d) if so, by what date the pending cases will be disposed of?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 7.]

Secondary Education in Rajasthan

1396. **Shri Onkar Lal:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes that have been submitted by the Rajasthan Government regarding reorganization of Secondary Education during 1958-59;

(b) whether any of these schemes has been sanctioned; and

(c) if so, what amount has been given or is proposed to be given to Rajasthan for this purpose?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Twenty-four.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Rs. 24,537 lakhs is proposed to be given.

Vigyan Mandirs in Andhra Pradesh

1397. **Shri M. V. Krishna Rao:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state the places where Vigyan Mandirs are to be established during 1958-59 in the Andhra Pradesh?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): The location of the Vigyan Mandirs will be decided in consultation with the State Government.

Secondary Education in Andhra

1398. **Shri M. V. Krishna Rao:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of schemes of the Andhra Pradesh Government regarding re-organisation of Secondary Education during 1958-59, which have been sanctioned; and

(b) the total amount proposed to be given to the Andhra Pradesh Government in this regard?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) 1. 12 High Schools and 128 additional Sections opened during 1956-57.

2. Grant-in-aid to higher forms and additional sections opened in Oriental High schools during 1957-58.

3. Extra cost of upgrading 25 High schools into Higher Secondary and Multi-purpose schools during 1957-58 and revision of salaries of teachers of Higher forms.

4. Grant-in-aid to New Forms permitted to be opened in Aided Secondary schools during 1957-58.

5. Grant-in-aid to New High Schools and new forms and additional sections opened in Local Board High Schools during 1957-58.

8. Buildings and Playgrounds and equipment to Government Local Board, and aided Schools converted into Higher Secondary or Multi-purpose Schools during 1957-58.

7. Maintenance of Government Training College, Nellore.

8. Reorganisation of staff in Government Training College.

9. Buildings and Playgrounds to St. Joseph's Training College, Guntur.

10. Buildings for Government Training College, Nellore.

11. Buildings for Government Training College, Rajahmundry.

12. State Educational and Vocational Guidance Bureau.

13. 4 additional District Educational Officers programmes for 1957-58.

14. Creation of the office of the Divisional Inspector of Schools, Guntur.

15. Establishment of 2 additional sections in the office of the Commissioner for Government Examinations.

16. Appointment of 10 additional School Assistants in Government Secondary Schools.

17. Building grant for B. H. Hindu Girls High School, Guntur.

18. Building grant to R. V. S. and C. V. S. High School, Chilakalapudi.

19. Construction of building and supply of equipment to Higher Secondary and multi-purpose schools.

20. Buildings for Government High School, Visakhapatnam.

21. Conduct of 2 Graduate re-training Courses in Basic Education.

22. Conduct of Citizenship Training courses.

23. Conversion of Part-time B. Ed. course in M. R. College, Vizianagram, into a full fledged B. Ed. College.

24. Appointment of an additional clerk and Secondary Grade Teacher in the Government Training College, Kurnool.

25. Creation of the office of the 3rd Inspectress of Girls' Schools.

26. Grant-in-aid to schools opened during 1956-57 and 1957-58.

27. Appointment of 29 additional teachers in schools in which Higher Secondary classes programmed to be opened during 1956-57.

28. Appointment of 29 additional teachers in which Higher Secondary classes were programmed to be opened during 1957-58.

29. Conversion of high schools, Mahboobabad and Suryapet into Multi-purpose schools.

30. Conversion of Agarwal High School into Multi-purpose school.

31. Improvement of Core subjects in 46 High Schools.

32. Improvement of Libraries in 46 High Schools.

33. Re-organisation of B. Ed. College, Warrangal.

34. Revival of certain courses in multi-purpose schools and revision of salaries.

35. Appointment of additional staff in Government Higher Secondary Schools.

36. Supply of furniture and equipment for new classes in Higher Secondary Schools.

37. Opening of Higher Secondary Schools in 3 Government Middle-cum-High Schools.

38. Teaching grant to new Secondary schools and classes opened during 1958-59.

39. Conversion of high schools into multi-purpose schools.

40. Improvement of teaching in Core-subjects.

41. Construction of Buildings for 17 High Schools.

42. Organisation of seminars and etc.

43. Creation of 2 offices of Inspectresses of Girls schools. .

44. Creation of an additional office of the regional Deputy Director of Public Instruction.

45. Provision of Jeeps to District Educational Officers.

(b) Rs. 17.76 lakhs is proposed to be given.

University Grants Commission

1399. Shri M. V. Krishna Rao: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the amounts to be allotted to the various universities in Andhra Pradesh by the University Grants Commission during 1958-59?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): A sum of Rs. 33,97,003 is likely to be allotted to Universities

of Andhra, Osmania and Sri Venkateswara in Andhra Pradesh during 1958-59.

Welfare Schemes for Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes

1400. Shri M. V. Krishna Rao: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of grant-in-aid allocated to the Andhra Pradesh for the welfare schemes for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes for 1958-59; and

(b) whether any intensive Multi-purpose Project is being started during the same period?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva):

State Sector

Allocation made during 1958-59 Central share of expenditure

	Lakhs	Lakhs
Scheduled Tribes	42.62	21.31
Scheduled Castes	25.89	12.94
Ex-Criminal Tribes	3.16	1.58
Other Backward Classes	4.33	2.17
TOTAL	76.00	38.00

Central Sector

Scheduled Tribes	19.33	19.33
Scheduled Castes	9.44	9.44
Ex-Criminal Tribes	1.66	1.66
TOTAL	30.43	30.43

(b) No, Sir.

The four multi-purpose projects started earlier will be continued during this year also.

भिलाई इस्पात परियोजना नगर में मकानों का निर्माण

१४०१. श्रीमती मिनीमाता : क्या इस्पात, खान और ईंधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि .

(क) भिलाई इस्पात परियोजना क्षेत्र में अब तक श्रमिकों तथा अन्य कर्मचारियों के लिये कितने मकान बनाये गये हैं और १९५८-५९ में कितने बनाये जायेंगे;

(ख) इनमें से कितने मकान श्रमिकों के लिये बनवाये गये हैं ;

(ग) क्या श्रमिकों की बस्ती में पानी की सप्लाई का समुचित प्रबन्ध है, और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो सरकार का इस कठिनाई को दूर करने के लिये कौन सी योजना कार्यान्वित करने का इरादा है ?

इस्पात, खान और ईंधन मंत्री (सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह) : (क) और (ख).

स्थायी मकान

१६७० स्थायी मकान बनकर तैयार हो चुके हैं और २०४४ निर्माण की विभिन्न अवस्थाओं में हैं।

अस्थायी मकान

४८५० अस्थायी मकान। श्रमिक शोपड़ियों के निर्माण की स्वीकृति है जिनमें से १९१० अस्थायी मकान तथा १०० श्रमिक शोपड़ियाँ बनकर तैयार हो गयी हैं। १८४० अस्थायी मकान तथा १००० श्रमिक शोपड़ियों के निर्माण का आर्डर दिया जा रहा है। निर्मित हो रहे हैं।

(ग) जी हाँ।

(घ) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Lands belonging to Defence Ministry in Rajasthan

1402. Shri Onkar Lal: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage of land belonging to the Defence Ministry in Rajasthan;

(b) the acreage of land which has been leased out to the public; and

(c) the purpose for which the remaining land will be used?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) 12,825 acres approximately

(b) 586 acres approximately.

(c) Mainly for Defence and Cantonment purposes. Whenever small cultivable areas become temporarily surplus they will be cultivated by Regiments/Units/Military Farms to the extent possible, and where this is not possible, they will be leased out to agriculturists/Co-operative Societies in accordance with certain priorities laid down by Government.

Mica Deposits in Rajasthan

1403. Shri Onkar Lal: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mica deposits have been found in Rajasthan recently; and

(b) if so, the estimated quantity of the substance?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Mica occurs in such a form that it is not possible to make a reliable estimate of the reserves. The reserves have therefore not been estimated. The amount of mica actually produced in 1955 and 1956 was 121,347 cwts. and 152,887 cwts.

Prize Bond Scheme

1404. { Shri V. C. Shukla:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether having regard to the potentialities of the savings movement, Government are considering a proposal to institute a scheme of prize bonds; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the stage at which it rests?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): (a) and (b). Government have at present no proposal for the issue of prize bonds.

Ex-I.N.A. Personnel

1405. **Shri Abdul Salam:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the number of ex-I.N.A. personnel who have been selected in the I.A.S and I.F.S. so far?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): No separate record has been maintained for ex-I.N.A. personnel appointed to the I.A.S. As far as it can be ascertained from the available records, no ex-I.N.A. person has so far been appointed to the I.A.S. by direct recruitment.

Four ex-I.N.A. officers have been appointed to the I.F.S. Four are holding the posts of Ambassadors and one who held the post of Ambassador has retired.

जेल पराधिकारी प्रशिक्षण संस्थाएं

१४०६. श्री श्रीनारायण दास : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या लखनऊ के जेल प्रशिक्षण स्कूल और टाटा इंस्टीट्यूट आफ सोशल साइन्सेज, बम्बई को केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उचित मान्यता दे दी है और क्या उसके परिणाम-

स्वरूप इन दोनों संस्थाओं ने केन्द्रीय सरकार की संस्थाओं के रूप में काम करना शुरू कर दिया है ; और

(ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा उनको कितनी वित्तीय सहायता दी जा रही है ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार) : (क) भारत सरकार ने राज्य सरकारों से सिफारिश की है कि वे अपने जेल अधिकारियों को इन दोनों संस्थाओं में ट्रेनिंग के लिये भेजें। लखनऊ के जेल ट्रेनिंग स्कूल का खर्च उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार देनी है और टाटा इंस्टीट्यूट आफ सोशल साइन्सेज का खर्च एक प्राइवेट ट्रस्ट करता है।

(ख) जेल अधिकारियों की ट्रेनिंग के लिये डाक्टर डब्ल्यू. सी. ग्रेकलेम ने १९५३-५४ में जिम कोर्स का संचालन किया था उसके लिये गृह मंत्रालय ने टाटा इंस्टीट्यूट को ४,७७० रुपये का अनुदान दिया था। १९५६-५७ में शिक्षा मंत्रालय भी इस इंस्टीट्यूट को एक लाख रुपये का वार्षिक अनुदान दे रहा है (उमसे पहले वह ८५,००० रुपये का वार्षिक अनुदान देता था)।

Temples of National Importance in Punjab

1407. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state the steps that are being taken by Government for preservation and maintenance of temples declared to be of national importance in Punjab?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): All such temples are reported to be in sound condition and do not require any special repairs. The annual repairs are being carried out regularly and the Conservation Assistant and the Circle Superintendent of the area have a programme of visit to such temples.

Durgapur Steel Plant

1408. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) in view of the fact that the Durgapur Steel Works agreement is a 'package' deal what control is exercised over the quality of equipment and who exercises it;

(b) whether the consultants are independent of the suppliers of the equipment; and

(c) if not, how proper quality is ensured?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The consulting engineers to the Durgapur Steel Works inspect and certify the quality of the plant and equipment for the Works.

(b) Yes, Sir. Although they are agents for certain types of equipment in the United Kingdom, they have no

interest in the supplies to the Durgapur Steel Works.

(c) Does not arise.

Army Remount Depot, Saharanpur

1409. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers working in the Army Remount Depot at Saharanpur at present;

(b) the rate of wages paid to them;

(c) whether the labourers are subject to any conditions and terms of service; and

(d) whether Government has received any representation from the Workers' Union about the working conditions in the Depot?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) 724

(b) Rates of wages are shown below categoriwise:—

Category	Number	Basic Pay	Dearness Allowance	Interim Relief
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Jamadars</i>				
Casual	Nil	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Regular	39	35—1—50	40	5
<i>Syces</i>				
Casual	29	30 (fixed)	40	5
Regular	248	30—1/2—35	40	5
<i>Beldars</i>				
Casual	225	30 (fixed)	40	5
Regular	Nil
<i>Plough-man</i>				
Casual	Nil
Regular	81	30—1/2—35	40	5
<i>Swain r</i>				
Casual	Nil
Regular	43	30—1/2—35	40	5
<i>Roy Syces</i>				
Casual	59	15 (fixed)	20	2.50

(c) yes.

(d) yes.

Scheduled Castes in Punjab

1410. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to page 6 (Para 18) of the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1956-57 and state:

(a) whether the State Government of Punjab has since constituted Advisory Committees for Scheduled Castes; and

(b) if not, when such a committee is likely to be constituted?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) Not yet.

(b) Reply of the State Government on this point is awaited and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as received.

Library of the Department of Archæology

1411. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1737 on the 18th April, 1958 and state the final decision taken with regard to the housing of Library of the Department of Archæology in New Delhi even after the Department of Archæology is shifted from New Delhi?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): It has been decided that the Library of the Department of Archæology will remain in New Delhi.

Rourkela Township

1412. Shri Supakar: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the total area covering the township of Rourkela Steel Plant; and

(b) how does it compare with the townships of Bhilai and Durgapur?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The sanctioned estimate for the Township

of the Rourkela Steel Plant provides for 14,800 acres of land.

(b) This compares with 13,773 acres for Bhilai and 10,539 acres for Durgapur.

Women's and Children's Institutions (Licensing) Act, 1956

1413. Shri Damani: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) which of the State Governments have enforced the Women's and Children's Institutions (Licensing) Act, 1956 so far; and

(b) why the rest of the State Governments have not enforced the Act yet?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Nil.

(b) Rules under the Act are being framed and as such the Act has not yet been enforced in any State.

Smuggling of Watches

1414. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the value of smuggled watches confiscated by Government during 1958 so far; and

(b) the steps taken to minimise watch smuggling?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Rs. 2,58,871 during the first six months of the year 1958.

(b) Various legislative and executive measures have been adopted from time to time to combat smuggling of watches as well as other contraband articles. These include (i) the enhancement of the powers of investigation of customs officers engaged in anti-smuggling work, (ii) delegation of certain customs powers to border police forces, (iii) systematic rummaging of suspected vessels and aircraft, (iv) regular as well as surprise patrolling of vulnerable sections of the coast line and land borders, (v) closer

follow-up of information, etc. In addition to heavy penalties imposed under the Sea Customs Act, which includes the confiscation of the contraband, prosecutions are also launched in deserving cases so as to render the punishment really deterrent. A Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has also been functioning at the Centre since 1957 to consolidate more effectively the anti-smuggling activities of the various field organisations.

Scheduled Castes and Tribes List

1415. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) which of the State Governments and Union Territories have forwarded their proposals, regarding the revision of list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes uptil now;

(b) whether their proposals have been examined; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) The following State Governments/Union Territories have sent their proposals:—

Andhra
Assam
Bihar
Bombay
Madras
Orissa
Punjab
West Bengal
Himachal Pradesh
Delhi
L.M.A. Islands
Manipur

(b) They are under examination.

(c) Does not arise.

घाय-कर

१४१६. श्री डामर : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश के झाबुआ जिले में कितने व्यक्ति घाय-कर देते हैं ?

राजस्व तथा असेनिका व्यव मंत्री (डा० बी० गोपाल रेड्डी) : मध्य प्रदेश के झाबुआ जिले के ३०४ व्यक्तियों के नाम १ अप्रैल, १९५८ को आयकर-निर्धारण के रजिस्टर में दर्ज थे ।

Hospitals in Defence Establishments

1417. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether hospitals are being provided in Ordnance Depots and other Defence Establishments (excluding Ordnance Factories)?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): Dispensaries and not Hospitals are established in Ordnance Depots, EME Workshops, Inspectorates and Training Establishments. So far as Military Hospitals are concerned, these are not provided specifically for any particular installations; but they function on station basis i.e. they are available for use by the entitled personnel of all the units (excluding Ordnance Factories) located in the particular stations.

"Smuggling"

1418. { Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Kodiyar:
Shri Ram Krishan:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Ram Garib:
Shri Pangarkar:
Shri Daljit Singh:
Shri Sadhu Ram:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of smugglers arrested during 1958-59 so far, month-wise:

(i) on the East and West Indo-Pakistan border;

- (li) on the East Punjab border,
 (lii) on the sea ports of India,
 (iv) in each State;
 (b) the number of smugglers convicted (nationality-wise); and
 (c) the total value with break-up of goods seized particularly gold from smugglers during the same period?

The Minister for Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): (a) to (c). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 8.]

Training of Community Development Officers

1419. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the training of officers deputed by the Ministry of Community Development for short term courses at the National Laboratories or Institutes has since been started; and
 (b) if not, when it is expected to commence?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

School Buildings in Delhi

**1420. { Sardar Iqbal Singh:
 { Shri Ram Krishan:**

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of new school buildings constructed in Delhi during the year 1957-58;
 (b) the number of school buildings renovated during the same period;
 (c) the number of such buildings constructed by the people with the help of Government and also those without the help of Government; and

- (d) the number of school buildings to be constructed during 1958-59?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) 28.

- (b) Nil.

(c) (i) With the help of the Government—25.

(ii) Without the help of the Government—Nil

(d) 53 of which 27 are already under construction.

Income-Tax Assesseees in Punjab

1421. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of assesseees in Punjab from whom income-tax could not be realised during 1956-57 and 1957-58 (Distt-wise); and

(b) the amount of income-tax arrears District-wise, as at present?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B Gopala Reddi): (a) A statement giving the position is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 9.]

(b) The information is not readily available.

Zonal Councils

1422. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Starred Question No. 391 on the 21st February, 1958, and state:

(a) whether information regarding the implementation of the decisions of the Zonal Councils has since been obtained; and

(b) if so, whether a statement will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) Yes. Information regarding the implementation of the decisions of the Zonal Councils under reference has been collected and is being scrutinised.

(b) Yes. A statement will be laid on the Table of the House shortly.

Building for Delhi Corporation**"Pakistani Smugglers"**

1423. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Vajpayee:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received any request from the Delhi Municipal Corporation for assistance for the construction of new building for the Corporation in the Ajmere Gate Extension Area; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) and (b). No request for financial assistance has been received by Government. The Delhi Municipal Corporation has, however, approached the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply for the allotment of a suitable site for their new office building.

Ex-Servicemen in Punjab

1424. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-servicemen from Punjab who were given employment in that State in Government/Private Service during 1957 and 1958 so far;

(b) the number of them belonging to Scheduled Castes; and

(c) the number of them belonging to Hoshiarpur and Kangra, district-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) During the period January, 1957 to June, 1958, 3352 ex-Service personnel were placed in employment through the Employment Exchanges in the Punjab State.

(b) and (c). The information is not available.

1425. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state how many times fire was opened and exchanged between Pakistani smugglers and Indian border police or military personnel since the 16th April, 1958?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi)

1. Fire opened by Border Police on smugglers	4
2. Fire opened from Pakistan side (identity of persons unknown)	3
3. Fire opened and exchanged between the Pakistani smugglers and Indian Police	4

N.B.—Military personnel were not involved in any of these incidents.

PEPSU State Excise Department

1426. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Class I to Class IV employees taken over from the PEPSU State Excise Department to the Central Excise Department at the time of integration (class-wise); and

(b) the number of such employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes among them?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi):

(a) No employee was taken over in the Central Excise Department from the PEPSU State Excise Department at the time of integration.

(b) Does not arise.

Tours of Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

1427. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many times the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes visited Punjab during 1958-59 so far; and

(b) the places visited by him in the State?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) Only once.

(b) Pathankot.

State Bank of India

1428. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 175 on the 13th February, 1958 and state the number of branches, pay and sub-offices of the State Bank of India since opened in the Punjab State upto the 30th June, 1958?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): During the period from the 13th February to the 30th June, 1958, the State Bank of India have opened 4 branches and 1 sub-office (pay office) at the following places in the Punjab State:

<i>Branches</i>	<i>Sub-Offices (Pay offices)</i>
-----------------	--------------------------------------

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Fazilka | 1. Nangal (Township). |
| 2. Phillaur | |
| 3. Nawanshahr (Doaba) | |
| 4. Panipat* | |

*Previously a sub-office.

Tripura Students

1429. Shri Bangshi Thakur: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that for want of accommodation in Calcutta, the students who go to Calcutta from Tripura for higher studies, have been suffering unsurmountable difficulties for a long time; and

(b) if so, what necessary steps Government propose to take in this regard?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Calcutta University was requested to reserve some seats for students from Tripura in its Hostels. The University has agreed to keep some seats reserved for them in the post-graduate hall at Hazara Road which is expected to start functioning from December, 1958.

Recruitment of Technical Personnel

1430. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 990 on the 20th August, 1957 and state:

(a) whether Government have advised the State Governments to adopt the new procedure for the recruitment of technical personnel and especially for those technologists who are studying and working abroad; and

(b) if so, reactions of the State Governments?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) Yes.

(b) The State Governments are generally in favour of adoption of the new procedure.

Retirement Age of Officers

1431. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to raise the retirement age of the Military Officers;

(b) the main features of this proposal; and

(c) whether this proposal has been implemented?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) and (b). No, Sir, but certain proposals relating to the career prospects of Military Officers are under consideration, which, if accepted, may result in the raising of the retirement age of Military Officers in a few categories.

(c) Does not arise.

Corruption among Officers

1432. **Shri Tangaman:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers in the Central Government against whom action was taken by the Special Police Establishment for bribery, misappropriation etc. during 1958-59 so far;

(b) the Ministry to which these officers were attached; and

(c) the nature of punishment given to each of them?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) to (c). A statement containing the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 10.]

भू-राजस्व बन्दोबस्त कार्य

१४३३ श्री पद्म बेस क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) चम्बा (हिमाचल प्रदेश) में भू-राजस्व बन्दोबस्त कार्य के समाप्त हो जाने पर विभिन्न श्रेणियों के कितने कर्मचारी सेवामुक्त हो जायेंगे; और

(ख) सरकार ने उनको रोजगार देने के लिये यदि कोई योजना बनाई है तो वह क्या है?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार) : (क) एक विवरण सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है। [बेसिये परिशिष्ट ४, अनुबन्ध संख्या ११]

(ख) चम्बा जिले में चल रहे बन्दोबस्त के काम के समाप्त हो जाने पर वहाँ के कर्मचारियों को मंडी जिले में शुरू किये जाने वाले बन्दोबस्त के काम पर लगाने की आशा

Development of Drama

1434. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistance is given for the development and promotion of Drama; and

(b) if so, to what extent assistance has been given during the Second Five Year Plan period?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A sum of Rs. 1,77,449 has been spent so far for the purpose.

सद्य लोक सेवा अयोग का रिपोर्ट

१४३५. श्री क० भे० मालवीय : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सद्य लोक सेवा आयोग की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट केवल अंग्रेजी में ही प्रकाशित होती है, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो उसे हिन्दी में भी प्रकाशित कराने की व्यवस्था कब तक की जायेगी ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार) : (क) जी हा ।

(ख) इस मामले पर विचार किया जा रहा है । १

Supervisors of Ordnance Factories

1436. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2034 on the 6th May, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the scheme for providing facilities for further advanced studies to the supervisors employed in the Ordnance Factories has been examined and finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Baghuramaiah): (a) No, Sir, the scheme has not yet been finalised.

(b) Does not arise.

Oil Survey in Kapurthala

1437. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any prospects of finding oil in Kapurthala district of Punjab State;

(b) if so, the names of such places in that district; and

(c) whether drilling has started?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) These are in course of investigation.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No drilling has been started in any part of the Kapurthala District so far.

C. I. Sheets in Manipur

1438. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tribal people who were supplied with C.I. Sheets in Manipur in 1956-57 and 1957-58 under Tribal Housing Scheme;

(b) the principle under which the selection of the deserving persons was made; and

(c) the number of houses constructed with the C.I. Sheets during the above period?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) 2065 bundles of C.I. Sheets were issued to 207 tribal families to construct their houses on payment at the price obtaining at Imphal, the Government bearing the cost of transport from Imphal to the Centres at Ukhrul and Churachandpur.

(b) The allotment of C.I. Sheets was made on the recommendation of the Sub-Divisional Officers which were submitted after local verification of the needs and the ability of the individuals to purchase the C.I. Sheets under this scheme.

(c) 207 houses.

Canteen Stores Department

1439. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether recruitment to Canteen Stores Department is made through the Employment Exchanges;

(b) if not, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the number of employees recruited direct during 1957-58 and upto 31st July, 1958?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) No.

(b) The Canteen Stores Department does not recruit its employees through Employment Exchanges for the following reasons:—

(i) It is an autonomous organisation run on commercial lines;

(ii) The Department is an all India Organisation and recruits its staff through its own Selection Committee which usually meets at Delhi and Bombay.

(iii) Candidates recommended by the Employment Exchanges are in some cases averse to their posting/transfer outside their home towns and this creates administrative difficulties.

(c) 130 and 47, respectively.

Election Petitions

1440. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state the number of petitions relating to bye-elections held after the last General Elections which have been disposed of and those which are still pending before the Election Tribunals?

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): As on the 1st August, 1958 two election petitions arising out of bye-elections held after the Second General Elections had been disposed of and eight petitions were pending before the election tribunals.

सयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका का नेशनल वार कालेज

१४४१. श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के नेशनल वार कालेज के पदाधिकारी मई, १९५८ में भारत आये थे ,

(ख) यदि हा, तो उन्होंने किन किन को देखा और

(ग) उनके आने का क्या उद्देश्य था ?

प्रतिरक्षा उपमंत्री (सरदार मजीडिया):

(क) जी हा ।

(ख) दिल्ली और आगरा ।

(ग) कालेज के विद्यार्थियों को बाहर की जानकारी कराने के लिये, कालेज के कोर्स के रूप में, अमेरिका सरकार हर साल अपने देश से बाहर विद्यार्थियों की यात्रा का इन्तजाम करती है । यह भारत यात्रा इसी सिलसिले में थी । इस बारे में आप का ध्यान २६-५-५७ के तागकित प्रश्न मख्या ६०७ के भाग (ख) के उत्तर की ओर दिलाया जाता है ।

Union Territories Overseas Scholarships Scheme

1442. Shri A. K. Gopalan: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received for study abroad under the Governments' Union Territories Overseas Scholarships Scheme—1958-59;

(b) the number of applicants called for interview;

(c) whether final selection of candidates has been made; and

(d) if so, their qualifications and basis of their selection?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) 64.

(b) 21

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) (i) The Selections are made on the basis of merit by a specially constituted Selection Committee

(ii) A statement showing the qualifications of the selected candidates is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix IV, annexure No 12]

Expenditure Tax

1443. Shri Kunhan: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the extent of expenditure likely to be assessed during 1958-59 under the Expenditure Tax Act 1957?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): Government have as yet no information

मध्य प्रदेश के लिये स्वीकृत धन राशि

१४४४. श्री खाड़ोवाला क्या विल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत केन्द्रीय सरकार ने मध्य प्रदेश के लिये कुल कितनी धन राशि स्वीकृत की है ,

(ख) उस स्वीकृत धन राशि में से केन्द्रीय सरकार ने अब तक कितनी धन राशि दे दी है, और

(ग) अब तक कितनी धन राशि उपयोग न किये जाने के फलस्वरूप व्यपगत हो गई तथा उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

राज्य तथा क्षेत्रीय व्यय में।

(अ० बी० गोपाल रेड्डी) : (क) से (ग)।
स्वीकृत धन राशियाँ अदा की गयी धन राशियों से भिन्न नहीं हैं। धन की स्वीकृति सम्बन्ध केन्द्रीय मंत्रालयों द्वारा मूल्य प्रांकने के बाद दी जाती है और स्वीकृत धन की राशि योजना को क्रियान्वित करने की राज्य सरकार की क्षमता पर निर्भर होती है। केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा प्रतिवर्ष जो धन राशि बांटी जाती है, वह व्यय की प्रगति को देख कर ही दी जाती है इसलिये स्वीकृत धन राशि व्ययगत न होनी चाहिये। १९५६ के राज्य पुनर्गठन अधिनियम के अनुसार होने वाले परिवर्तनों के कारण उन क्षेत्रों के सम्बन्ध में, जिनको मिला कर मध्य प्रदेश बना है, केन्द्रीय सहायता के रूप में दी गयी विभिन्न धन राशियों के आंकड़े इस समय उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। उन्हें इकट्ठा किया जा रहा है और यथासमय सदन की मेज पर रख दिया जायगा।

Free and Compulsory Primary Education in Union Territories

1445. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan phased or otherwise, for introduction of free and compulsory primary education in the Union Territories; and

(b) if so, outline thereof?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) and (b). It is expected that by the end of the 3rd Five Year Plan, it will be possible to provide facilities of Free and Compulsory Primary Education for all children of the age group 6—11 years in the whole country including the Union Territories.

The Education survey started last year is nearing completion and steps are being taken to initiate the necessary measures for this purpose at the Central and State level.

Life Insurance Companies

1446. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the total amount of compensation so far paid to the various life insurance companies?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): Rs. 4,03,23,867.

Foreigners in Indian Service

1447. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the total number of non-Indian Officers in service of Government at present and the capacity in which each is serving?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Primary and Basic Education of Punjab

1448. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the amounts of grants allotted to the State of Punjab in 1958-59 so far for pre-primary, primary and Basic Education Schemes?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): According to the new procedure introduced this year regarding payment of Central assistance to State Governments for the implementation of Development Programmes under the 2nd Five Year Plan, separate sanctions for individual schemes are not being issued. Instead, lump sum "ways and means advances" to the extent of 3/4 of the admissible Central assistance for all sectors of development are being released in regular monthly instalments beginning in May, 1958.

The amount of Central grants that will be admissible to any State Government for any category of Schemes will be calculated during the 4th quarter of the year on the basis of the actual progress achieved by them during the first three quarters and estimates for the 4th quarter and scheme-

wise sanction of Central grants will be issued accordingly at that time.

Administrative Vigilance Division Report

1449. **Shri Siddiah:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 3676 on the 9th May, 1958 and state when a copy of the report of the Administrative Vigilance Division will be placed on the Table?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The Report of the Administrative Vigilance Division for the period ending 31st March, 1958 will, it is expected, be presented to Parliament during the current session.

Recovery of Outstanding Debts from Pakistan

1450. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the total amount of pre-partition and post-partition debts and outstandings due from Pakistan Government to the Government of India upto July, 1958 of electricity canal water supplied and of public debt?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): The requisite information is as under:

(a) Canal Water:

Undisputed	Rs. 27,81,631.
Disputed	Rs. 97,19,980.
Total:	Rs. 125,01,611.

(b) Electricity:

Rs. 1,89,115.69.

(c) **Public Debt:** Pakistan's Partition Debt to India has not yet been determined. Our estimate of this debt is that it will be of the order of Rs. 300 crores.

Grants for Punjab University

1451. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the amount of grants given to the Punjab University during 1958-59 so far?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrivastava): A sum of Rs. 25,21,550.00 has been paid to the Punjab University during 1958-59 (upto 8th August, 1958).

Punjab High Court

1452. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered at present in each of the Benches of the Punjab High Court; and

(b) the number of judges working at present on each of these Benches?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) Number of cases pending at the Circuit Bench at Delhi on the 31st July, 1958 was 2,612 and at the principal seat at Chandigarh 10,746.

(b) Number of judges sitting on the Circuit Bench at Delhi is 2 and the number at the principal seat at Chandigarh 13.

Opium

1453. **Shri Sadhu Ram:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the total quantity and value of opium seized since the beginning of 1958 by the Customs authorities?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): 3 Maunds 3 Seers and 11 Tolas of opium valued Rs. 49,255 (estimated).

अमरीकी विश्वविद्यालयों में भारतीय विद्यार्थी

१४५४. श्री सरजू पांडे : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि अमरीका के विभिन्न विश्वविद्यालयों में इस समय कितने भारतीय विद्यार्थी शिक्षा प्राप्त कर रहे हैं ?

शिक्ष. मंत्र. (डा० का० सा० श्रीवास्तव) : हाल ही की उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार, १-१-१९५८ को अमेरिका के विभिन्न विश्वविद्यालयों में १,९६४ भारतीय छात्र

कद रहे थे। प्रलग प्रलग विश्वविद्यालयों के ब्योरे का विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है। [द्वितीय परिशिष्ट ४, अनुसूच्य संख्या १३]

Prof. Kaldor's Report.

1455. Shri P. R. Patel: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount paid to Professor Nicholas Kaldor for his services when he visited India from January to March, 1956 at the invitation of the Indian Statistical Institute and submitted his Indian Tax Reform Report of a Survey (Popularly known as the Kaldor Report) to the Ministry of Finance of the Government of India; and

(b) expenses incurred by the Government in connection with this survey and report?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): (a) No salary was paid to Prof. Kaldor for his services. But his travel and living expenses for the period of his work in the Indian Statistical Institute were borne by the Institute.

(b) Rs. 6400 approximately as the cost of printing the Report.

मध्य प्रदेश में अनुसूचित जातियां

१४५७. श्रीमती मिनीमाता : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछड़े वर्गों के लिये भवन निर्माण योजना पर प्रथम पंचवर्षीय योजना में हुये तथा द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में होने वाले व्यय के आधार पर मध्य प्रदेश की अनुसूचित जातियों के लिये दी गई धन राशि का वितरण किस प्रकार हुआ है :

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश के प्रत्येक जिले को कितनी कितनी राशि दी गई है; और

(ग) इस राशि की सहायता से उपरोक्त जाति के कितने परिवारों की आवास की समस्या अब तक हल हो चुकी है ?

गृह-कार्य उपमंत्री: (श्रीमती मन्वा) :

(क) से (ग) . मांगी गई सूचना राज्य सरकार से मंगाई है और प्राप्त होते ही वह सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

Geological Survey of Kashmir

1458. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any reports of Geological Survey of Kashmir during 1957-58;

(b) if so, the main mineral resources indicated by Survey Report;

(c) the estimated quantity in mineral in each case;

(d) whether the survey work for the current year has been undertaken; and

(e) if so, the progress made so far?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No, Sir. Reports on mineral investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India during 1957-58 are under preparation and will be received after analytical, petrological and other necessary investigations on the samples collected, have been carried out.

(b) It is reported by the Geological Survey of India that they have discovered an important coal horizon as a result of drilling in the Jangalgali area in Jammu.

(c) As the work is still in progress, it is premature to assess the reserves.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. The progress made so far will be known as soon as the investigation is completed. The following items of investigations are being carried out during the current season:—

Detailed investigation of the 'Great Limestone' from Press

to Khandwar for its suitability for cement manufacture in the Riassi area, Jammu province

Dhyangarh, Tardalah, Dera and Ujh dam sites

Detailed sub-surface explorations and the geological condition of construction materials at Jawahar (Banihal) tunnel

Detailed investigation of the Jangalgal coal field by drilling

ईसाई धर्म का प्रचार

Investigation of lead, zinc and copper deposits in the 'Great Limestone belt' of Riassi area

१९५६ श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री . क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि .

Detailed investigation of gypsum deposits at Batot by drilling

(क) गत पाच वर्षों में ईसाई धर्म के प्रचार के लिये विदेशों से कितना धन भारत में आया ,

Geological examination of the Sumahal mineralised spur

(ख) इसमें अमरीका से कितना आया है, और

Drilling of lignite in Nichahom area was commenced on the 26th July, 1958, and a total depth of 297' was drilled in borehole No 1

(ग) इस समय भारत में कितने विदेशी पादरी ईसाई धर्म का प्रचार कर रहे हैं और अखंड भारत में उन की कुल संख्या कितनी थी ?

Geological examination of the Muttal-Lain area

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार)

Short-term investigation on the geological feasibility of the following projects —

१९५३	१९५४	१९५५	१९५६	१९५७
			जनवरी से	जून तक

(क) भारत में विदेशी ईसाई धर्म प्रचारकों को १९५३ से १९५६ और पहली जनवरी १९५७ से ३० जून, १९५७ तक मिली कुल विदेशी सहायता (लाख रुपयों में)

७,२०	८,१३	६,१३	*६,२७	*५,११
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(ख) अमरीका में

५,१३	५,६६	६,६१	*६,६४	*३,६६
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नोट यह सूचना प्राप्त नहीं है कि इस रकम में से कितनी ईसाई धर्म प्रचार के लिए थी ।

(ग) पहली जनवरी १९५८ को भारत में ४८४४ रजिस्टर्ड विदेशी ईसाई धर्म प्रचारक थे । प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार १५ अगस्त, १९४२ से १४ अगस्त, १९४७ तक के पाच सालों में भारत में २२७१ विदेशी धर्म प्रचारक रजिस्टर्ड थे ।

*यह आंकड़े अन्तिम नहीं हैं ।

Crimes in Delhi

1466. Shri Arjun Singh Bhadauria: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of crimes registered in Delhi in each quarter of the year 1957 and 1958 under the following categories:

- (i) Murder, (ii) assaults on women, (iii) natural offences, (iv) dacoity, (v) robbery, (vi) theft, (vii) cheating and (viii) other crimes.

(b) the number of cases under each head in part (a) above which remained undetected and the reasons therefore;

(c) the number of cases sent up for trial and the convictions secured; and

(d) the number of cases, in which strictures were passed against the Police by the Judiciary and the action taken thereon?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). A statement containing the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 14].

(d) In four cases strictures were passed against the Police by Judiciary. In three cases departmental action was initiated, two are still pending while departmental punishment was given in one. No action was found necessary in the fourth.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. When I am standing, no hon. Member ought to stand, for, that is meaningless. Again and again, I have been impressing upon hon. Members that they ought not to stand while I am standing, and that they ought not to speak while I am speaking. These are ordinary rules of decorum. I also find that whereas every time the hon. Leader of the House comes to the House, he bows, and when he goes away also, he bows, other hon. Members do not seem to take this House seriously.

I did not want to bring it to the notice of hon. Members.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): So far as respect to you is concerned, we are second to none.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): We are always one in that respect.

Mr. Speaker: I would like this House to set an example to the rest of the Assemblies in this country. But I find hon. Members coming as if they come to any public meeting and then going away as if from public meeting. It is very wrong. I never wanted to express this. But the bowing is not personally to me; it is to the Chair and to the House as a whole. And hon. Members would not take a lesson even from the hon. Leader of the House who bows when he comes and goes.

Shri Nath Pai: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should be taken to task for that.

12 hrs.

MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT

FOOD SITUATION IN UTTAR PRADESH

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of a number of adjournment motions, all relating to the food situation in Uttar Pradesh. It was only yesterday that I disallowed a question.....

Mr. Speaker: It is not against any individual. All that I can say is that hon. Members.....(Interruptions) I have already said that when I am talking, hon. Members ought not to talk. Hon. Members will observe decorum so that the prestige of this House may get enhanced. Every hon. Member who has got something to place before the House will certainly place it before the House.

[Mr. Speaker.]

There are a number of adjournment motions tabled. It was only yesterday that I said that so far as this matter was concerned, it was a State subject. If some people unfortunately have committed suicide or some people are starving, I do not know to what extent the Central Government are responsible.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri (Berhampore): On a point of order..

Mr. Speaker: I would like to know one other thing also. A number of hon. Members have put in their signatures to more than one adjournment motion. Yesterday, some hon. Members went away from here and wrote to me that among the several Members whose names I read out, his name was not included. I, therefore, inform all hon. Members that I am not going to read the names of all hon. Members here. I have got as many as twelve names here. I shall call only one. There is no meaning in my calling every Member on every adjournment motion and then calling the names one after the other. If they want advertisement, hereafter, I shall put down the names of all hon. Members in the notice-board, and the Government or the newspapers or anybody else may look into it, and if anybody does not look into it, his attention may be drawn to it. So far as that is concerned, I am not going to take up the responsibility myself.

So far as the adjournment motions are concerned, I would like to know one thing from the sponsors. First of all, let them satisfy me. Hunger, or food, is a purely local subject or a State Subject. What is the responsibility of the Centre which has not been discharged in this matter? Almost every day, I am getting adjournment motions of this kind, when in some corner of India, there are some people who are not having sufficient food. Now, I shall call upon the hon. Members one after the other.

श्री सरजू पांडे (रसड़ा) : सम्पूर्ण महोदय, जहाँ तक केन्द्रीय सरकार की जिम्मेदारी का प्रश्न है, मेरा निवेदन यह है कि पिछले दिनों जब खाद्य समस्या पर बहस हो रही थी तो मैंने बताया था कि

Mr. Speaker: What is the responsibility (Interruptions).

श्री सरजू पांडे : मैं उसी पर आ रहा हूँ, उसी को मैं एक्सप्लेन करने जा रहा हूँ। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश में जो सस्ती गल्ले की दुकानें खोली गई हैं एक तो वे बहुत कम हैं और दूसरे जो गल्ला केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार को दिया है, वह दूसरी स्टेट्स के मुकाबले में बहुत ही कम है। आज उत्तर प्रदेश की खाद्य समस्या बहुत कठिन है और इसी सदन के एक सीनियर मੈम्बर श्री शि० ला० सक्सेना भूख हडताल किये हुये हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश में भी सैकड़ों लोग सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाने के लिये वहाँ भूख हडताल कर रहे हैं, आन्दोलन चला रहे हैं और आप उत्तर प्रदेश

Mr. Speaker: I am not going into politics (Interruptions).

श्री सरजू पांडे : . . . के किसी भी कोने में जायें, हर तरफ से यही आवाज आपको उठती नज़र आयेगी कि हमारे केन्द्रीय सरकार के जो फूड मिनिस्टर हैं, जो खाद्य मंत्री हैं, उनको रिजाइन करना चाहिये, उनको इस्तीफा दे देना चाहिये। इसलिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That was not what I wanted to hear. All that I wanted to say is this. How is the responsibility imposed upon the Centre?

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): May I submit a word on this? (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker: As to the Central Minister, there may be difference of opinion. Each man may not be liked in his own place. I have heard Shri Sarju Pandey sufficiently. Now, Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: If you look at List III in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, you will find under Entry No. 33 that—

“Trade and commerce in, and the production, supply and distribution of,—

(b) foodstuffs, including edible oilseeds and oils”.

are in the Concurrent List. So, food as such is not merely a State subject. The arrangement between the Centre and the States with regard to supply and distribution is something with which we are not concerned. That may be a departmental arrangement. But this Entry No. 33 imposes a constitutional obligation upon the Centre.....

Mr. Speaker: To take up distribution of food articles from end to end in this country?

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:.... for the production, supply and distribution of food articles whenever it legislates on these matters for the whole of the country.

Mr. Speaker: I have heard the hon Member sufficiently. Now, Shri S. M. Banerjee.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): My submission is that in this particular case, the food supplied from the Centre was at Rs. 14-8-0 per maund. The hon. Minister mentioned yesterday that 3000 fair price shops had been started in the KABAL cities and throughout UP. My information is that only 2,400 shops are functioning. Another point which has been referred to.....

Mr. Speaker: Who is responsible? The hon. Member must satisfy me and not go on with it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I would take only one minute to explain it.

Mr. Speaker: Who is responsible? The other day, the hon. Minister said, and he has been repeatedly saying on the floor of the House that the opening of fair price shops is not the business of the Centre but the business of the States.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: But there is supply and distribution.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Let me finish. Another Minister.....

Mr. Speaker: Is it the complaint of the Members here that sufficient food has not been supplied?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Yes.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Yes.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Let me finish. Otherwise, it would be incomplete.

The Food Minister of UP had stated:

“Mr. Zaheer further stated that the Union Government had not approved UP’s suggestion that zonal restriction on the movement of food between UP and Punjab should be abolished.”

This is another thing which is directly concerning the Centre, and the Centre is becoming obstructionist to the entire movement

Then, there was a meeting of the Congress MLA’s which was presided over by the Chief Minister where it was said as follows:

“Some Members suggested adjournment of the Assembly session.”.

The situation has reached to that extent that they are actually proposing suspension of the Assembly. And their slogan is to meet them in the streets. What I would submit is that this sort of slogan that if they want, they would meet the UP Opposition Members in the streets, I am afraid, will be the last nail in their coffin.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: In regard to this, the Centre has been supplying foodgrains to U.P. Now, the complaint is that they have not supplied them with adequate quantity of foodgrains. That is the difficulty. They have been taking over the responsibility of supplying grain to U.P. for the scarcity areas, but now they have refused to do that. Therefore, their responsibility is direct. Also, conditions have arisen there in which there is a fear of the constitutional machinery being broken down.

Mr. Speaker: That is another matter.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi (Bilhour): Moreover, if this is the condition in the State from which our hon. Prime Minister, hon. Home Minister and hon. Food Minister come, what will happen to the other States?

श्री यादव (बाराबंकी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री जब गोरखपुर में स्केरमिटी एरियाज का दौरा करने गये तो उन्होंने खुल कर के यह कहा कि हमको अन्धकी मात्रा में, काफी मात्रा में केन्द्र से खाद्यान्न नहीं मिल रहे हैं, इसलिये हमारे लिये असम्भव है कि लोगों को सप्लाई कर सकें और साथ साथ दामों में जो बढ़ाव हो रही है उसको भी रोकना हमारे लिये असम्भव है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि यह सीधे केन्द्रीय सरकार से सम्बन्ध रखने वाला प्रश्न है। उन्होंने कहा कि दाम और सप्लाई का जो प्रश्न है यह केन्द्र से सम्बन्ध रखता है। इसलिये मैं समझता हूँ कि यह केन्द्रीय प्रश्न है और इस पर यहां बहस होनी चाहिये।

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): First, I shall take up the question taken up by Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri. He has referred to Entry No. 33 in the Concurrent List. (*Interruptions*).

An Hon. Member: Why does he not resign?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am put to a lot of inconvenience here. All hon. Members seem to be—at any rate, some of them,—under a wrong impression, with the result that occasionally, matters are brought up here which ought to be taken up with the State Government. What are the limits? Even yesterday, I said that I would like to know definitely the limits within which I could allow these matters to come up either by way of questions or by way of adjournment motion. I do not know. Possibly, hon. Members, or at least some of them, want that the entire food situation ought to be taken up by the Centre. I am at a loss to know what exactly the position is. Since these matters have been raised, I would like to hear from the hon. Minister thoroughly regarding this matter.

Shri A. P. Jain: That Entry lays down:

“Trade and commerce in,....
(b) foodstuffs, including edible oilseeds and oils; ...”.

Here it is not a question of either trade or commerce; it is a question of supply by the Centre.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): And distribution.

Shri A. P. Jain: Not distribution

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members have raised a point. The hon. Minister is answering it (*Interruption*).

Shri A. P. Jain: The question raised in the adjournment motion does not come under item 33 of the Concurrent List.

You will remember that when the Food debate took place in this House, my Ministry issued a White Paper in which the figures of stocks with the Central Government were given. During the course of the debate, I also gave information as regards the quantities that were being supplied to

different States. Since then, the Food Minister of Uttar Pradesh has visited Delhi.....

Shri Naushir Bharucha: We are not on that; we are on the legal point only.

Shri A. P. Jain: I have dealt with the legal point, and I am coming to the others.

Mr. Speaker: First of all, the hon. Minister said that the particular provision of law quoted, the entry does not apply. The next point urged was that supply was not made by the Centre. I would like to know whether it is the responsibility of the Centre to supply to the States and whether there is any prohibition against a State Government purchasing and distributing and taking care of the citizens in that particular State. Unless the Centre has taken up the entire responsibility in its own hands, and in addition, prevents the State from proceeding with that responsibility, I am not going to charge the Centre with that responsibility. I would like to know whether there is any provision or any arrangement by which the Centre has undertaken the exclusive responsibility of gathering sufficient food and supplying it wherever there is necessity.

Shri A. P. Jain: That was the point I was coming to.

The Centre has not taken absolute responsibility. Nobody, either the State Government or anybody there, is prohibited from making purchases in their own State or in some other parts of the country. Therefore, it is not the exclusive responsibility of the Centre to meet all the requirements of the State Governments. It is a fact that the Centre has been importing foodgrains from abroad. The Centre has also made procurement in certain States and out of the quantities imported or procured inside the country, the Centre has been doing its best to supply to the State Governments. But it is not the responsibility of the

Central Government to supply all the foodgrains which a State needs. We are doing our best, but it is not our constitutional responsibility to meet all the demands (*Interruptions*).

Several hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. One at a time.

Shri Nath Pal: May I point out this in continuation of the specific point which you have asked us to submit to you? In the first place, the entry in the Concurrent List referred to specifically mentions the words 'supply and distribution'. Secondly, he is trying to shirk his responsibility by saying that it is not entirely his responsibility. There is shortage of food, with which we are concerned and that can be filled by importing foodgrains. Now, no State in India can directly import. It is only the Central Government that can import foodgrains from abroad and distribute them. Then again, one State does not enter into any agreement directly with any other State; it is done through the Centre. So on both these counts, it is his basic responsibility and that is what we are concerned with.

Several hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Apart from this, what is the situation there?

Shri A. P. Jain: I may add that there is legally nothing to prohibit a State from making imports of foodgrains (*Interruptions*).

श्री अर्जुन सिंह भदौरिया (इटावा):
पंजाब से नहीं लाने दिया जा रहा है।

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members ought not to go on like this. He is replying to the points raised. Let us hear him.

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as the supply position from the Centre to U.P. is concerned, when the debate took place here, I mentioned that we had been supplying nearly 60,000 tons of

[Shri A. P. Jain]

foodgrains per month to U.P. Since then, the Food Minister of U.P. has seen me. I have also personally paid a visit to U.P. and as a result of discussions between ourselves, the Centre has agreed to give another quantity of 25,000 tons to U.P. in the month of September. That quantity has already started moving. Some special trains have been despatched from Calcutta; others are in the process of being despatched, and I am confident that I will be able to supply to U.P. during the month of September not only the normal quantity of 60,000 tons, but the additional quantity of 25,000 tons.

It is for the U.P. Government to decide where to open fair price shops and where not to open such shops. About two months ago, they had a little more than 2,000 fair price shops. The number has now been increased to 3,700, that is, there has been an increase of nearly 1,500 shops. They are setting up more of shops. Therefore, since the debate has taken place, instead of any deterioration, supplies have improved, the number of fair price shops has increased and the Centre has more than fulfilled its obligations as against what existed on the day of the debate (*Interruptions*).

Several hon. Members rose—

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What about prices?

Mr. Speaker: I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the peculiar situation in U.P. which is leading to this kind of agitation as opposed to the position in other States in this country.

Shri A. P. Jain: The Opposition parties in U.P. have taken up a particular attitude. Some of them have gone on hunger-strike; some of them are trying to encircle the officers... (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: I am putting questions. Hon. Members will keep quiet. I would like to know whether it is on account of the food shortage which is

peculiar to U.P., which is not prevalent elsewhere, that this course of action is being adopted or it is on account of other considerations and this is only an excuse.

Shri A. P. Jain: The position is this. The prices prevailing in U.P. are comparable with the prices prevailing in Bihar and in West Bengal. Now there is nothing which can substantially differentiate the position in U.P. from the situation obtaining in those States. But political parties in U.P. have taken up a particular attitude (*interruption*) some of them have started hunger-strike. Others have started encircling officers and preventing them from discharging their duties; others are going to make a raid on the grain godowns. They are led away more by political considerations. That is responsible for this deterioration of the situation in U.P., not the supply position, not the food situation as such (*Interruptions*).

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: No, no. I have heard enough. I am not going to allow any further discussion.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: I want one clarification from the Food Minister. He has not replied to the point raised

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Whatever situation is going to be there somewhere in U.P., I am not going to allow it to be discussed on the floor of the House. I only wanted to know what exactly was the situation. At this stage, I am concerned with the admissibility of these adjournment motions.

So far as the primary responsibility in regard to food is concerned, it is that of the State Government.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: How?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I am entitled to my opinion. I am not bound to answer how I have heard both sides. It is not a new matter. This matter comes up here from day to day and we are looking into it. Yesterday it was brought up

So far as the supply of food is concerned, it is the primary responsibility of the State Governments. Of course, the Central Government import large quantities and go to the aid of the various States by way of supplementing the supply. They also procure some quantity without prejudice to the State Government itself making similar procurement from within the zone.

So far as Andhra and other States are concerned, it has been stated on the floor of the House from time to time that Kerala can purchase from Andhra. The Centre also purchases from Andhra (*Interruption*)

An Hon. Member: We cannot

Mr. Speaker: I cannot allow this kind of interruption, so far as I am concerned, when I am giving my ruling. Unless an hon. Member wants to substitute his ruling for mine, I cannot understand this attitude. Hon. Members lose patience suddenly on a small matter like this.

An Hon. Member: No, it is not a small matter.

Mr. Speaker: Let the hon. Member resign his seat and go there and fight his own Minister in the State. I cannot allow this kind of interruption when I am giving my ruling.

Food is primarily the concern of the State Government. No doubt, the Central Government imports large quantities because it is always alive to the situation. It does not detach itself from the welfare of the people, whether in one State or another. So far as procurement of foodgrains is concerned, there is no impediment for

the State Governments to procure whatever they can from their own State and from other States in the zone. The Central Government makes purchases to be on the safer side and supplies to the States.

So far as U.P. State is concerned, the hon. Minister has stated that there were only 2,500 fair price shops and now they have been increased to 3,700. Whether a larger number of such shops have to be opened, or whether they have not to be opened, is the concern of the State Government. The hon. Minister has said that whatever assistance the State Government wanted is being given. So far as the quantity that is required is concerned, the only person who can decide that is the State Government, and not every individual Member here, who can come and say that the Centre must despatch so much foodgrains, otherwise it is impossible to carry on. Whatever quantity has been asked for by that Government is being supplied. So far as the Central Government is concerned, there is absolutely no default.

If further fair price shops have to be opened, hon. Members or their representatives must take up the question in the State Assembly. They must take up the matter with the State Government. That is how it stands. The Centre has in no way committed any default so far as its responsibility is concerned.

All the adjournment motions are, therefore, disallowed.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: I wanted a clarification (*Interruptions*)

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I want an explanation.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I have a clarification?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: May I know whether the Central Government

Mr. Speaker: Order please. The Secretary will read the Message from the Rajya Sabha.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The Food Minister must resign.

श्री नवदीप भारुचा : जब रोम जल रहा था तब नीरो बासुरी बजा रहा था ।

Some Hon. Members: We stage a walk-out.

12.25 hrs.

(Some hon. Members then left the House.)

12.25½ hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 1st September, 1958, agreed without any amendment to the Armed Forces (Assam and Manipur) Special Powers Bill, 1958, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th August, 1958."

12.25½ hrs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Speaker: The Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House in their Eighth Report have recommended that leave of absence may be granted to the following Members for the periods indicated in the Report:—

Raja Mahendra Pratap (Mathura): Sir, you have been very kind to us; you have been very kind-hearted but the hon. Minister is hard hearted (Interruptions.)

Mr. Speaker:

1. Shri S. C. Choudhury
2. Shri M. Elias
3. Shrimati Lalita Rajya Laxmi

4. Shri C. Bali Reddy
5. Shri M. Gulam Mohiudeen
6. Shri B. Pocker
7. Shri D. S. Raju
8. Shri U. Muthuramalinga Thevar
9. Shri Indulal Kanaiyalal Yajnik
10. Shri Karsandas Parmar
11. Her Highness Maharani Vijaya Raje Scindia of Gwalior
12. Shri Kamal Narayan Singh

I take it that the House agrees with the recommendations of the Committee.

Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The Members will be informed accordingly.

12.26½ hrs.

MANIPUR AND TRIPURA (REPEAL OF LAWS) BILL—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Dr. P. S. Deshmukh on the 2nd September 1958, namely:—

"That the Bill to provide for the repeal of certain laws in force in the Union Territories of Manipur and Tripura, be taken into consideration"

Out of the one hour allotted for all the stages of the Bill, 53 minutes now remain.

Shri Laisram Achaw Singh may continue his speech.

श्री लैस्रम सिंह भदौरिया (इटावा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि कब तक लोगों को इस सदन को त्यागने के लिये बाध्य किया जाता रहेगा ? इस मुल्क में भुखमरी फैली हुई है । लोग जहर खा खा कर के मर रहे हैं और हम कब तक इस चीज को बरदाश्त करते रह सकते हैं ? आप कब तक लोगों को मजबूर करेंगे कि वे

Mr. Speaker: Order please. There is a State Government and let the hon. Member go there and make his representation.

Shri Arjun Singh Bhadauria: It is the duty of the Central Government and not of the State Government.

12.27 hrs.

(The hon. Member then left the House).

Mr. Speaker: Shri Achaw Singh.

Shri L. Achaw Singh (Inner Manipur): The present Bill seeks to replace the existing Acts on co-operative societies in Tripura and Manipur by Acts from Bombay and Assam. The Union Territories (Laws) Act of 1950 only authorises the Centre to extend certain laws from other States to these Union Territories but it does not authorise the repeal of existing Acts. Hence the introduction of this measure. The Bill, therefore, seeks power from Parliament to repeal existing Acts.

There is a saving clause which provides that anything done under the previous Acts will not be affected by the operation of the new Acts. The Minister-in-charge said yesterday that there were defects in the existing Acts in Tripura and Manipur. I fully agree that these defects have to be removed and also that there should be no lacuna or flaw in the co-operative law which would prevent smooth working of the co-operative societies in Tripura and Manipur.

Now, we are engaged in the implementation of the different development schemes in these Territories. And, it is an accepted fact that the successful implementation of co-operative methods is a pre-condition for the regeneration of our economy in the rural areas, particularly of these Territories.

I have studied the working of the co-operatives very minutely in my own Territory. I may not be familiar

with the actual conditions prevailing in Tripura. But, I am sure that the conditions there are more or less the same as in Manipur.

In Manipur the Co-operative Department was started in 1947 and, since then, there has been very little progress. First, it was started as a Consumers' Society because, just after the War, we were in need of those controlled commodities. The supply and distribution of these controlled commodities were started by these societies. Later on we found that almost all the necessaries were decontrolled and all these co-operative societies were also liquidated.

Then, we made an experiment with the producers' societies, but that was not a success. Most of the money which had been sanctioned or allotted for the co-operative department has been devoted to the appointment of staff. There was little progress except in the multiplication of the staff—not in the actual development of the co-operative societies.

In the co-operative department there is some discontent among the staff; there is some bickering. I understand that wrong recruitment, wrong promotion, wrong transfers and wrong allocation of work among the officers do very great harm to the co-operative movement. Too much interference has also been made in the work of the co-operative officers. So, there has been a lot of *golemal*.

Another feature of the co-operative movement here in Manipur is that the liquidation of societies is proceeding faster than the formation of societies. During the Five Year Plan period, at the beginning the number was 323; it increased to 373. But, on 30th November 1957, the number of co-operative societies of all types stood at 273. That indicates how the co-operative movement is working there. I do not think that the existing Act is responsible for this state of affairs. The fact is that generally co-operative societies are

[Shri L. Achaw Singh]

not allowed to grow there due to the unfavourable conditions created by the Registrar of co-operative societies. He is more popularly known as the liquidator of co-operative societies. The general tendency is to say: let us form co-operatives and get as much loans and subsidies as possible. Most of the societies are of that type. The Government of India is providing loans and subsidies to co-operative societies. Some workers' organisations have been started by unscrupulous persons and they are misusing the fund. I would request the hon. Minister to make an enquiry because serious allegations had been made against the Registrar and the co-operative department. I know some oil crushing co-operative; and some hand pounding co-operatives which have continuously been provided loans without any verification of the actual work done by them. I still doubt whether the extension of the Assam Act would straighten the state of things in the co-operative department. As a result of the unco-operative attitude of the Registrar, genuine co-operative societies have been deprived of the loans and subsidies. There is the M.D.U. co-operative bank which was started in 1947 and it is the only co-operative bank which has done great service to the cause of small scale producers, hand-loom industries and various other cottage industries. But an attempt is being made to liquidate this bank and loan application; from this co-operative bank are held up. There was also an attempt to liquidate the Manipur agrarian co-operative society. It made a huge profit during the First Plan. Then it was liquidated. Now, we find that another central co-operative marketing society has been established and it has been allotted the work of procurement of rice. Rice business is very lucrative in Manipur. When this function has been allotted to this co-operative society, I think the prospects are very bright. I welcome the establishment of this new central co-operative marketing society and if the Government wants to make it a

success, I request a larger margin of profit should be provided to this co-operative society. The procurement price is Rs. 10 per maund and they are given only one anna per maund as profit.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

12.35 hrs.

If necessary the procurement price of rice should be put at a higher level at Rs. 12 and a large proportion of profit margin should be allowed to them. I would like to say only one word about the comparative merits of the Assam Act and the Bombay Act. I do not know why different Acts have been applied to Manipur and Tripura. I find the Assam Act defective because the Registrar has been given very wide and sweeping powers and no civil court has got any jurisdiction over him. This is dangerous and that is why I say that this Assam Act would not suit the conditions in Manipur. The Bombay Act is superior because there is a provision for the constitution of a tribunal to hear appeals from the Registrar. There are also provisions for financial assistance to the less developed and young societies etc. There is a special provision for farming co-operatives. If that Act would have been applied it would have been better. I am informed that the Ministry of Agriculture has constituted a committee to produce a model Act for the whole of India and bye-laws and rules there under. That would be the best. My fear is that this Assam Act will again be repealed and another Act will again be applied. Lastly my feeling is that the extension of the law to the Union Territory is creating confusion. The working of the Union Territories Act, 1950 has been very much discouraging. We find that acts from all parts of India have been applied to the Union Territories, for instance, the Bihar Loudspeakers Act, the Vidarbha Land Reforms Act, the Madras Livestock Act have been applied to my territory. Then, the

Government takes one or two provisions from here and one or two from there and removes two or three from there Or, some provisions are applied in a modified form All these things create confusion In spite of the best intentions of the Central Government, these laws have not fulfilled the expectations of our people That is why I would rather suggest that giving power to the Central Government to extend all kinds of laws to such territories is not satisfactory It may be argued that Parliament has no time to make legislation for all these Union Territories I submit that now we have got the Territorial Councils They have been elected on adult franchise All the members are there and they are given Rs 100 per month and allowances I would ask the Government to allow these Territorial Councils to legislate on subjects which they know best They know the circumstances, the conditions and the difficulties and so I would request the Government to invest these Territorial Councils with legislative power

Shri Dasaratha Deb (Tripura) Sir, I agree with the hon Minister when he says that the Tripura Co-operative Societies Act, 1958 (Tripura Era) and the Tripura Kuid Niyamak Bidhi 1913 (Tripura Era) are insufficient to deal with the situation in the Tripura State Our people have also been demanding that this outmoded law should be amended so as to meet the local situation there But at the same time I cannot agree with the way it is sought to be done It would have been better if our Minister has brought all the Acts the Bombay Co-operative Societies Act and also the Bombay Money Lenders Act so that they may be discussed in the House I do not know why the Minister wanted to bypass the Parliament by asking us simply to give our consent whether this particular Act should be extended to my State or not They should have examined the whole case I request that in future, if they want to bring any legislation for the Union Territories, they should bring a whole

Bill so that Parliament may get an opportunity to examine it in details At the same time I also want to say something about the co-operative movement in Tripura and state how things are going on there During the last five years we saw the emergence of a number of co-operative societies throughout the whole State I cannot give the exact number, but there are about four hundred in our State at present So far as these co-operative societies are concerned, though their nature is multi-purpose, up till now they have been mainly dealing with rural credit At the same time there is ample scope in our State to develop this co-operative movement, because it is a backward agricultural area and more than 77 per cent of the people are agriculturists And these people are suffering at the hands of the unscrupulous money-lenders, etc They have to take loans from the mahajan that is the money-lenders, at exorbitant rates of interest, sometimes at the rate of 100 per cent, sometimes at 300 per cent or even more So it would be very desirable for the Government if they take steps to establish and develop co-operative societies there, as also a land mortgage bank from which at least the peasantry can get some loans by mortgaging their land itself But at present these things are not there

I want to draw the attention of the hon the Minister of Cooperation to another aspect of the matter Though in our State we have now got more than four hundred co-operative societies, it cannot be said that these co-operative societies have been put on a sound basis Because, these co-operative societies mainly deal with one Co-operative Officer who is all in all The co-operative officer, and the Co-operative Department, with the Co-operative Officers at the top, they always interfere with the democratic functioning of the co-operative societies I may particularly mention here the co-operative societies which have been formed under the auspices of the Relief and Rehabilitation Department Their number is near-

[Shri Dasaratha Deb]

about seventy-five. In most of these co-operative societies the key offices, that is the Chairmanship, the Vice-Chairmanship and the office of the General Secretary of the co-operative societies, all these posts are held by the Rehabilitation Officers themselves and not by any member of the co-operative society. Only, they selected some seven employees from these people.

Also, the people were not encouraged in coming to the co-operative societies. Because, although this executive committee is formed, it remains as a mere paper organisation and practically they have no function to perform.

About this Department also I can give you some very interesting example. On the 22nd October, 1956, the Co-operative Officer, Tripura addressed a letter asking the executive committees of all the co-operative societies existing in the colonies to pass a resolution asking the Rehabilitation Department to deposit all their amounts with the Sales Emporia which have been formed to purchase *beedi* leaves tobacco etc. You know, under the Relief and Rehabilitation Department there was a *beedi* scheme, forty-one schemes to help the *beedi* industry, and also the *dhenki* scheme. This scheme was built under the Co-operative Department, and the Relief and Rehabilitation Department had sanctioned Rs. 2,000 as loan to each of the co-operative societies. The Co-operative Officer himself asked the executive committees of the co-operative societies to pass a resolution so that all this money should be deposited with the Sales Emporia. And the result is very serious. You know that the Sales Emporium did not supply the better *beedi* and tobacco leaf with the result that the co-operative society had to incur a heavy loss, and most of the *beedi* industries are not functioning now. Even among these seventy-five co-operative societies, most of them are now non-existent,

because the people are not getting any encouragement.

And that is why I say that simply extending the Bombay Co-operative Societies Act will not give much help to our State unless Government take special care to develop these co-operatives and also give a chance to the people themselves to work in the co-operative societies.

There is another thing. I do not know—the Relief and Rehabilitation Department might have known about it—but I understand that this money which has been advanced to the co-operative societies from the Relief and Rehabilitation Department does not come under the jurisdiction of the audit of the Relief and Rehabilitation Department even. I do not know whether any arrangement is there at least to make an audit of these accounts. So far as my knowledge goes, the Relief and Rehabilitation Department finds it very difficult: when the Audit party goes there they find it very difficult to know whether this money is actually utilised for useful purposes, for any gainful purposes of relief. They cannot say. And whenever those people are asked about it, their reply is, "It is under the Co-operative Department; it is not within our jurisdiction; so we cannot audit them". That is the position. Whether any audit has been done regarding the money which has been spent by the Co-operative Department, I do not know. If it has not been done, I think the hon. Minister should take note of it and take special steps so that this audit is made without further delay.

I may draw attention to another matter. Some time ago the Central Marketing Co-operative Society has been formed at Agartala town itself. But this Central Marketing Society is constituted in such a way that it cannot be said to be a central marketing co-operative society, because it is not constituted with the representatives of all the co-operative societies at the base. As a matter

of fact, no such marketing society at the base does exist in Tripura. This Central Marketing Society was formed at the initiative of the Co-operative Officers and also the District Magistrates of Tripura Administration. And the persons who were selected to it were according to the likings of these people. And only some small group of businessmen who are known to be corrupt people, always engaged in black-marketing and other things, only these people are getting this benefit. And lakhs of rupees have been advanced to that co-operative society.

I suggest that if Government want to have a Central Marketing Co-operative Society, they must first build up these co-operatives at the base, and after forming those co-operatives they should constitute a Central Marketing Co-operative Society, taking into it the representatives of all those societies. Then it will function very smoothly and it will be helpful to the people also. But if you form it from the top without keeping any contact with the base, then it cannot produce any good results.

You may say that some money should go to this particular section of the people. It is a very interesting thing. I do not want to mention the name, but in the Central Marketing Society the elder brother of the Co-operative Officer is also one of the members; he is the pioneer of that co-operative society. And, secondly, I want to draw the attention of the House to another matter. There is another co-operative society, that is the Co-operative Transport Society which is also one of the most fortunate organisations which have been receiving a large amount of funds from the Co-operative Department. I suppose that the amount is not less than a lakh of rupees; it may be more. And the same set of people are controlling this Transport Co-operative Society also. In that

Committee also the elder brother of the Co-operative Officer is a member. He is not only a member, he is the most important member of this committee. I do not know why these things are allowed to go on I think the Centre also must take note of this and take steps in this matter.

I also want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to another point. There are certain co-operative societies which have been formed with the initiative of the people. There is the co-operative society of Kolaghachia area, for example. That is a very small co-operative society. The people there wanted to start that co-operative society, and they also wanted to distribute rations. They applied to the Government for permission to distribute rations. But this co-operative society was not given that permission, and some particular person who does not belong to any co-operative society was given permission. He was also given stocks of rice to be distributed in that area, whereas the co-operative society was not allowed to do so. If it is the policy of the Government to see that our co-operative societies develop and they play a great role in the development of the rural area, I think they must be given the required encouragement from the Government side also.

There is one co-operative society formed in the Julaibari area in Belonia Sub-Division. That co-operative society, so far as my knowledge goes, is running very well. Auditing is being done every year, and they also have stocked rice purchased from open market when the price was considerably lower. They have also collected funds out of that. They bought rice from the local people and kept it in stock. Recently, when in Tripura we were passing a grave food crisis, this co-operative society on their own initiative offered to the Tripura Government to supply rice at Rs. 20 or Rs. 22 a maund, whereas in the local market the price of rice at that time

[Shri Dasaratha Deb]

was Rs. 40 to Rs. 45 a maund. But at that time the Government did not allow this co-operative society to bring that rice to Agartala, even though they were prepared to deposit that rice in the Government godown.

Shri Mahanty (Dhenkanal): Sir, there is no quorum in the House. Has the Congress Party also joined the walk-out?

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Contagion is spreading.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The bell is being rung—Now there is quorum. The hon. Member, Shri Dasaratha Deb, may continue his speech.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: Sir, I was speaking about the Julaibari Co-operative Society. My point is not that the Government should look after a particular co-operative society, but what I say is that Government should look after the entire co-operative societies in Tripura so that they can develop with the help of Government.

At the same time, Sir, one point should be borne in mind. Now under the Tribal Welfare Department some co-operative societies are going to be formed, and some have already been formed in Tripura. In those cases Government is applying their mind to see that some office bearer, either Secretary or President, should be a Government employee. The people who have purchased shares in the co-operative societies are not taken into confidence. When I talked to the Relief and Rehabilitation Minister and also the Home Minister about this matter, their reply was: "We are advancing a good amount of money. These refugee people have come from various parts. They do not know each other in the colony. If we do not put our officers at the top there will be misuse of money. Therefore, in order to have a check on that we have selected our officers to be at the top." I do not think this argument can stand.

If you do not have any confidence at all in the people, do not form any co-operative society, do not talk of co-operation of the people. If you really want to develop co-operative societies, you must have the co-operation of people, you must take people into confidence, at least those who come forward to form co-operative societies. Regarding tribal welfare, there may be one or two cases where some local people might have become Secretary or Chairman, but in most cases Government officers are put up. Actually these co-operative societies particularly those which were under the Relief and Rehabilitation Department have no right to take up their own programme. It is the Relief Department which thrust upon them certain programme which they are asked to implement. They have no right to say whether that particular programme would be beneficial to the co-operative society or not. That is why, Sir, a larger number of failures occur and losses are being incurred in these co-operative societies.

I would request the hon. Minister to look into this aspect of the matter. There should be some arrangement whereby we can avoid all these irregularities, avoid all these difficulties, avoid all this misuse of money, and we can develop these co-operative societies. What I suggest is, the members of co-operative societies should have full freedom to elect their executive committee. Government should not put any condition that an officer of the Government must be taken in that committee. There should not be any such binding on them from the Government side. Also, there must be some provision by which at least a periodical audit should be made. If such a provision is there, there will be some officer of the Government to help the executive committee to deal with the matter.

There is one more thing. At present there are some laws relating to

co-operative societies, but the Co-operative Officer at the top is himself violating the bye-laws. That should not be allowed. He should not be allowed to violate the bye-laws.

I understand, Sir, that a good number of co-operative societies have applied for registration. Even there is some discrepancy, because it all depends upon the co-operative Officer. If he does not like a particular co-operative society, registration would not be given to that society. I understand that there are still quite a number of co-operative societies remaining un-registered even though they applied for registration three or four years back.

Finally, Sir, I suggest that co-operative societies of landless people in our State should be formed, and through these co-operative societies land should be given to the landless people. There are no such co-operative societies at present. I do not know whether there is any such provision for that, because there are certain terms and conditions under which ordinary poor people cannot become members of co-operative societies. Poor people cannot fulfil those terms and conditions. The rate of interest and the registration fee should be lowered. The value of shares also should be lowered so that a large number of agricultural labour, landless labour and tribal people can come into the co-operative societies.

I would also say, even though an agricultural co-operative bank has been started one year before, the capital of that bank is not sufficient to meet the requirements of that area. That is why I would suggest to the hon. Minister that several branches of that co-operative bank should be started, and there should be provision to the effect that people may get loans from that bank by mortgaging their land either individually or by group, in cases where some people are in need of money and they have not

sufficient land to be mortgaged. These people can form themselves into a group and come to some agreement. If such a co-operative society is formed it will play a great role in our State. I have done.

13 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is a motion for discussion fixed at 4 P.M. today. The notice of it has been given by Shri Rajendra Singh, Shri Naushir Bharucha, Shri Goray, Shri Mathur, Shri Tangamani and Shri Kodiyan and the discussion is to last for two hours. I have been asked to advance it by one hour, so that the House may rise by five. There is a Cabinet meeting and this time is perhaps more convenient to Government. I hope hon. Members have no objection if we advance it by one hour. The motion will be taken up at 3 o'clock and discussion will last till five.

Some Hon. Members: We have no objection.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is all right. In the meanwhile I will ask that the Members may be informed so that they may not be taken unawares. They should know, so that they may be present.

13.02 hrs.

MANIPUR AND TRIPURA (REPEAL OF LAWS) BILL--Contd.

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have not been able to understand the reason why the existing Manipur Act is being repealed and is replaced by another Act. The hon. Minister cited certain defects in the Act. I think those could have been amended and rectified.

Sir, I raise this question on a fundamental issue. This sort of block legislation seeking to enforce Acts consisting of eighty to eighty-five sections

[Shri A. C. Guha]

by this small Act should be opposed by this House. I think this is not a good procedure to be followed. By this small Bill, we are asked to enact four Acts in all having about 200 sections and even more. It is not possible for the Members of this House to give proper attention to the different sections in those few Acts. That is why I raise this question that instead of amending the Manipur Act what was the necessity of repealing that Act and replacing it by another Act?

Then, Sir, I would like to raise another question. If for Manipur the Assam Act was found quite good, I cannot understand why it was not found good for Tripura and the Bombay Act was necessary for that State. Manipur and Tripura are more or less contiguous, though not exactly. Economic conditions and social conditions in both the States are more or less alike. I think there should have been a uniform legislation in this matter. If the Assam Act was found good enough for Manipur, I do not see any reason why it was not found good enough for Tripura also.

In this connection I would like to remind the hon. Minister that in the States Reorganisation Commission's report there was a suggestion that these Union Territories might be amalgamated with Assam. That matter was not pursued further. The temper of the people then prevailing did not encourage that proposal. I do not think that proposal has been altogether abandoned for ever. If ever these territories are to be coordinated with Assam even on that consideration the Assam Act should have been made applicable to both these territories. Anyhow, whatever might be the Act that might have been made applicable to both the territories. It should have been the same Act operating in these two territories.

In regard to the Bombay Act, my difficulty is that the conditions prevailing in Bombay are very much different from those prevailing in

Tripura, not only with regard to social and economic conditions but also with regard to development of co-operatives and the availability of credit. I am not quite sure whether the Bombay Act would be quite proper or suitable for the conditions prevailing in Tripura. As for the Tripura Kushid Niyamak Bidhi, the moneylender's licence fee is from Rs. 15 to Rs. 150 whereas under the Bombay Act the moneylender's licence fee Rs. 5 if the moneylender has transaction in one place and an addition of Rs. 2 for his second and third place transaction, besides the principal place of transaction. When the Tripura Act was passed many many years ago the moneylender's fees were based according to the value of money prevailing then. I do not understand why under the present value of money the moneylender's fee is so drastically reduced.

Lastly, the hon. Minister said that the Tripura and Manipur Governments have given their consent or have asked their old Acts to be repealed. He has not mentioned anything as to whether the Advisory Committees of these two States have also been consulted in this matter. These are composed of elected representatives. I think in a matter like this the Advisory Committees of both the States should have been consulted as to which Act would have been more suitable for them and which provisions would have been more convenient for the development of cooperatives. As regards the desirability of developing cooperatives there cannot be any difference of opinion, but my only apprehension is that two different Acts should not have been applied to two different territories. For both of them the Assam Act could have been applied. The Bombay Act may not be quite suitable for the conditions prevailing in Tripura.

Shri Bangshi Thakur (Tripura—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): Sir, I would like to say something about this Bill as far as Tripura is concerned.

The Manipur and Tripura (Repeal of Laws) Bill, introduces the Bombay Co-operative Societies Act, 1925 and the Bombay Moneylenders Act, 1946, in place of the Tripura Cooperative Societies Act, 1958 T.E., and the Tripura Kushid Niyamak Bidhi (2 of 1913 T.E) respectively. The Statement of Objects and Reasons says that as the old Acts do not fit in with the circumstances, this replacement is being made.

As far as the purpose of the Bill is concerned, I support it. At the same time I would like to mention that if one of the intention of such replacement is to get rid of the heavy burden of rural indebtedness, then that purpose is not likely to be served. However, I welcome the introduction of the new Acts to Tripura. At the same time I would like to invite the attention of the hon. minister to the necessity of addition to, or alteration of, the new Acts from time to time, with a view to safeguard the interests of the peasants of Tripura and to save them from the clutches of the moneylenders, the best remedy, in my opinion, would have been to start land mortgage banks, under the State Bank or the Reserve Bank. That would save the peasants from the exploitation of the moneylenders who will try to by-pass this Act somehow or other as they are accustomed to it. That is all I wish to say.

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): I am glad that this Bill has provided an opportunity to the hon. Members interested in Tripura and Manipur to give to the House their own view about the working of the co-operative societies in these two areas. It was questioned by some hon. Members as to why we should have two Acts for two different areas and why not the Assam Act be made applicable to both Manipur and Tripura. The reason for this is that the Bombay Act is considered to be more progressive and that was also the demand of Tripura. That is why we have applied the Bombay Act to the territory of Tripura.

I may also say that both the advisory councils of Manipur and Tripura have approved of the changes we have proposed and incorporated in this Bill. So it is not only the Governments but the advisory councils also that have supported the particular choice of the enactments which are going to be made applicable hereafter to these two areas.

It is not possible for me to go into all the defects in the working of the co-operatives which have been pointed out, nor is the Bill by itself going to bring about any very radical change, although the intention is there. The intention is limited. The Bill is intended to remove certain defects. The provisions which contravene the principles of co-operation and certain other authorities which were exercised by officers are intended to be really taken away. My hon. friend complained that there are very many officers who do not act in the interests of co-operation very much, but work in various ways—the brother being the officer and another man controlling the co-operative society and so on. These things were possible under the existing law. These would not be possible hereafter since we have placed a certain amount of check.

My hon. friend also complained that there is no provision for audit and that audits are not being regularly done. This is also one of our intentions—that there should be regular audits, and provisions for audit will be there as soon as this new Act is applied. So, it will be seen that the intention behind this Bill is to improve the co-operative movement, but everything that we desire cannot be done by merely enacting this legislation. It will, however, certainly give us larger opportunities to reorganise certain societies and make them viable by amalgamation and other such measures and thus to advance far more money to the cultivators than was possible so far. This was the main idea with which this change is being brought about. As everybody knows, the co-operative credit is going to be increased very rapidly and I hope that we will be

[Dr. P. S. Deshmukh]

able to do it and bring about the same expansion of co-operative credit in these two areas also.

We will carefully note and take into consideration all the defects that have been pointed out, whether they are against particular officials or against the system of our governance there, and at the same time I can also assure my hon. friend that it is not our intention that the co-operatives should be controlled by officials. There may be circumstances which require some supervision and so on, but we will always reduce it to the minimum and always try to see that the spirit of co-operation is maintained. So, I can safely say that we will make every possible endeavour to see that co-operatives are worked on proper co-operative spirit.

Shri A. C. Guha also spoke, and he complained that we were being asked to approve of the application of an enactment within such a short time without giving them an opportunity of going through the whole Act and so on. That is true; I must say that the complaint is to a certain extent correct, but there is not much damage done or not much disadvantage to anybody, because these Acts are more or less of a model nature. If they are applied without having a detailed discussion in this House, so long as we have the consent of the advisory councils, I do not think my hon. friend's objection need be taken very seriously. If any of the provisions in either of these two Acts are not suitable to the area concerned, I am sure the advisory councils can always write to us and tell us that they would like certain changes to be made, and then we will be glad to bring them about. Of course, if we want to bring every legislation here and discuss it in Parliament,—legislation regarding the States of Tripura and Manipur—I do not know how much time it will take and how much time we will be able to spare for such legislation. That is the reason why we have taken the short cut. But I can assure the House

that the reason why Manipur has been given the Assam Act is that the organisation there is on the model of Assam, and that is also the demand of the advisory council there.

I have also noted the demand for land mortgage banks made by my hon. friend over there. We will see what can be done. I do not know if any effort has so far been made. There have also been complaints about the central marketing society that were organised there. I promise that I would look into the working of them. In a way, the contention is correct, namely, that it is no use having an apex marketing society without having any base, but sometimes we cannot wait so long as to provide a base in every possible area. We have tried to protect the interests of the people, but if the society is not protecting the interests, then of course, we stand, so to say, condemned. I mean that the remedy did not accomplish the good that was expected. But here also, we will certainly examine it, and if there is a possibility of improvement, we will certainly bring it about.

I think one of my hon. friends also suggested a central marketing organisation for the whole of India so that it will be possible to give some guidance and direction and advice or support to the central marketing organisations in Manipur and Tripura. We are contemplating to have such a central organisation and when that comes into being we will see what help we can render.

I do not think I need take more time of the House. I have already stated that we will note all the points and wherever we find that the defects exist we will try to remedy them. There was reference also to something being done by the Rehabilitation Department and certain other departments like the Tribal Welfare Department and so on. I have not got all the information. If there are any points which require being looked

into, we will see that relevant departments are addressed and the necessary relief given.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the repeal of certain laws in force in the Union territories of Manipur and Tripura be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are no amendments. I shall put the question. The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 4, clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 4, clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill be passed"

Shri Dasaratha Deb: So far as the Bombay Moneylenders Act is concerned, it was considered by the Advisory Committee and at one time some suggestion was made, which was also accepted. I am not quite sure whether that amendment could be incorporated here or whether it will be extended exactly in the form as it is.

Regarding the Bombay Co-operative Societies Act, I request the Minister that if it is found to be unsuitable for our State, at least after 6 months or one year later, they should bring that Act before Parliament and get it examined here.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: In the Bombay Act, there is no express provision for appeal to the State Government

against the decisions of the Registrar. Under sub-section (3) of section 18, no appeal shall lie to the State Government from the decisions of the Registrar. This matter has also been discussed by the Advisory Committee and doubts and objections have been raised about that particular section. So, there should be express provision for the constitution of a tribunal. I request the Minister to see if it would be possible to have some amendment of that section.

Then, one word about the money-lending business in Manipur. We want some Act to regulate the conditions of moneylending. In the rural area, it is 50 per cent on secured loans and 120 per cent on unsecured loans. In the urban area, it is 25 per cent on secured loans and 50 per cent on unsecured loans. So, something must be done, so that there may be some enactment to regulate the conditions of moneylending there also.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Both the enactments are really intended to meet the very situation which my friend has just described. Greater co-operative credit is intended, so that the farmers may not be required to pay exorbitant interests charged by the moneylenders and we are also trying to give cheaper credit to the co-operatives.

The Moneylenders Act is also intended to check the exorbitant interest they charge. I may also inform my friend, Mr. Deb, that the Bombay Moneylenders Act has been amended by notification to the extent that the Advisory Committee for Tripura wanted us to do. They made certain suggestions. Those suggestions will be accepted and incorporated in the notification. He also asked whether we will be able to change it if it is found that this Act is found to be unsuitable to conditions in Tripura. Certainly we will be ready to change it if the Advisory Council and the people think that it is unsuitable and if something more suitable to them could be had. We will always consider their representations and suggestions sympathetically.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

13.24 hrs.

RAJGHAT SAMADHI (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Rajghat Samadhi Act, 1951 be taken into consideration."

This Bill seeks to amend certain provisions of the Rajghat Samadhi Act, 1951. With a view to maintain the Samadhi and to administer it properly, a statutory committee was constituted by the Act of 1951. At the time that Act was passed, the Samadhi was within the jurisdiction of the New Delhi Municipal Committee. Since then, as the House is aware, the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act has been passed and the Samadhi has come within the jurisdiction of the Delhi Corporation. Under the Act of 1951, the President of the New Delhi Municipal Committee was to be an *ex-officio* member of the committee. Now, it is proposed to amend the Act to make the Mayor of the Delhi Corporation an *ex-officio* member, instead of the President of the New Delhi Municipal Committee.

Secondly, when the Act was passed in 1951, there was only one House of Parliament, and there was a clause in that Act that two members were to be nominated by the Speaker. Now since we have two Houses of Parliament—the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha—it is felt that representation should be given to both the Houses. It is the convention that the proportion of members in several committees

from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha is 2:1. So, instead of two members to be nominated by the Speaker as was provided under the 1951 Act, it is now proposed to amend the Act to provide for three Members of Parliament to be members of this committee, two to be elected by the Members of the Lok Sabha and one by the Members of the Rajya Sabha.

Thirdly, in the original Act, the tenure of membership of the Members of Parliament was not specifically laid down. The Committee on Subordinate Legislation, in its first report submitted to the House in 1957, recommended that it is very necessary that the tenure of membership should be specifically mentioned. That committee also recommended that this tenure of membership may be co-terminous with the membership of the particular person elected from either House.

With a view to make these changes, the present amending Bill has been brought forward. I do not want to go into the other aspects of the matter. Some amendments have been given notice of: I shall have occasion to speak about them when they are moved. It is a very simple amending Bill and I have explained the reasons why these amendments are proposed to be made now.

Sir, I move

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend the Rajghat Samadhi Act, 1951 be taken into consideration"

Shri Shree Narayan Das (Darbhanga): Sir, this amending Bill is a simple one. Certain provisions of the original Act are going to be amended with a view to giving increased representation to Members of Parliament. Also, since the Delhi Corporation has been constituted, it is necessary that representation should be given to that

also. It is in the fitness of things that the measure provides for the *ex-officio* membership of the Mayor on the committee of this Samadhi.

The title of this Act is Rajghat Samadhi Act. At the time the first Bill on the subject was taken up, it did not occur to anyone and I do not know whether the Government has applied its mind to this matter, namely, that it would have been better if the Samadhi had been named after Mahatma Gandhi. But that was not done. I would like to make this suggestion to the Government, so that they could consider making the necessary change at a suitable time in the future. I have not given any amendment in regard to this. So, it depends on the Minister to consider this suggestion and take suitable action at a suitable time in future.

I have given some other amendments and I shall move them during the clause-by-clause consideration. The strength of the committee is going to be increased. Instead of 2 Members of Parliament, 3 Members of Parliament are going to be members of the committee. In order that the number may not be even, one non-official is going to be added. Formerly there were three non-official members nominated by the Central Government. I would like to say that there are two bodies functioning in the Union Territory of Delhi—one is the Corporation and then there is the advisory body functioning here. Of course, it is necessary that some officers should be there. But some non-officials should also be there. So, I would like to suggest that besides the Mayor being there in the Committee, representation should be given to another Councillor of the Corporation or member of the Advisory Committee that is functioning now.

Shri K. C. Reddy: Which Advisory Committee

Shri Shree Narayan Das: Home Ministry's Advisory Committee for Delhi affairs.

In the existing Act there is a provision that the Chairman has to be

nominated by the Government and that the Government may nominate either from among the members selected under the provisions or any outsider. I would like to restrict the power of the Government, in this respect because Government nominates both the officials and non-officials. The number of people to be nominated by the Government will be near about 11. So, I think it is unnecessary to say that Government will nominate the Chairman from outside. When Government has got power to nominate both officials and non-officials, Government should make it a point to see to it that they nominate a suitable person for the Chairman of the Committee. Therefore, I would suggest that the right of the Government to select any other person from outside to be appointed as Chairman should be taken away. The power of the Government should be limited to choose from among the members, either elected or nominated by the Government.

Here I would take the opportunity to say that it has been reported that a small number of workers are engaged there by this Committee to look after this Samadhi. Their grievance is that no suitable uniforms, especially for the winter season, are supplied to them. It is necessary that the terms and conditions of work of these persons should also be that of Government servants. I have been told that the terms and conditions of their service, especially in the matter of leave and provision of uniforms, are not on par with those of Government servants. Samadhi is an open place, and they have to work there day and night. So, it is quite necessary that proper facilities should be given to them. It is in the fitness of things that the hon. Minister should take into consideration this aspect of the matter also.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated:

"With a view to ensuring proper maintenance, preservation

[Shri Nath Pai]

and administration of the Rajghat Samadhi.....”

this Committee is proposed to be appointed. I do not know when it was last that the hon. Minister paid a visit to this shrine. Some of us very recently went there. We are now told that the object of the Bill is to ensure its proper maintenance. I should like to ask him to have a look on a convenient date at the real condition of this holy shrine for the India of today. If we go there we find pitiable and pathetic conditions, and I shall be very careful about the adjectives I have to apply, because I know what is in the minds of all of us—we have to be above party considerations. There is an invasion, a plethora, hosts of Bhiwalas and other people on the very precincts where the body was cremated. If one goes and sees the structure as it stands, one does see, one does not get a feeling, one does not get conviction or any assurance or proof of evidence that such a big committee has been looking after its maintenance. One only feels in sorrow and sadness is this how we look after the only monument which India should take the greatest care of. Foreign visitors, the highest dignitaries, pilgrims from every quarters go to pay homage and what do we find there? If you look at the cement where हे हरे हरे राम

are inscribed, it has shown some cracks. Such a big committees was required to look after this monument and this is the result.

An Hon. Member: And that is also written wrongly.

Shri Nath Pai: Yes, that is wrongly written.

I should like to point out that eleven long years have lapsed since that ground was consecrated. We have a tradition of honouring our great deads, and he was the greatest who was cremated there. In France, I hope he has seen how the French

have tried to honour the greatest of Frenchmen, Napoleon. If you enter Rhine Valley you feel a profound sense of respect even if you dislike many things that Napoleon did. Because I think they have tried to embody all that was great in the French tradition in that man. What do we find? Coming nearer home, one man has built a monument to immortalize his love in such a way that generations feel the throb of love in their hearts when they see the Taj. Coming to the religious aspect, we see in the past we have tried to enshrine the memory of Buddha. How do we feel when we approach them? Are these the feelings that Rajghat evoke in our hearts? One feels, just as we are finding that we love the talk of his preaching, but in our life there is no reflection of what he tried to talk. The same, perhaps, is on par with the condition of his Samadhi, as it is on par with the way we have been treating his teaching.

I am sorry to say this, because I know there is no party feeling involved and nobody can take offence. Eleven long years have passed and there is a cement crack on the monument of Mahatma. The Prime Minister said that light which fell will continue to shine for thousands of years to come and his teachings will reverberate to the corridors of time. Some such feelings one must get when one goes there. I am afraid one goes with tremendous feelings in one's heart, devotion, reference and the noblest of feelings, but one comes back with a feeling of sadness what the nation is doing precious little to raise an adequate monument. There is nothing to be maintained, to be preserved, if the cement slab that has been put is the only thing that is to be preserved. I, in earnestness, taking this occasion, want to make an appeal to him. The Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi will not be another Taj—I know it. I am not asking for a piece of architecture or sculpture which will be just another piece of great monument in the country. It

will have to be something that will be in keeping with the greatness that has been enshrined there. It must be something unique and one should get a feeling when one approaches it. Today one gets only a feeling of sadness.

Has this nation so quickly forgotten the man who created this nation? We are glad of this proof that they are thinking that we need to do something, and that is why he has brought forth this Bill. I would add in conclusion, because one speaks more in sadness, that so far as the objects are concerned, they are laudable; I have no quarrel with them. But let us come to something basic and that is this: What are we going to do with the monument that is built in the name of Mahatma? We have to see that it is worthy of the man, is worthy of the tradition he tried to build, worthy of his teaching, worthy of his sacrifices, something where you will go and feel the kind of message reverberating in its atmosphere, because when other nations have tried to raise monuments to their great dead, they have created that feeling; be it a tomb of the unknown soldiers or of a great Nelson, that feeling of reverence, respect, you feel.

I want to go to the Rajghat Samadhi oftener than I do, but now when I go, I feel dejected, just as in political life when we find double talk we get dejected. We feel that nothing whatever has been done. We have been asking for plans. Why can't they be implemented quickly? Eleven long years was a long enough time. I, therefore, say: do something. I am not an architect, I am not a sculptor, but I am an Indian and I want to go to Rajghat to feel that something in keeping, in consonance, something that will remind me of the man who gave me self-respect is there. I want such a thing and those who bring this Bill should go to the deeper issue rather than technicalities and how big the committee is.

Shri Mahanty (Dhen Kanal): This Bill assumes certain importance when one takes into account the provisions in sub-clause (b) of clause 2, which provides for the election of three Members of Parliament to the committee for maintenance of this Samadhi at Rajghat. Of late, Members of Parliament are being increasingly associated with corporations or with committees sponsored by the government. Yesterday this House was considering the Banaras Hindu University (Amendment) Bill in which a provision was made for association of three hon. Members with the Executive Council of the Banaras Hindu University. A plea was made that the hon. Members should be elected by both the Houses of Parliament, but that did not commend to the Government. Now we find many gigantic corporations are being set up on which hon. Members of Parliament are being nominated either by the Government or by the Speaker. Here we find that for the committee to be set up for the maintenance of the Samadhi, hon. Members of Parliament have to be elected. We would like to be satisfied as to what is the basis of this rationale. If this is going to be accepted as the principle, I would be only too glad to welcome it. We would like that in all corporations and in all committees which are being sponsored by the Government with which hon. Members of Parliament are associated, they should be there on the elected basis. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister why this provision has been made, what is the rationale of it and whether the Government are committed to this principle in other cases.

There is also another minor matter. The nomenclature of the Bill has really confounded me. It is Rajghat Samadhi (Amendment) Bill. I fail to understand whether the *samadhi* is in memory of Gandhiji or Rajghat. Possibly, the Government are of the opinion that there are more than one

[*Shri Mahanty*]

mausoleums to Gandhiji and in order to differentiate this particular mausoleum they have named it *Rajghat mausoleum*. I may not be wrong in inferring that in that case the Government are of the view that the various State Governments are standing mausoleums to Gandhiji. They are standing *samadhis* to Gandhiji's principles. Gandhiji stood for truth. His followers can beat Machiavelli hollow. Gandhiji stood for non-violence. It is for anybody to take into account how many non-violent shootings have taken place in the country since the Congress came in power.

An Hon. Member: It will be written on these mausoleums.

Shri Mahanty: So, possibly to differentiate the mausoleums which are permanent mausoleums in human flesh and blood from this mausoleum in cement and concrete they have named it *Rajghat Samadhi*, otherwise I do not understand why the nomenclature should be *Rajghat Samadhi Bill*. It is not a mausoleum which has been set up to commemorate *Rajghat*. It is a mausoleum to commemorate the name of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation. Then, why are the Government so chary of association the name of Mahatma Gandhi with it? The reasons are best known to those who have sponsored this Bill and who have put this nomenclature. Anyhow, that is a minor point, but I would like to know from the hon. Minister the rationale of the provision in sub-section (d) of clause 2.

Shri Achar (Mangalore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I welcome the Bill, but I would like to have a little information from the hon. Minister because I feel that this principle of nomination is too much is evidence in this Bill. I find that originally the membership was nine and out of that six, rather eight people were nominated. Only the Municipal Pre-

sident was the elected person. Now, there are eleven members and out of them I find seven are nominated, one elected, i.e., the Municipal President and the three elected from Parliament. That is to say the result is that out of eleven, seven are nominated. I would only like to ask the question whether the Government should have so many nominated members. I can understand the position that the Government has got to be represented. There may be one or two nominated members by the Government, i.e., the official class. Then, with regard to non-officials I find that there are four nominated. I would submit that on the whole this principle of nomination is not good. Of course, probably being accustomed to the nomination principle during the days of the British Government, we are very much averse to it. But I feel that under an elected popular Government this nomination should be avoided as far as possible. That is what I feel. Out of eleven is it necessary that as many as seven should be nominated?

An Hon. Member: To be elected.

Shri Achar: I would only request the hon. Minister to consider this aspect of the question. I have not put in any amendment. I do not know what the position is. But on the whole I find that this nomination is too much in the picture and it would be better for the Government to avoid it and have less number of nominated members or more elected members.

Shri Radha Raman (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir I welcome this Bill since it removes some of the short-comings that were found in the previous Bill. Since this is an amending Bill and these amendments which are proposed by the hon. Minister are definitely an improvement on the existing Bill and since this Bill is meant for ensuring proper maintenance, preservation and

administration of the Rajghat Samadhi and because of the present conditions prevailing at Rajghat I wish to add my sentiments exactly in the same language as was used by my hon. friend, Shri Nath Pai.

I have been often visiting this Rajghat Samadhi and I find that its maintenance, preservation and administration are not to the satisfaction of people who actually hold in very high esteem the *Rashtrapita*—Mahatma Gandhi. I also feel that the name as it is suggested does not give the impression that it has anything to do with that great man whom we are commemorating in the form of a *samadhi*. I endorse the demand that its name should be changed to Gandhi *samadhi*. It did not strike us earlier, but I would request the hon. Minister of Works, Housing and Supply to consider this and even at this late stage if this name could be changed to Gandhi *samadhi*, it would be an improvement because we do not want to commemorate Rajghat. It is in the name of our great *Rashtrapita* that we want to have this *Samadhi* and therefore it will be in the fitness of things if the name is changed from Rajghat *samadhi* to Gandhi *Samadhi*.

With regard to its maintenance and preservation I just want to say that we are only looking forward to the finality of that *samadhi* because the Government has now approved the final design and therefore what little short-comings we see today we hope will be removed when that final *samadhi* comes into existing. But, all the same till the time that monument is created, there are certain things which need to be taken care of and in respect of them I have to say that near about the *samadhi* we very often find that all kinds of people go there. I have seen people going there in the morning and making water near about its compound. Sometimes they go there and play cards. Some other time they go and have some kind of gambling etc.

I say proper care has to be taken in order to preserve the sanctity of that place.

I am not in agreement with my hon. friend who has just now spoken that we should eliminate the entire list of nominations from the Bill. Out of eleven members Government have thought it fit to have seven people as nominated Members. I fully agree that there should be nominated element because the people who believe in the ideology of Gandhiji, the ideology for which Gandhiji lived and who try to live that life by themselves, will not stand for elections. If you want to ensure the proper care of the *Samadhi*, it would be much better if there was more of the nominated element than the elected element. I fully endorse the Government's view. I would also say that the Chairman of the Committee, whether he is from outside or inside.—I would prefer him to be from inside, when there is nomination—he should be a man or woman who has great conviction in the ideas or ideals which Mahatma Gandhi preached. Because, if we have an official as Chairman, certainly he cannot give so much attention, act with so much devotion and so much dedication as is necessary to maintain and preserve the *Samadhi* which is there.

In respect of the staff, our friend has just now spoken. I have met a deputation from the staff engaged in the Gandhiji *Samadhi*. I can say that the conditions attached to their Service are not as good or as favourable as are enjoyed by the government servants. I feel that the time has come when the Government could think in terms of giving those privileges and all those facilities which government servants enjoy, including winter uniform, leave rules and other service rules which are not applicable to them *in toto* at present. There is some dissatisfaction caused on account of that. That should be looked into.

I also find that at the *Samadhi*, though there has been some improvement in regard to maintenance or in

[Shri Radha Raman]

regard to the care of shoes, etc., of the people who go there, yet that is a very temporary arrangement. Even for the interim period, there should be better arrangements for the care of shoes or other things that the people take there sometimes. They take bags, umbrellas and other things. They are not taken care of. They are sometimes left outside and sometimes they are even stolen.

In the Samadhi, I find there is a big box in which charity money is dropped. The people who go there just put in some coins there. There is a small hole in it and it is not protected against rain. What we find. Sometimes, currency notes are put in that box. During rains water gets into it through the small hole and the notes get wet and spoiled. There should be some water proof box put there, so that any currency note that is placed inside that box does not get spoiled or it should be protected against rains getting into it. That is another thing which I want the hon. Minister to examine.

Of course, as I have already said, we cannot say much until the Samadhi comes into existence in its final shape. Presently, we find that the people who visit the Samadhi do not find a proper climate or atmosphere for worship or reverence. On Friday evenings or even Friday mornings, there is some kind of flower decoration and other things. As previously we had seen, at least on particular days, there should be somebody to look after it—may be a Pandit, may be a devoted person who goes there, puts some incense there and makes that Samadhi reverberate or create an atmosphere by which you feel as if you want to worship and you come back with great devotion, great dedication to the great ideal for which Mahatma Gandhi lived.

For drinking water, I find there is some arrangement. But, there is a lot of improvement needed in that

There is no pakka pivanu. On the one side, there is some arrangement. That has been made after complaints. On the other side, there is no such arrangement. In summer, sometimes, it is very difficult for anybody to get suitable drinking water near about the Samadhi near both the gates. These are some of the shortcomings there. If we really want to perpetuate the memory of our great Leader, if we really want the country to be indebted to him and if we should live the life that he lived and he wanted us to live, there should be more attention paid to these things. I particularise that the persons who are nominated, the persons who are elected, the man who is the Chairman of such a committee should all be dedicated to the work that Mahatma Gandhi stood for and lived for. Only such persons should be there and the whole thing should not be placed in official hands. I find that the work at present is entrusted to the New Delhi Municipal Committee. The New Delhi Municipal Committee is looking after the Samadhi only in an official way. There is no person who takes particular care or devotes time or feels dedicated to the work that is entrusted to him. If you want that Samadhi should be properly preserved and maintained and it should come up to our expectation, I am afraid that this arrangement cannot bring about the results that we want to bring about by the erection or construction of the great monument. I would only suggest that the hon. Minister should look into these shortcomings and see that the object for which the Samadhi is erected and the Bill is placed before us is fully realised.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A large number of hon. Members want to participate in the discussion. Therefore, I would request them to take as short a time as possible.

Dr. Sushila Nayar (Jhansi): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, so far as this

amending Bill is concerned, I do not think there is much to say. It is a routine kind of Bill. There is no fundamental change so far as I can see. The Mayor has to be brought in with the coming of the Corporation. If the number of members is slightly increased, it is not of great importance. I entirely agree with what Shri Radha Raman said just now that nominations should continue. To bring in elections into everything and to think that unless people are brought in by election, there is something lacking, I think, is a wrong concept. Particularly when a subject like the care of Mahatma Gandhi's Samadhi is concerned, I think, consideration of elections should not be brought in. Election is a symbol of politics. It is very necessary to keep politics out of it and keep elections out of it. As Shri Radha Raman has pointed out, most of the people who are really staunch devotees of the ideology of Mahatma Gandhi would never think of contesting any election. You do not find them in this House and you certainly won't expect them to come and stand for election for a thing like this. They will have to be nominated and brought in. We have to go and seek their services and not they who have to seek election and other people's votes.

While this Bill is being discussed some general observations are in order. I only heard the last few sentences of Shri Nath Pai's speech, and I find myself in whole-hearted agreement with him. Gandhiji's Samadhi should have a spirit and an atmosphere which would affect us as we step into its precincts, as we used to be affected when we stepped into his presence. We cannot bring Gandhiji back in person, but we can certainly have something when we stepped into his presence in that place. For that reason there is need to have better regulation of entry into that place.

14 hrs.

That might require more staff. When we think of staff I would plead with the hon. Minister that the staff for the maintenance of Gandhiji's Samadhi

should be well selected. I would suggest that he might ask the basic education people to supply him some suitable persons to take up this job, because the very visit to Gandhiji's samadhi should in a way become a means of education and no introduction to what Gandhiji stood for. These people should not be mere caretakers looking after people's shoes and this, that and the other things, but they should take people round and they should be capable of talking to people giving them some idea of what they have come to visit in that great place.

For that reason I feel that this arrangement of shoes being taken off right inside is not good. It would be better if shoes were kept right outside the precincts of the samadhi, and once they go inside people do not talk loud, do not rush and run and roam as happens at present, but go there in a spirit of prayerfulness trying to understand the man and catch a glimpse of the spirit of the man in whose memory that place is supposed to be.

I am one of those who believe that no memorials to Mahatma Gandhi and men like him can be built in brick and mortar, and the real memorial for Mahatma Gandhi can only be in the form of something which continues and nourishes the activities that he stood for, and laid down his life for.

14-03. hrs.

[SHRI BARMAN *in the Chair*]

So, I feel that while some kind of brick and mortar structure becomes necessary for human beings to visualise things, still to place too much reliance on brick and mortar is not right, is not proper. Round about that place there could be some kind of an attempt to revive some of those activities that Gandhiji was connected with. For instance, right across the road from the present Rajghat samadhi there is a big piece of land. In that there could be a basic education institution, there could be a place for the bringing up of children sound in body and mind, laying emphasis

[Dr. Susila Nayar]

on mental health. If in that place we could have an institution for making children whole who are broken down, crippled, in body and mind, that would be a fitting memorial to Mahatma Gandhi. Particularly, as I said, if we use the methods of basic education which have been approved and commended by educationists all over the world, then this institution right across would be a worthy institution reminding us of the spirit of Mahatma Gandhi.

A museum has been constructed, or is under construction. It should not only have museum pieces for people to see, but also have some active demonstration of activities in the field of khadi and other constructive work items that Gandhiji was interested in.

Then I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to what is going on in the surroundings of Mahatma Gandhi's samadhi. Just behind that samadhi there are miserable slums where thousands of people are living, and they are the very denial of all that Gandhiji lived for and died for. Therefore, I would plead with the hon. Minister to clear that slum next-door to Mahatma Gandhi's samadhi as a very high priority item of work on the Government's programme of slum clearance.

With these words, I wholeheartedly commend the Bill that the hon. Minister has brought forward.

Shri C. K. Nair (Outer Delhi): so far as the idea contained in the amending Bill is concerned, I have not much to say, but certainly the first thing that struck me was the nomenclature of the Bill itself, i.e., the Rajghat Samadhi (Amendment) Bill. As Shri Nath Paj has pointed out very correctly, Rajghat Samadhi carries us nowhere because for these few years we have been thinking of Rajghat Samadhi as associated with Gandhiji's death and the procession and things like that, but the genera-

tions to come will not know what this samadhi is for. Especially, Rajghat is a ghat much older, many centuries old. It is not Rajghat we are going to commemorate the memory of. We are going to commemorate the memory of Gandhiji. Therefore, it should be Gandhi Samadhi.

Secondly I feel the present site of the samadhi is very defective because it is on the banks of the Jumna. We have been studying the vagaries of this river. Indeed, the whole thing may be washed away. If not in 5, 10, 15 or 100 years, it is sure to be washed away some time. Therefore, I would like the samadhi to be shifted to the ridge site behind the place where Gandhiji was living, that is, near the Bhangi Colony,

An Hon. Member: Birla's?

Shri C. K. Nair: just as the Britishers have erected what is called the mutiny memorial.

An Hon. Member: Community hall?

Shri C. K. Nair: Even when the whole city is washed off by the Jumna, I think Jeet Garh near Sabzi Mandi ridge will never be washed away, it will remain there for centuries. The memory of Gandhiji is one that has to be kept through centuries like that of Buddha. I very much appreciated the site that was chosen for the commemoration of the twenty-fifth centenary of Buddha, that is on the ridge. I think, on the same lines, after two or three miles on the eastern side we can have it. Also I want the nomenclature to go. It must be Gandhi Samadhi. We can have it here or there.

This is a reason which has been agitating my mind whenever there is a flood every year. The power station is situated just near it, and we are very much worried that when

the floods come, the electric supply of the city may be cut off because the water may not flow into the plant to cool the electric station. For that reason also I think the site has to be shifted.

There is another point. As Shri Nath Pai pointed out, it is really a pity that after eleven years of the death of our great leader the commemoration monument has not been established, has not even been finalised. It is a great pity. Our great leaders who were working with Gandhiji, his great lieutenants, are passing away one after the other. I wonder why this delay should be caused in finalising the scheme or the plan and starting the monument itself. More of us may pass away and we do not know when it is going to come at all. Therefore, I think first priority should be given to the erection of the monument that is being proposed. For that reason also I want this nomenclature of Rajghat to go. When that monument is to come it must be established on a stronger and a more permanent site, and as I pointed out, on the ridge site.

Then I would like to say a word about the facilities given to the employees at Rajghat. There seems to be a bit of complaint from them that there is a step-motherly treatment towards them by the CPWD who is the ultimate authority to take care of the Samadhi. Therefore I feel that they should be given all the facilities that a Government servant working in the CPWD is entitled to.

A point was made about the nomination of members in the committee. As a matter of fact this committee is only just a care-taker committee. It has not got very much of powers to do anything. It is meant mainly for the maintenance of the Samadhi. Therefore, some of the important engineers and other permanent Government servants are unavoidable, they are there, and they must be

there. The non-officials and officials all belong to Gandhiji, they all belong to our great leader, the Father of the Nation. So, we should not make any difference now between officials and non-officials. All of them are to work there.

In conclusion, I would say a word about the surroundings of the Rajghat Samadhi. As soon as any car or anybody comes from the railway station to Delhi Gate, he must know that he is on a holy ground. I think this can be achieved, it is not at all difficult. In the place where Gandhiji's remains lie I think the surroundings must be made more beautiful and more attractive and more venerable. That could be done by having a beautiful road from Delhi Gate up to the Samadhi with avenues and other things. The ganda nala which is still flowing there must be covered. I hope some attention will be paid towards this also.

With these words I support the Bill.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर (बाह्य दिल्ली-रक्षित-अनुमूचित जातिया) सभापति महादय गांधी जी की समाधि की व्यवस्था और देख-भाल करने के सम्बन्ध में जो सलाहकार समिति बनगी उस में कुछ सदस्यों की नियुक्ति करने के लिये यह विधेयक लाया गया है। जैसा कि श्री श्रीनारायण दास ने कहा है दिल्ली को दा अगो में विभाजित किया जा सकता है— एक नगर निगम और दूसरा दिल्ली प्रशासन। जहाँ तक नगर निगम का सम्बन्ध है जब हम नगर निगम के महापौर-मेयर-का कमेटी में ले लेते हैं ता निगम के प्रतिनिधित्व का प्रश्न ता पूरा हो जाता है। दिल्ली प्रशासन से सम्बन्धित एक सलाहकार समिति बनी हुई है जिस के अध्यक्ष माननीय गृह-मंत्री जी हैं। में समझता हूँ कि यदि सलाहकार समिति के सदस्यों का भी इस में सम्मिलित कर लिया जाता ता वह बहुत

[श्री नवल प्रभाकर]

उपयुक्त होता। इस विधेयक में केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा चार सदस्य नामीनेट किये जाने की भी व्यवस्था की गई है। उस का मैं स्वागत करता हूँ, लेकिन माथ ही मैं यह भी चाहता हूँ कि जो चार सदस्य लिये जायें, वे इस प्रकार के हाने चाहिये कि गांधी जी के विचारों में उन की आस्था हो और वे गांधी जी की विचार-धारा में विश्वास रखते हों। अगर ये चार सदस्य प्रशासन की दृष्टि में या टेक्निकल विशेषज्ञ होने की दृष्टि से रखे जायेंगे, तो उन में वह महत्व या प्रभाव नहीं होगा, जो कि गांधी जी की विचार-धारा में विश्वास रखने वाले व्यक्तियों को रखने में होगा।

जहाँ तक समाधि का सम्बन्ध है जब कोई व्यक्ति वहाँ जाता है तो दिल्ली दरवाजे में चल कर उस को सब में पहले गन्दे नाले के दर्शन हात हँ। एक परम पवित्र और पावन स्थान पर जब हम जायें तो यह आवश्यक है कि ज्यो ज्यो हम उस ओर बढ़ते जायें हमारा मन में पवित्रता बढ़ती जाय, हमारा मन उस शान्त और पवित्र वातावरण में प्रभावित हो और हम में श्रद्धा के भाव उत्पन्न ह। इस तरह का वहाँ का वातावरण होना चाहिये लेकिन आज यदि हम दिल्ली गेट में चलते हैं तो बड़ा विचित्र सा लगता है। एक तरफ तो फुटबाल का मैदान है जो कि थोड़े दिनों के लिये आपन-पथर सिनेमा बन जाता है जहाँ शाम के वक्त बड़ा हा-हल्ला मचता है। दूसरी तरफ गन्दा नाला बहता रहता है। उसके आगे जायें तो बहुत सी औपडिया पड़ी हुई हैं, एक गन्दी वस्ती बसी हुई है जिस का वातावरण बहुत ही घिनौना है और उसके माथ यदि हम समाधि का मेल करें तो बड़ा विचित्र लगता है। वहाँ पर कूड़ा और गन्दगी पड़े रहते हैं और म्यूनिसिपल कमिटी का रेप्यूज वहाँ डाल दिया जाता है। एक तरफ जमुना है, लेकिन अगर वह

न होती, तो उस ओर भी यही दशा होती। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से नम्र निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ हम समाधि की देख-भाल करें, वहाँ यह भी अत्यन्त आवश्यक है कि वहाँ के चारों ओर के वातावरण में परिवर्तन होना चाहिये। वहाँ इस प्रकार का वातावरण होना चाहिये कि जो व्यक्ति वहाँ जायें, उसके मन में पवित्रता उत्पन्न हो और श्रद्धा जाग्रत हो। जहाँ तक बापू की समाधि का सम्बन्ध है, इस देश के निवासी तो उस को बड़ी श्रद्धा की दृष्टि से देखते हैं परन्तु बाहर से, दूसरे देशों में जा लोग श्रद्धाजलि अर्पित करने के लिये आते हैं, वहाँ जाते हुये उन के मन में क्या भाव उत्पन्न होंगे? जहाँ तक मैंने पढ़ा है देखा है सुना है, मैं समझता हूँ कि जा इस तरह के राष्ट्रीय महत्व के स्थान ह उन के लिये सरकार काफी कुछ प्रयत्न करती है और उस के विकास के लिये काफी खर्च करती है। मैं पछले छ माल में यहाँ लोक सभा में सदस्य बन कर आया ह और मैंने देखा है कि राजघाट समाधि के सम्बन्ध में बहुत स प्रश्न किये जाते हैं कि वह कब बनेगी कब बनेगी कबमा कबमा मंत्रीरियल लगेगा इत्यादि। हर बार मंत्री महोदय उन प्रश्नों का उत्तर देते हैं कि अभी नक्शा तैयार नहीं हुआ है नक्शा की प्रदर्शनी हा रही है माउल बन गये हैं उनकी प्रदर्शनी हा रही है इत्यादि। अब सुनते हैं कि वह माउल भी तैयार हो गया है रवीवार भी कर लिया गया है, किन्तु उस का निमाण कब किया जायगा कब यह काम हाथ में लिया जायगा यह समझ में नहीं आता है। हा सकता है कि इस सम्बन्ध में यह कहा जाय कि पैमें की कमी है। मैं नहीं समझ सकता कि जब अशोक होटल और बड़े बड़े दफ्तर बन सकते हैं, तो फिर राजघाट की समाधि का विकास क्यों न हो, जो कि हमारे लिये एक परम पवित्र स्थान है। आखिर वहाँ पर इमारत

का निर्माण कब प्रारम्भ किया जायगा ? मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस इमारत को देश के कोटि कोटि लोग देखना चाहते हैं। उस का अविभाज्य शीघ्र होना चाहिये। बापू जी जहाँ जहाँ जाते थे, जन जन के मन में, उन के भाव और उनके विचार व्याप्त होते थे। आज इस देश के लोग यह देखना चाहते हैं कि उन की भावनाओं और उन के विचारों के धनुरूप आज वह समाधि तैयार होती है या नहीं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से फिर कहना चाहता हूँ कि समाधि की जो रूपरेखा आप ने तैयार की है, उस को जल्दी से जल्दी कार्यान्वित किया जाय और समाधि का निर्माण किया जाय।

Shri Nanjappa (Nilgiris): I rise to speak on this Bill because I feel that Delhi is not given proper representation on the Samadhi Committee. The purpose of the Bill is maintenance, preservation and administration of the Samadhi. It is proper that the Delhi Municipal Corporation is given that work. But in the Bill, only the Mayor is a member *ex-officio*. As per the Municipal Corporation law, the Mayor's term of office is only for a year. So one can expect that there will be a series of Mayors coming one after another. So I have tabled an amendment to the effect that one of the members of the Municipal Corporation may be given a place on the Committee.

It may be argued that Members representing Delhi who are in Parliament may be elected from Parliament. The election is out of 750 Members and it is not guaranteed that only Members who represent Delhi will be elected out of this huge number. Therefore, I feel that the Delhi Municipal Corporation may be given a proper place in the management of the Samadhi.

Some hon. Members while speaking objected to the name of "Rajghat

Samadhi". I welcome a change of name and it should be 'Mahatma Gandhi Samadhi'. But intentionally or unintentionally, the name 'Rajghat Samadhi' has been given. I think it is in keeping with what Mahatmaji lived and stood for. His life is a monument of simplicity, selflessness and humility. So if his name is not given to the Samadhi, I believe it is only in keeping with what he lived for.

Some hon. Members related the real state of affairs found in and around the Samadhi. One hon. Member said that he felt very sorry to see things so bad there. I am glad at least feelings were roused while going there. If he had seen a statue or some other big monument or mausoleum at it is in Agra, he would have looked at the thing and admired it, and his feeling would not have been roused. What is now found there is quite satisfactory and very simple and they really rouse the feelings of all those who go there. Nobody goes there simply to see Rajghat. He goes with the feeling that it is Mahatmaji's Samadhi, and to pay homage. He should not go there to 'see' Rajghat or such other things.

Some hon. Members take objection to so many people being nominated. I do not quarrel with officials being there. Among the non-officials some of the disciples of Gandhiji may be nominated. But how long will these disciples of Gandhiji be there to serve on the Committee? Have they not got anything better to do than to be on this Committee and see that this Samadhi is maintained, preserved and administered properly? So there is no meaning in saying that only Gandhiji's disciples should be there and people in Delhi should not be given this responsibility. I feel the Delhi Municipal Corporation is the best authority in the long run to maintain, preserve and administer the Samadhi. Therefore, I have tabled an amendment that at least one

[Shri Nanjappa]

member of the Corporation may be added to the Committee, so that more responsibility may be given to the Corporation to maintain and preserve Gandhiji's Samadhi.

Mr. Chairman: How much time is the hon. Minister likely to take to reply?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I will require ten minutes.

Shri Nath Pai: When is the Minister going to be called?

Mr. Chairman: There are a number of Members who want to speak. But we want to finish with this Bill by 3 p.m. So Members will be brief. I am getting so many chits.

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): I welcome this Bill for the reason that the House gets an opportunity of expressing its feelings as to how the Samadhi is now being kept. As has already been said, in so far as the Bill is called the Rajghat Samadhi (Amendment) Bill, I join with other Members who have expressed the opinion that it is better to change the name to 'Mahatma Gandhi Samadhi' instead of calling it 'Rajghat Samadhi'.

It is necessary for us to think in terms of letting the world know how Indians feel about preserving the memory of the late Father of the Nation. The Samadhi, as it is today, does not in any way make the people feel that this is in memory of the Father of the Nation and there is any effort on the part of the country to maintain it in a manner which will create the impression that the whole nation feels and is serious about maintaining this Samadhi. The PWD looks after Ashoka Hotel and the hotel is kept in a tip-top condition. But we have seen cracks here in the Samadhi. I do not know when foreign visitors, representatives of various

countries, come here and pay their homage to the Father of the Nation, and see these cracks in the cement work of the Samadhi, what feelings and impression they will form about the people of this country.

I feel that it is necessary that today we must think in terms of creating a mausoleum. From the approach to the place, it should be so arranged that people may feel that they are approaching the mausoleum of the Father of the Nation and there will be sanctity and serenity all around. It is being said that to commemorate the memory of Mahatma Gandhi the best way would be for us to follow his teachings. No doubt, that will be the best way. But knowing fully well that it is neither followed nor is it possible for all people to follow unless they learn, it is important that the mausoleum should be such that people will get inspiration out of it.

Some suggestion has been made that we should not think much of erecting a memorial with brick and mortar. I say it is necessary. It is being said that God is everywhere; and in spite of it a temple is necessary. It is necessary that the mausoleum should be there. And, Parliament should see that whatever money is necessary is spent there without any objection. In the Budget we grant huge amounts to many departments. I think there will be unanimous support if the P.W.D. comes forward with the proper proposal for the erection and maintenance of this samadhi.

So far as this Bill is concerned, it is said that it was necessary to bring this because of certain administrative technicalities, changes due to the conversion of the Municipality into the Corporation. So far as that part is concerned, I would like to leave the matter as it is. So far as the committee is concerned, it is an advisory committee to advise how things are to be maintained. The main point is

not about the committee; but it is about the outlook.

The mausoleum of Mahatma Gandhi should be such that it would draw people from every part of this country, not only from this country but from other countries also, to be a piece of architecture which will really represent our culture and tradition which are the oldest in the world. The less said the better about the way things are being kept today. We can only say that the Government, that the department—and we may say even this popular Parliament also—has not taken proper cognisance of the importance of the Samadhi.

I take this opportunity of placing this before the House so that the hon. Minister may consider this matter and come before the House with a proper proposal, which, I am quite sure, will be supported by hon. Members from every section of the House because it is a mausoleum of a man who stands above any political parties or politics.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not possible for me to congratulate the Government on this occasion; nor is it possible for me to abstain from expressing my extreme possible dissatisfaction with the manner in which the Government has been neglecting its duty in regard to this Samadhi. I am all in favour of the suggestion made by my hon. friend Shri Krishnan Nair, that we should begin to call it Mahatma Gandhi Samadhi.

Secondly, I am not one of those who do not attach any importance to brick and mortar. If we are to be completely indifferent to brick and mortar, then, we can as well abolish our Archaeological Department. Life has been given to brick and mortar by that great Emperor Shahjehan. The whole world is only too anxious to come over here in order to pay its homage to that poem of love, poem in stone, the saga of love, an elegy

for that great Empress. While we are having it in our midst, it would be foolish, I think, on the part of anybody to say that in order to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's name, we need not utilise brick and mortar.

We suggest to ourselves that we have done a good thing indeed for our country and its prestige by spending more than a crore of rupees on the Ashoka Hotel in order that we can also claim one of the first-class structures in the whole world. When we could have done that for the sake of a Hotel, what is it that this Government could not do or could not have thought of doing with the approval of all sections of this House in order to commemorate the name of the greatest of the great in this century and for many centuries past and for many more centuries to come.

Till now we have done very little. The designs are not even ready yet. Does it speak well, not only of this Ministry but of the whole Government; does it speak well of the whole of this Parliament as my hon. friend put it? My hon. friend and the hon. friends sitting behind him have said that all sections and parties in this House are unanimous in this demand that a fitting memorial should be raised to commemorate the name of the Father of this Nation in this city, the city of Indraprastha, the city of Dharmaraja, the city of those great emperors and rulers and other great sages that we have had in the course of our long history.

I think, Sir, the suggestion made by my hon. friend, Shri Krishnan Nair is worthy of consideration—whether we can possibly remove that Samadhi from there and fix it on the ridge. After all the most important thing is.....

Shri C. K. Nair: The Samadhi must be there.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (New Delhi): That place is consecrated; it should be there.

Shri C. K. Nair: Gandhiji rather lived there.

Shri Ranga: The Bhangi colony is there; we can have it there, (*Interruptions*). If that does not find favour with all those authorities who can speak in the name of Mahatma Gandhi and also the Government, let them keep it where it is. Then, I would like that the whole line right up to the banks of the Jamuna be added on to this particular Samadhi.

Even if these great experts could not make up their minds as to the kind of Samadhi that they would like to put up, they could have made up their minds at least to put up some good enough, architectural, beautiful shelter for those people who have to come there to pay their respects to Mahatma Gandhi. In rain and in sun people have got to suffer, there is nothing there. Why has it taken Government so many years to do something in this matter? So many other things could have been said and must be said also.

I am all in favour of what our sister, Dr Sushila Nayar, has said, that all round the Samadhi we should be able to put up good enough, artistic enough, beautiful enough structures that will be an example to the rest of the world and to the people of this generation and also future generations of the various constructive activities with which Mahatma Gandhi had been associated.

Today, I am glad anyhow that there are 3 or 4 buildings there coming up, one for Gandhian literature, another for constructive work and so on. Some time ago there was a kind of museum; it was a temporary one. I would like a permanent one to be put up there. Some energetic thought should be given and much more energetic effort also should be made to see that something is being done.

People are coming from all over the world. What will they think? This country has had a Planning

Commission and planners and yet they have not been able to make any kind of show at all even after 10 years after Mahatma Gandhi had passed away. Sir, it does not speak well. I am ashamed of it myself; and I do not know how Government feels about it. I, therefore, request the Government to give its best possible and earnest thought to this matter and give it priority and see that something good and decent enough is done in the name of Mahatma Gandhi our national leader, our Master—for so many of us and I am sure all the other sections of the House also would like to own him as their Master as we own him as our Master.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The hon. Member who has just spoken has criticised the Government for the delay in putting up any suitable memorial or monument. He is justified in criticising the Government. But at the same time this question has been one of extraordinary difficulty. Opinions have differed very greatly and one can understand the reason for that difference. On the one hand some people imagined that to do honour to a great man, one must put up some kind of ornate, huge structure. On the other hand, people thought it to be highly inappropriate and improper to put up an ornate structure. It was felt that it should be as the green grass and flowers do honour to a man who was essentially, if I may say so, more suited to the green grass of this land and the flowers of this land than to ornate buildings. So, this conflict remained and many proposals were made and considered and ultimately not accepted.

Meanwhile, something was done there. Some trees were planted; some kind of platforms were made. The trees are attractive enough; but I must confess that the platform and the minor structures there are by no

means attractive or artistic. However, they have continued simply because we were waiting for some suitable change.

Then we invited artists, in fact from beyond India too; I believe, I am not quite sure, it was not merely confined to India. A committee was appointed to choose and we gave prizes—I forget exactly the amount—about Rs. 10,000 or so for the first prize. Many proposals came, and I think, from other countries too. As is the habit, a choice is made without knowing who has sent the proposal so that there may be no partisanship; the names of the people who sent them were closed. Something was thus chosen. It was from an Indian architect which appealed to us. We examined it thoroughly. We consulted, apart from the committee, many other people here. Most of them liked it but some did not. We suggested some slight changes in it and those changes were also made; it took many months for the architect to do that. Ultimately, we have approved, as the hon. Member probably knows, of a certain design which is divided up into several phases and it shall take probably some years to complete. It is in a sense a simple enough design, at the same time, rather unusual. I cannot say straight off if everyone who sees it will like it immediately or not but it did, after very considerable thought and discussion, seem to us a suitable and appropriate one for Gandhiji, not ornate and yet having a certain touch of dignity and symbolism about it. There it is.

In answer to some questions, it was stated that it would cost about Rs. 50, 60 or 70 lakhs; I forget. Most of this money was really going to be spent on earthen work. Subsequently we asked the architect to change that so that it need not be quite so high. I believe it has resulted in reducing the cost of the structure by more than half. I feel that, personally

speaking, for myself, it is a suitable thing which will not hurt—if I may use the word—the chaste memory of Gandhiji by some unjust and ornate design. Some people suggested marble steps, a marble mausoleum.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): We do not want another Birla temple; it should be simple

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Some people suggested marble steps leading to the Jamuna and all that. That seemed to me, in this connection, rather hard suggestion I do not know whatever other people think. Anyhow something has been decided. There has been delay no doubt but it was a thing which essentially was not necessarily a very urgent matter. Why should we hurry and put up something which afterwards we may regret? I believe very soon the first phase will start

Shri C. K. Nair: You will not be there to regret, many of us may not be there to regret. Let us hurry up.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Anyhow, I hope we are not building there some thing only for the present generation; it is also for the other generations to come

Shri C. K. Nair: That is another condemnation of our generation. (Interruptions)

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not understand this haste in putting up a memorial of this type. I am anxious enough too. Anyhow, I believe it is far more important that a suitable and proper thing should be put up there than something should be put up in haste

If the House will forgive my saying so,—I am not referring to this House but to conditions in India today—the artistic taste has gone down. I am not talking about artists and

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

architects but I am talking about the general artistic taste of the public; it is not of a very high order because we have been brought up from childhood in very inæsthetic and unartistic surroundings, partly because of British rule where architecture was an amorphous and ugly type that was developed and partly because of our moneyed people having a total absence of taste; they built expensive structures either to house themselves or even temples and others; There is a famous temple in Delhi which is not a model of artistic taste, whatever else it may be.

So, we have somehow to get over this difficulty. People come to us and want to put up those very ornate structures, big tombs and marbles and all that and think it is very beautiful. First of all it may or may not be beautiful. But it is certainly totally inappropriate so far as Gandhiji was concerned. Anyhow, we thought that it was necessary to put it up. Some even thought that there should be no structure at all. I for one thought that nothing should be done, except that there should be an open space, poperly arranged, a park if you like but there should be no structure at all. There were other conflicting opinions. I am not yet sure that it is a good thing to have anything. However, we have decided on something which is not a big structure. In fact except for the second phase of it where a rather big type of structure comes in the rest is—I cannot describe it really but any hon. Member can see the model. I believe the models are accessible to those who like to see them; it can be made accessible; it cannot be brought to Parliament House; it is too big but I am sure that my hon. colleague will have it placed somewhere where it can be seen. Anyhow, I hope that the first phase of it, that is the central arrangement, can begin and will begin soon. That work is largely one of earth work and a lot of earth will have to be moved.

It has been suggested—I think it is a good suggestion—that when this work starts and during the course of this work, it should not only be done in the normal way as things are done, but that each one of us, each citizen of Delhi and outside, should have the privilege of participating in that work to some extent—not to save money in that, although there is money, but by voluntary labour to be rather associated with this work. After that first stage work is over, although we have accepted the whole scheme, we shall again look at the first phase before going on to the second phase.

Shri C. K. Nair: What does the Prime Minister think about the desirability of removing that site if you are going to spend a few lakhs of rupees? Because of the vagaries of Jamuna, it does not permit us and it may not last fifty or hundred years; it will all be washed away. Why not we have the site changed to the Ridge site where Gandhiji was living, behind that place?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not understand this removing of the site. First of all, as I have just stated, this whole idea is to create a hillock there. If it is a hillock, well, it survives the Jumna. The whole idea is to raise it; we have other protective works too, to protect it from the Jumna.

But I confess—I had not thought—I thought that the site had a certain value in it a certain sentiment about it. You can put up a monument anywhere in India. But whatever else you might put up, that site also should be preserved in a proper way.

Shri C. K. Nair: Bhangi Colony had the same sentiment.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: We were told that some of the renowned artists, men like Janini Roy, Nandalal Bose and Vakil were consulted about it and they have given certain design. I

contacted one of those artists and I hear that the designs placed by certain architects are being considered, but those simple designs given by these artists are not being considered.

Shri K. C. Reddy: They have all been considered.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Many of these artists have been constantly consulted about this matter. At the present moment, an artist is very important, but when you are looking at a big scheme, it is more the architect plus the artist that comes in. And both of them have been considered. In fact, in the scheme, it is suggested that at various places there should be big friezes. There we have consulted the artists already for those friezes.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : इसके एक तरफ तो गन्दा नाला है, दूसरी तरफ गन्दी बस्ती है और साथ ही साथ म्युनिसिपैलिटी का रिपयूडल भी एक तरफ को पड़ता है। इतका भी कोई इन्तिजाम ग्रहणने मोचा है ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : जाहिर है, इसका भी इन्तिजाम करना होगा. इमको भी हटाना होगा।

Shri Braj Raj Singh: (Firozabad): Sir, some more time should be given for this.

Mr. Chairman: I think there has been sufficient discussion. The time-limit is already over and after the Prime Minister has spoken....

Shri Braj Raj Singh: We can have half an hour more.

Mr. Chairman: As the House wishes. But what new points are there?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: All Members may be allowed.

Mr. Chairman: I do not think there is any new point.

Shri Sinhasan Singh (Gorakhpur): May I know whether anything is go-

ing to be done to commemorate the place where the last unfortunate bullet hit Mahatma Gandhi? Nothing has been done there. Nobody is allowed to go there. Something should be done to commemorate that place so that people may go there and sit for some moments.

Mr. Chairman: That is another matter.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: I want to know whether something will be done about that.

Mr. Chairman: Let us confine ourselves to Rajghat, because that is the subject of this Bill. The other matter may be brought in at some other suitable occasion.

I think there has been sufficient discussion about this matter. So the hon. Minister may now reply.

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon): What about the change of the name?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Sir, there are hardly five minutes before the next motion has to be taken up for discussion.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May I say a word about the name? Hon. Member suggested that the name should be changed. There is no particular virtue in changing the name. But I suggest that the name should not be changed. You don't increase Gandhiji's fame or repute by calling it something else. It is the Gandhi Memorial at Rajghat. Now, to change the name—practically all Delhi and all India has heard of Rajghat, may be other parts outside India too—there is nothing wrong about Rajghat. It is an old name. It is the name of the place. It is the Gandhi Memorial at Rajghat. By calling this Bill the Gandhi Memorial Bill (or whatever it is) at Rajghat, it does not make very much difference. But speaking for myself, my preference is for the name to remain as it is.

Shri Prabhat Kar: It can be called the Gandhi Memorial at Rajghat Bill. Now it is Rajghat Samadhi.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: But why is it necessary? The statute does not count. It is the name of the place, not the statute.

Shri Prabhat Kar: But it is the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat.

Mr Chairman: The hon. Minister.

Shri K. C. Reddy: Mr Chairman, we have only about five minutes more before the next item on the agenda has to be taken up. I would like to know whether we are likely to conclude all the stages of this Bill before that time. There are so many amendments, notice of which has been given.

Mr Chairman: Do I understand the hon. Minister that he wants more time?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I am prepared to finish my reply within a few minutes.

Mr Chairman: If he wants more time, I will now give a chance to Dr Melkote to speak within the five minutes that are available. He has been waiting long.

Dr. Melkote (Raichur): I entirely appreciate the sentiments expressed by our leader, the Prime Minister of India. Every inch of ground that Mahatma Gandhi trod is very sacred to us, and the place where his last remains lie is equally sacred. And therefore we feel that the Rajghat Samadhi should not be shifted from its present place. But whatever safety measures have got to be adopted should be adopted in order to protect it properly.

So far as the name is concerned, I also feel that the present name, to us, to a large extent, is a misnomer. It could have very well been called the Bapu Samadhi, at Rajghat, because the ashes have been flown to

different parts of the world. And at every such place it is called the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial so-and-so. It would be in keeping with that if such a change is made.

An Hon. Member: In Hyderabad we call it the Bapu Ghat.

Dr Melkote: Yes, it is called Bapu Ghat.

Thirdly, I have been going there, the so-called Rajghat Samadhi place, frequently enough. The place is enchanting, its simplicity itself makes us remember Mahatma's simplicity. People have spoken of building up huge monuments. The whole country itself is a monument of his work, and whatever we are building in the country today is a monument for that big leader of ours. I feel that that particular simplicity should be maintained and anything that is done to renovate it in any manner should be in keeping with that simplicity.

I have been finding that now-a-days there is a lot of small huts and other things coming up which is not a very good sight for anybody to see. No slum should be allowed to come in there. Not that poor persons should not be allowed there, but the area should be kept sacred and pure, so that people who go there might catch the sentiments expressive of Mahatma Gandhi.

Lastly, people have advocated that there should have been more members elected from this House.

14.59 hrs

[MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

I do not agree with that contention. Whoever is devoted to the spirit of Mahatma Gandhi, to that cause and to that name, may be brought in. The very fact that an amendment has been brought to enlarge the number of people to be elected is also not

good I for one would feel that the old system of one or two people being nominated from this House is good enough and we should not elect anybody to the place. We should not quarrel on the procedure or the method in the name of elections over this issue. Those who are attached to that name and who could do that work completely and to the satisfaction of the whole of India may come in there. There should be no trouble over that. I therefore feel that instead of the present proposal of election, the old system of nomination should prevail.

श्री बजर राज सिंह उपाध्यक्ष
महादय, मैं इस सम्बन्ध में श्री नायर के सुझाव का मूलतः विरोधी हूँ। श्री नायर का कहना है कि समाधि को यहाँ से हटा कर किसी दूसरे स्थान पर ले जाया जाये। इसलिये ले आया जाये कि यमुना इस कभी न कभी बढ़ा कर फँक देगी। लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ

Shri C K Nair. I meant the monument. The Samadhi cannot be changed, it will be there.

15 hrs

श्री बजर राज सिंह मानमट का भी वहान का मवाल नहीं है। मैं उन की सूचना के लिये बतलाऊँ कि यमुना पर बटेस्वर में जो इतना बड़ा घाट बना हुआ है उसे सैकड़ों माल ही गये। वहाँ पर महाराज भदावर जो थे उन्होंने सैकड़ों माल पहले १०१ मन्दिर बनवा कर यमुना का कोमं बदल दिया था और तब से ले कर आज तक वह घाट उनी तरह बना हुआ है। इतनी बाढ़ें आईं लेकिन वह हिलाना नहीं जा सका। इसलिये मेरा यह कथन है कि इस को इस तरह बनाया जाये कि इस के बहने की सम्भावना न रहे। जैसा प्रधान मंत्री महोदय ने कहा, उस को ऊँचा उठाकर बनाया जाय और उस के लिए सोचा जाये कि किस तरह उस की रक्षा होगी तो उस के बहाने जाने का कोई प्रश्न नहीं

उठेगा। इसलिये मैं कहूँगा कि जो भी समाधि बनानी है और जो कुछ भी मानुमेट बनना है किसी किम्म का, वह उसी स्थान पर बनना चाहिये। वहाँ से किसी दूसरे स्थान पर ले जाने का कोई मवाल नहीं है।

इस सम्बन्ध में मैं यह कहना चाहूँगा कि

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय प्रगर माननीय सदस्य कुछ और वक्त लेना चाहते हैं तो वह कर ले सकते हैं।

15.01 hrs.

MOTION RE RAILWAY FREIGHT
STRUCTURE ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

Shri Rajendra Singh (Chapra) Mr
Deputy-Speaker, Sir I beg to move

"That the statement containing recommendations of the Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee and the Government decision thereon, laid on the Table of the House on the 18th August, 1958, be taken into consideration."

Mr Deputy-Speaker. Sir, for about 17 months the report of the Mudaliar Committee had been under the observation of the Railway Board and only for 15 days the recommendations and the decisions of Government have been under our observation, but within two hours we have been asked to give our opinion on this subject. It is quite evident that the subject under consideration is so vast and of so great a magnitude and complexity that it is not possible for any speaker to do justice to this subject in such a brief time.

Mr Deputy-Speaker. May I know what is the time that the hon Member expects for himself?

Shri Rajendra Singh. Sir, that is not my point.

Mr Deputy-Speaker. That is my point. That is my concern. I might warn him just in the beginning that he will have 20 minutes.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Sir, the convention is there that for a motion only two hours are allowed. What I was making out was this. When such reports of importance are placed before the House, the Minister in charge should himself move for consideration of the report and sufficient time should be given to the House to study it and give its considered opinion.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Can he give me any concrete proposal, what he proposes for the Minister, what he himself wants and what he leaves for other hon. Members to participate in the debate? We have to divide the time allotted. The hon. Member shall have his share. The Minister has to reply. He must take at least as much time as the Mover does. Then the Mover himself requires some time for his reply. There are also other hon. Members who would like to participate. That is why I wanted to know how much time the hon. Member expects for himself. I said 20 minutes. Will that be sufficient?

Shri Rajendra Singh: 40 minutes?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No; 20 minutes.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Sir, I am in your hands.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We shall see how it proceeds.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Sir, with the introduction of the Indian Railways within the ambit of State ownership, it was not only hoped that we shall have an augmented receipt of Railway revenue but, at the same time, we hoped that railway transport and freight and fares would be used in a creative manner so that the economic development of the country may take place at a speedy rate.

I find from the terms of reference of the Committee that the Mudaliar Committee was charged with the responsibility to find out ways and means and to adjust the structure and level

of freight in a manner so that it would subsist, it would meet the requirements of the developing economy of the country and, at the same time, preserve and augment, if possible, the economy and stability of the Railway finance. I think the Mudaliar Committee has, by and large, fulfilled the commitments.

But the first and foremost thing that strikes us is the promotional aspect of the report. It is quite clear that we are passing through a very serious crisis of foreign exchange. The conventional exports that we had so far are not in a position to bring us sufficient foreign exchange to meet our present requirements, with the result that every now and then we have to go out for loans. And loans do not come only for asking; it has its own difficulties. Neither in the report nor in the decision that Government have taken over it there is an indication of any steps proposed whereby we can augment not simply our conventional exports, but, at the same time, find out certain commodities which could be exported so that we can augment our export earnings.

Another point, which is of vital importance to this country, is that railway freight could be creatively and dynamically used for the promotion and development of those parts of the country which are economically backward,—for example, Assam, Rajasthan, certain parts of Bihar and certain other parts of the country—where we feel that it is desirable in the national interest to have a speedy development of the industries. So that not only the needs of those areas could be served well, but, at the same time, the overall condition of the national economy should improve, it was very necessary and imperative for us to have devised means or to have adjusted the freight structure and level of freight so as to meet those requirements.

On these two points, Sir, I feel disappointed. Though there were some oblique suggestions in the report that some steps should be taken in this direction, so far as the decisions of Government are concerned there is no indication, rather it is quite silent on it. Sir, it is very pertinent from my view point that when there are some recommendations from a body as high as the Freight Structure Enquiry Committee and Government take some decisions on them, the reasons that the Government advance should be very sufficiently clear and elucidative. The decisions that have been taken by Government and the reasons that have been advanced are so cryptic, so slender, that it is utterly difficult for us to make head or tail of it.

15 09 hrs.

[SHRI BARMAN *in the Chair*].

Therefore, for the future my suggestion is this. When you have to come out with your decisions, just tell us in as many words as you can—I do not say that economy should not be allowed to go there; it can—the reasons which have led Government to take those decisions. The House has a right to expect from the Government full reasons, the full causes which have led the Government to have taken those decisions.

There is another thing which, I think, is very vitally important, not for the railways, not for the transport and communications aspects of the country, but for the very destiny of the country. All over this country I have seen that the decisions of the Government to slash down the recommendations of the Enquiry Committee have been approved. In certain quarters they have been loudly praised. In this, I understand that the anxiety of the Railway Minister is to see that he does not do anything, so far as his Ministry is concerned, to contribute towards rise in prices. So far as that anxiety of his is concerned,

I am quite sure that it is not me alone but the entire country is behind him. But to suppose that increase in railway freight will promote the rise in prices is not the perfectly right way of looking at it. For the rise in prices, we have to look into many things. Even when there had not been rise in the freights, there had been abnormal rise in prices. We had inflation and many economic evils.

If you look at it, you will find that the Railway Ministry had a supplementary surcharge of over 12 per cent. It has been given out that something like Rs. 27 crores were to have been earned or were earned. But can you say that this Rs 27 crores earned additionally by the Government have contributed towards the rise in prices? It may have; I do not say that it has not. It might have, but the extent is very, very limited.

The House knows that the Railway Plan envisages an investment of the order of over Rs. 1,100 crores. In the brochure about the Plan, the Government has said that even with this target, because of the rise in prices, the Government would need Rs. 100 crores more, apart from the foreign exchange, to fulfil the target. So far as the estimate of depreciation of the railway is concerned, I am sure that the Railway Minister and indeed every person will agree with me that our estimate is somewhat on the conservative side. If actually we are to make good the depreciation aspect of the railway, apart from the extension and expansion of the railways, to meet the growing needs of the country, it is pretty clear that the amount that we have earmarked for the depreciation is not sufficient. We have just to find out means to meet those requirements.

If the recommendations made in the Enquiry Committee's report could have been accepted, the estimated receipt at the present capacity of the railway to haul up the traffic could be—we could have received—a little over Rs. 32 crores. The Railway

[Shri Rajendra Singh]

Ministry has slashed it down. It has satisfied itself with Rs 9 crores or a little over I think those who are not sufficiently versed in the economic aspect or the economic elements of these considerations or those who are not keenly alive to the growing needs of the developing economy would surely feel a sense of relief, but only the other day, my leader, Shri Asoka Mehta, much to the discomfiture of our friends and supporters outside supported the Government on the floor of the House in its measures to augment the treasury by exploring fresh areas of taxation. Why? It was not for the love of the Government that we supported their measures to have more taxation. It was just for the fact that we love this country more than our party.

The sorrow of our generation, the sorrow of our time, is that we must pass through a period of denial, a period of austerity. We cannot escape. It is difficult. I know what I am speaking shall not be liked by my friends outside. I shall be open to critical observations outside, but even then, at my cost, at the cost of my party, and at the cost of popular support, if we are supporting increased taxes and increased earnings for the Government, it is because we feel, and I think we very rightly feel, that our country needs today more and more money, even at the cost of denying the generation certain comforts and certain amenities which are rightly due to them.

There is another aspect of it. I have till now dealt with the matter from the national aspect. Now, we have a Central Pay Commission examining the whole thing to see how far they can meet the demands of the labourers. I think if any benefit is to come out, that will be extended to the Railway Ministry also. At the same time, the report of the enquiry made into the matter regarding Class IV employees has already been submitted

to the Ministry. The Ministry has not taken any decision so far on it. Now, suppose there is any suggestion in that report or any suggestion eventually comes from the Pay Commission that the conditions of service, the salaries or the dearness allowance and certain other things pertaining to the railway employees call for increment and betterment, the Railway Minister would just come out then and there and say "No, no, the railway earning does not permit it".

It is a very vital principle of any business that no business has a right to stay on so long as it does not provide, so long as its earnings does not provide, for its existence. This principle, howsoever wholesome, could not be very appropriately applied to the railways, because, after all, the railway is a common carrier, but nonetheless, the railway has to earn its own way not only for the preservation of what it has but, at the same time, for the promotion of something that is in the interests of national economy. So it was expected, and very rightly expected, that the railway will not simply earn to cover up its depreciation and cover up its own working expenses and operating expenses and meet the legitimate demands of labour from time to time, apart from giving something to the public coffers, but it will earn sufficiently enough to cover up certain parts of its expansion. The present indication is such that the railway feels a certain sense of complacency and smugness. If this attitude remains, both suffer: the country suffers as well as the labour suffers.

Now, what would happen? Only yesterday, we had a supplementary surcharge, an additional surcharge. When the Committee wanted that those additional surcharges and supplementary surcharges should go away and that there should be a permanent means to give you the same thing, the same amount of money, or rather a

little more, without doing any violence to the existing rules or existing procedures, you just turned it down. Even the hon. Railway Minister has given an assurance to the country that he will not be increasing the freight rate of the railways till the next session. The next session, will come a few months after. So, what is the guarantee that he will not resist the temptation to increase it afterwards? That means, by that time the report of the Pay Commission and the report of the Class IV employees enquiry committee will be out and the Railway Minister will say, "we need money; our coffers are empty and so, let us have increase rates". Even if he does not say it, the hon. Finance Minister would come out with fresh taxation to meet the requirements.

Mr. Chairman: This can be discussed in the budget next time.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Every debate has to take into account the future.

Mr. Chairman: Your time is limited.

Shri Rajendra Singh: I am conscious of the time. What is the use of giving something by the right hand and at once taking it away by the left hand? Actually, the whole thing seems to be funny.

As regards the Rates Tribunal, it is stated in the enquiry report that the Chairman of the Tribunal has to be only a man of the judiciary. The same Mudaliar Committee has found out for itself that generally judges are not supposed to be alive to the conditions of social needs which are changing at such rapid speed. Whenever there is something of industrial importance or of some other importance, they can take only a strict legalistic view of it. So, they suggested certain modifications. I am whole-heartedly in support of them. But at the same time, I could not find out in the background of this finding how he can say that the Chairman shall always be a judicial man?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): The Act has already been passed by this House.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri Rajendra Singh: My request is that all these things may be taken into account. Will I have 10 minutes for the reply, Sir?

Mr. Chairman: He will have some time. Motion moved:

"That the statement containing recommendations of the Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee and the Government decision thereon, laid on the Table of the House on the 18th August, 1958, be taken into consideration"

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khanshpur): The effects of railway freight structure on commerce and industry are so far reaching that this subject had attracted attention since the earliest times, since 1887. There have been various attempts at rationalising the freight structure, in 1922, in 1936 and again in 1945. Since independence, as a result of Government management of the railways and change of outlook, the need for revising the freight structure became evident. It is rather unfortunate that the terms of reference of the committee were so circumscribed that the consumer interests were completely left out.

The terms of reference were to review the present railway freight structure bearing in mind the needs of a developing economy and the necessity for maintaining the financial stability of the railways, apart from the other terms of reference regarding the nature and character of liability as carriers and the Railway Freight Rates Tribunal. It appears that the committee which went into the question not only bore in mind the financial stability of the railways, but was haunted by the idea of financial stability of the railways as if it was their main responsibility. As a result of it, their basic recommendations have gone so wide of the mark that even

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

the Government have felt that such radical departures in freight structures would upset the commercial and industrial fabrics. I am not doing any injustice to the committee, which obviously has devoted such an amount of time. I would, therefore, briefly analyse the recommendations of that committee and the line of thought that was pursued by that committee.

The committee has recommended that there was necessity in changing the length as well as the number of legs that went to make up the telegraphic structure. It also made a brief survey of the additional charges which were so far imposed by the railways and it has felt that because there is a likelihood of shortage of wagons to continue, short haulages should be discouraged. Also it prescribed a new method for levying these charges. It adopted the present class 9 and rechristened it as class 100 as the basic rate and then it has fixed percentages over that rate or below that rate according to the requirements of the commodity and so forth. Not only that, it felt that the relation between the small loads and the wagon loads was not properly adjusted and therefore, it recommended that these rates should range between the difference from 15 to 26 per cent. Over and above that I was particularly pleased with the recommendations of the committee that the terminal charges must go, short distance charges and transshipment charges at the break-up gauge points should go and the ghat charges at railway-river crossings and the overall minimum charge of Rs 1-12-0 per ton should also be abolished.

These numerous charges have been taken into consideration in fixing up the freight structure, but the point that seemed almost to annoy me was that the Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee kept looking to the finances of the railways and said that a gap of Rs 300 crores had to be bridged. After having an estimate of the receipts and the expenditure for the

plan period, the committee came to the conclusion that Rs 300 crores would be required to bridge that gap and it spent all its energies in bridging that gap, absolutely leaving out the consumers' interests. That is my objection. The committee's recommendations constitute an increase to the extent of Rs 32 crores. The committee thinks nothing of taking away Rs 32 crores from the pocket of the consumers. The Government, in all their moderation, come and say, "No we shall take only Rs 12 crores".

An Hon Member: Rs 9 crores

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Rs 98 crores for goods and Rs 2 crores for parcels i.e. Rs 116 crores on the whole. If the Government estimate Rs 116 crores you may rest assured that they will take Rs 15 crores out of the pocket of the consumers.

The point I am making is that the Government has raised the question of rationalisation of freight structure as an excuse for increasing it. The Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee laid down a number of criteria by which they said they would be guided. The points to be borne in mind in fixing the rates would be what the traffic can bear, that freight for long and short distances should be properly adjusted, the scale should be all-inclusive catering to small and wagon loads, the terminal charges should go, the Rs 300 crores gap must be filled up and there should not be a radical break with the existing structure. Trade and industry should be fostered and railway finances should be established. On these criteria the committee proceeded but all through their recommendations I find nothing more excepting how to get more and more revenue for the railways.

The House is aware of the fact that contributions to the depreciation fund today are being made on no scientific basis. In fact that was an issue on which I have made strong comments.

in this House I am aware of the fact that Rs. 45 crores is merely an arbitrary amount that is being set aside for the depreciation fund. I agree with the committee, that ranging from Rs 52 crores in 1956-57, the contribution should go up to Rs 66 crores in 1960-61.

The remarks of my hon. friend, Shri Rajendra Singh, were in point. This position also has to be taken into consideration. But I ask the Government one question. We are screwing up our freight rates whenever we want to bridge our financial deficits. Is there no scope for internal economy in the administration? Have they examined the fuel cost? Have they examined economies in various other costs? Have they examined the numerous possibilities of economy that exists? I am afraid not until the Government has looked into those economies and justified to this House that there is no further scope for economy in railway administration, I for one, am not prepared even to vote the additional revenue which the Government decision will produce.

There is one more thing. It is not merely the Rs 12 crores that Government want to take on the excuse of freight rationalisation that we have to consider. We have to take into account the question of liability of Railways of carriers. The hon. Minister has issued a general warning to us that something more may come, in addition to the proposed freight rates because of the additional liability which the railways will have to bear as 'carriers' or 'insurers' instead of as bailee.

As this House is aware, until recently the practice was for the railways to issue risk notes, which virtually meant that all responsibilities for railways' negligence was put on the consignor. He got nothing in return. Until some time ago, even the responsibility of proving negligence was on the consignor. If there was an accident or there was loss or theft of goods in transit, it was the onerous respon-

sibility of the consignor to prove that the fault was with the railways. The railways took advantage of the monopolistic position and dealt with consumer goods in a none-too-careful way.

Now the Committee has broadly stated that virtually you are in the position of carriers and not merely bailees. The responsibility of the bailee is regulated under the Contract Act. Previously the railways would not be responsible even for thefts in transit. Now they are assuming that responsibility. The Committee has stated that since you assume responsibility virtually as carriers instead of as bailees, you virtually become insurers to the goods, except in very few cases. I think the Committee have made that recommendation. But what does the hon. Minister say? "If we become the insurers, we only change our label without assuming any further responsibility, but you, consignors must give us more money." The Railway Minister wants us to give him more money. But he has never told us what amount of economy he has achieved in the administration. Therefore, my submission is that while the liability of the carriers and insurers must be imposed on the railways, the hon. Minister should give an assurance that there will not be any additional charges for that purpose.

With regard to the Railway Rates Tribunal, the hon. Minister says that the Bill has been passed. I support the contention of my hon. friend, Shri Rajendra Singh, when he said that things should be regularised now. What does it matter if the Bill regarding the Tribunal has been passed? You are trying to curtail the jurisdiction of the Railway Rates Tribunal. If you have passed the Act, you can bring forward an amending Act. The power of classification and re-classification of goods must be given to the Railway Rates Tribunal, especially in view of the fact that the Committee visualizes that there will be any number of anomalies even in the structure

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

which they have recommended. I, therefore, submit that it is not a subject to be finalised by Government. The final authority is this Sovereign Parliament and we should re-open that issue.

With regard to the various other matters I want to ask the Government a few pertinent questions. First, is it the intention of the Government to use freight rates primarily for revenue increase to fill their budget gaps or it is their intention to make it up by internal economies? I should like to know the position. What is the policy of the Government with regard to classification? Are they going to use classification as a source for increasing revenue or is that going to be according to the requirements of trade, industry and commerce? Nothing has been said about trade, industry and commerce. So far as I know, even before the Railway Rates Tribunal the trade, commerce and industry did not get satisfaction. Then I want to ask: what steps are being taken to associate trade, industry and commerce, either informally or otherwise, with the questions regarding classification? Then, why should the Government, as I have said, hold out threats of increasing the rates on the allegation that they are going to take full responsibility as insurers? What is it? What is the justification for the Railway Minister hinting that Rs. 12 crores is not sufficient and that 'they would come again to the House for something more? I want to know that.

Then, I should like to know what policy the Government is going to adopt with regard to the depreciation fund. Are they going to accept the recommendations of the Committee? Is it the intention of the Government to use freight as a means of export promotion? That was another point which was made out by my hon. friend Shri Rajendra Singh. Some sort of device must be evolved as a result of which the freight policy can be the means of encouraging exports. In this

connection, I understand that special rates have been given from factory to ship in transit in various countries to promote export drive. This is a matter which the Railway Minister might look into.

Then again, what about the question of railway freights in backward areas. That is another point which was made by Shri Rajendra Singh. Take the question of Assam. As a result of partition of the country for no fault of its own, Assam today finds itself in the peculiar position of having to resort to devious routes as a result of which the State commerce and industry are receiving a set-back. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has got any special plans in connection with this. Also, are any special preferential tariffs going to be quoted with respect to village industries and cottage industries? These are questions of policy on which I hope the hon. Minister will shed some light.

I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister that before he, under the guise of rationalising freight structure, takes more money from the consumer he must associate the consumer with the many aspects of the formulation of policy. In case of classification of goods, they are classified in a much higher class than is warranted. The criteria which the Committee has accepted is the 'value of service' and cost of service? But the consumer remains completely unheard. Nobody cares for him. Time after time, the Railway Minister comes here and on this ground or that ground the freight goes up. My hon. friend, Shri Rajendra Singh, has pointed out the necessity of keeping the cost in check. It should not go up. I should like the hon. Railway Minister to clear up these points and also to justify why he wants Rs. 12 crores more out of the consumer.

. Shri Tangamani (Madurai): I consider that this discussion is a very

important one. We are discussing the Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee Report, a report which is very valuable, because it is the Report of very eminent men. Having discussed the matter and examined many witnesses for nearly 18 months, they have come forward with this report. If it is a question of merely discussing this report on the basis of the broad terms of reference, namely, reviewing the present rate structure, examining the modifications, studying the liability, as carriers and examining the procedure in the Railway Rates Tribunal and their recommendations, we may not have much to say. But now the Government has come forward with its own recommendations. That would mean that from the first of October, that is, after hardly one month, we will be faced with another situation, when the freights will be increased for several commodities. That, I would beg to submit, is going to have a psychological effect on the prices of the various consumer goods. Already, the price of consumer goods is going up. Now, if an additional burden is placed upon the freight itself, then there will be a new rise in prices and the Railway Minister will be held responsible for that.

That will be my first submission. There is absolutely no justification for saying that whereas this Committee has recommended that the increase should be Rs. 31 crores annually we are raising it only to Rs. 9·6 crores plus 2 crores on parcels, i.e., Rs. 11·6 crores and when we get these Rs. 11·6 crores the administrative expenditure and the compensation which we may have to pay as carriers may be Rs. 2 crores to Rs. 3 crores. That is not at all going to meet the point.

I remember and I would like to remind the hon. Minister also that as early as March, 1958 when he introduced the Budget he stated that when the Railway Freights Enquiry Committee's report, is put into operation, it will lead to—this is exactly what he said: "It will lead to increase in

goods earnings." So, the hon. Minister was always anxious that there should be increase in goods earnings. I would like to mention to this House, although it is a matter of repetition, that the gross traffic receipts have been increasing from 1956-57 to 1958-59. The actual receipts for 1956-57 were Rs. 347·57 crores, for 1957-58 they were Rs. 384·40 crores and for 1958-59 the budget estimate is Rs. 407·48 crores. In other words, each year there has been an increase. From 1956-57 to 1957-58 it is about Rs. 40 crores and from 1957-58 to 1958-59 it is more than Rs. 20 crores. So there has been an increase. How does this increase come about? To that I will come presently.

The hon. Minister had stated when introducing his Budget that the goods and passenger traffic established new records during the current year and the movement even through Moghul-sarai has improved by nearly 350 wagons per day or so. Now, the earnings are higher and the working expenditure has been brought within bounds. The appropriation to the Depreciation Reserve Fund has always been Rs. 45 crores each year. Now the net railway revenue has increased by nearly Rs. 8 crores from 1956-57 to 1957-58 and it is going to increase by nearly Rs. 11 crores from 1957-58 to 1958-59. The net surplus will be more than Rs. 27 crores. I am giving this picture to show that without an increase railway revenue is not going to come down. I can well imagine even the revised estimate for the year 1958-59 will not be Rs. 407 crores but is likely to be much more.

Coming as I do from the South I would mention only certain instances because I have no time. I do agree with my hon. friend, Shri Rajendra Singh, that this is an issue on which a full dress discussion was necessary. If a day had been set apart and the Ministry had put all the cards on the table and told us that they are now introducing this new freight structure, then the House would have been in a better position to appreciate the danger that is facing us today.

[Shri Tangamam]

I distinctly remember that when the hon Deputy Railway Minister, Shri Ramaswamy, came to Madurai the commercial community had met him. It was some time in May this year. I would like only to remind him as to what they told him then—it was on the 28th May, 1958. This is what they told him.

"The decision on the recommendations of the Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee is to come soon and one of the predominant objects of the revision of the freight structure was to make adjustments in it to suit developmental requirements. Any attempt to enhance rates at this juncture would inevitably spell inflation in production costs all round. Industry and Trade have already borne strains in costs and further additions are bound to prove restrictive in their impact on output. Further, the case of putting up freight rates at some points is considerably weakened by short-comings of the Railway administrations in exercising adequate discipline in the matter of expenditure."

I would also explain how we are able to increase the freights

the substantial increase in goods traffic has been achieved without a commensurate increase in the resources of rolling stock. For a 78 per cent increase in the tonnage of traffic carried, the goods wagons and locomotives rose by only 20 per cent. The conclusion is obvious. The results have been obtained by working the wagons harder and pitching the operational efficiency at a high tempo. But there is a limit beyond which efficiency by itself can do little to improve the service, in the absence of necessary equipment. In other words, operational efficiency cannot be a substitute for larger investment."

Now, the Committee also says on page 37—I am quoting:

"According to the Second Five Year Plan, the volume of goods traffic is expected to increase by 61 million tons (originating), i.e., from 120 million tons at the end of the First Plan to 181 million tons in 1960-61, while the increased capacity provided for and the improved efficiency expected to be secured will not enable railways to carry all the additional traffic anticipated or rather planned to be generated. More recent indications go to show that the estimate of 61 million tons of additional traffic expected is itself on the low side. Further, this does not take into account the increasing transport burden resulting from an increase in the lead of traffic, which generally characterises a period of rapid industrialisation. The prospect is, therefore, anything but re-assuring against this background of planned development, shortfall in non-utilisation of scarce resources. Several witnesses appearing before us expressed serious misgivings about the adequacy of additional transport capacity that is being provided by the railways. The apprehension that very real difficulty may be experienced in the execution of the Plan, owing to transport shortages, is widespread."

So, the remedy there is not increase of rates but increase in wagons

Another point which they themselves point out is

"The primacy of iron and steel and other heavy industries in the industrialisation plan cannot be gainsaid. The very real doubt, which needs to be set at rest, is

whether other development plans, both in the private and public sectors are likely to be halted or greatly delayed for lack of transport. In such an eventuality will it not be a waste of funds, resources and national effort to work for developments which cannot be completed in the Plan period and to allot funds which will remain locked up in partial capital assets? In an integrated plan, progress in one branch is linked with progress in another. The danger to the economy from transport shortage, particularly when the economy is so carefully tailored and adjusted in minute detail, is real and cannot be wished away."

They have put it very ably. The real problem is the shortage of wagons. In addition to the shortage of wagons, I will mention another point. There is considerable delay in the movement of goods. If only the railway Ministry can give an undertaking here that if whatever articles are sent for transportation are transported in time then revenue will increase considerably also. I am basing it not only on complaints received but genuine complaints that have been received, i.e., on the question of wagons. Delay occurs. It results in damages to goods by pilferage and exposure to rain and wind. I know in a place like Madurai there are insufficient facilities that obstruct the movement of goods. This also adds to the difficulties of transport. Wagons go astray and cannot be traced even.

Another point I wish to put forward is the question of foodgrains. I know foodgrains are received in Madurai in open wagons and mostly it is damaged during the rainy season. Now, the whole point is to see that in the important centres the yard space is increased. I know in Madurai Division there is a new yard which is going to be put up in Virudunagar, but even in Madurai unless the expansion is there the heavy traffic which we are now having is not going to be able to meet the problem. The

problem there is one of transport and more wagons and not the problem of increasing the freights, because I am afraid of the psychological . . .

Shri Jagjivan Ram: More wagons and marshalling yard require more money.

Shri Tangamani: We are going to get more money if you run it efficiently. We will get more money even with our present capacity if you agree to run this service efficiently—much more efficiently. I know that if men who are running it efficiently are given proper facilities they will be able to run it much more efficiently.

The point which I really again want to emphasise is that this increase of Rs. 9.6 crores plus Rs. 2 crores should be deferred and I really request the Ministry to reconsider this matter as not only the business community, but the general public also have expressed their apprehension about the new increase that the Railway Ministry is now contemplating.

There is another point to which I would like to refer. There was a revision freight structure in 1948. Of course, that was a very important period. That revision was introduced on 1st October, 1948. Subsequently came the report of the Indian Fiscal Commission. They wanted concession to certain articles. Why do you want concession for certain articles? We want concession for cement, for coal, so that that industry may develop. We want concessions for foodgrains so that foodgrains and other things may be sold at lower prices. That is the basic thing. How far has it been achieved? I know the hon. Minister is going to say, we are not increasing, we are giving concessions. My point is, there is a case for reduction and not a case for no disturbance. There has already been an increase and there is a case for reduction. It has to be gone through very carefully and the House will be in a position to help.

On 1st April, 1956, a supplementary charge of one anna in the rupee on all the traffic with the exception of grains, pulses, fodder, manures, khadi,

[Shri Tangamani]

newspapers, newsprint and books was introduced. We were told that that was meant to bridge the gap of Rs. 50 crores during the Second Plan period. To bridge that gap, a surcharge of one anna in the rupee was imposed. The Government recommendation is really surprising. In page 12, they say that at present, a further surcharge of 6½ per cent. of the total freight is levied on all consignments weighing less than 20 maunds. That is the surcharge which was imposed on 1st April, 1956. Now there is rationalisation. We are adopting the metric system. If we are adopting it, I should have thought that either we dispense with the surcharge or reduce the surcharge from 6½ per cent to 5 per cent. What is being done is, "In keeping with the quotation of the revised freight rates in the metric system of coinage, this surcharge will be 10 per cent. instead of 6½ per cent" Of course, there is a slight concession. This will be levied only when the weight is less than 10 maunds instead of 20 maunds. Why should this 6½ per cent. go up to 10 per cent? As Shri Naushir Bharucha pointed out the Railway Ministry is always willing to go up and see that the rate is increased. Already there has been a surcharge. A surcharge implies that it will have to go some time or other. The surcharge of 6½ per cent. is increased to 10 per cent

Even on the question of coal, I have got all the facts, but I may not have the time to place all the facts about coal. Even on coal, the concession which is now given, in my humble opinion, is not sufficient. The pre-1952 and post-1952 rates you know. It was 1 to 20 miles, .25 pies per maund per mile. It was increased to .30 per maund per mile. The hon. Minister knows how even now the concession that has been given to coal is not sufficient. I refer to coal and other articles like handloom, khadi, foodgrains and other materials to which certain concessions are supposed to have been given. There must be further concessions

As I submitted earlier, I do not attempt, I cannot attempt to go into the entire question of the terms of reference of the Railway Freights Enquiry Committee. It is true that the Committee has done a good work. I agree with the hon. Minister also that they have tried to rationalise it and place certain facts in a very scientific manner. Of course, they had in mind how to fill the gap of Rs. 300 crores. Instead of accepting it *in toto* or accepting it with a modification as we have done, at this juncture, you can defer this. There is a case for reducing the rates in the case of many articles. The integrated Second Plan and the various industries which are now developing and all these things will have to be borne in mind. That aspect has been beautifully dealt with in this report. We should take all these things into consideration and also the fears expressed by the commercial interests. I mentioned one instance of the Madura-Ramnad Chamber of Commerce. Other commercial interests have also expressed fears. Those fears must also be respected by the Ministry. They may express fears. Ultimately, it is the consumer who is going to pay. We have already been increasing the passenger fares from 1948 onwards with the only exception of 1958-59. We are now increasing the freight charges also which will create a very bad impression. I must say that the Government decision is something which we cannot accept in the present context. With these observations, I request the hon. Minister to give due consideration to this aspect of the question also when he replies and not to hurry up with introducing this on 1st October, 1958

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Pali):
Mr. Chairman, Railway freight rate structure is a complicated matter and it requires expert knowledge. A highly competent committee was appointed and it took the Railway Board about double nine months and

after that labour, they have delivered something which is before us now. It will be presumptuous on my part to arrogate any expert knowledge to myself on this subject, and to make remarks when such competent authorities have spent so much of time on the subject. But, there are certain obvious things which strike and which prompted me to give notice of this motion. As a matter of fact, I had certain feelings in my mind and I felt that certain aspects should be emphasised. Even when the hon. Minister laid this memo on the Table of the House, I asked him whether he would like to discuss it. He stated that it was well within his competence to take the action and he was only submitting it for the information of the House. But, it is such an important subject that I still feel that more time should be devoted to its study, consideration and discussion. I hope the hon. Minister will excuse us if some of our criticisms are uninformed, because when the Railway Board took about well over 16 months to consider, this document has been in our hands for a few days.

It is not my intention to offer criticism regarding the 3,000 and odd commodities to which this document refers. I will confine my remarks only to certain important broad principles, which, if considered in proper perspective, will necessitate further consideration of the freight structure and the cases of certain groups of commodities over certain distances will have to be reviewed. It really strikes as very extraordinary that the Committee should have recommended an additional revenue of Rs. 32 crores and the Railway Board after all due deliberation and in its wisdom should have thought of availing of only Rs. 9 crores. The hon. Member who moved the motion made certain courageous remarks and in the interests of the overall deficit and the gap in the Railway Budget, he advised the Railway Minister to consider the adoption of the higher freight rate structure recommended by the Committee. I may assure him and the whole House that

the Railway Board is not at all a philanthropic body. They are not charitable people. They have given absolutely realistic and due consideration to the whole matter. I have a strong feeling that they found that it was impossible to go beyond the limit they have gone. I think, if this decision had come about a year and a half earlier, possibly, the Railways would have taken a risk in accepting the Committee's recommendation in toto and adding another sum of Rs. 32 crores to their revenues. But a lot

16 hrs.

of water has flowed under the Jumna during these 18 months. There was a time when they felt it was a very great shortage and there were great transport difficulties. There had been offerings which could not be lifted, but the situation has very much changed during these few months, and today there is not that shortage of transport as could have been envisaged, and the railways can afford to take any line of attitude. As a matter of fact, if I am correctly informed, the railways are finding it very difficult today to compete with road transport, and there are certain sections where road transport, through sheer merit and efficiency, has thrown out the railways from business. If we remember the entire history of road and rail development, we will find that roads have always worked under a very great handicap, and the railways exercised an influence which was not very healthy and which was not very competitive. The railways are as much national assets and there is no question of any rivalry between the railways and roads. I do not view it from that viewpoint at all, but now we have got to look at the whole thing from the point of view of the national interest. We would certainly like to see that the interests of the railways which are national assets are properly watched and properly guarded, but the railways should not be permitted to go in a way that through their superior influence they handicap the development of road transport.

[Shri Harish Chandra Mathur]

There has been a general complaint that road transport has not been given a proper deal. I wish the Railway Freight Structure Enquiry Committee had taken into consideration the over-all picture, and I wish the Railway Board had taken into account the future plan of things. They should have taken into consideration what sort of co-ordination is to be effected, what sort of place should be given to road transport. They have, of course, in this memorandum, said somewhere that for short distances road transport should be encouraged, but I do not see that they have done anything of that type.

I will just read out to you a little paragraph from *Commerce* of 23rd August 1958, giving its observations on this particular aspect of the question:

"What the committee had in mind when suggesting the rates it did was that it must be a deliberate policy of the authorities to discourage as far as possible short distance traffic by rail and to encourage alternative modes of transportation over such distances. It, however, averred that in favouring the new freight structure it had kept in view the desirability of encouraging diversion of short distance traffic from rail to road, but had at the same time ensured that the roads do not become burdensome. By rejecting this aspect of the committee's recommendation, the Government has denied road transport the fillip which it might otherwise have received. In other words, the railways want to have the best of both worlds, the world of short distances and that of long distance also."

As I stated, it is the Railway Minister's case that they have done something, but it is being felt that it has not done, and that they are as a matter of fact operating as a dead-weight on the development of road transport in certain directions. It is now time that we change our outlook on this subject.

Another important aspect to which I would like to invite the attention of the railway administration is this. They have also not given proper attention to the pattern of trade which is in the best interests of the country and which the present Government want to promote. No adequate attention has been paid to that very important aspect of the matter. After all, what is this freight structure? The basic consideration which should have weighed with the Government was how it promoted the economy of the country in the direction in which the Government want to take it. I hope the hon. Minister knows that only last week the Export Promotion Council made a forceful appeal to the Government that proper attention should be given and wherever inhibitory factors operate in the export promotion business, they should revise the freight structure. I do not know if the reports are correct that the railway administration has concurred that as and when the cases are brought to their notice, they will revise the freight structure in respect of those commodities and those distances. I have just read about it as a promise from the Government, reported in the papers. But this is an indication of the fact that before coming to a final decision, the Railway Board had not even the courtesy of consulting a sister Ministry, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, which is vitally interested. Either the Commerce and Industry Ministry was not consulted or the Commerce and Industry Ministry was not aware of its own problems. It is hardly a fortnight since this freight structure was made known to the country. Just a week after that the Ministry of Commerce and Industry says a very important aspect

This is a comment which has been made in a responsible journal which is concerned with the commerce and industry of this country.

of the question has not been examined and they have been left high and dry.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: They have not said that, that the railways have not examined that. That is a wrong, incorrect statement to make on behalf of the Commerce Ministry.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What I say is that it is hardly 15 days; it is not even 15 days since this freight structure has been made known to the public. I will put the alternative—I hope the hon. Minister will notice it: either the Commerce and Industry Ministry was not consulted or if they were consulted, they were so ignorant of their own problems that they did not know what they would demand just a week after. That is what I say. What is wrong about what I am putting? The proposition is this: there is incompetence somewhere since just a week after the publication of the freight structure the Ministry of Commerce and Industry finds that a revision is necessary, and the railway administration concedes that it would be prepared to do the necessary revision.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I do not think they have said anywhere that a revision is necessary. What they have said is that certain concessions are necessary.

An Hon. Member: That amounts to revision.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I would like the hon. Member to mark the difference between revision and concession.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I very clearly stated that I was not in possession of what the Railway Minister said or what the Commerce Minister said. I am depending on certain reports in the papers, and it is for the hon. Minister to make it clear, but it is obvious that the present rates of freight do not suit the pattern of the trade. That is an obvious fact and something has got to be done to remedy it.

Another thing to which I wish to refer is the question of under-developed areas. I am afraid little or no attention has been paid to the fact that there should be a certain policy of the Government to see that the freight structure is designed in a manner that the under-developed areas which are coming up now industrially get the necessary encouragement and stimulus. The railways do claim to be following certain national policies. They are not entirely a business body, they are not entirely a commercial body, they are not entirely working for this. Their freight structure should be designed in a manner which is in the best interests of the country and for the development of the country. In considering how the freight structure should be framed in the best interests of the country, they have adopted certain measures. But my submission is that in that matter, little or no attention has been paid to the development of the under-developed areas.

I find that even the freight on coal for long distances has been increased. I do not know what my hon. friend who just preceded me was referring to. He referred to certain reductions in the coal freight and certain concessions. I may be wrong. I am not aware, but the statement which I have in my hands clearly indicates that though the committee had recommended certain reductions in the freight on coal for short distances, the Railway Administration have not thought it fit to do so. They have just kept the rates at what they were, or slightly increased them. But, for long distances, there is a considerable increase in the freight on coal. Coal is an absolutely essential commodity for development. And that is one of the greatest bottle-necks which is operating against the development of areas which are a little bit removed from the coal areas. We are trying to sell steel at the same rate at all the places. What is the policy behind it? You have steel in Delhi at Rs. 600

[Shri Harish Chandra Mathur]

per ton, and you have steel in Bombay at Rs. 600 per ton. The only principle which I could understand is to promote the development of all areas and to see that there is no concentration at the ports and at certain other places. I do not know how the position of coal is very different from it. I can understand that they cannot deliver coal at the same rate at all the places. That is perfectly understandable. But it should be clear also that for places far removed from the coal areas, that is, for long distances, there is no case for an increase in the freight on coal. If anything, there is a case for a reduction in the freight rate on coal. It is only on this ground that the railways are discharging a great responsibility in the development of the country. The railways are a great national asset. The railways are not operating as a bus operator would do, whose only concern is what pays him most, whose only criterion is how to secure the best advantage for himself. But the railways are charging much less for the transport of coal as compared to other commodities, because there is a national policy and a rationale behind such freight structure. If that is not so, then there is no question of regulating and co-ordinating the rail and road traffic. It is only because the railways are serving a particular and a definite purpose that we have thought of certain regulatory matters and we have thought of certain co-ordination. But, as I have submitted, so far as the freight pattern is concerned, and so far as the underdeveloped areas are concerned, this freight structure needs further consideration.

Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu): Before you call the next hon. Member, may I seek one clarification?

Mr. Chairman: Does the hon. Member want to speak?

Shri Morarka: No, I only want to seek a clarification. At page 7 of the

statement which has been placed on the Table of the House, it is said:

"In justification of the scale of rates proposed by them the Committee have further stated—

(i) that it must be the deliberate policy of the Railways to discourage, as far as possible, short-distance traffic by rail and to encourage alternative modes of transportation over such distances."

The hon. Member Shri Harish Chandra Mathur also referred to this just a little while ago. But if we see the actual recommendations in regard to the rates,—I am referring to Annexure VI which deals only with coal, for, that is the only item about which the details are given—we find that the committee itself have recommended a reduction in the rate on coal for short distances, and an increase in the freight rates on coal over long distances. The committee's recommendation is that the traffic by rail should be discouraged over short distances, but in practice what they do is that they recommend a reduction of rates over short distances and an increase of rates over long distances. That is what I could not understand. I do not know whether there was any inconsistency between the principle that they enunciated and the actual recommendation that they made or whether I am making a mistake in appreciating their recommendation.

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): The hon. Member may refer to page 10 of the statement.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I wonder if he needs this clarification from me. I think it is for the Minister. If he needs it from me, I can give it.

Shri Morarka: I do not need it from the hon. Member. In a way, I am supporting him.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It was a short speech.

Shri Morarka: It was not a speech; it was only on a matter of clarification.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It was a clarifying speech.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I am thankful to the Members for having brought this motion before the House. I would start by saying that the proposals of Government had been welcomed more or less throughout the country. When I am saying this, I am speaking on the basis of the comments of the newspapers in our country. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur has quoted from one newspaper, but all the newspapers in the country, whether they represent the commercial or the industrial interest or the interests of the consumers, have by and large hailed the decision of Government. So, it will not be correct to say, as my hon. friend Shri Tangamani has tried to make out, that there has been opposition to those proposals from the Chambers of Commerce. I am not going to quote from the reports in the newspapers, but all the newspapers worth the name in the country have by and large welcomed the decision of Government.

One or two important points have been raised, and the first one is about the export promotion. A grievance has been made as to why the question of export promotion has not been taken into consideration in fixing the rates. It is obvious that we cannot have any rates for that purpose. We shall have to give concessions, and if concessions are to be given for certain commodities from certain areas to certain ports, then station-to-station rates will have to be quoted.

My hon. friend Shri Harish Chandra Mathur is well experienced in the working of the railways, and I am sure....

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I said that I was not so presumptuous to say that.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I know he had been in charge of the railways when he was Minister in Rajasthan.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Does it have a railway of its own? We thought it was a Federal subject.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I am told he was in charge of the railways before Federal integration. Therefore, I say that he is well aware of the position.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I was never Minister in Rajasthan.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I should, therefore, presume that he knew it that for this purpose, the most convenient method will be the station-to-station rate. We cannot have a general rate for that purpose. He is perhaps aware of what complications will arise otherwise. So, it is not that we did not consider this question. Even at the time when we were considering the recommendations of the Freight Structure Enquiry Committee, we did consider that, and it was decided that in the interest of promotion of exports from our country with a view to earn more and more foreign exchange, if it was felt that certain commodities required concessional rates of freight, the railways would be only too glad to do that. This is being examined in consultation with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and I can assure the House that whenever any specific case comes before the Ministries of Commerce and Industry, and Railways, all possible steps will be taken by which export could be promoted.

Acharya Kripalani (Sitamarhi): Ministerial assurance!

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Then at least one hon. Member, Shri Rajendra Singh, laboured the point why the recommendation of the Freight Structure Enquiry Committee giving more revenue to the railways was not accepted by the railways. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur has tried to

[Shri Jagjivan Ram]

give some reply to that I may assure Shri Mathur that it was not only on this consideration that by accepting the recommendations of the Committee we would be reaching the marginal stage, and perhaps we would not be attracting more traffic, that we did not accept the recommendation, but we had to take into consideration the overall economy of the country as a whole. We had also to see that if there were certain commodities in respect of which in spite of the characteristics of their transportation and their ability to bear more burden in the rates, certain adverse results were likely to be produced by increasing the rates on the economy of the country the railways should be reluctant to increase the rates. That consideration was also there. So taking all these considerations the Railway Ministry thought and the Government came to the decision that it would not be desirable at the present stage to increase the rates to the extent suggested by the Enquiry Committee. That was why we modified the recommendations of the Committee.

Of course it is a question whether capital expenditure should be met from revenues. I am not going to argue the principles of that, but it has been accepted that in a developing economy when we have big projects of development to execute, it will not be out of place if the revenues were also to contribute a share of the capital pool. Members are aware—and I need not go into details—that out of the Rs 1,125 crores allotted to the railways for the Second Five Year Plan, Rs 375 crores are to be found by the railways, and in view of the rise in prices and labour costs, it was expected that in addition to the Rs 375 crores, the railways would be called upon to contribute something more.

In 1956, a surcharge of 6½ per cent was levied, in 1957, an additional surcharge of 6½ per cent was levied,

making a total of 12½ per cent. We are hoping that we will be able to contribute our share in the Rs 1,125 crores out of these supplementary charges, out of the development reserve fund, depreciation reserve fund and also from open line earnings, and thus we will be able to contribute to the extent of Rs 375 crores and something more too.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Rs 100 crores more.

Shri Jagjivan Ram. As we are to contribute something extra, it was felt that it might not be necessary to contribute as much as suggested by the Enquiry Committee, but even if we increase the overall freight rates only by 4 per cent we will be in a position to contribute the amount stipulated by the Planning Commission from the railways. Therefore we came to the conclusion that in present conditions of our economy perhaps it would be enough for our purposes if we increased the rates only to the extent of 4 per cent and not more.

The conflict between rail and road has not arisen anew in this country alone. Everywhere, in many countries the conflict has existed. In our country, there is much scope for the development of both. The only care that is to be taken is in respect of co-ordination so that there is no wastage of the capacity that exists and no duplication of the capacity that is to be created. If there is not enough co-ordination between the different modes of transport, there is every possibility of some capacity being wasted and some capacity being duplicated. Even at the present stage, that is happening in certain sectors. Where traffic has developed and where the railways have also got the capacity, road transport is coming. I am not much exercised on whether it is a serious threat to the railway revenue or not, what I am concerned with is that this

national capacity is being wasted, and if the same transport capacity could be utilised in sectors where the railway facilities are not available, perhaps we will be serving the nation in a better way.

If I may give a concrete example, take, the case of Delhi and Kanpur. The railways may have difficulty in transporting from east to west, from Kanpur to Delhi, but there is no shortage of capacity from Delhi to Kanpur or from west to east. But because traffic has developed, road transport is also very much operating on this sector. I am, as I have said, not much concerned with whether it is affecting the revenues of the railways or not, but it is a matter for serious consideration by all concerned whether this capacity of road transport could not have been better utilised and to the advantage of development of the country in sectors where the railways are not in a position to cater for the needs of the traffic offering in those areas.

I have given this illustration because this thing is happening in many sectors. Compared to the railways, road transport does offer certain advantage to the consignors. There is no doubt about that. They lift the goods from the place of the consignor and they deliver the goods at the site of the consignee. Then in the case of certain commodities where certain manipulations, watering down and things like that have to be done, road transport offers better facilities to the consignor than the railways do. Again, railways have their rates fixed and are known to everybody whereas for road transport, at least in respect of goods traffic there is no schedule of rates; there are some opportunities for manipulating the freight paid for transportation of certain goods. What use of that could be made is known to those who deal in those things. These are certain advantages which the road transport offers in the transportation of goods to the consignors and to the consignees.

But, what I was saying is this, that in our country in many areas adequate transport facilities have not developed—I mean any kind of transport facilities, whether by road or by rail. It is a waste of national capacity if we duplicate the same facilities in areas where one facility or the other is available.

I see no conflict between rail and road transport so long as the country is not fully developed from the transport point of view. There is enough scope for all means of transport whether it is rail, road or river transport. There are large areas where in the foreseeable future, perhaps, there is no chance of the railways being constructed in those areas. Why not allow road transport to develop in those areas? So, I do not see any conflict. There is enough scope for the development of road transport. Then comes the question....

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: At present the relevant point is this. The committee has made a particular reference to this policy. May I know what consideration has been given by the hon. Railway Minister to this particular matter? They made a particular reference and a particular recommendation that our freight structure should be such that for short distances roads are encouraged. We are at present only concerned to know what considerations have been given by the Railway Board to this particular matter.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: The Railway Board has given all the considerations that this recommendation deserves. And the House is aware and hon. Members are aware that there are many areas in the country where even for shorthauls road transport facilities are not available. What have we to do for the industries in those areas if coal has to be transported or certain other raw materials have to be transported and the shorthauls according to our friends, will be 300 miles.

[Shri Jagjivan Ram]

So far as the shorter distances of 20 miles, 25 miles or 30 or even 50 miles are concerned, we do agree that we should discourage transport by railways and encourage transport by road. But, if we include distances of 300 miles within the definition of shorthauls and if railway rates are increased so that they become prohibitive and the traffic is diverted from the rail to the road transport, I am afraid, in many areas the industry will be very adversely affected. That was the consideration why we thought that though we may discourage transportation of goods by rail to shorthauls of 25 or even 50 miles, we should not fix the rate at such a level as will be too high for the traffic to bear either by rail or by road, especially in areas where there was no road transport available. We did bestow all the consideration that this recommendation deserved and I have given the reasons which led us to come to the decision which we have presented before the House.

But again I will repeat this. I personally do not think any conflict between development of road transport and rail transport so long as there are many areas in our country where there are no means of transport existing.

Then, the question of backward areas or under-developed areas has also been raised. The House is aware that before the integration of the railways, in many parts known at that time as Indian States and especially in areas which are commercially and industrially under-developed, the rates either of passenger fare or goods freight were higher than in the developed areas. And, when integration was made, the one advantage that was given to these under-developed areas was to introduce uniform rates of passenger fares and freight rates. That was one indirect advantage given to the under-developed areas.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: We are not very much aware of it.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I would request my hon. friend once more to consult the rates for passenger and goods traffic in the former State Railways. And, he will find that what I am saying is correct.

Some areas which are regarded as under-developed may be very near the source of raw material that is required for the development of industries in that area. One raw material may be very near that area and the other raw materials may be very far. Is it possible to encourage the industries or not by any device or manipulation of the freight rates? We will have to have other methods for encouraging industries in certain areas which are under-developed industrially.

For example, in North Bihar in spite of the difficulty that existed before, the sugar industry developed very fast and today people are, perhaps, thinking of dispersal of some factories from North Bihar. In North Bihar or Assam, it is not the difficulty of transport alone that is standing in the way of the development of industries in those areas; but there are other considerations also. Other steps will have to be taken for developing those areas industrially and commercially.

So far as North Bihar and Assam are concerned, after the construction of the Ganga bridge and the Brahmaputra bridge, the transport position will very much improve. But, what is required to be done at some other places should not be sought to be done by the manipulation of freight rates. With all my sympathies with these under-developed areas, I am afraid, it will not be possible by any ingenuity to devise any structure of freight rates... (Interruption).

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I think the Board is capable of that.

Shri Jagjivan Ram:... by which we can help these areas. As pointed out, some areas are very near—at the very door they have the raw material that is required for a particular industry. (*Interruption*). I say some incentive by the State concerned, by the Ministries directly concerned with the development or encouragement of certain industries in certain areas will be necessary. And, if at a certain time it is felt that the Railways should also contribute their share in the development of the industries, we have the station to station rates by which we can indirectly help to some extent. I can assure the House that if it comes to it, at any stage that for the development of certain industries in certain under-developed areas. Railways should contribute indirectly, we will not be lagging behind.

Shri Bharucha asked where is the case for revising the rates. He said, perhaps, under the guise of rationalisations the Railways are trying to raise some additional revenue. We have not made a secret that we are trying to make some additional revenue also. We have been very frank. We have never tried to disguise it.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: How does that frankness help the taxpayer? We have never said that we are not going to raise additional revenue. As I have explained we do require some additional revenue not for revenue expenses only but to contribute our share that has been allotted to us for the fulfilment of the Second Plan. We have taken care to see that the burden on the industry or commerce or the consumer is not unreasonable and it is only to the extent that could be expected from the community that the additional rate is suggested. In coal also, if they compare the recommendations of the committee with the suggestions of the Railway Board, they will find that we have taken care to see that it is not unreasonably

increased. There has been a slight increase only as coal is one of the basic commodities for the development of industry. Though on the overall transport of coal the railways may not be losing. For certain distances even the cost of haulage of the railway wagons are not met by the freight. But we do not mind that; we know that the railways are not running purely as a commercial organisation. We have also to make a contribution in our own way to the development of the country and though we lose on the transportation of coal for certain distances due to certain factors, we have been doing that.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: There is an overall increase on all the legs; so far as coal is concerned I quite concede that it is not as high as the committee recommends.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: This is what I am explaining. Even after this slight increase, for certain legs, if we take the distance of those legs, the freights that we will be getting will not be enough to meet the haulage charges.

We are always alive to the need of effecting economy on the railways wherever possible. The House is aware that I set up a committee to go into the question of the fuel and coal consumption on the railways. The committee went into the question in great detail and a report was submitted last month which is being examined by the Railway Board. On an examination of the recommendations of that committee, I am sure we will be able to effect certain economies in the consumption of coal on the railways. I am examining other aspects also where we can reduce the operating expenses. We are always alive to that aspect of the thing and I may assure Mr. Bharucha that wherever possible we will try our best to effect economy.

I do not know what my friend, Shri Tangamani, meant when he

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quoted so much from the report of the committee. We are trying to increase the capacity of the marshalling yards and also to expedite the movement of wagons. We are also trying to see that wagons are made available to the parties as quickly as they are intended.

Shri Tangamani: They should get top priority. No decrease in numbers.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: My friend might be aware that the position has improved though I will not claim that we are today in a position to supply a wagon to a party as soon as it is demanded. But as compared to last year or a few months back, our position has very much improved.

There are certain bottlenecks even at present and we are trying to solve them. But they cannot be totally eliminated at certain places unless the marshalling yards are re-modelled or line capacity is increased. Even where there were serious bottlenecks, I can say that we have improved the position to a great extent. The loading and unloading even in those place has improved. I can say that it has become quite satisfactory but it also requires to be further improved.

For all these things also we require money. If we were to take only our revenue and expenditure accounts there may not be a case for increase in the rates of the freight. But as I have said, when we are expected to contribute to the capital expenditure out of the revenues, there is an unassailable case for increase in the freight rates to the extent the Railway Board has decided to increase them.

I do not know how Shri Bharucha felt that I said that when the railways assumed the responsibility of a carrier, there would be additional increase. I will again repeat from the statement I made in the House while placing the decision on the Table of the House. I said:

"The Committee have stated that this change-over should take effect within one year of the in-

roduction of the revised rates structure.

This matter is receiving attention, and should the responsibility of the Railways as carriers be enhanced as has been recommended, there will undoubtedly be substantial additional expense to the Railways by way of increased payments for compensation. In the absence of factual data, it is difficult to assess what the quantum of these extra payments will be, but Railway Officers of experience in compensation claims work guess that it might well be of the order of Rs. 2 to 3 crores. After the examination of this matter has been completed, necessary legislation to implement this recommendation will be put through."

I do not know where there is any indication in this that some additional charges are going to be levied now.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: May I request the hon. Minister to give an assurance to the House that because of a change in the character of the liability the railways undertake, there will not be any increase in freights? I will be satisfied with that.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: What I was saying was....

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Let us come to the point.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I was saying that the hon Member was trying to put something in my mouth which I had not said.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I was reading what is in his mind; not what is in his mouth.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I do not know when he became a thought-reader.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister may conclude as early as possible.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I have practically covered all the points.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): He has not read the mind of Shri Bharucha so far.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I also know what is in his mind.

Sir, I am glad about this short discussion in the House. I do not want to repeat that we have taken good care to see that commodities which come into the daily use of the people are not affected by the revision of the rate structure. And the hon. Members might have seen it that these essential commodities have been exempted from the increase, and in certain cases we are going to incur further losses on account of concessions given to those essential commodities.

On the whole the country has received the decision of the Government well, as can be judged from the Members of the House and the Press outside. And I hope the Railways will receive all the co-operation in augmenting their revenues so that the leakages, wherever they occur, are filled by the co-operation of the people and the country.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Mr. Chairman, the hon. Minister has replied to all other aspects of the questions and enquiries, but my simple enquiry has not been answered. By doing away with a large part of the recommendations of the Enquiry Committee, is it not relevant to enquire whether some rises in salaries and dearness allowance of the railway workers, which are due to them, shall be met? On that aspect the Railway Minister has been completely silent.

Another point was this; he has of course referred to it but he has not cared to elucidate it. And that is whether the revenues contribute something towards capital expenditure or not. He has admitted that the depreciation reserve is of the order of Rs. 375 crores and at the same time more would be taken because of the rise in prices. Because, it has been very specifically mentioned that to

reach the target the Railways will have to spend Rs. 100 crores more, just because there has been rise in prices. This Rs. 375 crores plus the Rs. 100 crores more, that is, Rs. 475 crores has to be met. And the demands from the railway workers for increase in their wages, dearness allowance and certain other things have not yet been squarely met by the Railways. Those things are there. What is the position if those demands are to be met—and they should be met—because, last time when the Labour Minister was speaking, he said that in a developing economy there cannot be any wage freeze for all time to come; then there would be inflation and rise in prices. But at the same time the workers must get their dues when they are due.

As I referred in my speech, the Pay Commission is there, and the Enquiry Report about the conditions of the service, channel of promotions and so on—all these things are with the hon. Minister. So, naturally, if justice is to be done to the cause of labour, money would be needed. Wherefrom would the money come? That was my point, and it was not replied to.

Again, the whole country is aware that on the Railways we are having a large number of accidents, so much of accidents that every year the old records are being beaten. And the late running of trains is there. There are other causes for these things, but the principal cause is the shortage of staff. I know something about the Railways; I might not be knowing so much as the hon. Minister knows or my hon. friend Shri Mathur knows; but I know that where eight numbers of staff would be needed for the efficient discharge of duties, only four are provided, with the result that the staff is overworked. But human energy, human strength has certain limitations. It cannot be over-stretched indefinitely. So, if the Railways have to run efficiently, if we are to avert accidents, and if we are to see that our trains run in time and do not get so late, we

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have to have more staff. At least in my part of the country the late running of railway trains has become a cause for serious anxiety. Going from Patna, the capital of my State, just to North Bihar is more difficult than coming from Patna to Delhi. These things are principally due to the shortage of staff. If you increase the hands, naturally you will have to pay. Wherefrom will you pay? That is my question.

He will say three things are there. Firstly, loan, which will have to be borrowed from other countries. Secondly, internal savings and, again, printing of cheap money or currency—what you call deficit financing. As regards loans, they do not depend upon your wishes. It depends upon the international situation. So far as savings are concerned, it is common knowledge as to what the results have been. Even in respect of the small savings for which we have made so much efforts and the Prime Minister has made so wonderful appeals, and for which a Deputy Minister has recently been appointed, what is the performance? Our performance is not even 50 per cent. And so far as deficit financing is concerned, it has reached a very dangerous point now. The Finance Minister assured the House that he would not resort to it unless there is some imperative necessity. But if this thing is allowed just to pamper to the wishes of particular feelings, what would happen? He would be forced into such actions. The string of taxations on the country and the contribution it would make to the rise in prices would be far greater in dimensions and magnitude than the increase or upward revision of the freights.

So it was from these viewpoints that I had made my point. Though I have simply replied, I would request the hon. Minister to tell me in advance if, as suggested by the Pay Commission, or as suggested by the Fourth Grade Employees Enquiry Report, or as

demanded—and reasonably demanded—by the trade union organisations, he will meet those reasonable demands of the workers or not.

There is one thing more which I have to mention, for which I crave your indulgence. There has been rise in the freight so far as railway freight is concerned. Even with that codification it is only 100 per cent more. But look at the prices. The prices have gone up very high; the general index of prices is over 400 compared to what it was in 1939. Compared to the freight that was prevailing in 1939, now the freight rate, with that codification, would be only 100 per cent more. But so far as the prices of commodities are concerned, it has gone up by over 400 per cent. So can you say that because of this 100 per cent rise in railway freight, prices have gone up by more than 400 per cent.

At the same time, as regards operation costs, my hon. friend Shri Naushir Bharucha who is more competent to speak on this subject said that economy could be effected. True economy could be effected. And for that, he has some report of a Committee. But I say, and I say it with all sense of responsibility and restraint, that so long as he would depend upon these wooden-headed Railway Board, General Managers and all these officers, who are so callous and indifferent to their duties, to the interests of the country, and to the interests of the workers also, I can tell this House that no economy could be expected.

17 hrs.

I will give one example to illustrate my point about extravagance. You say that economy should be effected in everything. What about these air-conditioned rooms for officers. The English people came from a cold country. They were not accustomed to the climate of such a tropical country. They never used air-conditioned rooms

or houses. I know in Gorakhpur not a single General Manager or Resident required an air-conditioned house. But now, what to speak of General Managers, even a Regional Superintendent in my part of the country. and, possibly, that is true of the whole of this country, requires an air-conditioned house. And for air-conditioning, Sir, we pay through our nose. We are in such a grave crisis of foreign exchange....

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member should conclude now. He is bringing in the whole world.

Shri Jagdwan Ram: He is speaking about air conditioning.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Therefore, Sir, it is quite clear that so far as wastage and extravagance are concerned our Minister should take particular care.

Mr. Chairman: The discussion on this motion has concluded.

17.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 4th September, 1958.

[Wednesday, 3rd, September, 1958]

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MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT

4475-89

The Speaker withheld his consent to the moving of five adjournment motions given notice of by the following members regarding the situation arising out of alleged food scarcity in Uttar Pradesh.

Sarvashri Sarjoo Pandey, T.B. Vittal Rao, V.P. Nayar, Ram Sewak Yadav, S.M. Banerjee, K.T.K. Tangamani, Prabhat Kar, Khushwaqt Rai, Ramji Verma, Mohan Swarup, Braj Raj Singh and Jagdish Awasthi.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

4489

Secretary reported a message from Rajya Sabha that, at its sitting held on the 1st September, 1958, Rajya Sabha had agreed without any amendment to the Armed Forces (Assam and Manipur) Special Powers Bill, 1958, passed by Lok Sabha on the 18th August, 1958.

Subject

COLUMNS

LEAVE OF ABSENCE]

4489-90

The following members were granted leave of absence from the sittings of the House

Shri S.C. Choudhury

Shri M. Elias

Shrimati Lalitha Rajyalaxmi

Shri C. Balu Reddy

Shri M. Gulam Mohiuddeen

Shri B. Pocker.

Shri D.S. Raju

Shri U. Muthuramalinga Thevar

Shri Indulal Kanaiyalal Yajnik

Shri Karsandas Parmar

Her Highness Maharani

Vijaya Raje Scindia of Gwalior

Shri Kamal Narayan Singh

BILLS PASSED

4490-4513

Further discussion on the motion to consider the Manipur and Tripura (Repeal of Laws) Bill, 1958 continued. The motion was adopted. After clause-by-clause consideration the Bill was passed

BILL UNDER CONSIDERATION

4513-52

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy) moved that the Rajghat Samadhi (Amendment) Bill, 1958 be taken into consideration. The discussion was not concluded.

MOTION UNDER DISCUSSION

4552-4600

Shri Rajendra Singh moved for consideration of the statement contained recommendations of the Railway Freight Structures Enquiry Committee and the Government's decision thereon laid on the Table on 18-8-58. The statement was discussed and Shri Rajendra Singh replied to the debate

<i>Subject</i>	COLUMNS	<i>Subject</i>	COLUMNS
AGENDA FOR THURSDAY, 4TH SEPTEMBER, 1958.			
Consideration and passing of the Rajghat Samadhi (Amendment) Bill, 1958 and the Public		Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Bill, 1958 as passed by Rajya Sabha, and discussion on the Indo-Pakistan Canal Water dispute	

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