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LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Fifth Session)



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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, 17th September, 1958

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Import of Chilean Nitrate

*1306. **Shri V. C. Shukla:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the precise reasons because of which the State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd., took over the import of Chilean Nitrate?

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

STATEMENT

Chilean Nitrate is being imported on Government account in terms of an agreement with the Government of Chile for the import of 60,000 tons per year for a period of three years ending October, 1959. The distribution is effected through designated channels to nominated consumers, so that imported Chilean Nitrate may be utilised to best possible advantage. In view of the economies resulting from bulk contracting and bulk shipments, and of the possibility of linking exports of Indian goods with imports of the fertiliser, the import of Chilean Nitrate has been entrusted to the State Trading Corporation.

Shri V. C. Shukla: May I know how many importers were importing Chilean Nitrate before the S.T.C. took

over, and what are the precise reasons because of which S.T.C. decided to import Chilean Nitrate only through Rallis (India)?

Shri Kanungo: The importation of sodium nitrate of Chilean origin was prohibited for a number of years, and when the Chilean Government approached the Government for the import of a certain quantity it was an agreement between the Government of Chile and the Government of India. The S.T.C. was chosen as the agency for importing and Rallis were appointed as the distributing agents because they had already their organisation, they had experience of this particular commodity and the Agriculture Ministry also advised us accordingly.

Shri V. C. Shukla: The hon. Minister has not answered the earlier part of my question. I want to know how many importers there were apart from Rallis (India).

Shri Kanungo: As I said before, import of Chilean Nitrate was prohibited for a number of years including the war period.

Shri Morarka: May I know what are the guiding principles which a commodity has to satisfy before the S.T.C. takes over the import or export of that particular commodity?

Mr. Speaker: That is a general question. The hon. Member can very well ask the S.T.C. to supply that information. All the Members of Parliament, the people of the entire country, are the shareholders of every one of these organisations. Therefore, what I would advise hon. Members in all such matters is, in the first instance let them go and ascertain the facts from the organisation itself.

Shri Banga: How can we be expected to go to the S.T.C.?

Mr. Speaker: Can't he write to the State Trading Corporation and ask how they exercise this privilege of taking over the import or export of a particular commodity from the private business, under what circumstances they take up such things, what is the value or quantity and nature of the article? Can't he ask them first, instead of putting that question here?

Shri Bimal Ghose: Are we to approach the corporations directly or through the Ministry?

Mr. Speaker: This matter was taken up by Shri Morarji Desai and also the Prime Minister with me, as to what ought to be done with respect to detailed questions relating to the S.T.C. I then passed an office order stating that in all cases where the Minister is responsible under the constitution of the corporation, all those questions can be asked here. With respect to other matters of very great importance, though they may relate to details, as in a case where a contract for six lakh tons worth Rs. 4 crores was given to one individual, I will allow such questions to be put here. Regarding other details hon. Members can always write to the Managing Director and get the information. It is open to him to say that it is such a minute detail or it is not in the interest of proper management, and it is not possible to give the information asked for.

The office order that I issued is based upon the practice in England where a committee was appointed by the Houses of Parliament to go into all these matters. Those very persons have said that instead of coming through the Parliament the Members can write direct and get the information, and if it is possible to give that information it will always be supplied. Hon. Members need not treat this as something different from that. In all cases where the organisations think that information can be given, they

will give that information. In cases where the hon. Members think that the matter is of very great importance and the organisations concerned are not willing to give the information asked for, they may write to me and I will look into the matter.

Shri V. C. Shukla: May I know what precise difference would it make to the consumers if the Chilean Nitrate was imported directly by the S.T.C. business associates?

Shri Kanungo: The policy of Agriculture Ministry of the Government of India is that Chilean Nitrate should be used in particular sectors of agriculture and it should not be allowed to be sold on demand.

Shri V. C. Shukla: I asked about the difference it will make on the consumers.

Shri Tangamani: We find from the statement that Chilean Nitrate is imported through the S.T.C. and distributed through specified and nominated consumers. May I know what is the retail price of Chilean Nitrate, and how does it compare with the import price?

Shri Kanungo: I have not got the retail price, but the wholesale price which we give f.o.r. is Rs. 330 per ton.

Shri Bose: May I know the reasons for which import of Chilean Nitrate was stopped, and what is the advantage now due to which it is being imported again?

Shri Kanungo: As I have said, Chilean Nitrate was prohibited from being imported because we are short of foreign exchange. Also, in the early days of the post-war period there was a total shortage of all manures and there was an international pool out of which Government of India used to draw all types of fertilisers, and Chilean Nitrate being of low nitrate content was considered to be of low priority for import.

Shri V. C. Shukla: Since 1956 Chilean Nitrate is being imported, and

the statement says that it is being imported because of some economies and some linking of our exports to Chile. May I know what particular economies have been effected, and what are the items that we are sending to Chile in exchange for this commodity?

Shri Kanungo: By making bulk purchases we have made a saving of 25 per cent. in the freight charges.

Shri V. P. Nayar rose—

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question. We cannot spend the whole time on one question. Today there are 44 questions.

Shri Tangamani: It is a very important fertilizer.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We will go to the next question.

Dalmia Dadri Cement Limited

*1307. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1758 on the 22nd April, 1958 and state:

(a) the result of enquiry held under section 247 of the Companies Act against the Dalmia Dadri Cement Ltd., Charkhi Dadri;

(b) whether the enquiry under section 237(b) of the said Act has been completed; and

(c) if so, the result of the enquiry?

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

(a) The report of the Inspectors under section 247 *inter alia* discloses that one person is financially interested in the success or failure of the company and that he was in a position to materially influence and control the policies of the company. The report has also revealed some *prima facie* contraventions of the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956, which are being pursued.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Ram Krishan: In view of this finding, may I know whether any action has been taken against Seth Ramkrishna Dalmia?

Shri Satish Chandra: The report under Section 247 has been completed. Some contravention of the Companies Act was found out, and a prosecution has been started.

Shri Ram Krishan: In view of the fact that this company has changed its nature into private limited company, may I know whether there will be any effect on the course of action to be taken against this company?

Shri Satish Chandra: The hon. Member has put that question several times, and it has been answered as many times that under the Companies Act there is no authority with the Government to take any action for the conversion of a public limited company into a private limited company. But more than 10 per cent. of the shareholders, if they so desire, can take the case to a court of law.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: May I know whether the Government will place this report on the Table of the House, and whether the case of this company will be referred to the Commission of Enquiry which has been instituted by Government to enquire into the ways and means and doings of the Dalmia Jain concerns?

Shri Satish Chandra: The Government will take up the question with the Commission in its very first sitting.....

Shri Feroze Gandhi: About Dalmia Dadri Cement Limited?

Shri Satish Chandra: Yes, Dalmia Dadri; and we will request the Commission to include it and take it up for enquiry along with the other companies of the Dalmia Group. Government wants to publish this report, but it will consult the Commission in that respect because the Commission will take up the company for enquiry.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Sir, we do not

know whether the sittings of this Commission will be public or private, but we would like to know whether the report will be made available to Parliament.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to ascertain the opinion of the Commission before deciding whether it ought to be placed here or not.

European Common Market Scheme

*1308. { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:**
Shri Tangamani:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 817 dated the 5th December, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the European Common Market Scheme has since been put into operation; and

(b) if so, its effect on India's trade?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) The Treaty governing the Scheme has come into operation but no measures affecting the trade of third countries are known to have been taken so far.

(b) This does not as yet arise.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: May I know what would be the contents of the new formula that is supposed to have been evolved by our Secretary who participated at the conference as regards the safeguards for India if this Common Market Scheme comes into being?

Shri Kanungo: As I have answered in the question, the measures have not come into operation. As far as the third parties are concerned, because almost all countries are members of the GATT, the discussion will take place for releasing the GATT application. They have not started yet.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether the effects of this Common Market Scheme on countries like India and

other commonwealth countries will be discussed in the Commonwealth Trade and Economic Conference which is being held from the 15th onwards?

Shri Kanungo: Yes; this will be informally discussed in the commonwealth conference.

Shri Tangamani: In reply to a starred question on the 5th December, it was stated that six countries are now signatories to this scheme. May I know if the number remains at six or whether any more countries have been added to this?

Shri Kanungo: No; these six countries are the signatories to the trade.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know whether the Government of India have received any proposal from any of the Asian countries to include them in the Common Market Scheme somewhat on the model of the European Common Market Scheme?

Shri Kanungo: There is another question on the subject.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether, by India joining this scheme, our membership of the GATT will be affected?

Shri Kanungo: No one has invited us to join, and we do not want to join also.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether the scheme or the formula evolved by our Special Secretary to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Shri Jha, will be placed on the Table of the House?

Shri Kanungo: There is no formula evolved as yet.

Building Material

*1309. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the consumption of cement for constructional purposes of the Government of India has increased in 1957-58 as compared to the previous year;

(b) if so, by how much; and

(c) what is the value of cement purchases for the Government of India in 1957-58 as compared to the previous year?

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

(a) Excluding the quantity supplied to State-owned Corporations, Companies and river valley projects for which the figures are not readily available, the consumption of cement for constructional purposes of the Government of India has decreased in 1957-58 as compared to the previous year.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The quantity and value of cement lifted by the Ministries of Works, Housing and Supply, Railways and Defence which are mainly responsible for constructional works of the Government of India were approximately as follows:—

	Quantity	Value
1956-57	7,22,000 tons	Rs. 805 lakhs
1957-58	6,93,000 tons	Rs. 814 lakhs

Shri V. P. Nayar: I find that in the year 1957-58, the offtake of cement was less by about 100,000 tons for Government purposes, especially for three Ministries. May I know the reason for that?

Shri Satish Chandra: I could not follow.

Shri V. P. Nayar: From the statement I find that in 1957-58, for Government purposes, only 6.93 lakh tons were taken as against 7.92 lakh tons in the previous year. There is a reduction of about 100,000 tons in 1957-58. What is that due to?

Shri Satish Chandra: It is due to less constructional activity, or less construction of buildings etc., by the Government.

Shri V. P. Nayar: While I find that in this year 100,000 tons were taken which is less than that in the previous year, the total price paid has

increased by about Rs. 9 lakhs. May I know what that is due to?

Shri Satish Chandra: The excise duty on cement was raised by Rs. 15 per ton and the price of cement also went up by Rs. 15 per ton which is reflected here.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I find that from published balance-sheets the Associated Cement Company which controls over 50 per cent of production and which holds Rs. 1.2 crores out of a total paid-up capital of Rs. 10.12 crores in 1948-49 has raised its profit to Rs. 2.57 crores in 1956-57. What then was the necessity to pay more price for the cement?

Shri Satish Chandra: The matter has been investigated very recently by the Tariff Commission, and I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to the report of the Commission.

State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Limited

*1310. **Shri Tyagi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quota of Manganese and Iron Ore sanctioned to State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd. for export during the years 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59;

(b) the total gross profit earned by State Trading Corporation on mineral trade in 1957-58; and

(c) what would be their net profit if the State Trading Corporation were also liable to pay income and corporation taxes to Government?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a)

Manganese Ore

1956-57	3,90,059 tons
1957-58	10,21,753 tons
1958-59	7,95,760 tons

(Provisional)

Iron Ore. The quota granted to State Trading Corporation during 1956-57 was 9,02,388 tons. From 1st July, 1957, the export of iron

ore is being canalised only through the State Trading Corporation from that date.

(b) The gross profit earned by the State Trading Corporation on minerals in the year 1956-57 has been shown in the Annual Report of the Corporation for the year 1956-57, which was placed on the Table of the House. The profit and loss accounts for 1957-58 are still under compilation and will be included in the Annual Report of the Corporation, which will be placed before the House in due course.

(c) The State Trading Corporation pays income tax and Corporation tax.

Shri Ranga: May I know whether it is a fact that the State Trading Corporation now has the monopoly for the export of iron ore?

Shri Kanungo: Yes.

Shri V. C. Shukla: What percentage of the gross profit earned by the STC in minerals in 1956-57 consists of commission earned by it from those exporters who exported minerals from the STC quota?

Mr. Speaker: A report was placed on the Table.

Shri V. C. Shukla: This information is not given in it.

Mr. Speaker: We may discuss that matter. Can it be given off-hand?

Shri Kanungo: I have not got the information about the commission paid. But my information, as far as I remember is, there is no commission earning.

Shri C. D. Fande: May I know whether the Government have made any calculation as to what would have been the profit if a similar volume of trade in this business were handled by private companies, and what would have been the income-tax thereon?

Shri Kanungo: I cannot calculate about the tax, but the net loss to the national economy would have been of the order of nothing less than Rs. 30 crores.

Shri Ashar Harwani: Is it not a fact that ever since the monopoly of export has been given to the STC a number of mines have closed down in this country?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): We have received some reports that some mines have closed down, but their quality of ore is low, which is not generally wanted in foreign countries. So, this low quality ore could not be exported.

The second reason is that there has been a recession especially in the USA and it has its effect on other countries. Therefore, the export has further gone down.

Thirdly, I would like to say in a general way, as you have been good enough to just now point out, that the STC has been formed and it is going to stay. And as far as I know the House has generally accepted the principle of the formation of the STC: and some trading should be done on behalf of the State. The STC has done a number of good things. For example, the price of cement is almost the same at every place now. Formerly, Assam had to pay a very high price for cement before the STC was formed, and the STC has been able to equalise the price in every part of the country.

In regard to the transport of iron ore and about the mineowners, I have had my own experience when I was in charge of the Railways. We have had to face enormous difficulties in regard to mineowners as well as the shippers. Of course, the STC has been able to organise the transport in a much better way which has led to greater economy too.

Finally, I shall welcome suggestions from the hon. Members, Sir, as soon as there is a question on the STC a large number of Members get up.

Shri Ranga: Because so many things are happening, and we would like an enquiry into them.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: In fact, Shri V. C. Shukla wrote to me. I said he could go and discuss it with the officers of the STC and the Chairman. We have written long letter, explaining the position. I would any day welcome a few Members to go and sit with the Chairman of the STC and discuss various matters. If they suspect or if they have got any doubts, they could certainly be cleared up.

Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact that the STC are not expected to function merely to make profits, and is it not a fact that they have been purchasing iron ore at different prices from different suppliers, taking advantage of their staying power?

Shri Kanungo: The prices are bound to be different according to the port of shipment and quality.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: While we fully agree that the STC should expand and should be successful, is there any truth in the fact that the mineowners are finding it difficult to dispose of their stocks even within the quota which has been allotted to them by the STC and as a result of which mines are closing down?

Shri Kanungo: That applies to manganese, and as my senior colleague has explained, the demand for manganese ore has gone down very much in the last year.

Shri Ranga: Has this thing been brought to the notice of the Government, namely, the people to whom they have allotted this quota for export and for selling to the STC have been paying much lower prices to the mine-owners themselves?

Shri Kanungo: I have no information about it. I would invite the hon. Member to send us the information which will be looked into.

Chhaganlal Textile Mills (Private) Ltd., Chalisgaon

*1312. **Shri Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Chhaganlal Textile Mills (Private)

Limited, Chalisgaon District, East Khandesh have served a notice of change for the closure of the Mill;

(b) when the night shift of the Mill was discontinued;

(c) how many workers are working at present in the Mill;

(d) whether the Somani Committee has submitted report on this Mill; and

(e) if so, the main findings of the Committee?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Originally a notice of change for the closure was served from 29th July 1958 which has now been deferred to 29th September, 1958.

(b) The night shift of mill was discontinued from 9-8-1957.

(c) 1108 workers.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The report and the findings of the Committee are confidential documents and in the public interest it would not be advisable to disclose them. However, recommendations are under examination and, if necessary, action will be taken under the provisions of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951.

Shri Jadhav: May I know the reason for the closure of the night shift?

Shri Kanungo: Lack of working capital and accumulation of stock.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that it is the intention of the mill-owners to beat down the workers with regard to the scale of wages and that is the real reason for the discontinuance of the night shift? This mill is in my constituency and I know the facts.

Shri Kanungo: This point has not been brought to the notice of the Government.

New Model Charkha

*1815. **Shri Assar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 955 on the 16th September, 1955 and state:

(a) whether the experimental stage of the new model charkha evolved by Shri V. V. Gupta of the Mantunga Technological Laboratory, Bombay is now over;

(b) if so, the steps taken to popularise the same; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) is in the negative, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c). Shri Gupte has completed the new model charkha. Field trials have to be conducted before steps are taken to popularise it.

Shri Assar: May I know whether any amount was granted to Shri Gupte for this work?

Shri Kanungo: Yes, Sir; Rs. 36,000 have been sanctioned for the project and the project has been completed inasmuch as a prototype has been built.

Shri Goray: May I know when these trials will be conducted?

Shri Kanungo: We are thinking of asking the State Governments to undertake experimental work on this experimental machine.

Export of Iron Ore to Japan

*1816. { **Shri Panigrahi:**
Shri V. C. Shukla:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the quantity distributed among each iron ore producing State in India for the export of 1.4 million tons of iron ore to Japan during 1958-59; and

(b) the percentage of iron content of ore undertaken to be exported from each area?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Purchases are made by State Trading Corporation against total commitments on an all-India basis depending upon quality, quantity and transport available. The percentage of iron content undertaken to be exported from the country varies from 65 to 60.

Shri Panigrahi: So far as export quota to Japan in the year 1958-59 is concerned, may I know how this quota has been distributed among the mining areas in Rourkela, etc.?

Shri Kanungo: I would submit that the total production of iron ore is of the order of 5 million tons, out of which the total export which is handled by STC is of the order of 3 million tons and odd. The question refers to Japanese contract, which is only 1.4 million tons. As I have specified in the answer, the shipment is port-wise and so I cannot give the break-up for particular mines. The break-up for ports which we anticipate to complete this year would be Calcutta 10 million tons. I am sorry, Calcutta 10 lakh tons, Paradip 50 lakh tons, Vizag 1 lakh tons, Kakinada 1 lakh tons, Masulipatnam 1 lakh tons, Cuddalore 1 lakh tons, Madras 3.2 lakh tons and so on. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: He has given up the millions and taken to lakhs. Hon. Members will follow the answer without talking to one another. When I am not able to follow, why not the hon. Members? They will be more alert.

Shri V. C. Shukla: Is it a fact that the STC and Government of India have received a protest from the Government of Bihar against the purchase policy of STC regarding iron ore?

Shri Kanungo: No, Sir.

Shri V. C. Shukla: The House is not properly informed of the Corporation's activities.

Shri Ranga: Would Government be prepared to publish a list of the producers and non-producers to whom these quotas have been given?

Shri Kanungo: These are not quotas. The figures I have given are the anticipated exports from ports.

Shri Achar: Any quota for Mysore?

Shri Kanungo: In regard to Mysore, iron ore is exported from Mangalore and Karwar. Some quantity goes to Madras. I cannot give the figures mine-wise.

Mr. Speaker: Every day whenever the STC comes, that becomes the subject-matter of this House. I will allow opportunities for the report to be discussed. I have fixed up a No-Day-Yet-Named Motion for that. Hon. Members complain that we are not proceeding socialistically and at the same time, they make every kind of allegation against the STC. If we go to the North, North-East and North-West, the entire trade is in the hands of the Government. Here one item has been taken up by the STC and every day questions are asked whether it has made profit or incurred loss and so on. If the House wants to change the entire fabric of it, it may do so.

Shrimati Benu Chakravarty: We want it to function efficiently and that is why we want clarification.

Mr. Speaker: This House is not a directorate sitting here going into all the details every day. Almost every day I am allowing a number of questions. Hereafter I am not going to allow. I would like to tell the House about my mind in regard to this matter. We have taken a decision that industries may be started in the public sector and state trading also is allowed. I cannot allow all the details to be discussed here.

Shri Ranga: It is not a matter of detail; it is a matter of discrimination.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Minister has also said that he is willing to discuss the matter with hon. Members, but nobody goes to him. They want to use this platform forgetting all the details. If hon. Members think that it is a very serious matter, let them first of all write to the Minister. If they do not get any information and if I find it sufficiently important, I will allow that question. After all, he is our Minister.

Shri Bimal Ghose: Then we may write to the Minister and ask him how much of iron ore is exported, etc. We may write to him for everything and not ask questions here?

Mr. Speaker: Yes; why should they ask questions here? I am really surprised. I will disallow questions when the answer can be ascertained from any book or reports published. I am bound to allow a question only when the answer is not available elsewhere. So far as the STC is concerned, they will first of all exhaust this remedy of approaching the Government and asking whatever they want, not only this, but every other thing they want. In case they do not get an answer, I will allow that question.

Shrimati Benu Chakravarty: May I submit that if you give such a ruling, then it will be very dangerous. It is true that we always get back the reply that the information can be found in such and such a book and we do not pursue that further. But if it is a question which falls within the rules, are we going to make one set of rules for the public sector and another set for the private sector?

Mr. Speaker: This does not come within the rules. It is a matter of interpretation.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Then the Rules of Procedure will have to be changed.

Mr. Speaker: I will do so.

Shri V. P. Nayar: That you cannot.

Mr. Speaker: Every detail does not come under the rules. We establish

the State Trading Corporation or any other corporation and we give them some amount of autonomy. It does not mean that I am entrusting everything to them. So far as details are concerned, if hon. Members do not get the details from the Government and if it is an important matter, I am going to allow such questions. That is all that I am saying. I do not think we must spend away our time like this.

Shri Nath Pal: All this can be avoided if the hon. Minister comes better prepared.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Shri Ghose is labouring under some misapprehension. We have been replying and giving many details.

Shri Bimal Ghose: I was only making a submission to the Speaker for not allowing us to ask questions and supplementaries. I have nothing against the hon. Minister.

Mr. Speaker: It is rather strange. Shri Ghose says that the Minister is willing and I am not allowing. Anyhow, we understand the situation now. Whenever there is any important matter, even if the Minister is not willing, if the House and the public should know it, I allow those questions.

Shri V. C. Shukla: The hon. Minister just now said that they have not received any complaint from the Bihar Government. I have in my possession a copy of the complaint, which I have received. I will lay it on the Table.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: The copy must have gone to the STC, which is an autonomous body. It has not reached the Minister or the Ministry. These differences could easily be understood.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister is not expected to know the ABC of the STC.

International Labour Conference

*1817. **Shri Warrior:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Workers' delegation to the recent International Labour Conference reached Geneva after the Worker-Members of the Conference had already been elected;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Membership of the delegation was not communicated to the I.L.O. authorities in time; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) The Conference commenced on the 4th June. Workers' delegation reached Geneva on the 3rd. But as the workers' group of the Conference held its meeting on the 2nd Indian workers' delegation could not participate in this meeting.

(b) No.

(c) The question of sending members of the delegation sufficiently in advance of the meeting has been kept in view.

Shri Warrior: May I know the basis for giving representation to the all India labour organisations? Is the membership of the organisation taken into consideration?

Shri Abid Ali: Yes, Sir; very much. On the basis of the verification, which is done every year, it was found that the Indian National Trade Union Congress had a larger membership and, therefore, it was entitled to be represented at the ILO. Not only that. Their credentials were examined by the ILO Credentials Committee and they also approved it.

Shri Narayanaikutty Memon: May I know whether it is the policy of the Government in selecting these delegations exclusive representation will be given only to the organisation which has got a majority of members and the other organisations, whatever might be their membership, will be excluded from representation?

Shri Abid Ali: The constitution of the ILO has to be honoured. The selection is made on that basis.

Shri Bose: May I know how many committees were formed by the Conference of the ILO this year? May I also know whether our delegation served on these committees?

Shri Abid Ali: I think there were 3 or 4 committees, and the workers' representatives from India also participated in these committees.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The hon. Minister has said that the ILO constitution is being followed. I am very glad he said that. According to the ILO constitution all representative central trade union organisations will have to send a list of the delegations and the Government have to select from among them. That is not being followed in India.

Shri Abid Ali: That is not correct. According to the constitution, we have to invite the organisations concerned to send an agreed list. If they fail to send an agreed list, then we have to invite the organisation which is representative of the workers by virtue of having the largest membership, and that is being followed.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the membership of the All India Trade Union Congress submitted recently to the Government is 14,72,496 which is 62,906 more than that of INTUC, and, if so, whether the AITUC will be given representation in ILO and, if not, why not?

Shri Abid Ali: Lists have been received from the AITUC as also from other central trade union organisations. With regard to the number mentioned by the hon. Members, I may submit

that the list of the unions which this organisation has submitted is very much inaccurate to the extent that about 50 per cent. of their affiliated unions do not contain even the number of their registration.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The AITUC submitted a list previously to the Minister. The Minister wanted them to make some corrections. The corrected list shows the number of membership as 14,72,496 and the number of affiliated unions is 1,482 INTUC has also submitted its list. May I know whether they have been checked up or verified?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister says there is inaccuracy.

Shri Tangamani: After receiving the final list from the AITUC stating that the membership is 14 lakhs and odd and the number of unions is 1,000 and odd, have the Government verified the figures?

Shri Abid Ali: The verification work will start after we get the required information. We have returned the list to the AITUC to let us know the number of registration of these unions. In some cases, even the addresses have not been given. Then, the basis on which the delegation was fixed for the ILO Conference was the membership as on 31st March, 1957. Now the hon. Members are talking about the list as on 31st March, 1958. The new list shall be the basis on which selection will be made for the June 1959 conference.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The hon. Minister says that an agreed list has to be sent. Before the finalisation of the list of delegates to the ILO Conference in last June, may I know whether an agreed list was called for from both the central trade union organisations which have been recognized by the Government of India?

Shri Abid Ali: For about six years we attempted and we could not succeed. The hon. Member knows it.

Mr. Speaker: Last year also he did not succeed.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Let him say that. We want the Minister to say that.

Shri Palaniyandy: May I know whether it is a fact that in Kerala this year alone the membership of the AITUC has increased, even though the industrial labour is less?

Shri Abid Ali: The number of members of AITUC has gone up in Kerala by more than 40 per cent. But they have not mentioned the registration number of a good few trade unions which are claimed to have been affiliated to the AITUC.

Mr. Speaker: We are not deciding the accuracy or otherwise here.

Shri Jaipal Singh: In the newspaper industry there is the Audit Bureau of Circulations, which is the authoritative machinery for circulation of newspapers. May I know whether Government have any similar audit machinery in the matter of verification of the claims made by both the trade unions?

Shri Abid Ali: We have some machinery to verify the membership of the unions.

Shri Nath Pai: In view of the fact that the hon. Minister has very seriously challenged the membership of the AITUC and the AITUC has returned the compliment, will Government seriously consider the question of recognising HMS as a representative organisation?

Shri Abid Ali: Its membership is going down every year.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Since the rules have been formulated for the verification of membership of the unions in the Indian Labour Conference at Naini Tal, may I know whether the central trade union organisations, particularly AITUC, have complied with those rules?

Shri Abid Ali: These were agreed to at Naini Tal, and they will be followed. With regard to the latter part of the question, an occasion has

not yet come for me to say whether they have complied with it or not.

Atomic Power Stations

*1321. { **Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan:**
Shri Jadhav:
Shri P. L. Barupal:
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Atomic Energy Commission have formulated any proposal for setting up of atomic power stations in India during the Third Five Year Plan Period; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

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

(b) The Atomic Energy Commission have recommended that one million kilowatts of nuclear power be installed by the end of the Third Five Year Plan period and that this could be done by setting up two Atomic Power Stations, each Station consisting of two units of a quarter million kilowatts each. They have also proposed that the construction of one of the units should be commenced next year.

Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan: May I know whether the power reactors will be engineered and built in the country and also whether the atomic fuel will be made available in the country for the atomic reactors?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I want notice.

Shri Jadhav: May I know where the stations are to be located? Has any decision been taken?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: No decision has yet been taken.

Shri Dineah Singh: May I know if the power so generated is likely to be cheaper than hydro-electricity?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: The Commission expects that electricity from

these power stations will cost more or less the same as electricity from thermal power stations in places remote from the coalfields.

Shri Jadhav: May I know whether it is a fact that the request of the Rajasthan Government to have atomic power plant near Udaipur has been turned down?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I am not aware of it.

Shri Nath Pai: Is it not a fact that Dr. Bhabha has stated in Geneva in the last week, as reported by newspapers, that eventually this source is likely to prove cheaper than the hydro-electric sources?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: That is quite true.

Mr. Speaker: He said so in the Central Hall also.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any decision has been taken in regard to setting up of atomic power stations in Rajasthan?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I did not follow the hon. Member.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Member will please speak a little louder.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Has a decision been taken with regard to the setting up of atomic power stations in Rajasthan?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: No, Sir. No decision has been taken.

Unauthorised Constructions

*1322. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) on how many Government premises in Delhi there are unauthorised constructions; and

(b) what steps, if any, are being taken to remove these unauthorised structures on Government premises?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) No systematic survey of unauthorised constructions on Government premises has so far been made. From the information available it appears that the number would be very roughly about 20,000.

(b) The Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Bill, 1958, when enacted will provide speedy machinery for dealing with cases in which it is felt necessary to remove these unauthorised constructions.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: In view of the fact that there are a vast number of unauthorised constructions, what are the reasons that no regular check up is found necessary?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The hon. Member is aware that we had no legislative powers for the last two years after the judgment of the East Punjab High Court with regard to eviction of unauthorised occupants from Government lands and therefore no adequate statistics were kept. Moreover, as the hon. Home Minister indicated the other day in answer to a question, these structures do often go up as well as come down at a very short notice and it is very difficult to keep up-to-date statistics of these.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Is it the view of the hon. Minister that in the absence of any judicial powers, they propose to take no action to go to the regular courts?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: As the operation in the regular courts would have taken a very long time, we came up before this House for special powers.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Why is it...

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is going into past history. The hon. Minister says that they have now got the powers. They will pursue this matter and will do so hereafter very soon.

I am not able to understand whether this House should be used in the

Question Hour by hon. Members for finding fault with the Government and for not having done a thing up till now.

Hon. Member does not want to elicit any fact. Next question. Shri Sarju Pandey.

Some Hon. Members: He is in jail.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Tangamani.

Indians in Burma

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*1323. (Shri Tangamani:
Shri Sarju Pandey:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wives and children of those Indian migrants to Burma, who have either applied to acquire citizenship of Burma or have obtained citizenship certificates of that place, are not regarded as Indian citizens;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Government of Burma have recently imposed restrictions upon those Indian immigrants who have accepted Burmese citizenship, that they cannot remit money to their dependents residing in India; and

(c) if so, the nature of restrictions?

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

(a) No. The wives of Indians, who have acquired Burmese citizenship, are regarded as Indian nationals until they themselves acquire Burmese citizenship. The minor children are, however, treated as Burmese citizens, but they can opt for Indian citizenship within a period of one year after attaining majority.

(b) and (c). While Indians who have not opted for Burmese citizenship are permitted to remit Rs. 20 p.m. to their wives and children residing in India, each case for permission to remit money by Indians, who have acquired Burmese citizenship to their dependents in India is decided on merits by the Government of Burma.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether it is not a fact that this reduction of Rs. 20 was enforced only three months ago? What was the amount that was allowed prior to that?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: This reduction to Rs. 20 came with effect from the 1st June, 1958. Prior to that till the 31st August, 1955, Indian nationals were allowed to remit Rs. 50 and then it was reduced to Rs. 30 with effect from the 1st September, 1955.

Shri Tangamani: In view of the fact that no family will be able to maintain itself with Rs. 20 a month, would the Government make representations to increase this?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: These restrictions were due to the low foreign exchange position of Burma and it affects not only Indians but all foreigners living in Burma.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Have representations been received by the Government from those affected by the restrictions, and if so, what steps Government are taking to relieve the distress of those families who are affected by that?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Representations have been received from time to time and in hard cases our Ambassador in Burma renders necessary assistance by approaching the exchange control authorities in that country.

Shri Thanu Pillai: May I know whether Government will give any aid to those dependents who are here and to whom money cannot be sent by the persons in Burma.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: It is not possible for the Government of India to give aid to the dependents.

Shri Ranga: In view of the fact that the Government of India have been lending money to the Government of Burma, have they considered the advisability of requesting the Burmese

Government to stick to their earlier order of keeping it at Rs. 30 or Rs. 50 and meet their difficulties by themselves by paying to the dependents out of the loan advanced to Burma?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: That question has been answered. These restrictions were imposed because of the foreign exchange difficulties of the Burmese Government. We cannot ask the Burmese Government to change what they have decided.

Mr. Speaker: They have taken the loan and are not willing to pay.

Shri Tyagi: How much can Burmese residing in India remit to their country from here?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I want notice for that.

Sixteenth Indian Labour Conference

*1324. **Shri Tangamani** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to summary of proceedings of the XVI Indian Labour Conference laid on the Table on the 11th August, 1958 and lay a statement showing;

(a) the steps taken for the implementation of the decisions regarding Employees' State Insurance Scheme;

(b) the number of insured persons whose families have been extended facilities so far; and

(c) the time by which the enhanced statutory rate will be applied to employers?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 106.]

(b) 50,000.

(c) No decision has yet been taken.

Shri Tangamani: In the statement I find that the nine recommendations of the Indian Labour Conference which

met in Naini Tal are mentioned. May I know when the recommendations about paying the confinement fees of Rs. 30 and the maternity benefit and revising the waiting period will be considered

Shri L. N. Mishra: Very soon.

Shri Tangamani rose—

Mr. Speaker: He said, it will be considered.

Shri Tangamani: One of the important recommendations is that the employers' contribution must be raised to the original statutory level of 4.75 per cent. May I know when that will be considered?

Shri L. N. Mishra: It was considered in the last meeting of the Corporation and it was decided not to put it into effect for the time being because the existing revenue is thought to be sufficient for the purpose.

Shri Tangamani: Has it come to the knowledge of the Government that under the present scheme with reduced contribution of employers, the employers contribute less than what the employees are contributing?

Shri L. N. Mishra: It is a fact that at the present moment the employees have to pay more, but all the benefits go to the employees.

Shri Tangamani: May I know...

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed four questions. Next Question.

Tea Trade with Iraq

*1325. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of export of Indian Tea to Iraq; and

(b) the measures adopted to promote the export of common and medium grown varieties of Indian tea there?

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

(a) Exports of Indian teas to Iraq have been negligible.

(b) The Tea Board is conscious of the need for promotional work in the West Asian countries, but the initiative in studying the market has to be taken mainly by the tea-exporters.

Shri P. C. Borooah: Is Government aware of the fact that Iraq used to have her entire supply of 30 million lbs. of tea, both low and medium, grown annually from Ceylon and since the fall of the Nuri regime the tea imports to Iraq have almost come to a standstill?

Shri Satish Chandra: Exports from Ceylon are still continuing to Iraq. There has been some decline. There is also some possibility of exporting Indian tea. It all depends on a number of factors.

Shri P. C. Borooah: In view of the fact that Iraq is under the influence of the United Arab Republic and thereby enters into the Arab payment Union, Ceylon is about to lose her tea trade with Iraq completely. May I know whether any steps have been taken to push our common teas in Iraq market?

Shri Satish Chandra: The flow of trade does not always depend on the political changes in a particular country. I do not think I am competent enough to discuss that subject in connection with this question.

Shri Morarka: Is it a fact that due to recent recession in the export of tea, the Government is contemplating handing over tea exports to the State Trading Corporation?

Shri Satish Chandra: There is no such proposal.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: In view of the fact that all the Middle Eastern countries including Iraq prefer common teas, what steps will the Government take to increase the export of common teas to Iraq?

Shri Satish Chandra: It is not a question of our not wanting to export to Iraq in any substantial quantity. What we know is, Iraq wants good quality tea and not common tea. It has acquired a taste for a particular variety and colour of tea. It was buying from Indonesia before the Second World War. Then it began to purchase in Ceylon when sufficient supplies from Indonesia were not possible. If Indian exporters show some enterprise, they can certainly find a market in that country.

Shri Prabhat Kar: Whatever small quantity we were exporting to Iraq, is it a fact that because of the inferior quality, that export has now been reduced?

Shri Satish Chandra: Export has not been reduced. The quantity is negligible. In fact, it has slightly increased during the last few months.

Forged Passports

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*1326. { Shri Goray:
Shri Jadhav:
Shri Nath Pai:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a gang suspected of forging passports from Delhi; was arrested on the 11th June, 1957; and

(b) whether the investigations in this case have been completed?

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

(b) The case is still under investigation.

Shri Goray: May I know why it has taken so long to investigate the case?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Investigations are still in progress. The C.I.D. authorities concerned have ascertained that various seals, rubber stamps and other things are involved in this. They are taking some time to unravel this matter.

Shri Goray: Is it a fact that in the meanwhile some people have been arrested in the U.K. and thousands of passports were found with them?

Mr. Speaker: United Kingdom?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Yes, Sir. That is a newspaper report. I have no information about people being arrested in the U.K. But, we have arrested some people here.

Shri Nath Pai: Have the investigations indicated if there is any connection with the large-scale forging of passports in Punjab for helping people to cross the border in Pakistan or whether they were being manufactured only for travel to the U.K.?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: All these matters, the police is looking into. Certain things have come to light. I should like to tell the House that one Darshan Singh was first of all arrested and then it was discovered that there is another gentleman by name Balkishen Sehgal of Delhi, supposed to be the leader of a gang and along with these 12 other associates were taken into custody and the police is carrying on investigation and trying to find out how they are connected.

Shri Goray: Is it a fact that these people who were apprehended in Delhi are now out?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Twelve of them have been released on bail.

Shri Nath Pai: Some time back, six passport officers in Bombay were arrested for being associated with this racket. Has any connection been found between this and that?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I am unable to say. The matter, as I said, is under investigation.

Shri Jadhav: Has this fact come to the notice of the Government that newspapers in England have prominently published news items criticising the behaviour of Indian immigrants in Britain?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Yes. We have seen those news items.

Shri Jadhav: May I know the number of immigrants?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I want notice.

Shri Ansar Harvani: May I know whether any official of the External Affairs Ministry or any employees of the External Affairs Ministry are also involved in this case?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Not to my knowledge.

Indian Commissioner in Nairobi

*1327. **Shri Manabendra Shah:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether Government have decided to recall Indian Commissioner in Nairobi?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): Yes. The Commissioner is coming home on leave.

Shri Manabendra Shah: Does the Ministry know of some financial irregularities done by him and may I know what action the Government is taking?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The Ministry knows all that has happened. They will take appropriate action at the appropriate time. Just now the officer is still in Nairobi and he will be coming home on leave.

Shri Manabendra Shah: Is the Government aware of his having transferred or remitted all his pay to India?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I want separate notice for that.

Shrimati Benu Chakravartty: When an Indian Commissioner is actually recalled, surely there must be something more than just coming on leave. What is the exact reason why he has been recalled?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I have said that he is coming home on leave. I did not say that he was recalled.

Indian Ambassador to Iraq

*1328. **Shri S. A. Mehdi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) when the Indian Ambassador designate to Iraq is likely to reach Bagdad; and

(b) when was this appointment decided upon?

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

(a) The Indian Ambassador to Iraq reached Bagdad on the 4th September, 1958.

(b) The announcement of the proposed appointment by the Government of Iraq and the Government of India was made on the 9th April 1958.

Shri S. A. Mehdi: May I know where was the Ambassador designate during the Iraq revolt?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I think he was somewhere in Sweden or on his way in London. I do not know the exact place where he was at the time of the revolt.

Shri Dinesh Singh: In view of the revolt in Iraq, may I know why the Ambassador-designate was not asked to go to Iraq directly instead of coming to India?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: He is entitled to three months leave. He must have spent a part of it in London. In fact, there was only a difference of four months between the actual announcement of his appointment and his taking over charge. He has taken just only one month more than the usual time allotted for such transfers.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: Our Ambassadors' posts remain unfilled for quite a long time. In the recent three world events, first the revolution in Iraq, second, in the Suez Canal and third, in Hungary, our Ambassadors were not present. May I know whether the Government will take steps to see that our Ambassadors' appointments are made quickly and efficiently?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: That is a suggestion for action.

Lay off of Textile Workers, Kanpur

*1330. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Tangamani:

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

(a) whether more than 6,000 textile workers of Kanpur have been laid off in three textile mills;

(b) whether any steps have been or are being taken to appoint a separate committee to tackle this situation in Kanpur as decided at the 16th Labour Conference at Nainital;

(c) whether the mill-owners have submitted any suggestion for running these mills efficiently;

(d) if so, what are the suggestions; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) 5378 have been laid off.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

(c) Yes.

(d) The main suggestions are:

reduction in the margin of security against advances by banks, reduction in excise duties, revision of railway freight etc.

(e) The suggestions have already been considered by the Textile Enquiry Committee whose report is now under consideration of Government.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The case of textile workers and the Textile enquiry report—this matter was discussed at the Sixteenth Labour Conference. May I know the reason why a particular committee was not appointed for Kanpur when it was definitely mentioned there and assured?

Shri L. N. Mishra: The case of Kanpur was also considered by the Textile Enquiry Committee and that committee has submitted an exhaustive report. It may not be just possible to appoint a Committee for Kanpur.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it has come to the knowledge of the hon. Minister that two office bearers of the Soothj mill mazdoor Sangh have gone on hunger strike from 7th September 1958, against the indifferent attitude of the Government? May I know what steps have been taken by the Government to solve this problem?

Shri L. N. Mishra: Industrial relations in textile mills primarily falls in the State sphere. I am not aware of the reported hunger strike.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: My submission is, all these textile closures are going on in Kanpur and the Labour Minister of the State Government has clearly mentioned that it is for the Central Government and they cannot possibly interfere. This was exhaustively discussed at the Sixteenth Conference. I want to know what is being done. Should these people die of hunger? The general strike was also there. Because of the abnormal situation in the U.P....

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will put a question. The hon. Minister says that he is not aware of the hunger-strike. So far as this matter is concerned, the Minister there seems to have said—that is the information given by Shri S. M. Banerjee—that closure of mills is a Central subject and not a State subject. What about that?

Shri L. N. Mishra: The question of the conditions of textile mills has been bad and it has been examined by the Textile enquiry committee. That report is under consideration of the Commerce and Industry Ministry. I may say for the information of the hon. Member that there were certain demands of the textile mills in

Kanpur and many of them were conceded also.

Shri Tangamani: In the Nainital conference, specially representatives of the mill workers in Kanpur were invited because of the serious situation there. It was also decided that a special committee will be set up to consider the questions of mills in Kanpur. What I would like to know is whether a special committee has been appointed, or whether the Government propose to appoint such a special committee?

Shri L. N. Mishra: The committee was not appointed. We were awaiting the report of the Textile Enquiry Committee, and that report has been submitted. That report covers most of the subjects pertaining to the situation obtaining in Kanpur. After the report is examined by the Commerce Ministry, the Ministry of Labour also will look into it.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether one of the recommendations is that a special committee will be appointed to investigate into the matter of the textile workers in Kanpur, and if it is so, whether one has been appointed.

Shri L. N. Mishra: It was a recommendation of the Naini Tal Conference, but in view of the Textile Enquiry Committee it was not necessary to appoint a committee at the present stage.

Shri Prabhat Kar: In view of the fact that a huge number of workers, numbering about 6,000 are being laid off, may I know how much time the Government will take to decide over the report of the Textile Enquiry Committee and to implement its recommendations.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Not long.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: One question, Sir. I belong to Kanpur.

Mr. Speaker: Why did he not rise earlier?

श्री जगन्मोहन अग्रवाल : क्या मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जान सकता हूँ कि कानपुर म्योर मिल में मार्च सन् १९५८ से जो मिल-मालिकों और मजदूरों के बीच विवाद चल रहा है और जिस के कि कारण मजदूरों को अभी तक वेतन नहीं मिला है, उसके बारे में आपने क्या कोई उचित कार्यवाही की है ?

श्री ल० बा० मिश्र : माननीय सदस्य ने जो इत्तला दी है उसको मैं उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को भेज दूंगा।

12 hrs.

Short Notice Question

Violation of Border by Pakistanis

14. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan were holding their talk in Delhi, Pakistani Police opened fire for more than half an hour at Dimcherra in Patharia reserve forest, 65 miles away from Silchar, and Indian border guards did not reply; and

(b) whether Pakistani civilians also with the help of armed Pakistani army entered Kulonai Hill in Patharia and took away bamboos after cutting them by force on the 11th September, 1958 just after the agreement.

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pakistani civilians trespassed into Indian territory in Patharia Reserve Forest on the 11th September and made an attempt to cut and take away bamboos from the eastern slopes of Kuleraitilla there. One Pakistani civilian was arrested in this attempt.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जिस दिन से यह एग््रीमेंट हुआ है उस से लेकर आज तक इस्टर्न बॉर्डर पर कितने रेड्स और एंसीडेंट्स हुए हैं ?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I have no information about the incidents that have taken place after the 10th September.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि पाकिस्तान के प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब जिस दिन यहाँ से लौट कर गये उस के चौबीस घंटे के बाद उन्होंने अपनी नेशनल प्रसेम्बली में यह सूचना दी कि इंडियन प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने वेस्टर्न पाकिस्तान के सम्बन्ध में जो आर्बिट्रेशन का सजेशन दिया है उसको वे नहीं मानते और उसको मानने से इंकार कर दिया और क्या यह बात ठीक है ?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: There was a report in the papers that the Pakistan Prime Minister made such a statement.

Shri Raghunath Singh: That was a statement made in the National Assembly just after a day of the agreement.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Yes, Sir. We have seen that statement.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : पाकिस्तान के निर्माण के बाद हिन्दुस्तान और पाकिस्तान में घनेक प्रहदनामे हुए हैं तो क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि उन में से कितने तोड़े गये और भविष्य में भी क्या यह उम्मीद की जा सकती है कि जो प्रहदनामे होंगे उनको नहीं तोड़ा जायेगा ?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I do not understand that much Hindi to answer the question.

Mr. Speaker: म ननीय सदस्य अग्रणी में अपना सवाल पूछें।

What is the English translation?

Seth Govind Das: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state how many agreements were made between the Government of India and Pakistan after the creation of Pakistan, how many of them have been broken by Pakistan, and whether there is any hope of the recent agreement being adhered to by Pakistan in future?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: It does not arise from the question. In any case, I will need separate notice for that.

Mr. Speaker: Only, the hon. Member wants to show that many agreements were broken.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if on the Karimganj border certain places which were under Indian occupation since partition were recently captured or occupied by Pakistan such as Tukergram, and whether these places have been evacuated by Pakistani forces or are still under Pakistani occupation?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: A comprehensive statement on this subject was made by the Prime Minister just before he left.

Shri A. C. Guha: Nothing has been said about Tukergram and other places occupied by Pakistan recently.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has no more information than what the Prime Minister has said.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Small Industries Service Institute, Delhi

*1311. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Small Industries Service Institute, Delhi has undertaken Manufacturer's Distribution Aid Surveys;

(b) the main objects of these surveys; and

(c) the result achieved thereby?

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

(b) These surveys would help the small scale manufacturers in determining major distribution centres for their products and establishing contacts with important wholesale and retail dealers. Dealers' and consumers' reaction to the price, technical quality and design of the products will also be obtained and furnished to the manufacturers.

(c) As this survey has been started only recently, it is too early to assess the result.

Sports Goods Industry

*1313. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of the sports goods industry in the country;

(b) the main centres of this industry in the country;

(c) whether this industry is facing some difficulty due to non-availability of raw material; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to help the industry in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):
(a) The present position of the Sports Goods Industry is as follows:—

(i) Number of units	About 250
(ii) Annual turnover	Rs. 1.5 crores approx.
(iii) Quality	Standard specifications for a number of items of sports goods have been laid down.
(iv) Technical assistance	An Industrial Extension Centre has been established at Meerut.
(v) Export promotion	An Export Promotion Council for sports goods has been set up recently.

(b) Jullundur, Meerut, Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay.

(c) and (d). Due to restricted import policy during the period October, 1957, to March, 1958, this Industry experienced some difficulty in the import of raw materials such as feather, cork wood, willow clefts, beech wood, waterproof glue, nylon guts and their prices were increased to a great extent. During the period April to September, 1958, the Government of India has earmarked a separate amount to be utilised for the import of raw materials required for the sports goods industry. Consequent upon this liberal policy, the prices of imported raw materials have started showing a downward trend in the market.

Rise in Prices of Foodstuffs

*1314. Shri Nagi Reddy: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of exorbitant rise in the prices of imported food, in view of the restricted imports; and

(b) if so, the steps that Government propose to take in this direction?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Prices have undoubtedly risen but Government are keeping a close watch and some remedial steps are being taken.

Meeting of Purchase Advisory Council

*1318. Shri A. K. Gopalan: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Purchase Advisory Council was held recently; and

(b) if so, the decisions arrived at?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes Sir. A meeting of the Purchase Advisory Council was held on 29th July, 1958.

(b) A statement showing the recommendations made by the Council and the decisions taken thereon is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 107.]

Displaced Persons in Tripura

*1319. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the able-bodied displaced persons living in camps of Tripura are not being given cash dole;

(b) if so, whether it is being done under the instructions of the Central Government; and

(c) if so, when were these instructions sent and the details thereof?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) to (c). It is not a fact that all the able-bodied displaced persons living in the camps of Tripura are not given doles. In accordance with the Government of India orders, issued in 1951, only those able-bodied men who are provided with remunerative work are not given doles.

Khadi Industry

*1320. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

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

(a) whether Government have any machinery to exercise a check on the proper utilisation of the funds sanctioned to the State Governments and to private organisations for the development of Khadi Industry; and

(b) if so, since when it is working?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ever since the introduction of the scheme.

Small Scale Industries

*1329. **Shri Keshava:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had asked the State Governments to earmark at least 15 per cent of the State allocation for Small Scale Industries in the Community Development areas during 1957-58; and

(b) how many State Governments had implemented the above scheme and to what extent?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):
(a) The State Governments were requested to ensure that an expenditure of 25 per cent of the total allocation for 1957-58 was incurred in Community Development Areas.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Small Scale Industrial Units of Punjab

*1331. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of small scale industrial units have closed down in the Punjab due to lack of supply of steel and raw material on account of inequitable distribution or deficiency of quota allotted to the Punjab; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to meet the situation?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Radiation Danger in Kerala

*1332. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news "Radiation Danger in Kerala" published on page 5 col. 3 of the

Hindustan Times dated the 8th September, 1958;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government to it; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to avert the danger.

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

(b) and (c). The press report is evidently based on the paper on "Radiation dose measurements in the monazite areas of Kerala State in India" presented by two Indian Scientists of the Atomic Energy Establishment Trombay at the Second United Nations International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy recently held in Geneva. The paper is based in two surveys conducted by the Department of Atomic Energy in 1956 and 1957. Further detailed studies are being made.

I would like in this connection to invite attention to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 144 on May 22, 1957

Racial Riots in U.K.

*1333. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a racial riot has occurred recently in Britain involving the white and the Coloured people;

(b) if so, whether any Indian nationals were affected; and

(c) whether there has been any loss of life and property belonging to them?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) Yes. The riots were mainly directed against people from the West Indies.

(b) In London one Indian national was stabbed and his condition is reported to be satisfactory. In another town fire was sent to an Indian restaurant and there was stone throwing at a house occupied by Indians.

(c) No loss of life, but some loss of property as a result of the fire.

Sewing Machine Industry in Punjab

*1334. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Sewing Machine Industry is facing a crisis due to the non-availability of iron and steel;

(b) how many of such units have closed down or are on the verge of closure; and

(c) the steps which Government propose to take in the matter?

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

(a) to (c). We have no definite information of any such crisis. There may be some difficulty on account of general shortage of steel but we are trying to get full facts from the Punjab Government. The small units there, 55 in number, are all looked after by that Government.

Exports of Tobacco to Belgium

*1335. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great demand for better grades of tobacco in Belgium;

(b) if so, the total quantity of tobacco exported to Belgium during 1957-58; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the export of this item?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir. In Belgium, only the medium and low grades of tobacco are in demand.

(b) During 1957-58, 4,151,226 lbs. consisting of medium and low grades of Flue Cured Virginia and Sun Cured Natu (Country) Tobacco were exported to Belgium.

(c) The Indian Central Tobacco Committee, the Tobacco Export Promotion Council and the Tobacco officers stationed in Antwerp (Belgium), London and Hongkong continue to strive to improve the sales of Indian tobacco to Belgium.

Export Duties on Oil-seeds

*1336. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after the announcement by Government of the abolition of export duties on groundnut, Kardi seed, Nigar seed, Sesamum and Seramum oil, the prices of these articles have gone high; and

(b) if so, the reasons for abolition of export duty?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Yes, The export of sesamum seed has, however, been under a ban since April, 1956. The further rise in prices cannot be attributed to the abolition of export duties, which were removed in the hope that when internal prices are in parity with external prices, some exports will take place. But internal prices because of the pressure of the home demand have continued to rule at a high level.

Local Development Works

*1337. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2785 on 25th April, 1958 and state:

(a) whether any of the States have become eligible for additional assistance under the Local Development Works Programme on the basis of actual performance;

(b) if so, the names of those States; and

(c) the criteria fixed for judging the actual performance?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) to (c). The matter is under consideration and the information will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Sub-Soil Water in Delhi

*1338. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1866 on the 13th December, 1957 and state:

(a) whether final recommendations of the Technical Experts to bring down sub-soil water level in Delhi have been received; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement them?

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

(b) Does not arise. Action, however, has been taken on the recommendations of the Committee's interim report.

Employees' Contribution to Provident Fund

*1339. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:
Shri Jagadish Awasthi:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge amount was due on the 31st July, 1958 from some of the textile mills at Kanpur as their contribution to the Provident Fund Account;

(b) if so, what are these outstanding provident fund dues; and

(c) the steps taken to recover the same?

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

(b) A sum of Rs. 15,83,724 was outstanding in respect of Employers'

and Employees' shares of Provident Fund contributions from three Textile-Mills on the 31st July, 1958.

(c) Necessary action for recovery of outstanding dues as arrears of land revenue against all the three defaulting Mills has been initiated under-section 8 of the Employees' Provident Fund Act.

Khadi and Gramudyog Bhavan

*1340. **Shri Assar:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Khadi and Gramudyog Bhavan of New Delhi is not registered under the Shops Establishment Act; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

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

(b) The matter is under correspondence with Khadi & Gramudyog Bhawan, New Delhi.

Manufacture of Trucks

*1341. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what is the manufacturing programme for trucks during the next 6 months;

(b) whether trucks are being sold at a great premium over their listed price; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to regulate matters?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Government have been endeavouring to maintain the production of trucks and buses during 1958 at the level reached in 1957. But it is not possible to forecast precisely the probable production in the next six months. During the licensing period October 1957—March 1958, licences were issued for the import of 6962 sets of truck and bus components, production in the same period was 7484

Nos. During the current licensing period April-September, 1958, licences have been issued for the import of 8030 sets of truck and bus components. The production during the months April-July 1958 was 3387 Nos.

(b) No such complaints have been received.

(c) Does not arise.

Employment Exchanges

*1342. **Shrimati Ita Palchoudhuri:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal to put Employment Exchanges in the country under the charge of gazetted officers only is under the consideration of the Government of India;

(b) if so, the reasons for this move; and

(c) when a final decision is likely to be reached?

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

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

Export of Iron Ore

*1343. **Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 126 on the 14th August, 1958 and state:

(a) the nature of assistance asked for by the Orissa Government for facilitating the export of Iron ore from Sukinda Mines to Japan through the port of Paradip; and

(b) the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) The Orissa Government have asked for assistance in building a railway siding from the Sukinda mines to Jenapur and for improvements in the inland water transport facilities from Jenapur to the port.

(b) The matter is under consideration in consultation with the Ministry

of Railways, Ministry of Transport and the Planning Commission. Meanwhile, the State Trading Corporation are aiding the Government of Orissa to organise mid-stream loading and export through the Port of Paradip about 50,000 tons of iron ore to Japan.

Sale of Electrical Goods

*1344. **Shri Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the indigenous electrical goods are being tested before they are put for sale in the open market; and

(b) if so, whether the issue of safety certificates has been made compulsory?

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

(a) Yes, Sir, generally.

(b) No, Sir.

Tea Exports

*1345. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exports of Indian tea declined to 447 million lbs. valued at Rs. 123.39 crores in 1957 from 523.56 million lbs. valued at Rs. 142.82 crores in the previous year;

(b) if so, the reasons for the decline; and

(c) the steps taken to promote its exports?

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

(a) and (b). In 1956 exports were unusually high and cannot be regarded as a correct basis for comparison with exports in normal years averaging about 450 million lbs. Though tea exports are subject to fluctuations both in quantity and value, exports in 1957 do not show any serious decline.

(c) Efforts are being continually made to increase our exports to various countries by participating in joint

publicity campaigns for increased consumption of tea. In a few other countries, we are contemplating to establish Public Relations Units for direct propaganda and publicity. In countries which have State controlled economies, we are trying to sell tea through bilateral arrangements.

Sixteenth Indian Labour Conference

*1346. { Shri Tangamani:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to proceedings of the XVI Indian Labour Conference laid on the Table on the 11th August, 1958 and lay a statement showing:

(a) the steps taken to implement decision on Industrial Relations;

(b) how far verification of membership of unions has taken place based on the said decision; and

(c) whether any meeting of representatives of Central Trade Unions has been called for this purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Necessary communication has been addressed to State Governments with regard to the action to be taken by them. Needful is being done by the Central Government about the items which concern us.

(b) List of affiliated unions of the four Central Trade Union Organisations respectively, have been received. Appropriate action is being taken to verify the membership of these unions.

(c) No.

Long Staple Cotton

*1347. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present annual requirements of long staple cotton in India;

(b) the extent to which the requirements are met at present by indigenous production;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision with regard to imports of such variety of cotton;

(d) if so, the nature of such decision; and

(e) the names of the countries from where this cotton will be imported giving separate figures in each case?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) The total requirements of long staple cotton of the textile mills in India are round about 7 lakh Indian bales per year.

(b) These requirements are met from indigenous production to the extent of 1 to 1½ lakh bales.

(c) to (e). Cotton stapling 1—1½" and above are alone permitted for import. Imports depend upon the requirements of the textile mills in India, the availability of foreign exchange and indigenous production, after taking into consideration the cotton imports under the U.S.A. Aid programmes. Keeping this in view the required quantities of cotton are allowed for import from soft currency countries and U.S.A. It is, therefore, difficult to estimate the requirements of foreign cotton in advance for the future years.

Narsing Girji Manufacturing Company Ltd., Sholapur

*1348. { Shri Ram Krishan:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Sonavane:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2 on the 11th February, 1958 regarding the inquiry by the Somani Committee into the working of the Narsing Girji Manufacturing Company Ltd., Sholapur and state:

(a) whether Government has since received the report from the Somani Committee on this mill;

(b) if so, their findings; and

(c) the steps taken on the Report and the present position of the Narsing Girji Manufacturing Company Ltd., Sholapur?

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

(b) and (c). It would not be in the public interest to disclose the recommendations of the Committee at present. The mills are being now run on three shifts under the direct control of the Bombay Government, after they were obtained on lease by that Government from the official liquidator. The relevant recommendations of the Committee have been passed on to the Bombay Government for their consideration and action wherever necessary.

Corporation for Coir Products

*1349. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala State Government have recommended the formation of a corporation for coir exports; and

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted this recommendation?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Export of Cloves and Cardamom

2177. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total exports of cloves and cardamom during 1957-58 and 1958-59 so far;

(b) the names of the countries to which exports have been made and the quantity in each case; and

(c) how the above exports compare with those of the year 1956-57?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 108.]

National Small Industries Corporation (Private) Ltd.

2178. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the types of machines provided for the development of small scale industries in Bombay State by the National Small Industries Corporation (Private) Ltd. during 1957-58?

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

Lathes, Radial and Bench Drilling Machines, Shaping Machines, Milling Machines, Grinding Machines, Bench Grinders, Slotting Machines etc.

Special Purpose Machines

These machines were supplied for use in the following manufacturing industries:

- (1) Nuts and Bolts; (2) Wire Cables; (3) Pipes; (4) Leather; (5) Footwear; (6) Watch Straps; (7) Wire Net Making; (8) Pharmaceuticals; (9) Scientific and Surgical instruments; (10) Car Battery; (11) Silk Yarn; (12) Collapsible Tubes; and (13) Ceramics.

Films Production

2179. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the number of films certified for exhibition in India during the year 1958 so far; and

(b) the languages in which these films were produced during the same period?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Number of films certified for public exhibition in India by the Central Board of Film Censors under the Cinematograph

Act, 1952, from 1st January, 1958 to 31st August, 1958:

	Indian	Foreign	Total
35 MM			
Above 2000 ft.	204	209	413
Below 2000 ft.	342	389	731
16 MM			
Above 800 ft.	7	214	221
Below 800 ft.	20	743	763
	573	1,555	2,128

(b) Government do not regulate the production of films in India. It is, therefore, not possible to furnish precise information about the number of films produced in a particular period. However, a language-wise statement of the Indian films certified for public exhibition by the Central Board of Film Censors from 1st January, 1958 to 31st August, 1958 is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 109.]

Documentary on Skin Diseases

2180. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any documentary has been produced on skin diseases; and
(b) if so, whether it has been exhibited so far in any State?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

Allowances to Stevedore Workers in Calcutta Port

2181. Shri Anthony Pillai: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount paid as attendance allowance and disappointment allowance to Stevedore Workers during the period of the recent strike at the Port of Calcutta by the Dock Labour Board;
(b) the amount paid in the form of wages for work done, by the said Authority at the said Port; and

(c) the number of monthly paid Stevedore Workers at the Port of Calcutta who suffered a deduction in their wages for participation in the said strike and the amount so deducted?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Attendance Allowance—Rs. 48,983.00.

Disappointment Allowance—Rs. 4.50

(b) Rs. 61,056.37

(c) Nil. It is understood they did not participate in the strike.

N.E.F.A.

2182. Shrimati Mafta Ahmed: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the progress made so far, in changing the habit of the Tribals in N.E.F.A. areas from Jhum or shifting cultivation to Wet cultivation?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The practice of shifting (Jhum) cultivation is closely linked with the mythology and social customs of N.E.F.A. tribals. Due to the nature of the hilly and wooded terrain large-scale change over to "wet" cultivation is also not physically possible. It is not, therefore, the policy of Government to prohibit Jhum cultivation or to try to impose "wet" cultivation on unwilling tribals.

People are, however, encouraged to take to terracing and "wet" cultivation as far as possible. As a result of such tactful persuasion about 18,000 acres

of land have been brought under "wet" or terraced cultivation.

Even where it has been considered desirable to allow Jhum cultivation to continue, attempts have been made to increase yield by the introduction of better seeds and implements and to reduce soil erosion and destruction of forests by advising people to lengthen the cycles of rotation so that the forests may recover.

दिल्ली और कटक के रेडियो ट्रांसमीटर्स

२१८३. श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली तथा कटक के २० किलोवाट लघु तथा मध्यम तरंग प्रेषित्र (ट्रान्समीटर) से कौन-कौन से कार्यक्रम प्रसारित किये जाते हैं; और

(ख) इनका प्रसारण कितनी दूर तक सरलता से सुना जा सकता है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (डा० के.के. कर) : (क) दिल्ली और कटक के २० किलोवाट के मध्यम तरंग (ट्रान्समीटरों) से इन दोनों केंद्रों के संगीत और बोलचाल के कार्यक्रम प्रसारित किये जाते हैं। दिल्ली के २० किलोवाट के दो शाट वेव ट्रांसमीटरों से विदेशी विभाग के बाहरी देशों के लिये कार्यक्रम तथा देश के अन्दर समाचार (न्यूज बुलेटिन) प्रसारित होते हैं।

(ख) २० किलोवाट के मध्यम तरंग Transmitter से दिन में लगभग १०० मील की दूरी तक और सूर्यास्त के बाद लगभग ४०० मील की दूरी तक कार्यक्रम सुना जा सकता है। २० किलोवाट के Shortwave Transmitter से प्रादेशिक कार्यक्रम सामान्यतः लगभग ५०० मील की दूरी तक प्रसारित कर सकते हैं। पर विदेशी को कार्यक्रम एक विशिष्ट दिशा में केंके जाते हैं और अधिक दूर तक जा सकते हैं।

श्रीनगर और भोपाल में प्रसारण स्टूडियो

२१८४. श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि श्रीनगर तथा भोपाल में स्थायी प्रसारण स्टूडियो बनाये जा रहे हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ये कब तक पूरे हो जायेंगे ; और

(ग) भवन तथा उसमें लगने वाली मशीनों का अलग-अलग अनुमानित व्यय कितना है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्र (डा० के.के. कर) : (क) जी हां ;

(ख) भोपाल में बनाई का काम आरंभ हो गया है और १९५९ के अन्त तक स्टूडियो बन जाएगा। श्रीनगर में स्टूडियो बनाने का काम अभी शुरू नहीं हुआ है।

(ग) अलग-अलग अनुमानित व्यय निम्नलिखित है :—

श्रीनगर	भोपाल
स्टूडियो	स्टूडियो
₹०	₹०
(लाखों में)	(लाखों में)

जमीन और इमारत पर होने वाला खर्च जिस में ध्वनि व्यवस्था आदि भी सम्मिलित है

₹०.३८	₹०.७४
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उपकरणों तथा उनको लगाने पर होने वाला खर्च

₹०.००	₹३.२३
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कुल

₹४.३८	₹३.९७
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भारत स्टोर विभाग, लन्दन और भारत सप्लाई मिशन वाशिंगटन

२१८५. श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या निर्वाण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत स्टोर विभाग, लन्दन और भारत सप्लाई मिशन, वाशिंगटन में कितने अधिकारी व कर्मचारी हैं;

(ख) इन में से कितने कर्मचारी अनुसूचित जातियों व अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों के हैं ;

(ग) क्या वहाँ कुछ और कर्मचारी भेजने का विचार है ;

(घ) यदि हाँ; तो उन में से कितने अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों के होंगे ; और

(ङ) इन कार्यालयों को भेजे जाने वाले कर्मचारियों का चुनाव किस आधार पर किया जाता है ?

निर्वाण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री (श्री क० च० रेड्डी) : (क) अधिकारियों व कर्मचारियों की संख्या निम्न प्रकार से है :-

(१) इण्डिया स्टोर विभाग, लन्दन ५३५

(२) इण्डिया सप्लाई मिशन, वाशिंगटन १२७

(मुख्य लेखापाल के कार्यालय को सम्मिलित करके)

(ख) इण्डिया सप्लाई मिशन, वाशिंगटन में इन जातियों के कोई कर्मचारी नहीं हैं। इण्डिया स्टोर विभाग, लन्दन से सम्बन्धित सूचना मांगी गई है। और प्राप्त होने पर सभा की बैठक पर रख दी जायेगी।

(ग) इन कार्यालयों में कुछ और कर्मचारियों का भेजने के कुछ प्रस्तावों पर विचार हो रहा है और इन क परिणाम स्वरूप संभव

है कि इन कार्यालयों के जिन कर्मचारियों की पदाब्धि पूरी हो चुकी है उन की जगह भारत से कुछ कर्मचारी भेजे जायें।

(घ) कोई निश्चित संख्या दे सकना संभव नहीं है क्योंकि इन कार्यालयों में अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों की नियुक्ति के लिये कोई अंग निर्धारित नहीं किया गया है।

(ङ) इन कार्यालयों के लिये कुछ कर्मचारी भारत से भेजे जाते हैं और कुछ की नियुक्ति वहीं की जाती है। जगह खाली होने पर ही भारत में अधिकारी भेजे जाते हैं। इन व्यक्तियों का चुनाव उन की योग्यता, अनुभव तथा विदेशों में नियुक्ति के लिये उपयुक्त होने पर ही निर्भर होता है। अधिकारियों का चुनाव उन में से होता है जो पहले से ही भारत सरकार के कार्यालयों में अनुरूप पदों पर कार्य कर रहे होते हैं।

Tea Board

2186. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which the last election to the Tea Board was held; and

(b) the number of Small Tea Growers represented on it and of other interests represented on it?

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

(a) Members of the Tea Board are nominated by the Government. The Board was originally constituted with effect from the 1st April, 1954. Most of the members completed their tenure on the 31st March, 1957. New members were appointed in their places on the 1st April, 1957 who will continue upto 31st March, 1960.

(b) Of the 13 members representing growers of tea on the Board at present, one represents Small Tea Growers. The Board also consists of

the following other members representing the various categories mentioned in clauses (b) to (h) of subsection (3) of section 4 of the Tea Act:—

- (1) one person each representing the Governments of Assam, West Bengal, Madras, Punjab and Kerala and one person representing the Tripura Administration;
- (2) three persons representing Parliament (two for the Lok Sabha and one for the Rajya Sabha);
- (3) seven persons representing persons employed on tea estates and gardens;
- (4) three persons representing dealers including both exporters and internal traders of tea;
- (5) two persons representing manufacturers;
- (6) two persons representing consumers; and
- (7) four persons representing other interests.

Import of Films

2187. Shri B. C. Prodhan: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of films imported into India from foreign countries during 1957-58; and

(b) what are the names of those films?

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

(a) and (b). 169 lakh feet of exposed films developed and undeveloped were imported in 1957-58. The number and names of the films are not recorded in the trade classification of the country and are not therefore available.

Import of Milk Food and Dairy Products

2188. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of the following commodities imported into India in 1947-48, 1952-53, 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58:—

- (i) milk preserves.
- (ii) milk cream,
- (iii) milk food for infants and invalids,
- (iv) skimmed powder,
- (v) butter.
- (vi) ghee, and
- (vii) cheese;

(b) whether there is any increase in the import of these articles during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) A statement showing quantity and value of the milk products—milk preserved, milk cream etc. imported into India during 1947-48, 1952-53, 1955-56 and 1956-57 (April-December 1956) based on the old trade classification in force upto December, 1956 and for the periods, January-March, 1957, 1957-58 and April-June, 1958 based on revised trade classification in force from January, 1957 is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 110.]

(b) It will be observed from the statement that there has been a sharp rise in the import of skimmed milk—condensed or preserved during the years from 1955-56 to 1957-58. Imports of these items have, however, declined sharply during the first three months of 1958-59. The imports of skimmed milk in blocks and powder have shown a steady upward trend during the years 1955-56 and 1957-58.

(c) The steady rise in the import of skimmed milk condensed or preserved and powder has been due to

liberal licensing policy pursued upto December, 1955. Though the import policy was steadily restricted yet the imports increased due to previous commitments and increasing demand at home. The import of skimmed milk powder has been banned to established importers since July 1957 but is being allowed under P.L. 480.

Export of Hides and Skins

2189. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of the following commodities exported during the years 1947-48, 1952-53, 1954-55, 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58:—

- (i) raw hides of buffaloes,
- (ii) tanned hides of buffaloes,
- (iii) raw hides of cows,
- (iv) tanned hides of cows,
- (v) calf skins, and
- (vi) raw calf skins;

(b) whether there is a growing increase in the exports of these articles during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 111.]

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Export of Skins and Meat

2190. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the quantity and value of the undermentioned commodities exported during the years 1947-48, 1952-53, 1954-55, 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58:—

- (i) tanned calf skins,
- (ii) bones,
- (iii) meat,
- (iv) beef,

(v) tongues,

(vi) beef casings, and

(vii) intestines and other products of dead animals?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Exports of beef and meat were not shown separately in the Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India prior to January, 1957 but were classified under 'Beef' and 'Mutton'. Exports of tongues, beef casings, intestines and other products of dead animals are not shown separately in the Trade Statistics but exports of 'animal castings' are available prior to January, 1957 and 'products of dead animals' from January, 1957. A statement showing figures of exports of the various items is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 112.]

Export of Live Animals

2191. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the number and value of live animals, such as monkeys, bulls, cows, bullocks, horses and other animals and birds exported during the years 1947-48, 1952-53, 1953-54, 1954-55, 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58?

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

Year	(Qty. in Nos.)	(Value in '000' of Rs.)
1947-48	72,430	3,142
1952-53	5,54,272	5,132
1953-54	4,96,037	4,992
1954-55	5,72,081	5,691
1955-56	4,72,175	7,115
1956-57	5,99,987	11,087
1957-58	6,32,073	16,826

India's Export Trade

2192. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the quantity and value of undermentioned commodities exported during 1947-48,

1952-53, 1953-54, 1954-55, 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58:—

- (i) edible oilcakes,
- (ii) oil seeds,
- (iii) guar-gum, and
- (iv) fodder, bran and pollard and any other cattle-feed?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Information about export of guar-gum is not available as figures are not recorded separately in the Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India.

A statement in regard to the other items is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 113.]

Prices of Guar

2193. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 35 on the 11th February, 1958 and state:

- (a) whether due to inflated rates of Guar in 1957 its export was banned;
- (b) if so, what was the rate of Guar prevailing then;
- (c) whether the rates have since gone down; and
- (d) the present rate of Guar?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) Yes, Sir. Under pressure of complaints of shortages of guar, the export of guar-gum was banned in February, 1957.

(b) The price of guar ranged from Rs. 10-7-10 to Rs. 11-4-0 per maund.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Prices in August, 1958 ranged from Rs. 14.00 to Rs. 17.50 nP. per maund.

Export of Guar-Gum

2194. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Guar-gum factory owners in India have entered into forward contracts with some American merchants for the export of Guar-gum; and

(b) if so, the quantity in maunds to be exported and the date and time limit of such contracts?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Hides

2195. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of hides produced in India annually from:
 - (i) slaughtered animals;
 - (ii) fallen animals;
- (b) the type of hides which earn more price; and
- (c) the quantity of each type of hides exported annually and their value?

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

(a) According to the Report on the 'Marketing of Hides in India' published by the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (Ministry of Food and Agriculture) in 1952 the average annual production of hides was estimated to be:

- (i) From slaughtered animals ..
24.87 lakh pieces.
- (ii) From fallen animals ..
164.40 lakh pieces.

(b) The hides obtained from slaughtered animals are of superior quality and fetch more price.

(c) Separate statistics in respect of hides obtained from slaughtered and fallen animals are not maintained.

The total value of tanned hides exported during 1957-58 was Rs. 586 lakhs.

Bharat Sevak Samaj

2196. Shri M. V. Krishna Rao: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial aid given to Bharat Sevak Samaj in Andhra Pradesh by the Government of India during 1957-58; and

(b) the schemes for which the aid has been given?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) The Planning Commission did not give any direct financial aid to Bharat Sevak Samaj in Andhra Pradesh during 1957-58.

(b) Does not arise.

Handloom Industry in Andhra Pradesh

2197. Shri M. V. Krishna Rao: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to Andhra Pradesh for the development of handloom industry during 1958-59; and

(b) the items on which the expenditure has been incurred?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) Rs. 65 lakhs.

(b) The following expenditure has been incurred by the State Government from April to July 1958:—

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| (1) Rebate on sales of handloom | Rs. 8,85,124. |
| (2) Organisational expenses | Rs. 40,167.57. |

Iron Sheets and Cement to Rajasthan

2198. Shri Onkar Lal: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quota of iron sheet and cement allotted to Rajasthan during the year 1958-59 so far; and

(b) the quantity of these lifted so far?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) 780 tons of iron sheets and 1,10,289 tons of cement have been allotted to Rajasthan during the period April-September, 1958. Allotments for the remaining period from October 1958 to March 1959 have not yet been made.

(b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Central Schemes in Rajasthan

2199. Shri Onkar Lal: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent by the Centre on the schemes sponsored and executed by the Central Government in the State of Rajasthan during the first two years of Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) the total amount to be spent during the current financial year?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). Information regarding the amount provided by the Central Government for Centrally sponsored Schemes in Rajasthan in the first two years of the Second Plan is being collected and will be made available in due course. As regards purely Central schemes it is not generally possible to allocate expenditure by States and territories.

Employees' State Insurance Scheme

2200. Shri Onkar Lal: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places where the Employees' State Insurance Scheme

has been introduced in Rajasthan State; and

(b) the amount contributed by the workers and employers separately region-wise in Rajasthan since the scheme came into operation?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Jaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Pali-Marwar, Bhilwara, Lakheri, Beawar and Sawai-Madhopur.

(b) The Corporation had originally grouped various States into Regions for administrative convenience and the State of Rajasthan was included in the Delhi Region which at the outset consisted of Delhi, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Bharat, Ajmer and Bhopal. The accounts were maintained for the Region as a whole and not on a State-wise basis. Separate accounts for the Rajasthan State are being maintained from July, 1957. The amounts of employers' and employees' contributions for the period from July, 1957 to 31st March, 1958 are given below:—

Employers' contribution	
	Rs. 1,58,593.
Employees' contribution	
	Rs. 2,07,465.

Separate figures for the different areas in Rajasthan are not available.

Immigration of Indians to Foreign Countries

2201. Shri N. M. Deb: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the yearly quota fixed for the immigration of Indians to Canada, United States of America, Australia, Malaya, New Guinea, Burma, Ceylon, North Borneo and the United Kingdom?

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

Canada	.. 300
U.S.A.	.. 100

U.K. No restriction on immigration. In respect of the other countries no quotas have been fixed and immigration is not permitted.

Second Five Year Plan

**2202. { Shri Ram Krishan;
Sardar Jagal Singh:**

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the nature and names of new projects costing fifty lakhs of rupees or above which have been included in the Second Five Year Plan since its formulation; and

(b) the additional funds required for completion of these projects as compared to their original estimates?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 114].

(b) Information is given in Column 3 of the above statement.

Registered Companies

2203. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the companies which were registered in Delhi during 1957-58;

(b) the authorised capital of each of these companies;

(c) the names of companies which went into liquidation in Delhi during the same period;

(d) the names of companies against which complaints were filed for defaults of various provisions of the Companies Act; and

(e) the action taken in each case?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 115].

(c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, Annexure No. 116].

(d) and (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 117].

Cement Factories

2204. { Shri Ram Krishan:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

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

(a) the names of cement factories which are being expanded during the Second Five Year Plan and when this expansion is likely to be completed; and

(b) the quantity of cement which would be produced under this scheme?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 118].

Out of a total capacity of 3.51 million tons per annum approved for expansion of the existing factories, a capacity of 1.99 million tons is so far covered by Import Licences and is likely to be achieved before the end of the 2nd Five Year Plan.

Grievance Procedure

2205. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether a comprehensive procedure for the redressal of workers' grievances and to build up harmonious industrial relations in the country has been evolved; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). A model procedure for speedy disposal of grievances is being formulated in consultation with the representatives of the organisations concerned.

Land Nationalisation Act in Burma

2206. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Nationals affected by the Land Nationalisation Act in Burma, who have been paid

compensation upto the 31st August, 1958; and

(b) the number of cases still pending?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) It is understood that 597 Indian nationals have been paid compensation for nationalised lands upto the 30th June 1958.

(b) No figures are available as the Government of Burma do not maintain separate statistics in respect of applications for compensation from Indian nationals.

Development of Handicrafts

2207. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to extend any financial aid to the Delhi Administration for the development of handicrafts during the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the total proposed to be allotted in this regard?

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

(b) A provision of Rs. 8 lakhs has been included in the Second Five Year Plan for the development of handicrafts under the Delhi Administration. However, in view of the re-appraisal of the Plan, this allocation may have to be revised.

Goa-Bombay Steamer Service

2208. { Shri N. E. Munsamy:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Assar:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India are considering the question of re-starting steamer traffic between Goa and Bombay; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). Yes; this question is under consideration and no final decision has yet been taken.

State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd.

2209. Shri Mohammed Imam: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of manganese ore purchased by the State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd., so far and at what rate;

(b) how much of this has been exported; and

(c) what is the profit derived by the State Trading Corporation therefor?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) to (c). The total quantity purchased by the Corporation so far is 10,21,186 tons of all grades, of which app: 5,88,951 tons have been shipped. Purchases have been made at prevail-time to time. It would not be in the business interest of the Corporation to disclose the prices or profits on individual transactions. The annual report of the Corporation for 1957-58, will however, be placed before the House as soon as it is ready. The Annual Report of the Corporation for 1956-57 had already been laid before the House.

C.P.W.D.

2210. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Horticulture Division of the C.P.W.D. has prepared a comprehensive scheme of transformation of Delhi Ridges into beauty spots;

(b) the details of the scheme; and

(c) the work done in this regard so far?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) to (c). A comprehensive scheme for development of Delhi Ridge area is under consideration. A beginning, however, has been made by providing fencing for certain portions in the area and planting of trees.

Allotment to Displaced Persons

2211. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bogus or duplicate allotments got by displaced persons from West Pakistan of lands and houses which have been detected so far (State-wise); and

(b) the action taken against them?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha when available.

Export of Jute Goods

2212. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the quantity of jute goods exported during 1958-59 so far?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): 245,262 tons during April-July 1958.

Trade with Afghanistan

2213. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 40 on the 11th February, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the procedure regarding the movement of Afghan goods through India has since been finalised; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The attention of the Hon'ble

Member is invited to the reply given to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 40 on 11.2.58. There has been no change in the position.

Import of Raw Films

2214. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) how much footage of raw films has been permitted to be imported during 1958 so far; and

(b) the total amount of Foreign Exchange involved?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). Licensing statistics are maintained according to licensing periods which are now divided on the basis of financial year. Licences of the value of Rs. 101 lakhs and Rs. 76 lakhs were issued for raw films during October 1957—March 1958 and April-September 1958 (upto 2.8.58) respectively. It is estimated that during the same periods 115 million feet and 85 million feet respectively of raw films were licensed.

Ambar Charkha Programme in Punjab

2215. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the amount given to Punjab States as grants and loans for the implementation of the Ambar Charkha scheme from the date of its introduction;

(b) the amount spent so far; and

(c) the results achieved?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) Rs. 25,59,799 as grant and Rs. 44,81,500 as loan have been paid to the Punjab Government, Punjab Khadi and Village Industries Board, institutions, etc. in the Punjab for the implementation of the Ambar Charkha Programme upto 15th August, 1958.

(b) Up to date information is not available. However, upto 31st December, 1957, Rs. 7,64,035 and Rs. 27,30,912 out of the sanctioned amounts for grant and loans, respectively, were utilised.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 119].

Introduction of Ambar Charkha in Jails

2216. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to introduce Ambar Charkha in jails; and

(b) if so, the names of such States which have introduced Ambar Charkhas in jails?

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

(b) Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Cement Quotas to Punjab

**2217. { Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Daijit Singh:**

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

(a) whether there has been any cut in the quota of cement supplied to the Punjab State during 1958-59 so far;

(b) the actual quantity of cement supplied to the Punjab State during the above period; and

(c) whether the Punjab Government has requested for any increase in the quota of cement during this year?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A quantity of 1,42,858 tons has been despatched against State Quota during the period from 1st April, 1958 to 31st August, 1958.

(c) The demand and allotment of cement in respect of Punjab for the period 1st April, 1955 to 30th September, 1958 were 193,170 tons and 135,269 tons respectively as against 2,94,210 tons and 96,000 tons respectively during the corresponding period of the previous year.

Handloom Co-operatives in Punjab

2218. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that only 12 per cent of the 60,000 handloom weavers in the Punjab State have organised themselves into industrial co-operatives?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): No, Sir. On 30.6.58 there were 10,677 weavers in the Co-operative fold in Punjab, which works out roughly to 17.8 per cent of the total number of weavers in the State.

Custodian-General, Delhi

2219. **Shri Arjun Singh Bhadauria:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state the number of complaints made regarding thefts of judicial documents and court fee stamps from the courts of Custodian-General and Custodian of Evacuee Property, Delhi?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): There have been only two complaints of thefts of judicial documents and court fee stamps from the Court of the Custodian-General and none from the court of the Custodian of Evacuee Property, Delhi.

Electrical Sub-Divisions of C.P.W.D.

2220. **Shri Arjun Singh Bhadauria:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that investigations into the malpractices in some of the Electrical Sub-Divisions of the Central Public Works Department in Delhi were conducted in 1954; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Boddly): (a) and (b). Yes. During 1954, some investigations were made into complaints alleging irregularities or malpractices in the following Electrical Sub-Divisions:—

(i) Sub-Division III of Air Conditioning Division, New Delhi.

(ii) Sub-Division III of Electrical Division II, New Delhi.

The investigations revealed the following malpractices:—

(i) Misappropriation of stores, tools and plants.

(ii) Execution of sub-standard work and irregularities in scrutinizing the tenders and preparing work orders.

(iii) Making work-charged labour do private work in the residence of an officer.

As a result of the investigations, disciplinary action was taken against 8 officers who were found guilty of the charges framed against them.

Industrial Development

2221. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targets of Second Five Year Plan have been exceeded by some industries;

(b) if so, the names of such industries and their present production;

(c) whether new targets will be fixed for these industries; and

(d) if so, what?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information, as far as available, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 129].

(c) and (d). In view of the present difficult foreign exchange position and the strain of repayments in the Third Plan period, Government have no proposal at present for revision of targets.

Distribution of Cotton Yarn

2222. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new system of distribution of cotton yarn has been introduced in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the main features of this scheme?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Small Scale Industries in Punjab

2223. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the nature of small scale industries to be established in the hilly areas of Punjab in order to help in creating employment during the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Since small-scale industries are established mainly by private parties, the nature of industries to be established in future cannot be stated in advance. It may however be stated that in starting pilot schemes of new industries the State Government will take into account considerations like marketing possibilities, availability of raw materials and the skill and aptitude of the artisans of the region.

Export of Agricultural Commodities to Russia

2224. **Shri Naldurgker:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that U.S.S.R. has placed orders for supply of agricultural commodities in India;

(b) if so, what are those commodities and the amounts contracted for;

(c) whether these commodities have been exported to Russia; and

(d) if so, the total tonnage exported with the total price thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These details are known only to private sellers, and are naturally not available to Government.

(c) and (d). Full particulars of exports can be seen from the Statistical publications of the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, copies of which are available in the library of the House.

Indian Officials Kidnapped by Pakistanis

2225. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two Indian officials of the Forest Department, Beloria sub-Division were kidnapped on the 16th August, 1958 by Pakistani forces;

(b) what action have Government taken in the matter; and

(c) names of the officials and their present whereabouts?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (c). The facts are that a group of Pakistanis attacked, on 15th August 1958, a party of Indian nationals including a Forester and two forest guards near village Madhyam Krishnagar about 200 yards from the border and kidnapped the Forester, Shri Pankaj Mukerjee. The question of his release was taken up at the Indo-Pak. Conference held at Karachi from 30th August to 2nd September, 1958, when lists of prisoners involved in recent border incidents were exchanged. It was agreed that prisoners whose names were common to the lists prepared by the two Governments would be released on 9th September; and that early verification and release would be effected in the case of those whose names were not common to both lists. The name of Shri Pankaj Mukerjee appeared on the Indian list but not on the Pakistan list. Verification is, therefore, necessary in this case. The matter is being pursued.

Tata Mercedes Benz Trucks

2226. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether trucks manufactured in the country particularly the Tata Mercedes Benz are unsuited and even unsafe for the roads that we have; and

(b) whether any improvements are being contemplated?

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

(a) Government have received no such complaints.

(b) Does not arise.

Khadi Gramodyog Bhawans

2227. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission is controlling the various centres of Khadi Gramodyog Bhawans;

(b) if so, how many such Bhawans exist in the country; and

(c) the number of employees employed under these Bhawans?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are four such "Bhawans". Three Khadi Gramodyog Bhawans at Delhi, Madras and Calcutta are being directly run by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. The management of the Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan at Bombay has been entrusted to the Bombay Suburban Village Industries Association, Bombay.

(c) The number of employees are as under:—

Name of Bhawan	No. employed
1. Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan, New Delhi.	174
2. Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan, Madras.	61
3. Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan, Calcutta.	92
4. Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan, Bombay.	160

Import of Tractors and Bulldozers

2228. Shri N. E. Munisamy: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1923 on the 29th April, 1958 and state the number of tractors and bulldozers likely to be imported against the estimated requirements therefor during 1958-59?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): The number of tractors and bulldozers likely to be imported during 1958-59 cannot be anticipated at this stage. But from the extent of licensing done upto 9.8.58 during the current licensing period (April-September 1958) namely Rs. 106 lakhs, for tractors below 50 D.B.H.P., it is estimated that about 600 to 650 tractors may be imported. The extent of licensing for tractors above 50 D.B.H.P. during the same period is of the order of Rs. 29 lakhs. It is not possible to estimate the number of tractors that would be imported against this licensing in view of the wide range of equipment which could be imported under this serial number.

The import policy for tractors for the second half of 1958-59 has not yet been formulated nor is it possible at this stage to anticipate what the policy is likely to be.

Bulldozers are not classified separately in the Import Trade Control Policy and are imported under the same serial numbers as tractors.

Displaced Persons from West Pakistan

**2229. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:**

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

(a) the total area of land that was available as evacuee property for

distribution to the displaced persons from West Pakistan and the number of persons to whom the land was distributed; and

(b) what is the average area of land that was allotted per family?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) About 60.35 lakh acres of evacuee land was made available in India for rehabilitation of the displaced persons from West Pakistan. This land was allotted to about 5.68 lakh displaced families.

(b) There were two kinds of allotments viz.

(i) allotments under the quasi-permanent scheme in lieu of the lands left by the displaced persons in West Pakistan. Here a graded cut which became progressively high in the case of large land holders was applied; and

(ii) allotments for purposes of rehabilitation to tillers of the soil even if they were not land holders in West Pakistan. In this case an attempt was made to allot an economic unit to each allottee, the actual size of the holding depending on the productivity of the land in each area.

Displaced Families from East Pakistan

2230. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

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

(a) the total area of land that has been acquired for rehabilitating the displaced families from East Pakistan so far; and

(b) the area of land allotted per family?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) 2,27,454. acres.

(b) The area of land allotted to each agriculturist family depends on the productivity of land in each area. It varies from 2 to 3 acres in Tripura and Assam to 8 acres in Uttar Pradesh.

Compensation to Displaced Persons

2231. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

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

(a) the total amount spent so far for giving compensation to West Pakistan displaced persons apart from the evacuee property that they got;

(b) number of families benefited; and

(c) number of business and trade interests that came forward to offer employment to West Pakistan displaced persons?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) An amount of Rs. 87.54 crores has been paid as compensation upto 31st July, 1958, as follows:—

(i) By cash ..	Rs. 48.08 crore
(ii) By transfer of property ...	Rs. 25.05 crore
(iii) By adjustment of public dues ...	Rs. 14.41 crore
TOTAL Rs. 87.54 crore	

(b) 3,09,948.

(c) No statistics have been kept of business and trade interests that have offered employment to West Pakistan displaced persons and it is not possible at this stage to compile the information.

उत्तर प्रदेश को केन्द्रीय सहायता

२२३२. श्री सरजू पांडे : क्या योजना मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत १९५८-५९ में केन्द्रीय सरकार

द्वारा उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को सहायता के रूप में दी जाने वाली धन राशि कम कर दी गई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इससे राज्य की किन-किन योजनाओं पर प्रभाव पड़ेगा ?

योजना उपमंत्री (श्री श्या० नं० मिश्र) :

(क) जी नहीं ; १९५८-५९ में राज्य सरकार को २४.२९ करोड़ रुपये की केन्द्रीय सहायता देने की सूचना दी गई है ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

राज्यों की योजनायें

२२३३. श्री सरजू पांडे : क्या योजना मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राज्य सरकारों से यह जानकारी देने की प्रार्थना की गई है कि राज्य में कौन-कौन सी योजनायें प्रारम्भ ही नहीं की जा सकीं या कौन-कौन सी प्रारम्भिक अवस्था में हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका व्यौरा क्या है ?

योजना उपमंत्री (श्री श्या० नं० मिश्र) :

(क) जी हां ।

(ख) ६ राज्यों से जानकारी प्राप्त हो चुकी है और उसका अध्ययन किया जा रहा है ।

अम्बर चर्खा शिक्षाधियों की वृत्ति

२२३४. श्रीमती मिर्जाबाता : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार अम्बर चर्खे का उपयोग सीखने वाले शिक्षाधियों को प्रशिक्षण काल में कुछ वृत्ति देती है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किन-किन राज्यों में ऐसी वृत्तियां दी गई हैं और कितने शिक्षाधियों ने उन से लाभ उठाया ;

(ग) क्या अम्बर चर्खे का उपयोग सीखने वाली प्रत्येक महिला को बीस रुपये प्रति मास की वृत्ति देने की भी व्यवस्था की गई है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो कितनी महिलाओं को यह वृत्ति दी गई है ?

वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री (श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री) : (क) से (ग). अम्बर चरखा कार्यक्रम के अधीन प्रशिक्षण पाने वाले पुरुषों तथा महिलाओं दोनों को सभी राज्यों में वृत्ति दी जाती है । जहां तक केन्द्र शासित प्रदेशों का संबंध है अभी तक केवल दिल्ली को ही सहायता दी गयी है । ३० जून, १९५८ तक २,०७,०२५ प्रशिक्षणार्थी यह सुविधा प्राप्त कर चुके हैं ।

प्रत्येक प्रशिक्षण क्रम के लिये २० रु० वृत्ति दी जाती है । सीखे हुए कतवारों को किराया खरीद प्रणाली के अन्तर्गत अम्बर चरखा देने पर इस वृत्ति में से कुछ भाग उसके मूल्य में काट लिया जाता है । लेकिन प्रशिक्षण के दौरान में प्रशिक्षणार्थी जो सूत कातते हैं, अगर वह अच्छा हुआ तो उस पर दो आना प्रति घुंड़ी की दर से मजूरी दी जाती है ।

(घ) इस योजना से जिन महिलाओं को लाभ पहुंचा है, उनकी संख्या १,७१,००० है ।

Film "Ten Commandments"

2235. Shri Mohammed Tahir: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether an English film "Ten Commandments" is being screened in Bombay;

(b) whether it is a fact that the character of prophet Musa-Alai-Hissalam has been depicted in the said film;

(c) whether it is a fact that the said film is likely to be screened in Delhi;

(d) whether it is a fact that this film has been banned in all the Muslim countries in Middle-East and elsewhere; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to ban this film in India also?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (c). A film "Ten Commandments" is being distributed in India by a commercial distributor. It has been certified by the Censor Board and is already being exhibited in Bombay. Some time back Government had received complaints that the film was derogatory to Prophet Moses. On Government's directive it was previewed in Delhi by a Committee of non-official members of the Advisory Panel of the Censor Board which included a Muslim. They were of the view that the picture which is based on a story in the Old Testament is not objectionable.

(d) Government have no specific information.

(e) In view of answer to earlier part of the question, does not arise.

Shifting of Offices

2236. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ample accommodation in big and palatial houses is available at Kapurthala, Nabha and Malerkotla; and

(b) if so, whether any attempts have been made to shift some Central Government offices there?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) and (b). According to information furnished by the Punjab Government in March, 1957, there was no accommodation of any magnitude, suitable

for the location of Central Government offices, at Nabha and Kapurthala. Subsequently it was learnt that some suitable office accommodation might be available in Kapurthala but this cannot be utilised until difficulties about residential accommodation are overcome. The matter is being examined. There is no information that suitable accommodation is available at Malerkotla.

'बड़ा होती'

२२३७. **श्री भक्त दर्शन :** क्या प्रधानमंत्री २६ अप्रैल, १९५८ के प्रतारकित प्रश्न संख्या २६३८ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उत्तर प्रदेश के गढ़वाल जिले में तिब्बती सीमान्त पर स्थित "बड़ा होती" पठार को ले कर भारत सरकार व चीन की लोक गणराज्य सरकार के बीच जो पत्र-व्यवहार चल रहा था, उसका क्या परिणाम निकला है ; और

(ख) वह "बड़ा होती" का पठार इस समय किस के अधिकार में है—भारत सरकार के अधिकार में प्रथवा चीन की लोक गण-राज्य सरकार के अधिकार में ?

प्रधानमंत्री तथा वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू) : (क) चीन लोक गणराज्य सरकार के साथ इस विषय पर विस्तार से हाल ही में बातचीत हुई थी। ये बातचीत आगे भी होती रहेगी। हमारा स्थान है कि इस स्थिति में कुछ भी बताना ठीक न होगा।

(ख) "बड़ा होती" नाम की यह छोटी सी चरगाहा भारतीय प्रदेश (उत्तर प्रदेश) में है।

Research and Reference Division

2238. **Shri Pramathanath Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state how

many books on different national languages of India have been supplied to Research and Reference Division of the Ministry and the amount spent for the purchase of these books in each national language?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): The library of the Research and Reference Division has not yet been built up systematically and it is mainly confining itself to statistical publications, official reports and relevant periodicals. It is intended to build up a good library there, finances permitting. When that is begun, books in various languages will also be acquired for its purpose.

Registered Companies in Himachal Pradesh

2239. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the names of the registered Companies in Himachal Pradesh district-wise?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): A list showing the names of Companies in each district of Himachal Pradesh is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, Annexure No. 121.]

Border Incidents

**2240. { Shri Basumatari:
Shri Liladhar Kotoki:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India's attention had been drawn to the statement made by the Chief Minister of Assam on the floor of the House recently that 6 persons had been killed and 16 had been injured as a result of firing by the Pakistani troops in the border areas of Assam;

(b) if so, whether any protest was made to Pakistan and any compensation claimed and with what result;

(c) whether a joint enquiry has also been ordered into this incident; and

(d) if so, the result of the enquiry?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have seen the statement made by the Chief Minister of Assam in the Assam Assembly on the 23rd August, 1958. Actually seven Indian citizens have been killed in Assam in recent border incidents.

(b) Yes, Sir. Several protests have been made. Compensation has also been claimed from the Government of Pakistan for the loss of life and property suffered by Indian nationals. The Pakistan Government have made counter-protests and also preferred a claim for compensation for the loss of life and property suffered by their nationals.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Foreign Service Inspectors

2241. Shri Dinesh Singh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Service Inspectors, who went on tour recently have returned;

(b) whether they have submitted any report to Government; and

(c) if so, the main details thereof?

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

(b) Yes, from each country visited.

(c) The reports contain:—

(i) proposals for revision of foreign allowance;

(ii) miscellaneous recommendations in regard to administration, service and supply; and

(iii) a confidential report on the general conditions in missions inspected.

Staff of the Indian High Commission in U.K.

2242. **Shri Dinesh Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any proposal to reduce the staff in the Indian High Commission office in U.K.; and

(b) if so, the progress made in the matter?

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

(b) As a part of the general economy drive launched in 1957 it was decided to hold in abeyance a total of 114 posts borne on the strength of the Ministries of External Affairs, Defence, Education, and Works, Housing and Supply. Five other posts have been downgraded. The resultant economy will be £83,852 per annum.

As regards the wider question of a reorganisation of the establishment of the High Commission in U.K., it has been decided to send a team of officers of the Special Reorganisation Unit of the Finance Ministry to carry out a work-study of certain departments of the High Commission.

Cottage Industries in Punjab

2243. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the names of cottage industries started in the Punjab State on co-operative basis during 1957?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): The following cottage industries were started in the Punjab State on co-operative basis during 1957-58:—

Name of Industry	No. of Co-operative Societies
1 Shoe-making and manufacture of other leather goods; tanning; flaying and bone crushing	189
2 Village pottery	1
3 Cotton, Silk & Wool weaving	114
4 Handicrafts	53
TOTAL	357

Land for Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons in Tripura

2244. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land which has been purchased by Government through Co-operative Societies or directly for the rehabilitation of the displaced persons in Belonia Sub-division, Tripura; and

(b) whether such land would be given to tribal Jhumias for rehabilitation?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand

Khanna): (a) and (b). The Tripura Administration acquired only 650 acres of land in Belonia Sub-Division under the Land Acquisition Act. No land has been purchased through Co-operative Societies. The entire area is meant for the rehabilitation of displaced persons.

Displaced Persons Camps in Tripura

2245. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many community centres have been established in different camps and colonies in Tripura under

the Relief and Rehabilitation Department so far;

(b) what amount has been sanctioned so far for working out this community centre scheme in Tripura;

(c) what are the subjects to be taught to the trainees under this scheme;

(d) how many trainees have been appointed as instructors for the different subjects; and

(e) the progress made so far in this scheme?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Six; in camps.

(b) Rs. 2.60 lakhs.

(c) (i) Spinning, weaving and dyeing;

(ii) Fine bamboo work;

(iii) Tailoring;

(iv) Embroidery and Calico printing;

(v) Soap making.

(d) None.

(e) Of the trades mentioned in part (c) above, weaving, dyeing, tailoring and embroidery have so far been introduced and 354 camp inmates are getting training and work in these centres.

Indian Green Tea Delegation

2246. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 682 on the 4th March, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the Report of the Indian Green Tea Delegation to Afghanistan has since been scrutinised by Government;

(b) if so, whether a copy thereof will be laid on the Table;

(c) what are its main recommendations; and

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

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) to (d). It would not be advisable to publish the report which deals generally with exchange difficulties in Indo-Afghan trade, the working of the Trade and Payments Agreement of 1957 and the shift in Afghan taste from green tea to black tea. Steps have already been taken to remove some of the difficulties pointed out in the report. The new Trade Agreement concluded between India and Afghanistan in July, 1958 provides for a special procedure to balance the trade between the two countries. We have to watch the results of these measures.

Other steps to promote exports of tea to consuming countries including Afghanistan are under consideration.

Employees in the External Affairs Ministry

2247. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Assistants and Clerks in the Ministry of External Affairs at present; and

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

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

(a) Assistants	592
Clerks	693
(b) Assistants	14
Clerks	10

Staff in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

2248. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Assistants and Clerks in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; and

(b) the number among them who belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) 1341.

(b) 148.

Staff in the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply

2249. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Assistants and Clerks in the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply; and

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

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy):

(a) Assistants	117
Upper Division Clerks	50
Lower Division Clerks	118
(b) Assistants: Scheduled Castes	9
Upper Division Clerks:	
Scheduled Castes	4
Lower Division Clerks:	
Scheduled Castes	25
Scheduled Tribes	4

Export of Sewing Machines

2250. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total foreign exchange earned in the export of sewing machines to different countries during the years 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957 and 1958 so far; and

(b) the steps being taken to further the export of sewing machines this year?

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

(a) The information is as follows:—

Year	Value
1954	Rs. 9,76,000
1955	Rs. 7,22,000
1956	Rs. 4,66,000
1957	Rs. 5,51,000
1958 (Jan.-June)	Rs. 3,78,000

(b) The following special facilities are given to manufacturers:

1. Advance quota of pig iron and steel required for Sewing Machines to be exported.
2. Import licences for essential raw materials.
3. Drawback of Import duty on imported components and rebate of excise duty on excisable indigenous components.
4. Replenishment Quota at 133 per cent. of the iron and steel content in the exported sewing machines.

Market survey reports are also made available for the benefit of exporters.

The machines produced in the country are displayed in International fairs and exhibitions and in the Show Rooms of certain Indian Missions abroad such as Ceylon, Indonesia, Pakistan and Egypt.

The Engineering Export Promotion Council has sent a delegation to West Africa and Belgian Congo at the end of August, 1958 to survey markets for various engineering products. A study team is also expected to go shortly to Europe to study the export possibilities.

Processed Indian Films

2251. Shri Anthony Pillai: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned by the export of processed Indian Films during the year 1957-58; and

(b) the value of raw films imported during the same year?

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

(a) The amount of foreign exchange earned by the export of cinematographic films (exposed) during the year 1957-58 was Rs. 1,13,73,354.

(b) The value of raw cinematographic films imported during the year 1957-58 was Rs. 2,01,18,684.

Daily Wages of Stevedore Workers

2252. Shri Anthony Pillai: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the daily rates at which Reserve Pool Stevedore Workers under the

Dock Labour Boards are paid at the ports of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras for the purposes of calculating the minimum guarantee of 21 days work; and

(b) whether they are the same as the time-rate daily wage at each of the ports?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). The information is a follows:—

Name of the Board	Part (a) of the Question	Part (b) of the Question	
1. Calcutta Dock Labour Board	Tally Clerks	Rs. 6.31 nP. per day	Yes, for the day shift. The rates for afternoon and night shifts are higher than the rates for the day-shift.
	Deck Foreman	11.25 nP. "	
	Hatch foreman	8.25 nP. "	
	Winchman	5.75 nP. "	
	Sirdar	8.25 nP. "	
	Mate	6.25 nP. "	
	Khamali I & II	5.75 nP. "	
	Khamali III & IV	5.31 nP. "	
2. Bombay Dock Labour Board	Rollia I & II	4.81 nP. "	No. The rates of guaranteed minimum wages are less than the daily wage rate prescribed under the Award of the Labour Appellate Tribunal. The Tribunal directed a payment of processing allowance only on such days on which the workers were employed on the time rated or the piece-rated cargoes. The minimum guarantee is paid when the worker is not employed.
	Rollia III	4.75 nP. "	
	Tindel	Rs. 5.25 nP. per day	
	Senior Worker	4.25 nP. "	
	Junior Worker	3.87 nP. "	
	Hatch foreman	4.25 nP. "	
3. Madras Dock Labour Board	Winchman	4.37 nP. "	Yes.
	Foreman	4.62 nP. "	
	Tindel	5.12 nP. "	
	Mazdoor	Rs. 4.12 nP. per day	

Stevedore Workers

2253. Shri Anthony Pillai: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the leave and holiday facilities of the Stevedore workers under the Dock Labour Board of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras have been liberalised after the recent strike;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) how do they compare with the quantum of leave holiday facilities to which the Class IV employees of the Port Trust will be entitled to under the Government Resolution on the Choudhury Report?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). Not yet. But, as stated in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1708 on 9-9-1958, the Calcutta

and Madras Dock Labour Boards have been advised to adopt the leave rules of the Bombay Dock Labour Board, which are more favourable, and the matter is receiving the attention of the Boards.

(c) The leave and holiday facilities of stevedore workers under the Dock Labour Boards of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, and those of shore-workers of the Port Trusts are as follows:

		Stevedore Worker	Shore Worker (Bombay, Calcutta and Madras)
BOMBAY	Holidays and Casual leave	15 days in a year	21 days in a year
	Privilege leave	1/11 of the period spent on duty.	1/11 of the period spent on duty (subject to a maximum of 80 days).
	Sick leave	7 days in a year	20 days (on half average pay) in a year.
CALCUTTA	Holidays	8 days in a year	
	Privilege leave	1/12 of the period spent on duty.	
	Sick leave	5 days in a year.	
	Injury leave	Upto a period not exceeding 4 months.	
MADRAS	Holidays	8 days in a year	
	Privilege leave	1/22 of the number of days attended during the first 10 years.	
		1/16 for the next 10 years.	
		1/11 thereafter:	
	Leave with half pay	15-20 days for each completed year of service	
	Extraordinary leave	Without any limit.	
	Quarantine leave	Not exceeding 21 days and in exceptional cases upto 30 days.	

Trees in Delhi

2254. Shri Sugandhi: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that during winter almost all trees in Delhi avenues shed their leaves;

(b) what would be the daily quantity of such leaves collected (in tons);

(c) whether Government are aware that except the tamarind leaves, all leaves make good composting material;

(d) whether it is a fact that most of this collection, at present, is burned away on road sides;

(e) how the city's occasional hedge-clippings, lawn-mowings and other leafy materials are disposed of; and

(f) whether Government have any proposal for utilizing the same for composting into manure?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) and (b) Some species of trees shed their leaves at the break of spring, i.e., from

the beginning of March to the end of April each year; no statistics have been maintained; roughly it may be about 7.0 lac cubic feet annually.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) The grass obtained from lawns is taken away by mowing contractors or auctioned; hedge clippings are carted away by the Municipal Authorities.

(f) Government have already considered this aspect but found a general scheme of this nature uneconomical; in certain places, however, leaves etc. are being collected in pits for use as manure.

Employment Exchanges, Punjab

2255. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons who got employment in the Punjab State through the different Employment Exchanges from the 1st January to 31st August, 1958; and

(b) the number of applications pending with the different Employment Exchanges in the State at present?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) 19,908.

(b) 51,138 as on 31st August, 1958.

Pilgrims from Pakistan

2256. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number of pilgrims from Pakistan who attended the religious fairs in India during the current year so far?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): 725 pilgrims from West Pakistan have so far this year attended religious fairs in India as members of officially sponsored parties. In addition 3021 pilgrims visited Ajmer 'Urs' individually.

Stock of Cloth with Amritsar Mills

2257. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of accumulation of stock of cloth with textile mills in Amritsar (Punjab); and

(b) how far it is responsible in creating unemployment problem at Amritsar in the Punjab?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). There is at present only one composite cotton textile mill at Amritsar, namely M/s. Dayalbagh Spinning and Weaving Mills. The unsold stocks of cloth with this mill at the end of August, 1958 amounted to 380 bales. This stock is only 2½ months' production of this mill, which is not considered excessive. The number of labourers employed by the mill is only 360 and the Government have no information whether the stock position of the mills has created any unemployment in the labour force.

Iron and Manganese Ore Mines in Orissa

2258. **Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the total labour strength in the iron and manganese ore mines in Orissa in 1957; and

(b) the total labour strength in the iron and manganese ore mines in Orissa in July 1958?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Iron Ore Mines—15,684.

Manganese Ore Mines—16,190.

(b) Information is not available.

Industrial Estate, Malagaon (Bombay)

2259. **Shri Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for the setting up of an industrial estate at

Malegaon, District Nasik, Bombay State has been received from the State Government;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which the industrial estate will be set up there?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) Industrial Estate at Malegaon is one of the Estates proposed to be established by the State Government during the Second Plan period, but the State Government have not yet sent the scheme for technical approval.

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

Indians Repatriated from Abroad

2260. Shri Arjun Singh Bhadauria: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian nationals abroad who had to be repatriated at Government expense to India in the years 1956, 1957 and 1958 so far and the names of countries from which they were repatriated;

(b) whether any recoveries were effected from the guaranteees on their applications for passport;

(c) the total expenditure incurred by Government on the repatriates from Ceylon;

(d) the number of Indian nationals abroad who were declared undesirable by their host country; and

(e) the reasons therefor?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (d). Full information is not available and in view of the time and labour involved it is not proposed to collect it from all our Missions abroad. However figures in respect of certain countries for the period September 1957 to June 1958 are as follows:—

U.S.A.	1
Iran	13
Belgium	2
Mauritius	1

Total expenditure on the repatriation of the above individuals was Rs. 9,925.

विकास कार्य

२२६१. श्री भक्त बर्षन : क्या योजना मंत्री २२ अप्रैल, १९५८ के अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या २६११ के भाग (क) के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पहली योजना अवधि में आरम्भ किये गये विकास कार्यों में से प्रत्येक पर कितनी धनराशि खर्च की गई ?

योजना उपमंत्री (श्री इया० न० सिन्ध) : एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है ।

विवरण

योजना का नाम	प्रथम योजना की अवधि में व्यय (लाख रुपये)
(१) पशु घन का विकास	३.३
(२) ऊन के विकास की योजना	२.७
(३) शिक्षा की सुविधायें	०.६
(४) एसोपैथिक औषधालयों और जन्मा-बच्चा कल्याण केन्द्रों की स्थापना	१.०
(५) मल्टीपरज (बहुद्देशीय) बागबानी कामों की स्थापना	०.६
(६) औषध-विकास योजना	०.५
(७) सबकु	२७.७
	३६.६

बोय

Allotment of Accommodation

2262. **Shri Sadhu Ram:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) which is the present priority date for allotment of regular accommodation to Government servants in the pay range of Rs. 250-500;

(b) how does this compare with priority date for other pay ranges;

(c) what steps, if any, have been taken or proposed to be taken by Government to expedite allotment of 'Regular' accommodation to them;

(d) whether it is a fact that 'Regular' accommodation of the above pay range has been allotted out-of-turn; and

(e) if so, on what grounds?

The Minister for Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a)

31-3-1929 in E Class Regular
13-7-1931 in Special E Class (3 rooms);

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 122].

(c) During the last two years nearly 1600 three-roomed flats have been constructed in various localities. Construction of another 1525 flats will be taken up shortly as soon as the site is developed.

(d) Yes.

(e) For medical reasons or in the interests of official work.

State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd.

2263. **Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the associates with whom the State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd. has associated itself in the export of iron and manganese ores; and

(b) the amount of commission that has been earned by the State Trading Corporation from such associates during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). It is not in the business interest of a trading organisation to disclose the kind of information asked for.

12.05 hrs.

RE: MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Raja Mahendra Pratap (Mathura): I have given notice of an adjournment motion, and you have refused it. I want to say that Braj is not a State question.

मथुरा तीन लोक से न्यारी ।

So, that is a common problem for all of us. There are thousands of people dying because water has destroyed many villages,

Mr. Speaker: It does not arise out of the question.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: so that every Hindu here, and even Muslims, because Braj was respected by the Moghul emperors, should join me in this question that Braj should be helped by all of us and the people there who are suffering. Their suffering should be removed. The Army can help to take out the water, and the people who are suffering on account of bad wheat can be helped by giving good wheat. This I want to present to the whole House.

I will demand division on this, to see whether our Hindu brethren are for it or not. Or, say you are not Hindus.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member tabled some adjournment motion. I said it was so general, so vague and indefinite that I could not make head or tail out of it.

Evidently the hon. Member refers to water-logging all round. The other day there was a question here that cars and other things cannot be taken through that Mathura Road. A question was asked and Shri Raj Bahadur gave an answer. Evidently he wants to suggest that it ought not to be allowed to continue to stand there, some pumps may be employed etc. The hon. Minister will look into it. I would only request Raja Mahendra Pratap to talk to the Minister, and certainly all that has to be done can be done. I said I was not going to look into that matter.

Only yesterday I submitted to the House and to all the Members that whenever I disallow, if the hon. Member has got any specific matter he will bring it to me and I will bring it up some other day. I hope and trust he will also follow the rule hereafter.

12.08½ hrs.

POINT OF INFORMATION

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): May I submit to you that on a very similar question regarding the border demarcation under the agreement between Pakistan and ourselves, I gave notice of a Calling Attention Motion. I had a discussion with the hon. Deputy Minister yesterday, and I was told she would make a statement here clarifying the position. May I know what has happened to that?

Mr. Speaker: It has not yet come to me. I will bring it up. I will look into it today.

12.09 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATION UNDER THE ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 748, dated the 30th August, 1958, issued under Sect-

ion 5 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-924/58.]

ANNUAL REPORT OF EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): I beg to lay on the Table, under Section 36 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, a copy of the Annual Report of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation for the year 1957-58. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-925/58].

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): May I know whether this report contains the audited statement of accounts?

Shri Abid Ali: No, Sir. That audit report will follow. It is being audited.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): On a previous occasion when the annual report of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation was submitted, it was mentioned here that the audited accounts also must be submitted along with it. It was also a direction of the Chair if I remember correctly. So, without the audited accounts, this report will not be of much use.

Shri Abid Ali: I have no objection to place both the reports, the annual report and the audit report together, but that will take some time. Perhaps the hon. Members would prefer to have the report as soon as it is ready and the audit report when it is available. As you like

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): It should be expedited, not delayed.

Mr. Speaker: The only point is this. The hon. Minister says that the audit report is in the hands of the Auditor-General, whereas this report is in their hands. If hon. Members want that both the things should be placed on the Table together, then there may be delay on that account. Evidently, hon. Members only want that the other report also must be expedited as early as possible.

Shri Abid Ali: When it is available.

12.11 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

TWENTY-SEVENTH REPORT

Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda): I beg to present the Twenty-Seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.11½ hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO
MATTER OF URGENT
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

CHOLERA EPIDEMIC IN KALAHANOI DISTRICT OF ORISSA STATE

Shri P. K. Deo (Kalahandi): Under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Health to the following matter of urgent public importance, and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Cholera epidemic in Kalahandi district of Orissa State".

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmakar): The Government of Orissa have reported that in village Hathi-panjari, having a population of 490, cholera broke out on the 27th May, 1958. The epidemic was brought under full control by the 2nd June, 1958. During the period 27th May, 1958 to 2nd June, 1958, 48 cases and 27 deaths from cholera were reported. The entire population of the village has been inoculated, and 12 wells and 20 holdings were disinfected by 30th May, 1958.

I should like to add that a later report received from the Orissa State says that the incidence of this disease in Kalahandi is not more than six per thousand, and that the disease has been rapidly subsiding from September, 1958. The Assistant Director of Public Health, Southern Region, is personally supervising the anti-cholera measures and the situation is reported to be well under control.

Mr. Speaker: The newspaper reports are so alarming. The other day, an hon. Member brought in an adjournment motion that a whole village was exterminated except for one child that was left alone. I do not know why these newspapers are giving such alarming reports.

Shri Panigrahi (Puri): During these eight months, ten thousand people died of cholera in the Orissa State.

Mr. Speaker: That is all right. Even here also, the Minister says on the authority of the State Government, that there are only 46 cases and so on. There is no purpose in exaggerating or minimising. All the newspaper agencies will be a little more careful in this matter.

Shri P. K. Deo: In this connection, I should like to submit that this situation is due to scarcity of food.

Mr. Speaker: We are going away from the one to the other.

Shri P. K. Deo: The people are taking various inedible roots, mango stones, leaves, in place of food and, therefore...

Mr. Speaker: Every disease arises out of want of food.

12.12½ hrs.

POISONS (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Poisons Act, 1919.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Poisons Act, 1919."

The motion was adopted.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I introduce* the Bill.

12.15 hrs.

MERCHANT SHIPPING BILL—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration and thereafter the third reading of the Merchant Shipping Bill, 1958, as reported by the Joint Committee, for which 3 hours have been agreed to by the House.

Hon. Members desirous of moving amendments may kindly hand over at the Table within 15 minutes the numbers of the selected amendments. They have already been tabled; only hon. Members must send chits as to which of the amendments ought to be treated as moved.

It is now quarter past twelve of the clock. So, we must conclude this Bill by 3-15 P.M.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): The whole thing must be finished by 3-15 P.M.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): May I submit that it should not be so very rigid, because there will be a large number of amendments?

Mr. Speaker: That is unnecessary. I shall apply the guillotine at 3-15 P.M.

Since there are no amendments to clause 2, I shall put it to vote.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3—(Definitions)

Mr. Speaker: We shall now take up clause 3.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): I beg to move;

*Page 25,

after line 42, add—

"Explanation.—Notwithstanding anything contained in this sub-clause, vessels of any tonnage so employed may continue to be manned by officers holding Home Trade Certificates of Competency obtained between 1952 and the date of this Act, after the passing of which such holders can serve on a vessel below three thousand tons only." (52)

Page 26, line 19,—

add at the end—

"and also officers holding Home Trade Certificates of Competency plying Home Trade or Foreign going ship". (53)

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): I beg to move:

Page 24, line 6,—

for "continent" substitute "mainland". (64)

Page 24, line 10,—

for "continent" substitute "mainland". (65)

Page 24,—

after line 10, add—

"Explanation.—For the purpose of this clause, the ports of Diu, Daman and Goa, shall be deemed to be ports on the mainland of India." (66)

Page 25, line 38,—

for "three" substitute "ten" (67)

Page 25, line 40,—

for "continent" substitute "mainland" (68)

*The original Nos. of the amendments given in brackets at the end of the text, have alone been reproduced at the stage of the final disposal.

Shrimati Ha Palchowdhari (Nabadwip): I beg to move:

Page 25,—

for lines 38 to 42, substitute—

“(16) ‘home-trade ship’ means a ship which is employed in trading between any port or place in India and any other ports or places in India, Pakistan, Burma, Ceylon, Malaya, Singapore, Aden and ports in the Persian Gulf, Red Sea and the East African Coast upto Suez on the North, including the island territories between India and these regions;” (135)

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): I beg to move:

Page 25, lines 38 and 39,—

omit “not exceeding three thousand tons gross” (110)

Mr. Speaker: All these amendments together with the clause are now before the House.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The purpose of my amendments is to make clear....

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may kindly resume his seat for a second. I find that there are some Government amendments to this clause. In all cases where Government have moved amendments, I shall give preference to them. Let them move their amendments first. First, they have amendment No. 184. Are they moving it?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): Yes, I am moving amendment No. 184.

Mr. Speaker: Why did he not say so earlier?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am sorry.

Mr. Speaker: What about amendments Nos. 203 and 250?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am moving amendment No. 250 and not amendment No. 203, because amendment No. 250 covers amendment No. 203.

I beg to move:

Page 25,—

(i) in line 39,—

for “from” substitute “between”

(ii) in line 40,—

for “to” substitute “and”

(iii) in line 41,—

(a) for “from” substitute “between”

(b) for “to” substitute “and” (184).

Page 25, line 42,—

after “Maladive Islands” insert—

“Federation of Malaya, Singapore” (250)

Mr. Speaker: These amendments are also before the House. Does the hon. Minister want to say anything? He may reply once and for all.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Yes, I shall reply at the end.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The purpose of my amendments is to clarify the position with regard to the coasting trade of India. I have mentioned that at page 24, after line 10, an explanation should be added to the effect that

“For the purpose of this clause, the ports of Diu, Daman and Goa shall be deemed to be ports on the mainland of India.”

I should like to know exactly what the position of the Portuguese enclaves

will be in connection with the coasting trade.

The other amendments are consequential amendments.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: The purpose of my amendment to clause 3 is to substitute for lines 38 to 42 at page 25, the following:

“(16) ‘home-trade ship’ means a ship which is employed in trading between any port or place in India, Pakistan, Burma, Ceylon, Malaya, Singapore, Aden and ports in the Persian Gulf, Red Sea and the East African Coast up to Suez on the north, including the island territories between India and these regions;”

These regions were always considered to be our legitimate ports, and our sailing vessels even touched these places in the ancient times. So, I think these should be included among the ports for home-trade shipping mentioned in this Bill.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा ११० नम्बर का जो अमेंडमेंट है उस में मैं ने यह चाहा है कि क्लाज ३ में ‘होम ट्रेड शिप’ की डेफिनीशन यह रखी गई है कि ऐसा जहाज जो कि ३००० टन ग्रीम में एंक्मीड न करता हो और जो भारत के किसी भी बंदरगाह में किसी अन्य जगह अथवा बंदरगाह जो कि इंडियन कॉन्टिनेंट में हो या हिन्दुस्तान के बन्दरगाहों से मीलोन, मैलेडाइव आइलैंड्स या बर्मा के किसी अन्य बन्दरगाह या स्थान से व्यापार करने में लगा हो, मैं इस ३००० टन की जो सीमा रखी गई है उस को अपने अमेंडमेंट द्वारा हटाना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि यह हो सकता है कि कोई जहाज ३००५ टन हो, ३०२० टन हो या ३००० टन से कुछ ज्यादा हो। ऐसी अवस्था में इस को फ्लेक्सेबुल रखना चाहिये और अगर कोई जहाज ३००० टन से कुछ ज्यादा भी हो तो उस को भी वह एंवाऊ करें।

अगर मंत्री महोदय सिगापुर का जो अमेंडमेंट है वह उस को स्वीकार करना चाहते हैं और अगर वह एंक्सेप्ट हो जाता है तो यह बर्मा, मलाया, रेड सी और पश्चिम गल्फ, बाला अमेंडमेंट में सरकार के ऊपर छोड़ देना चाहता हूँ कि अगर वे स्वीकार करना चाहते हैं तो स्वीकार कर लें।

12.18 hrs.

[**SHRI MOHAMED IMAM in the Chair.**]

Sardar Iqbal Singh (Ferozepur): I beg to move:

Page 24, line 7,—

add at the end—

“Malaya, Persian Gulf and East Africa”. (230)

Page 24, line 7,—

add at the end—

“Maladive Islands and ports of Goa, Diu and Daman.” (231)

Page 25, line 21,—

after “ship” insert “coastal-trade ship” (234)

Page 25, line 38,—

for “three” substitute “seven” (235)

Page 25, line 38,—

for “three” substitute “ten” (236)

मभापति महोदय, २३० नम्बर के अमेंडमेंट में मैंने यह चाहा है कि पेज २४ पर लाइन सात में क्लाज ३(१) में आखिर में यह जोड़ दिया जाय : “मलाया, पश्चिम गल्फ एंड ईस्ट अफ्रीका”।

दूसरे श्री भरूचा का जो गोआ, दमन और ड्यू के बारे में अमेंडमेंट है कि यह भी मेनलैंड आफ इंडिया के पोर्ट्स समझे जायें

[Sardar Iqbal Singh]

वह नुनासिब अमेंडमेंट है और मैं भी अपने अमेंडमेंट में यही चाहता हूँ कि मेलेडाइव आईस और पोटैस् आफ गोवा, ड्यू और दमन, इन को भी जोड़ दिया जाये।

तीसरे अमेंडमेंट में मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि क्लाज ३ में जो एक होम ट्रेड शिप की ३००० टन ग्रीस की लिमिट रखी गई है उस की जगह ७००० कर दिया जाय क्योंकि जब आप अपनी जहाजरानी ट्रेड को इन्क्रीज कर रहे हैं तो मैं समझता हूँ कि ३००० टन से बड़े जहाज भी इस ट्रेड में लग सकते हैं और यह कोस्टिंग शिप ३००० टन ग्रीस से ऐकमोड कर सकता है और इसीलिये मैं ने यह ३००० की जगह ७००० सबस्टीच्यूट करने का अपने अमेंडमेंट में सुझाव दिया है।

Mr. Chairman: The amendments are before the House.

Shri Tangamani: My amendments are amendments Nos. 52 and 53. In the original Bill, there was no definition or no restriction of the tonnage of home-trade ships. The Joint Committee have rightly accepted 3000 as the tonnage for the home-trade ships, but as a result of this, some hardship is likely to ensue so far as the home-trade ship captains are concerned. So, my amendment seeks to add an explanation saying that whatever be the tonnage of the vessels, they may continue to be manned by the officers holding Home Trade Certificates of Competency obtained between 1952 and the date of this Act, and the officers holding Home Trade Certificates of Competency plying Home Trade or Foreign-going ship also must be treated as masters.

This is only to mitigate the sufferings of nearly 300 home trade ship officers who have got certificates of competency. I dealt with this in great detail during the general consideration stage, and I know that there will be no difficulty in accepting it. The hon. Minister might say that there is another clause in the Bill which

gives that exemption and by exercising that exemption these people will be able to man the ships. But by way of abundant caution, if my amendments were accepted, that would really remedy the grievances of the home-trade ship officers.

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon): I beg to move:

Page 24, line 10,—add at the end—
“including the ports of Diu, Daman and Goa”. (152)

Many a time, the Prime Minister of India also has admitted the fact that Goa, Diu and Daman are territories of India and they will be included in India by peaceful means. Therefore, it is necessary that while defining the ‘coasting trade of India’, the ports of Goa, Diu and Daman should also be included.

Shri Assar (Ratnagiri): I beg to move:

Page 24, after line 3, add—(1)
“‘Citizen’ means,—

- (a) a citizen of India as per definition in the Indian Constitution;
- (b) persons of Indian origin resident abroad, e.g. in East Africa, Malaya, Burma, Japan, UK, USA etc.;
- (c) citizens of States protected by India such as Sikkim;
- (d) citizens of States such as Nepal and Bhutan having special treaties with India, and ordinarily resident in India or having property or business connections with India.” (219)

My intention in moving this amendment is that the term ‘citizens of India’ should be extended for the purpose of this clause in the Bill with a view that persons who regard themselves practically as Indians or being of Indian descent but residing in foreign

countries should not be debarred from coming to the help of the motherland and the friendly neighbours in a matter in which India is prepared to welcome capital from any part of the world. Therefore, besides citizens of India as per definition in the Constitution, I propose to include persons of Indian origin resident abroad, e.g. in East Africa, Burma, Japan, UK, USA etc. so that these persons should have an opportunity of contributing to the economic development of India.

Moreover, there are citizens of States like Sikkim with which we have treaty obligations to provide protection etc. Surely these citizens and friends of India should not be regarded as foreigners so far as capital for shipping is concerned.

The same also applies to the citizens of Nepal and Bhutan with whom we have special treaties and whose citizens have so much business dealings and facilities for residing in India that at least for our purpose of shipping capital, it will be meaningless to regard their money as foreign capital.

I will now cite a very apposite example of a country whose citizens are spread all over Europe and America and whose money is regarded as national money for the shipping of the country. By a law of 1920 regarding the Polish merchant marine vessels (in article 4) in evaluating the qualifications of individuals and corporate bodies (articles 1-3) in order to decide whether the vessels owned by them shall be recognised as Polish merchant marine vessels, persons of Polish racial origin who are not Polish nationals may be treated on an equality with citizens of the Republic.

So this amendment of mine should be accepted in order to help the shipping industry.

Mr. Chairman: Amendments Nos. 152 and 210 are also before the House.

Shri Mulchand Dube (Farrukhabad): With regard to the definition of "court", what is said is:

"court" in relation to sections 178 to 183 (inclusive) means a civil or revenue court.

Now we have given powers to decide cases not only to civil and revenue courts but also to certain officers. For instance, under the Delhi Rent Control Bill, the Rent Controller has got the power to fix the rent and do other things in regard to tenants. I want to ask whether, if a seaman is a tenant, that protection will be available to him or not. My submission is that the definition of 'court' should be widened so as to include such officers also who have got power to pass any orders against the interests of seamen so that the proceedings may be stayed under sections 178—183 of the Bill.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have moved two amendments, Nos. 184 and 250. No. 184 is only a verbal amendment. This is to ensure that it applies to home trade ships plying both ways, between India and the places mentioned there in the clause. As the definition stands at present, this has become necessary. Hence this amendment.

The second amendment is in respect of the extent of the home trade territory. The amendment reads:

Page 25, line 42,—after "Maladive Islands" insert "Federation of Malaya, Singapore".

Unfortunately, here also there was a typing error in the amendment itself. It should be "Federation of Malaya, Singapore" and not "Federation of Malaya and Singapore".

Hon. Members have moved certain amendments. Broadly speaking, they can be divided into two categories. Firstly, they want to add a few other countries or territories to the list of places or territories which shall be deemed to be home trade limits for

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

our home trade ships plying. In this connection, I may recall that we have ratified an International Convention, article 2(B) of the Seamen's Requisitioning Agreement Convention which runs as follows, so far as the definition of a home trade vessel is concerned:

"A home trade vessel is a vessel engaged in trade between a country and the ports of a neighbouring country which is geographically determined by the national law".

The words "neighbouring country" essentially limit and restrict the definition which any nation can provide for itself. Obviously, therefore, we cannot include East Africa or for that matter, countries in the Persian Gulf or countries which are not exactly contiguous or adjacent neighbours. Therefore, it is not possible to accept the amendments which seek to broaden the definition beyond that to a further extent.

Another amendment moved by Shri Naushir Bharucha, and Shri Jadhav and also emphasised by Sardar Iqbal Singh, Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri and Shri Raghunath Singh relates to the inclusion of the territories of Goa, Daman and Diu. Also, instead of the words 'continent of India', Shri Naushir Bharucha wants us to use the words "mainland of India". It is obvious that in the accepted parlance in which we are using these expressions and words 'continent of India' and 'India' as distinguished from each other, 'continent of India' includes all those territories which were part of India before 1947—including Pakistan, Diu, Daman and Goa etc. We have, therefore, purposely chosen that phraseology to describe what our intention is in this particular clause. So, I say that so far as inclusion of these territories is concerned, it goes without saying that when we say the 'continent of India' it includes Diu, Daman etc. Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri referred to certain islands.

They are already Indian territory—the Andaman, Nicobar and other smaller islands.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: You have not defined the 'continent of India'.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I accept that we have not defined that. But there is the commonly accepted parlance; there is the accepted interpretation in respect of that expression. I think that should be

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: The Laccadive and Minicoy islands are not mentioned.

Shri Raghunath Singh: They are part of India.

Shri Raj Bahadur: They are part of India. My amendment which broadens the definition includes the Federation of Malaya as also Singapore and I hope it will meet our purpose and definitely define the intention that we want to be conveyed by this particular clause.

Now, I come to the other question of the limitation of tonnage to 3000. Some suggestions have been made that we should keep that flexible. I would respectfully submit that it has been at the instance of the seamen themselves that we have adopted this definition. The limit they wanted was 2,000; but that was opposed by the shipowners who wanted 4,000. So, we have taken the golden mean and fixed 3,000 GRT as the limit. That will also satisfy our purpose and does not upset things. When we took stock of the present situation we came to find that of all the ships that are on home trade articles and which may have to change over to foreign going articles as a result of the adoption of this definition for home trade shipping, there are only 7 cargo vessels and 3 passenger vessels that are affected—out of the entire lot of 139 ships. So, it is obvious that this is not going to result in any very great upsetting of things or the present order. It is definitely going to liberalise the definition to the

advantage of the seamen. It will improve their prospects and it also ensures safety. These are the two purposes with which we have fixed this limit of 3000.

I would just mention one word more about this particular clause in view of what dropped from the hon. Member, Shri Tangamani. He was anxious about the lot of seamen who, so far, had been working on the home trade vessels and who might, perhaps, be thrown out in case this definition is accepted—but, he has himself referred to clause 456—the exemption clause. It is wide enough to give the Director-General powers to exempt any such class of people. And, I can assure the House that it is our intention to exempt such people who had been officers on these ships and who had run these ships as officers at least for one year without any slur or bad entry. I am quite sure that clause 456 is going to take full care of such people.

Then comes the question of citizenship. Shri Assar says that we should accept amendment No. 210 and broaden the definition of a citizen, so far as this particular clause is concerned. Here too, I may just refer him to the provisions of our Constitution contained in articles 5 and 6 and also to the provisions of the Citizenship Act. Under section 5(1) (b) of the Citizenship Act, it is open to any of those persons of Indian origin who are now living or residing in foreign countries to adopt our citizenship. An option has been given to them. They can apply for that. In case they do not, it will be dangerous both for ourselves as well as for those persons themselves to be included or classified as citizens for the purpose of owning an interest in an Indian ship or shipping company, and for other purposes to be considered as foreign nationals. They might become suspect in the eyes of the people or of the governments of the lands in which they are now residing. It is, therefore, obvious that

we need not and should not broaden the definition of a citizen for the purpose of this clause. We should rest content with the provisions of the Constitution and also of the Citizenship Act of 1955.

I think I have broadly replied all the points that were made in this connection. If there be any other, I will be glad to reply.

Mr. Chairman: In view of the reply of the hon. Minister, may I take it that the amendments of all the private members are withdrawn or do they want any amendments to be pressed?

Shri Tangamani: They may all be put to vote together.

Mr. Chairman: I will now put the Government amendments to the vote first—amendments Nos. 184 and 250. The question is:

Page 25,—

(i) in line 39,—
for "from" substitute "between".

(ii) in line 40,—
for "to" substitute "and".

(iii) in line 41,—
(a) for "from" substitute "between".

(b) for "to" substitute "and".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

Page 25, line 42,—

after "Maladive Islands" insert
"Federation of Malaya and Singapore"

The motions was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: I will now put all the other amendments to vote.

The amendments No. 52, 53, 64 to 68, 135, 110, 230, 231, 224 to 236, 152 and 210 were put and negatived.*

Mr. Chairman: I will now put clause 3 to vote.

The question is:

"That clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 4.— (Establishment of National Shipping Board)

Mr. Chairman: Which are the amendments to this clause which hon. Members want to move?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Sir, I want to move amendments Nos. 69 and 70.

Shri Balasaheb Patil (Miraj): I want to move amendment No. 194.

Shri Barman (Cooch-Bihar—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I want to move amendment No. 37.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: Sir, I want to move amendments Nos. 243, 244 and 245.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Members may be brief; we have to finish the Bill by 3 o'clock.

Shri Nath Pal: We have to try to.

Mr. Chairman: Now amendments No. 37, 69, 70, 194, 243, 244 and 245 will be moved. Shri Barman may move his amendment.

Shri Barman: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 30, line 15,—

(i) for "five" substitute "six"; and

(ii) for "three" substitute "four"
(37)

The hon. Transport Minister said yesterday in his reply that he is accepting this. So, I need not say anything further about this.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 30, line 15,—

(i) for "five" substitute "seven; and

(ii) for "three" substitute "five".
(69)

Page 30,—

for lines 18 to 27, substitute—

"(b) such number of other members, not exceeding sixteen, as the Central Government may think fit to appoint to the Board, namely:—

(i) seven to represent the Central Government,

*The original Nos. of the amendments given in brackets at the end of the text, have alone been reproduced at the stage of the final disposal.

(ii) one to represent shipowners,

(iii) two to represent seamen,

(iv) two to represent trade, industry, and commerce,

(v) one to represent passenger associations, and

(vi) three to represent such other interests, as, in the opinion of the Government, ought to be represented on the Board:

Provided that the members representing shipowners, seamen, trade, industry and commerce and passengers associations shall be appointed, as far as possible, in consultation with such interest." (70).

My amendment No. 69 says that instead of five Members of Parliament on the National Shipping Board, there should be seven. Further, I have said that there should be such other number of members, not exceeding sixteen as the Central Government may deem fit to appoint. Seven of them should represent the Central Government, one the shipowners, two the seamen and two to represent trade, industry and commerce and one to represent the passenger associations and three to represent such other interests as the Government may think fit. The idea is to make this really a representative board. If this National Shipping Board is to be really representative it should not be vaguely left to the Government to put in 16 members to represent whomsoever they like. There are certain definite interests which ought to be represented such as the shipowners, seamen, trade, industry and commerce, passenger associations and then there may be some left to the Government. I have said that three will represent such other interest as the Government may think fit. But the Government wants to reserve the right to appoint all the 16 members. I submit that this will be lopsided overburden in the National

190-A LSD—5.

Shipping Board which will become virtually a Government department. That is not the type of Board which will have a broad outlook and look at national questions in a statesmanlike manner. Hence, I desire that the representation of the Members of Parliament should be increased.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment No. 243 is the same as 69 which has been moved already.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 30, line 18,—

for "sixteen" substitute "twenty". (244)

Page 30,—

after line 23, insert—

"(iiia) passenger association." (245)

माहिबे सदर, मैं यह चाहता हूं कि नम्बर १६ से २० कर दिया जाये और पैसिजर्स एसोसियेशन्स को भी इस बोर्ड पर नुमायन्दगी दी जाये। आप ने इस में तीन चार इंटरेस्ट्स को नुमायन्दगी दी हुई है, बाकी को नहीं दी है। जिन लोगों को इन जहाजों में सफर करना होता है या जिनको सामान भोजना होता है यानी जिन का इस चीज से लगाव हो सकता है उन लोगों को इस में रिप्रेजेंटेशन मिलना चाहिये ताकि सारी बातें आप सुन सकें और उन के मुताबिक कार्यवाई कर सकें। इसलिये मैं चाहता हूं कि तादाद १६ से २० कर दी जाये और क्योंकि आप पैसिजर्स की वेलफेयर भी करना चाहते हैं इसलिये पैसिजर्स एसोसियेशन्स को भी इस बोर्ड पर नुमायन्दगी दी जाये।

Shri Balasaheb Patil: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 30,—

for lines 18 to 27, substitute—

"(b) such number of other members, not exceeding sixteen—

(i) two representing the Central

[Shri Balasahab Patil]

Government nominated by the same,

- (ii) three nominated by the Central Government to represent such other interests as in the opinion of the Central Government ought to be represented on the Board,
- (iii) three elected from amongst the shipowners, and
- (iv) three elected from amongst the seamen."

12.45 hrs.

(194)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

Clause 4(2) (a) says that the Board shall consist of five Members elected by Parliament, three by this House and two by the Council of States from among its Members. Sub-clause (b) seems to give the Government the right to nominate sixteen members from seamen, shipowners, etc. I want that the principle of election should be adopted in respect of seamen and shipowners. Suppose the Government, as is now provided, nominates a certain person from the seamen, he may not be liked by the body of seamen as a whole. There may be unions in the future. In order to safeguard their interests, it is better to have elections so that the persons who will really represent the seamen will come on the board. Secondly, in respect of shipowners also, there is the danger that the Government will appoint its favourites and not persons who will be really representatives of the shipowners.

The Board has to give advice on matters relating to Indian shipping. Sub-clause 5 is rather vague. We do not know whether it is an expert body or it is a body which will consist of persons who will sit once or twice a year and give advice to the Government. If it is an expert body, there is no necessity of persons being taken from this House or the other House. Clause 5 also speaks of the development of Indian shipping. Therefore, my submission is that in-

stead of nominating 16 persons, there may be election of three persons from the seamen and three persons from the shipowners.

Shri Achar (Mangalore): Sir, I would like to make a few observations on this clause. It has raised great hopes in the coastal areas, especially those areas which have considerably suffered in regard to shipping industry and also merchant shipping. I come from a small coastal town—a small port.

Shri Nath Pal: Which is that?

Shri Achar: It has considerable trade. My hon. friend knows that I come from Mangalore; anyhow, he wants that answer from me. The marine States, at least some of them, such as Mysore, have been pleading and saying that they have suffered considerably in this field. I mention this fact not because of any linguistic or other such considerations. I find that there are very good ports for most of the marine States. If we start from Gujarat, they have spent crores of rupees and we have now got Kandla. Bombay is of course the premier port. Kerala has got Cochin and Tamilnad has got Madras. Of course, Orissa is in the same position as Karnatak. Then again Bengal has got Calcutta. But so far as Karnatak is concerned, there is no major port in Mysore. It lies between Cochin and Bombay. Either Karwar or Mangalore ought to be developed into a major port. At least Mangalore should be converted into an all weather port.

Shri Raj Bahadur: How does it arise?

Shri Achar: Because, the idea is to nominate some members to the Board and I want to make a special request to the hon. Minister. I am sure he will consider it very sympathetically. I am not against nomination of some of the marine States. Apart from seamen, shipowners, merchants and people in trade and commerce, the States are very much interested in the

interest of the public as a whole of that State.

The Minister of Transport and Communication (Shri S. K. Patil): I have got the point.

Shri Achar: I was almost inclined to send an amendment that the marine States might be allowed to send one representative elected by the respective Assemblies or the Councils. Even if there is no election or any provision of that nature here, I would request the hon. Minister that this aspect of the question may be reconsidered and there may be one representative, at least by nomination.

Mr. Speaker: The amendments are before the House.

Shri S. K. Patil: Sir, we accept the amendment of Shri Barman that instead of five Members being elected by Parliament, it may be raised to six and instead of three by this House, it may be four. That is according to the ratio of 2:1. So, we accept it.

So far as the proposal to make it seven is concerned, as has been proposed by my hon. friend, Shri Bharucha, for the same reason for which we are accepting the amendment to make it six we cannot agree to make it seven, because that does not lead to any ratio whatsoever. Therefore, let us be content with six.

Regarding his amendment to substitute the words "such number of other members, not exceeding sixteen, as the Central Government may think fit to appoint to the Board, namely: (i) seven to represent the Central Government, (ii) one to represent shipowners, (iii) two to represent seamen, (iv) two to represent trade, industry, and commerce, (v) one to represent passenger associations, and (vi) three to represent such other interests, as in the opinion of the Government ought to be represented on the Board;," if we could really distribute that we would have done it.

I was personally very reluctant to have it like this. It is not that Government is desirous that all powers should be arrogated to Government. We do not want to do that. But, as I said, we are in the beginning, in the starting process and it is very difficult just at present to say as to how many members there would be. It may not be even 18, the number that has been stipulated; it may be less than that. We cannot simply go on adding the number of members. For the time being, the seamen and shipowners have been specially mentioned because those two interests have got to be in. Several other interests have been mentioned, like passengers, industry etc. My hon. friend, Shri Achar says that in the nomination somebody who represents the minor ports etc. should also come in. I can quite understand that. There may be any number of interests. It is very difficult now to bind us down only to some specific interests; it will defeat the very purpose of this section.

Therefore, our attempt shall be, by experience, to include as many representatives of interests in it as it is possible for us to do. We have taken note of these suggestions and we shall bear them in mind, so far as making that number to 16 or less than that is concerned. At this stage let us not bind ourselves down to those particular numbers or interests that have been mentioned in this House.

Mr. Speaker: I shall now put to the vote of the House the amendment that has been accepted by Government.

The question is:

Page 30, line 15,—

- (i) for "five" substitute "six"; and
- (ii) for "three" substitute "four".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: I suppose I need not put the other amendments.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: They may be put in a lot.

The amendments No. 69, 70, 244, 245 and 194 were put and negatived.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Speaker: May I make one suggestion to the hon. House? As we have been doing in the case of all such Bills, hon. Members may concentrate upon certain groups of clauses or sections where there are a number of amendments and so on, so that much time need not be spent on others. Now, clause 21 is there.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Clause 5A is there. There is also clause 14 which deals with the Shipping Development Fund.

Mr. Speaker: Let me know, for my own information, which of the clauses, according to the House, are the important ones.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Clause 5, clause 14, clause 21, there is an obvious printing error in clause 42,.....

Mr. Speaker: A printing error won't take much time. Very well, I will include 42.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: There are the clauses 150 and 151 relating to disputes.

Shri Nath Pal: They are very important clauses. Many amendments have been tabled to those clauses.

Mr. Speaker: That is all?

Shri Nath Pal: That is what Shri Bharucha said.

Mr. Speaker: Any other clauses which are considered to be important in the opinion of any other hon. Member?

Shri Jadhav: Clause 6, because I have suggested the addition of New Clauses 6A and 6B in Part IIA. That is very important.

Shri Warior: (Trichur): If clause 14 dealing with Shipping Development Fund is important, there is clause 15 which deals with the application of the Fund.

Mr. Speaker: I have noted down both 14 and 16.

Shri Nath Pal: Clause 78 is also important.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Clause 27 also.

Mr. Speaker: All right. We have now got a general idea.

Shri Tangamani: Clauses 193 and 194 are also important.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. We shall proceed now. The House has now a general idea as to which are all the important clauses.

Shri Mohammed Tahir (Kishanganj): There are also clauses 269, 271 and 274.

Mr. Speaker: Very well.

Shri Nath Pal: Clause 125 also.

Clause 5.—(Functions of National Shipping Board)

Mr. Speaker: Does any hon. Member wants to move his amendment to this clause?

Sardar Iqbal Singh: I beg to move:

Page 30,—

for lines 34 and 35, substitute—

"(b) on matters of passenger amenities;

(c) on matters of employment, conditions of service and amenities for seamen;

(d) on such other matters as the Board may think proper; and

(e) on such other matters arising out of this Act as the Central Government may refer to it for advice." (246)

जनाब स्पीकर साहब, मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस बोर्ड के फंक्शन्स को डिफाइन कर दिया जाये ताकि यह इफेक्टिव ढंग से चल सके और काम कर सके और सिर्फ रबर स्टैम्पिंग बाड़ी न हो जिसमें यह हो कि दो बंटे मीटिंग हुई, डाइरेक्टर जनरल ने प्रीसाइड किया और वापस चले गये। गवर्नमेंट की जो बहुत सी कमेटीज बनी है उनमें इसी तरह से काम होता है। लेकिन मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस बोर्ड के फंक्शन्स साफ तौर से दर्ज हों ताकि जो मेम्बर इस की मीटिंग्स में जायें वे अपने सजेजन्स भी दे सकें, और उन के सिलसिले में बोर्ड अपना काम कर सके और रिपोर्ट भी दे सके। लेकिन अगर आप बोर्ड को सिर्फ इतना ही रखेंगे कि वह डेवेलपमेंट आव शिपिंग को देखे और जो मामला गवर्नमेंट रेफर करे उस को कंसीडर करे तो यह रबर स्टैम्पिंग बाड़ी हो जायेगी। इसलिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस के फंक्शन्स डिफाइन कर दिये जायें ताकि पैसंजर ऐमिनिटीज के सिलसिले में यह बोर्ड काम कर सके और गवर्नमेंट को अपनी राय दे सके और गवर्नमेंट उस राय पर चले कि क्या अमिनिटीज होनी चाहियें।

दूसरी बात एम्पलायमेंट के सिलसिले में है। एम्पलायमेंट के सिलसिले में यह बोर्ड गवर्नमेंट को डेफिनेट राय दे सके और हर मीटिंग में ये बातें सोची जा सकें।

मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा है कि हम ने अभी इस को शुरू किया है, इस को प्लान्ड करेंगे। तो इस सिलसिले में बहुत सी बातें बोर्ड के कंसीडरेशन के लिये निकल सकती हैं। गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से जो चीजें रेफर होंगी वे बहुत देर से होंगी और बहुत कम होंगी। मैं चाहता हूँ कि बोर्ड अपने तौर पर जो इन बातों पर गौर कर सके या अगर कोई

मेम्बर किसी बात को पेश करता है तो उस पर गौर किया जा सके कि किस तरह से शिपिंग का ज्यादा अच्छा डेवेलपमेंट हो सकता है और क्या क्या ऐमिनिटीज होनी चाहियें। मैं चाहता हूँ कि ऐसा प्रावीजन होना चाहिये कि इन बातों पर भी बोर्ड अपने तौर पर गौर कर सके और साथ ही साथ वह उन बातों पर भी गौर करे जो गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से रेफर की जायें। मैं चाहता हूँ कि बोर्ड के फंक्शन्स वाइड कर दिये जायें और यह बोर्ड अपने तौर पर भी गवर्नमेंट को राय दे सके।

Shri Balasaheb Patil: Mr. Speaker, it seems that this Board is to give advice to the Government, but in sub-clause (b) it has been stated: "on such other matters arising out of this Act as the Central Government may refer to it for advice". Sir, this Bill will be passed and it will become an Act. My request to the hon. Minister at this stage will be that he may only suggest what will be entrusted to the Board. There may be certain contingencies arising in course of time and those things may be subsequently referred to the Board, but, when we are passing this Bill and we are considering the principles as well as the development of merchant shipping, we want to know what will be the matters that will be referred to the Board for consideration and giving advice.

Secondly, in sub-clause (a) it is said: "on matters relating to Indian shipping, including the development thereof;". When you say 'Indian shipping' it may be passenger or cargo ships,—it is about ships—but outside the scope of this Act there may be certain matters relating to dockyard, opening of new harbours, plans for construction of ships and many other things. I would like to know whether all these things that do not come under this Act will be entrusted to this body. If these things are also to be entrusted to this body, I would like to know whether in the number

[Shri Balasaheb Patil]

of members to be nominated some experts on these matters will also be included.

Thirdly, it has not been stated in the Bill whether this body is going to submit a report. It may submit a report to the Government, but I would like to know whether that report will be placed before this House, whether this House will be allowed to consider that report and make suggestions. I want to know the reaction of Government to my suggestion that this House may be allowed to consider that report and make suggestions. There may be a report of this committee or Board which may not be to the liking of Government. What will be the reaction of the Government to the report of this body? In the case of the Railway Board we find that the decisions taken by them are as good as the decisions of Government. I want to know whether the decisions of this body will be acted upon by Government.

13 hrs.

Shri S. K. Patil: The suggestions which have been made by my hon. friends would instead of enlarging the scope of the Bill, in fact cramp it. It has been purposely left as it is. There are two things which I explained in my speech yesterday. The National Shipping Board would be seized of the entire shipping policy. That is what sub-clause (a) says. Sub-clause (b) says that apart from certain things which the National Shipping Board may say or do, there may be certain other things which Government may from time to time refer to them for advice. Government may feel that although it may be competent for it to do a certain thing, it would like to have the advice of the Board on certain matters. A national shipping policy has got to be evolved and formulated. It is impossible to lay them down just now, or even within three or four years. The suggestions that have been made here are also of a nebulous character. It has been felt that there should be

some kind of definition of its functions. But that definition will have to be evolved. I do not say that after some time it will not be evolved, but just now it is difficult to do it. Let us, therefore, rest content that all matters relating to shipping policy will come before them either on their own, or through reference to them by Government.

As I have already said Government will be generally guided by the advice of the National Shipping Board. Suggestions have been made that the reports of the Board should come before the House. If it is possible such reports will be submitted to this House and ultimately the sovereignty, so far as direction of national policy on shipping is concerned, would vest in this House. Therefore the terms laid down in the clause are wide enough to cover all contingencies to which reference has been made by hon. Members.

Mr. Speaker: Is it necessary for me to put the amendment? The hon. Member does not press it.

The amendment No. 246 was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

New Clause 5A

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 30,—

after line 35, insert—

"5A(1) The Board shall have power for final determination of the following matters under the Act,—

(a) all matters under Part VI of the Act, including questions of qualifications, grades, of competency of officers, holding of examinations and issue of certificates to officers and other personnel under section 78;

(b) all matters relating to welfare of seamen including questions relating to apprenticeship, engagement and discharge of seamen, their health and accommodation on board the ship, relation of seamen with employment officers, employment of young persons, property of deceased seamen, relief to distressed seamen, treatment of seamen on board the ship, medical attendance and protection of seamen in respect of litigation;

(c) all questions relating to care, accommodation and welfare of pilgrims during transit; and

(d) such other matters as the Government may, by rules made in this behalf, prescribe.

The Board shall have power in the discharge of its functions under this sub-section, to make rules and regulations, which shall come into force on approval of the same by the Central Government, on a date to be prescribed by it by notification.

(2) The Government shall cause an annual administration report of the Board to be laid before each House of Parliament." (71).

Just now the hon. Minister said that several suggestions have been made for enlarging the powers of the Board but there is nothing definite or concrete about them. Therefore my amendment gives something which is concrete. The amendment says that—

"The Board shall have power for final determination of the following matters under the Act,—

(a) all matters under Part VI of the Act, including questions of qualifications, grades, of competency of officers, holding of examinations and issue of certificates to officers and other personnel under section 78."

Yesterday my hon. friend Shri Patil laid great stress on the training of personnel. There is no agency under the Act which is seized of these particular problems.

Then part (b) of my amendment says:

"(b) all matters relating to welfare of seamen including questions relating to apprenticeship, engagement and discharge of seamen, their health and accommodation on board the ship, relation of seamen with employment offices, etc., etc."

Why should not the Board have power for final determination of all these matters? Why should it not have administrative besides advisory power. With the object not of restricting the scope of the Board, but to enlarge it I have also suggested—

"such other matters as the Government may by rules made in this behalf, prescribe."

Government does not want to monopolise all powers under the Shipping Act; then let the Board be given power in this respect. Otherwise, what type of Board will it be?

Shri S. K. Patil: Under the scheme of the Bill the Board is an advisory body. Therefore, you cannot mix statutory powers with its functions. The D.G. Shipping has been given certain statutory powers which he exercises just now and which he will be exercising hereafter. If we enumerate the powers that my hon. friend Shri Bharucha is suggesting, the list will become limited. Its powers may be a hundred, but only half a dozen of them are being mentioned here. Therefore what I would advise this House is this. Rather than stipulating those powers just now, on the limited idea which we have now, let the situation evolve itself. Under the jurisdiction of the Act the National Shipping Board is vested with the power of giving advice. We do not want to curtail anything out of it. All those matters that my hon. friend has mentioned will be included and more will be included. After three or four years the nature of the Board itself will have changed. Then it will not remain an advisory board, it may become a body in which statutory functions could be vested. My humble-

appeal is that until we evolve that national policy, let us not tie ourselves down to a particular thing.

Mr. Speaker: I suppose the hon. Member does not press his amendment?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: May I take this as an assurance?

Shri S. K. Patil: Yes; it is.

The amendment No. 71 was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: I shall put clause 6 to vote. The question is:

"That clause 6 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

New Clauses 6A and 6B

Shri Jadhav: I beg to move:

Page 31,—

after line 12, insert—

"PART IIA

SHIPPING CORPORATION OF INDIA

6A. With effect from the date the Central Government brings into force by notification in the official Gazette the provisions of this Act but not later than 1st April, 1959, the Government shall take steps to float the Shipping Corporation of India.

6B. The Shipping Corporation shall perform the following functions:—

- (i) find out ways and means for raising the necessary capital for mercantile shipping;
- (ii) make rules for the efficient working of the Corporation; and
- (iii) advance the mercantile marine to serve the national interest on all fronts." (172).

The policy of Government, it is declared, is aimed at the achievement of a socialist pattern of society. But, unfortunately, the Government have not taken any steps up to this time. As far as the shipping industry is

concerned, though it may not be the second best, it is the second best industry after steel in India. The Government of India, as a matter of fact, ought to have taken steps to have a Shipping Corporation prior to this measure, but it is never late. Now that we have got our Merchant Shipping Bill, and we are very proud that we are going to have our own register and, at the same time, we have defined 'Indian ship' it is necessary to have a Shipping Corporation.

I want to add some points in favour of this amendment. This is a most profitable business. The Government of India is going to take so many things in the public sector. Therefore, it should venture to enter this field also in the public sector. From the evidence that has been tendered, it has been proved beyond doubt; and there is voluminous evidence to the effect that Indian capital is shared at least in this industry. Therefore, the Government should set up a Corporation. Now, Government too offer loans not at the interests that Government wanted but at a reduced rate that the shipping industry ask for.

As far as freight charges are concerned, India has to pay Rs. 160 crores every year. Ships are at present very cheap and it will be better if the Shipping Corporation purchases the ships after floating the Corporation. Ships are available in large tonnage in Indonesia. They are there. They do not know what to do about it. Also, in Britain, they are having large tonnage. The Government of India has to give foreign exchange, loan and cargo, to carry. Therefore, it will be better if the Government ventures to have the Shipping Corporation. We can have loans from the World Bank for this purpose. It was said yesterday by the hon. Minister that they never asked for loans from the World Bank for this purpose. Though up to date, nationalisation has not been brought into being in any of the countries in the world in this industry, we can take steps at least here and

proceed from the private sector to the public sector in this field.

I would like to quote a few lines from the evidence that has been tendered by Shri Ramaswami Mudaliar in this respect. At page 47 of the evidence, he says:

"I have no objection to nationalisation; I have no objection to the public sector expanding and taking routes which are not covered by the private sector so far. In fact we have been repeatedly told by the Minister of Transport that the public sector will not come into competition with established lines."

At the same time, he said that he has no objection for the public sector to come in this respect. Taking into consideration all these points, I would submit that the hon. Minister should take into consideration these new clauses and have a Shipping Corporation of India and float it with the co-operation of the private sector in this respect.

Shri S. K. Patil: I never thought that nationalisation of shipping could be introduced by such backdoor methods as the hon. Member proposes to do by introducing these new clauses—6A and 6B. As the House would see, clause 6 is almost of a consequential character, because, having created some authorities, we have got to provide for the term of office of the members of the Board, the appointment of officers and other employees to enable the Board to discharge its functions, besides travelling allowance and such other allowances. It is only to take care of all these things that we have created an authority, because some authority must be vested in somebody. Therefore, clause 6 comes in. To that, the hon. Member seeks to add clauses 6A and 6B and by a very circuitous way tries to bring about nationalisation. I do not understand how nationalisation also comes in by that amendment that

he has moved. His amendment says that with effect from a certain date, the Government shall take steps to float the Shipping Corporation of India. The Government have already floated two Corporations—there is the Eastern Shipping Corporation and the Western Shipping Corporation. I do not understand how by floating an All-India Shipping Corporation nationalisation or the public sector that he wants to achieve could come in. I can quite understand his scheme of things, namely, that at some stage the whole merchant shipping should be nationalised. But if it has to be done, it is to be done by a different method and not by adding these new clauses to clause 6 which is not intended for this purpose and which is merely of a consequential nature, to provide for the things which we have created in the preceding clause. Therefore, his amendment seeking to put in two new clauses in this case is very irrelevant.

Mr. Speaker: I shall put the amendment to the vote of the House. The question is:

Page 31, after line 12, insert

"PART IIA
SHIPPING CORPORATION OF
INDIA

6A. With effect from the date the Central Government brings into force by notification in the official Gazette the provisions of this Act but not later than 1st April, 1959, the Government shall take steps to float the Shipping Corporation of India.

6B. The Shipping Corporation shall perform the following functions:—

- (i) find out ways and means for raising the necessary capital for mercantile shipping;
- (ii) make rules for the efficient working of the Corporation; and
- (iii) advance the mercantile marine to serve the national interest on all fronts."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 7 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clauses 8 to 12 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 8 to 12 were added to the Bill.

Clause 13.—(Seamen's welfare Officers)

Shri Tangamani: I beg to move:

Page 33, for lines 26 to 28, substitute

"13. (1) The Central Government shall appoint seamen's welfare officers at all major ports in India and in such other ports outside India as the Government may think necessary." (38)

My amendment seeks to replace clause 13(1). Clause 13(1) reads thus:

"The Central Government may appoint seamen's welfare officers at such ports in or outside India as it may consider necessary".

My amendment reads thus:

"13. (1) The Central Government shall appoint seamen's welfare officers at all major ports in India and in such other ports outside India as the Government may think necessary."

The purpose of this amendment is to regularise what is now going on today. This really concerns the welfare of the seamen. There are welfare officers not only in Indian ports but in ports outside India also. The other

day, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications was pleased to state that some of the consular officers are doing the function of the welfare officers. In Bombay, when we visited the harbour, we heard complaints from the seamen that these welfare officers do not look after them, and even the captains of foreign-going ships owned by the foreign companies have very little respect for our welfare officers. So we want to give these powers to the Government here for the appointment of these welfare officers. I want that these welfare officers must be appointed in all these major ports in India and also in the ports outside India. There must be a special conference of these welfare officers; directives should be given to them and suggestions made, and if they are accepted by the captains, they will have to be brought to the notice of the Government. Directions must be given also to the captains of the ships who man these foreign-going ships owned by foreigners. The suggestions given by our welfare officers must be respected.

I can think of one parallel instance here. During the British days, they used to have High Commissioners in the United Kingdom. The students there invariably used to boycott those High Commissioners because the High Commissioners were not looking after the interests of the students. These welfare officers must really look after the welfare of seamen, and it is only for bringing forcibly to the notice of the Government this fact; I have moved this amendment. It is very necessary that not only should they be clothed with power but they should treat the seamen in a way that they have more confidence in them.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think the clause as it stands meet the needs of the situation, because it makes the provision flexible and allows the Government to provide for the appointment of these welfare officers where

they are needed, depending upon the quantum of work. For example, in India, we have got the welfare officers at Bombay and Calcutta. They are whole-time officers, and recently we have also decided to have a full-time welfare officer at the port of Madras. This depends upon the quantum of work.

As regards ports outside India, there too, as I said the other day, some of our consular officers are empowered to look into this question and also look after the welfare of seamen. I think the present arrangements are good enough to meet the requirements of the situation. I can assure the hon. Member that the welfare of the seamen is closest to our hearts and I think the present arrangements will look after them.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

Page 33, for lines 26 to 28, substitute—

"13. (1) The Central Government shall appoint seamen's welfare officers at all major ports in India and in such other ports outside India as the Government may think necessary."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 13 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 13 was added to the Bill.

Clause 14.—(Formation of Shipping Development Fund)

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

Page 34, after line 14, insert—

"(cc) proceeds of such surcharge or other levy or tax on

freight rates or passenger fares in respect of cargo or passengers carried by Indian ships;" (73)..

Clause 14 relates to the constitution of a shipping Development Fund and it provides that a certain amount should go to the credit of the fund. I have suggested that if a small surcharge is levied after an examination of the freight structure and if the yield from this surcharge is contributed to the fund, we shall have a very good amount in a small time.

As I said yesterday, the Shipping Development Fund will have to perform a large number of functions, it may have to advance money for the purchase of ships, etc. It may have to guarantee for deferred payments; it may have to encourage the construction of tanker fleet and so on. The amount that the Government will be able to place at its disposal will be too small. Therefore, in future if the Government so desire I am not saying that a surcharge should be levied straightaway here and now—one of the sources of revenue should be the proceeds of a surcharge on freight rates and passenger fares.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Our shipping companies and ships have to compete in the international sphere and if we put any surcharge, unnecessarily we are putting them under a handicap compared to other shipping companies competing in the same field. Secondly, if we put any levy on passenger fares and freight rates, it will be an additional hardship on the passengers or the ships, because such an additional increase will be reflected in the fares and freight rates. So, the question is, shall we or shall we not put an additional burden on our shipping companies, or on our cargoes and passengers? I think the Shipping Development Fund that will come into being should be built up from the resources that have been specified in the particular clause in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"Page 34, after line 14, insert—

"(cc) proceeds of such surcharge or other levy or tax on freight rates or passenger fares in respect of cargo or passengers carried by Indian ships;"

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 14 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 14 was added to the Bill.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 15 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 15 was added to the Bill.

Clause 16.—(Application of the Shipping Development Fund)

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Pali): I beg to move:

Page 34, after line 32, add—

"Provided that fifty per cent of the fund will be reserved for the development of merchant shipping in the public sector." (240).

Clause 16 deals with how this Shipping Development Fund is going to be dispersed and utilised. The reason for my amendment is this. The hon. Minister who spoke with all the eloquence yesterday made it absolutely clear to us that is no chance whatsoever for foreign participation and that even this 25 per cent is only symbolic and does not mean that any foreign aid is coming to us.

Anybody who has followed the evidence will understand that no new entrants are likely to enter into this field and that we are completely at the mercy of those people who are already in the trade. Let us

see if these people are in a position to deliver the goods. Our experience of the last seven or eight years has been that they have completely failed to come up anywhere near the target or near our expectations. Foreign assistance cannot come; new entrants cannot come and the present people who are in the trade have failed and there is no reason to believe that there is any possibility of their delivering the goods in the near future. Under these circumstances, there is no other alternative left for the Government, but to enter into this business.

I do not say, nationalise it, although there would be ample justification for it. All other modes of transport have been nationalised. Rail and air transport have been nationalised. Road transport is being nationalised. I am not going to the extent of saying "nationalise it". I only say that as we have put in the preamble and the long title, the purpose of this Bill is to develop shipping. How is that development going to come? It is only through the constitution of a corporation. That is why I have said that fifty per cent of the fund should be reserved for this corporation. The hon. Minister explained yesterday that we are going to have Rs. 8 crores. Even if we have Rs. 5 crores, we can straightaway have 20 or 25 ships in the public sector. So, I say that if proper note is taken of the situation as it exists and if this reservation is made for floating the corporation, the funds may be used in such a manner that we may have real progress in shipping.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: I beg to move:

Page 35, lines 1 and 2, for "at such intervals as the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India may specify" substitute "every year". (256)

There will be no justification for extending the time to two or three years, because if the audit reports are presented after three years, it will be

of no use because the persons responsible who might have committed the mistake might have resigned by that time. Secondly, if the audit reports are not presented in time, the Public Accounts Committee may not be able to scrutinise them. That is why I have suggested in my amendment that instead of "at such intervals as the Comptroller and Auditor-General may specify", it should be done every year. It is not only the right of this House to have the audit reports every year, but if it is not done, it may have other consequences. So, I have moved this amendment.

Shri Parulekar (Thana): I beg to move:

Page 34, lines 30 to 32,

for "to persons of the description mentioned in section 21 for acquisition and maintenance of ships" substitute "to State corporations formed for developing shipping to acquire ships". (47)

Shri Warior: I have my amendment No. 114.

Mr. Speaker: It is the same as 47.
13.29 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Shri Balasaheb Patil: I beg to move:

Page 35, line 12, after "Committee" insert—

"for each revenue year". (195)

The purpose of my amendment is that the report should be presented every year and not after more time than one year. Sub-clause (2) of clause 16 gives power to the Central Government to specify the terms and conditions. It reads like this:

"The Committee shall not grant any loan or give any financial assistance to any person referred to in sub-section (1) except on such terms and conditions as the

Central Government may from time to time specify."

This means that this Committee is only an executive body. Sub-clause (1) says that the fund shall vest in the Committee and shall be applied towards meeting the expenses of the Committee and for granting loans and financial assistance. What I would suggest is that this Committee should have some more power. The Committee must have power to give loans for purchase of new ships as well as for the maintenance of ships; the maintenance of ships, that portion should at least be given to the Committee. The Committee may give loan to anybody according to the opinion of the Committee for the maintenance of ships, and the Central Government should not come into the picture at this stage. If a company wants a loan of Rs. 50 or Rs. 25 and if that matter will first of all go to the committee and ultimately to the Central Government then so much time will elapse between these two that the ship will become out of order. Therefore, my submission is that there should be some division between the sanction that is to be given by the Committee itself and the sanction that is to be given by the Government.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I beg to move:

Page 34, line 36—

add at the end—

"regarding matters directly concerned with the loan or any financial assistance such as, in the case of a loan its repayment with interest and the appointment of a Government Director as hitherto." (86).

Clause 16(2) says:

"The Committee shall not grant any loan or give any financial assistance to any person referred to in sub-section (1) except on such terms and conditions as the

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

Central Government may from time to time specify."

My humble submission is this. Now when Government give loans to companies they generally insist the appointment of a Government director and further ensure that the interest and the principal amount are paid back at the proper time. That is all right. Nobody can object to these conditions. They flow from the very fact that a loan is given. But if the Government want to insist on conditions which are not generally attached to these loans, then the position would be different. Suppose the Government says that audit shall be made by the Auditor-General etc. then those conditions will be too drastic, so far as the companies are concerned. No company would like to accept them and no company will look up to the Government for loans. So, I would request the hon. Minister to kindly clear the point, whether the ordinary conditions that are today imposed are in contemplation or any very strict and drastic terms are going to be insisted upon. I would only submit that Government should not put conditions which are not generally put when such loans are given. It is all right that when a person advances a loan he can insist that the money should be paid back within the due date. But if you insist that the entire accounts of the company shall be audited in a particular manner, that may not be acceptable to the company. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to kindly assure us that only the conditions which were hitherto attached will be insisted upon and no special conditions will be attached which will have the effect of making the companies not taking advantage of those loans.

Shri Tangamani: My amendment No. is 39.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members have already said what can be said. Now they can only just refer to them.

Shri Tangamani: I forget to mention. I beg to move:

Page 34, line 31,—

omit "and maintenance". (39)

Shri Warrior: My amendment No. is 114.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is the same as No. 47, which has been moved.

Shri Warrior: This is one of the crucial clauses of this Bill—"Application of the Shipping Development Fund". In my amendment I have suggested the substitution of the words "to State corporations formed for developing shipping to acquire ships" for the words "to persons of the description mentioned in section 21 for acquisition and maintenance of ships". My first objection is to the maintenance of ships, not acquisition of ships. That should not be there. It must be only for the purpose of acquisition. Maintenance is a question of a confusing character, because we do not know whether the funds are actually utilized for maintenance or not. There are so many things involved in it. So, it must not be there.

Apart from that, my amendment suggests that the fund must be reserved for acquisition by State Corporations which may come into being at any time during the course of the development of the shipping industry. The main objectives of the 1947 Resolution were two, not one. One was that, for the present, the private ship-owners may be encouraged. But the final objective was to place shipping cent per cent in the hands of the Government. That was also stated there. In order to achieve that objective, we must set apart this amount primarily for the acquisition of ships for the State Corporations which may be formed by the Government in future. That is one point.

Then, this fund may be availed of by the ship-owners. They did not avail of so many opportunities during the last 11 years when it was already there. Though Government had initiated this policy and the help was ready there, no single ship-owner wanted this help. There were many opportunities for the acquisition of ships, but they did not take advantage of this. That will come later on when we take up the other question in clause 21. For the present, the fund will be a small amount. But the hon. Minister was pleased to state that in course of time the fund will have large amounts and the fund will be sufficient for having a public sector also, not on competitive lines, along with the private sector. I am not against the private sector. Let them develop in their own way and whatever help we can, legal or other, we will give. At the same time, I would submit that the peoples' fund should not be dissipated or frittered away like this. This is the opportunity when recession is there when ships are cheap and the hon. Minister is confident that we can achieve the targeted tonnage.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The amendments are before the House.

Shri S. K. Patil: My hon. friend Shri Harish Chandra Mathur, has suggested in his amendment that statutorily we shall assign half the fund, 50 per cent. of the funds, to the public sector. I could assure him that on second thoughts possibly he will come to the conclusion that such a stipulation may sometimes work against the public sector. A time may come when the entire funds will have to go to the public sector. The idea is that so far as the public sector is concerned, it being hundred per cent the responsibility of the Government of India, any requirements of that sector will be a first charge on this fund. Therefore, the idea is not that at the expense of this the private sector should get the benefit. So, we need not have any rigid application of percentages at this stage. After all,

the Committee is appointed by Government; everything is Government and the public sector is also Government. Therefore, should we go further and qualify as if somebody else, some outside authority, is operating this and unless it is prevented from that operation just now, a difficulty is due to arise? No such difficulties are going to arise. But I could see the motive of the amendment, and I whole-heartedly agree with the idea. Therefore, I would say that not only 50 per cent but if it came to that, for the requirements of the public sector, which is hundred per cent the responsibility of the Government of India, even the entire fund can be diverted for the development of shipping. Therefore, I am not in favour of accepting this 50 per cent, which adds to the element of rigidity in that particular matter, which is not necessary.

Now, so far as the amendment about auditing is concerned, the clause says that the accounts shall be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, or a person authorised by him in this behalf, at such intervals as the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India may specify. The amendment seeks to substitute "annual audit" for "such intervals as the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India may specify". Now, the Auditor-General himself prefers this phraseology in preference to "every year". But if the Auditor-General feels that it should be done annually, certainly he is competent to do so. Therefore, this phraseology has been introduced at the express suggestion of the Auditor-General, and if the Auditor-General wants audit annually Government is not against it. It is better if it is done annually, but in the beginning it may not be easy....

Sardar Iqbal Singh: If the audit is after two or three years and then the reports are laid on the Table of the House, it will be quite impossible for the Public Accounts Committee and

[Sardar Iqbal Singh]

for the Parliament to consider these reports of audit for 3-4 years.

The House knows that the Comptroller and Auditor-General is an independent authority created by our act in order that he be the watchdog. Surely, the kind of contingency to which the hon. Member, Sardar Iqbal Singh, makes reference is not going to come under the very nose of the Auditor-General. Therefore, the phraseology as has been suggested by the Comptroller and Auditor-General should be accepted.

My hon. friend, Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, referred to sub-clause (2), which says:

"The Committee shall not grant any loan or give any financial assistance to any person referred to in sub-section (1) except on such terms and conditions as the Central Government may from time to time specify."

I can understand his difficulty. A difficulty may arise. A mad Government sometimes—a mad officer I should say and not Government—may put some condition which ultimately may not be there. But that contingency cannot be covered by any law that we could make here. What is really contemplated is that since the major part of this responsibility is just now being shared by the Government, namely, we give big loans, we referred to a suggestion of the appointment of the director etc. which really we have not yet specifically laid down although we want to lay that down because some of the companies to which we have given loans have not got Government directors. Although we intend doing that now, that need not be done by any change or any provision in the Act. Surely, the debtor will always be obliged to the creditor to have any conditions of this type—a reasonable condition. Therefore, I do not think that we should make any change in this.

Then my hon. friend, Shri Warrior, has said that for the maintenance nothing should be spent out of this account. I agree with him. It is not that the idea is that for maintenance any loan from this Fund should be given. It is really for the purchase of ships and so on and so forth. But in the eventuality, even if it comes, once in a while, that there is a danger to the ships to which the Government has advanced money because its maintenance is not carried on, some kind of power is needed because when you make the prospectus and the articles of association, you cover ever so many things because of the eventuality which, perhaps, may arise which in all likelihood may not be there. Therefore, it is intended that normally for the maintenance of the ship the Fund is not to be diverted.

I will add one word which will rather underscore many of the amendments and the criticism that has been offered. It will be the function of the National Shipping Board hereafter to evolve policies in relation to every one of these things so that they can advise the Government from time to time. All these things should be done so far as the disposal of the Fund is concerned and other aspects of national policy are concerned. Therefore, we should leave it to that body to evolve some kind of a system and convention which will be of lasting character.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: There is a misunderstanding which has been created. I am grateful to the hon. Minister for his reassuring attitude but he thinks that my amendment binds him down to 50 per cent for the public sector. It does not. It is only a reservation of 50 per cent for the public sector. The other 50 per cent he can also give to the public sector. What is there in my amendment to stop him from giving cent per cent? It is only to reserve 50 per cent. That is all. The other 50 per cent is absolutely lying with him and he can

give cent per cent to the public sector. So, I think he is under a certain misapprehension.

Shri S. K. Patil: No, that misapprehension has been removed. My only plea is that when I control my hundred per cent why should there be a stipulation that I have 50 per cent by a statute here?

Shri Warior: I had also pointed out that this must be reserved for acquisition by the Corporation when it comes into being and not left in the hands of the private ship owners.

Shri Parulekar: My amendment has not been replied to by the hon. Minister. It definitely says....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When he has not replied....

Shri Raj Bahadur: I may say a word about it. On the grounds which the hon. Minister has just now stated, we find it difficult to reserve 50 per cent for the public sector. On the same ground we can say that it will be very unwise for us to exclude the private sector completely from the benefit of this Fund. We have got private companies functioning and operating and we should not like to discriminate against them. This amendment will be discriminatory against those private sector companies. The Fund is meant for both.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put all the amendments to the vote of the House.

The amendments Nos. 240, 256, 47, 195, 86 and 39 were put and negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 16 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 16 was added to the Bill.

190-A LSD—6.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We have spent about an hour and a half today and we could cover only 16 clauses. As the hon. Speaker declared that he would apply the guillotine at 15.15 hours, would hon. Members like that only another 16 clauses be covered and then a guillotine be applied? I think we should run at a speed with which we might at least discuss those clauses which are necessary.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: There are only a few clauses.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We might discuss clauses 17 to 149 together and then I put the other clauses one after the other. Will that be all right? Half an hour might be given to these clauses.

An Hon. Member: Clause 21.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Clause 21 will be covered here.

Clauses 17 to 149

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members who want to move amendments to this group of clauses may do so now.

Pandit K. C. Sharma (Hapur): I beg to move:

Page 36, line 18,—

for "at least seventy-five per cent." substitute "seventy-five per cent or such other percentage as the Government may direct by notification in the Official Gazette".
(88)

Shri Raghunath Singh: I beg to move:

Page 36, line 13,—

omit "at least". (40)

Page 36, line 13,—

after "per cent." insert—

"or such other percentage as Government may allow from time to time". (41)

Shri Mohammed Imam (Chital-drug): I beg to move:

Page 36, line 13,—

for "at least seventy-five per cent." substitute "such percentage, as the Government may allow from time to time by notification in the Official Gazette". (87)

Shri Parulekar: I beg to move:

Page 36, line 13,—

for "at least seventy-five per cent" substitute "all". (48)

Page 36,—

for line 15, substitute "all the". (49)

Page 36,—

after line 23, add—

"(vi) the master of the ship is an Indian citizen." (50)

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

Page 36, line 12,—

add at the end—

"and the meetings of the Board of such company are normally held at any place in India". (74)

Page 36, line 13,—

for "seventy-five" substitute "sixty-six and two-thirds." (75)

Page 36,—

after line 14, add—

"Provided that for the purposes of sub-clause (ii) above, a transfer or alienation of interest in the equity capital held by a citizen in India, whether by way of mortgage, hypothecation, gift, bequest, lien, charge, sale or otherwise, or by operation of law, to a non-Indian national shall be deemed to be a transfer of ownership in the equity capital so transferred or alienated:

Provided further that equity capital or any interest therein, standing in the name of a proved benamidar shall be deemed to be a transfer of such equity capital or interest therein to the person for whom the benamidar holds." (76)

Page 39,—

after line 33, add—

"Provided that on application by an owner of a ship, the register shall furnish to him as many photostat copies of the documents mentioned in section this, as he may desire, duly certified by the registrar, on payment of actual costs thereof." (77)

Page 43,—

for lines 11 to 14, substitute—

"(2) The Central Government may if it considers it necessary or expedient so to do for the purpose of conserving the tonnage of Indian shipping or in the interest of developing Indian shipping refuse to give its approval to any such transfer or acquisition." (78)

Page 44,—

after line 19, insert—

"44. Every person becoming entitled howsoever to ownership or share of, or interest, in any Indian ship, and any shipping company owner or part-owner of an Indian ship who has notice of such other person becoming so entitled, shall within one month of such person becoming entitled, or of such notice, as the case may be, communicate in writing to the registrar, all essential particulars of such ownership, share or interest." (79)

Page 44,—

after line 28, add—

“Provided that the High Court shall, in making such order, direct that the first option of purchase shall be offered, in case of a share or interest in the ship, to other owners of shares who are Indian citizens, at a reasonable valuation of such share or interest.” (80)

Page 45, lines 32 and 33,

for “is recorded in the register book and not according to the date of each mortgage itself.” substitute—

“is registered under the Indian Registration Act”. (81)

Page 49, lines 24 to 27,—

omit “unless the assumption of Indian character has been made (the burden of proving which shall lie on him) for the purpose of escaping capture by the enemy or by a foreign ship of war in the exercise of some belligerent right.” (82)

Page 83,—

for lines 14 to 26, substitute—

“(1) If a seaman having signed an agreement is discharged otherwise than in accordance with the terms thereof, without fault on his part justifying the discharge and without his consent, he shall be entitled to receive from the master, owner or agent, in addition to any wages he may have earned, as due compensation for the damage caused to him by the discharge:—

(a) in the case of a seaman who has been discharged before the commencement of a voyage, one month's wages; and

(b) in the case of a seaman who has been discharged after the commencement of a voyage, full wages for the balance of the period of his agreement.” (176)

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

Page 36, line 13,—

for “at least seventy-five per cent of the” substitute “the entire”. (178)

Page 36,—

omit lines 15 to 23. (179)

Page 36, line 25,—

for “fifteen” substitute “thirty” (257)

Shri Jadhav: I beg to move:

Page 36,—

omit lines 15 to 23. (154)

Page 36,—

after line 23, add—

“(c) the Shipping Corporation of India.” (155)

Page 43,—

for clause 42, substitute—

“42. No person shall transfer or acquire any Indian ship or any share of interest therein:

Provided that if a person or company wants to transfer any Indian ship it shall be taken by the Shipping Corporation of India and, as far as possible, new ships shall be acquired by the Corporation only.” (156)

Shri Tangamani: I beg to move:

Page 36, line 39.—

for “and Madras” substitute “Madras, Cochin and Visakapatnam”. (42)

Shri Tangamani: I beg to move:

Page 73,—

omit line 23. (91)

Page 83,—

for lines 16 to 28 substitute—

“shall be entitled to receive from the master, owner or agent, the wages for the period for which the agreement is signed.” (92)

Shri Balasahab Patil: I beg to move:

Page 43, line 7,—

after “acquire” insert “by sale” (197)

Page 45, line 11,—

after “consideration” insert—

“in favour of person or body of persons by whatever name designated who satisfies the conditions of section 21”. (198)

Shri L. Achaw Singh (Inner Manipur): I beg to move:

Page 36,—

for clause 21, substitute—

“21. For the purposes of this Act, a ship shall not be deemed to be an Indian ship unless owned wholly by the Government of India or any Indian citizens or any corporate body all of whose share-holders and directors are Indian subjects.” (173)

Shri Ghosal (Uluberia): I beg to move:

Page 59,—

after line 12, insert—

“88A. If the manning scale falls short of the prescribed number at any port other than the port of engagement due to death, discharge, illness etc., the short fall shall be made up at the very next port of calling.” (20)

Page 59,—

after line 26, add—

“(f) to enquire into the complaint of any seaman as to the violation of any term of the agreement made with the crew by the master and to make his recommendation thereon.” (21)

Page 64, line 26,—

add at the end—

“along with the weekly working hours.” (22)

Page 64, line 31,—

after “capacity” insert—

“with specific nature of work”. (23)

Page 81, lines 16 to 18,—

for “either at the time at which he commences work or at the time specified in the agreement for his commencement of work or presence on board, whichever first happens” substitute “from 24 hours after he is selected at the Muster including victual charges at the rate of Rs. 3 per day.” (24)

Sardar Iqbal Singh: I beg to move:

Page 36, line 13,—

for “seventy-five” substitute “sixty.” (131)

Shri Nath Pal: I beg to move:

Page 55,—

after line 23, add—

“Provided that notwithstanding anything contained in clause (16) of section 3, the present officers serving on ships of tonnages higher than three thousand g-r-t which are plying in ‘home-trade’ waters, shall not be affected in their status by the regulations governing certificates of competency.” (261)

I beg to move Amendment No. 163 to clause 150.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We are only taking up to clause 149 only.

Shri Nath Pal: I beg your pardon, Sir. I beg to move:

Page 76,—

(i) line 28, omit "either"; and

(ii) line 29, for "or to" substitute "and to". (157)

Page 77, line 20,—

for "four days" substitute—

"forty-eight hours".

Page 77, line 20,—

after "days" insert—

"which four days shall be included in the wage payment." (159)

Page 80,—

after line 17, add—

"(1A). A seaman may require that a stipulation be inserted in the agreement for the allotment, by means of an allotment note, of all the balance of his monthly wages in favour of his account in an Indian Bank and the owner, master or agent of the ship shall remit the balance of his monthly wages to such bank account from month to month." (160)

Page 83, lines 19 to 22,—

omit "such sum as the shipping master may fix having regard to the circumstances relating to the discharge:

Provided that the compensation so payable shall not exceed." (161)

Page 83, line 26,—

for "three months' wages" substitute—

"full wages for the balance of the period of his agreement." (162)

Shrimati Ila Palchowdhuri: I beg to move:

Page 38,

after line 2, add—

"(3) The surveyor before granting a certificate referred to in sub-section (2) shall satisfy himself as to satisfactory conditions of accommodation for the crew of the ship." (138)

Page 43,—

after line 23, add—

"Provided that in the case of a complete transfer of an Indian ship or of entire interests therein by one party to another no instrument of transfer shall be deemed to be complete and effective unless the registrar has satisfied himself that all arrears due to the ship's ratings and officers have been duly paid off by the transferor." (139)

Page 75, line 6,—

for "forty-eight hours" substitute "fifteen days". (140)

Page 76,—

after line 37, add—

"Provided that no seaman shall be disrated by the master of the ship unless the shipping master at the port of engagement has gone into the whole case and given his final decision." (141)

Page 79,—

for lines 4 to 6, substitute—

"(3) An award made by a shipping master under this section shall have the same force as if it was an order of a court of law." (142)

Shri R. D. Misra: I beg to move:

Page 36, line 13,—

for "at least seventy-five per cent." substitute "seventy-five per cent. or such other percentage as the Government may direct by notification in the Official Gazette." (60)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is the same as amendment No. 88, moved.

Shri Nardeo Saatak: Sir, I beg to move my amendment No. 175.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is the same as amendment No. 89, moved.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I would be glad if you kindly say the numbers again.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A list will be given to him.

Shri Nath Pai: Am I, Sir, to speak on all my amendments simultaneously or clause by clause?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: On all the amendments up to clause 149.

Shri Nath Pai: Sir, we have heard heated arguments regarding the percentage of foreign and Indian capital. To ensure that we have a very healthy shipping industry in this country, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister, which I am sure his Advisers must have drawn, to the provisions of the British Navigation Act of Cromwell. It is very pertinent how the British, 300 years ago, to protect their vested interests....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members will confine their remarks to five minutes. At 2.30, I must close this.

Shri Nath Pai: I should like to point out only this that in that Bill passed 300 years ago, the British Government thought it fit to develop the British shipping industry not by concentrating on such things as capital, which is very important, not the factory where it was manufactured, but by ensuring that it served the vital interests of Britain in all emergencies. This was the provision which was incorporated in this Act:

"...be imported into England, Ireland or the American colonies except in British built ships, owned by British subjects and of which the Captain and not less than seventy-five per cent of the crew, were British subjects."

Too much has been said about capital contribution, about the bottoms, their weight and all those things. But the very vital factor is the human element, the crew and the seamen which matters very much. It does not matter whose the ship is. If we have the entire crew Indian, in an emergency we can rely on that. That is what matters. The danger today has arisen not because the share capital is owned by somebody. I am a hundred-percenter as a previous speaker from my party said. I want to emphasise this particular element which has been overlooked. There is no provision to say that the crew is essential. There is no provision to see that we make adequate provision for the quick training of the crew so that quickly they take over the new ships that are coming. From that point of view I am sorry there has been a very sad omission. My amendments are confined to this aspect. I hope the hon. Minister will give a serious reply to this. More important than 75 per cent and 25 per cent capital, is, who are the crew and how quickly and with what strength our crew becomes exclusively Indian.

I shall take a very simple amendment, No. 261, to clause 78. This arises out of what we have already passed. On page 25, the definition of "home-trade ship" has been given as:

"a ship not exceeding three thousand tons gross which is employed in trading from any port or place in India to any other port or place on the continent of India...."

This has been subsequently suitably amended. I am moving an amendment, with which there cannot be any disagreement, which tries to protect the present office bearers. Today on our coast, there are many ships whose tonnage is more than 3,000

toas. If the present clause is allowed, they will be sadly affected for no fault on their part. We are, therefore, moving this amendment. This is an assurance which was given to us earlier and we ask for its acceptance. I think you will give sympathetic consideration to this amendment which says:

after line 23, add—

"Provided that notwithstanding anything contained in clause (16) of section 3, the present officers serving on ships of tonnages higher than three thousand g.r.t. which are plying in 'home-trade' waters, shall not be affected in their status by the regulations governing certificates of competency."

All that this amendment seeks to achieve is to see that the interests of these men are protected.

After dealing with this, I want to draw his attention very quickly within the few minutes which you have allowed to some other amendments. First is amendment No. 157 to clause 125:

Page 76,

- (i) line 28, omit "either"; and
- (ii) line 29, for "or to" substitute "and to".

There cannot be any dispute about this. This makes it possible that he also gets a copy.

The next is amendment No. 158 in which we demand the substitution of 48 hours for the existing four day. In asking this I again plead with you that this is what the Payment of Wages Act has provided for. It is 48 hours, not 4 days, as the Bill provides. I am merely reproducing what is provided in the Payment of Wages Act. There is no reason why the employees should be made to wait for four days to get their wages. If you are going to make them wait,

those four days' wages should be included when he is paid. This is the substance: either pay within 48 hours as the Payment of Wages Act demands or if you want him to wait for four days, see that those four days are included. This is the purport. I do not wish to say much about amendment No. 159.

Regarding clause 136, in amendment No. 160 we seek to add that a seaman may require that a stipulation be inserted in the agreement. This is a very innocuous one. It only ensures that he takes his money as, very often, they are illiterates. This is the purport of this amendment.

Then, coming to clause 143, you have these words 'such sum as the shipping master may fix having regard to the circumstances relating to the discharge: "Provided that, the compensation so payable shall not exceed—". I am sorry—I have been asked to deal with many things at a time. I want these words to be deleted. At page 83 of the Bill, in clause 143, after the word "discharge", I want to omit the following:

"such sum as the shipping master may fix having regard to the circumstances relating to the discharge:

Provided that the compensation so payable shall not exceed—"

14 hrs.

This gives unnecessarily a power for which there is very often justification to believe that it is abused. Therefore we delete this and say after "discharge":

"in the case of a seaman who has been discharged before the commencement of a voyage, one month's wages".

When you define this, why do you give him the power? You have defined in the following line what wages should be paid.

[Shri Nath Pai]

And in (b) we want it to read like this :

"full wages for the balance of the period of his agreement".

instead of "three months' wages". Equity and fairplay demand that he gets the full balance of what is due to him, and there is nothing wrong in this also.

I think I have finished my five minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Seven.

Shri Nath Pai: I rely on his fair-play in making up his mind not to reject the amendments in the habitual way they are rejected because they originate from these Benches.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Because Shri Parulekar was absent, I called him. One of them may speak.

Shri Warier: This is the second crucial clause in the Bill in regard to the constitution of the merchant marine in India.

Yesterday the hon. Minister was pleased to remark highly of our proud privilege to have our Indian national shipping and all those things, but the policy envisaged by the Government in the 1947 declaration must be stuck to. Should we stick to it or not? That is also a crucial question, because, in that policy statement, as I stated before, it is clearly stated that the objective is cent per cent. How we can reach that cent per cent is a question which should be considered.

Yesterday when the hon. Minister was speaking, he was so self-confident about our having full and final control of our shipping. I also wish to share his self-confidence, but things have happened otherwise. This House actually is not possessed with all the relevant papers and what all

have passed outside this House. Many Members might be in possession. Actually there are questions involved in this. We cannot be in a situation analogous to Britain, U.S.A., or for the matter of that Italy because they have been independent maritime countries, while we were depending on the Britishers for our entire shipping. We had to face cut-throat competition from the Britishers. In 1932 when there was the Gandhi-Irwin Agreement, one of the main things in that agreement was about coastal shipping. Why? Because there was cut-throat competition; and that was the main reason why our shipping industry did not develop. It is a story known to all of us. So, in that light, in shipping our situation is not analogous or comparable to U.K., U.S.A., or any other maritime country.

The point is that we are even now facing competition, and in a certain dependant stages especially on the British. And this has to be noted particularly now, that there is a recession. If we analyse the shipping industry's position now in the U.K., we will understand why so many people outside at least are so much eager to raise this proportion from 25-75 to 60-40 or 51-49.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member will realise that this point has been very elaborately discussed in the first stage.

Shri Warier: Yes, it has been discussed, but it is the real crux of the whole Bill. So, however much we talk, unless we gain this point of cent per cent for Indian shipping, it is no use.

Yesterday the hon. Minister said that the company law is there, and other things are there, but it is not only to enable the ships already on the Indian register automatically to be included. There might be a few shares with outsiders, and the

hon. Minister was taking pains to explain that this is only to include those ships. Those ships are already included under the proviso to clause 22. There is provision for that. So, it is not only for the inclusion of existing ships owned partly by others as the hon. Minister took so much pains to explain. Actually in this ratio of 25-75 there is some substance, some economic substance, and it is a dangerous thing that we allow it. We must have cent per cent.

Shri Jadhav: My amendments read thus :

Page 36, line 13,—

for "at least seventy-five per cent." substitute "all".

Page 36, omit lines 15 to 23.

Page 36, after line 23, add—

"(c) the Shipping Corporation of India."

Page 43, for clause 42, substitute—

"42. No person shall transfer or acquire any Indian ship or any share or interest therein :

Provided that if a person or company wants to transfer any Indian ship it shall be taken by the Shipping Corporation of India and as far as possible new ships shall be acquired by the Corporation only."

In support of my amendments I have to add a few words. An Indian ship has been defined in the Bill and our Register is also there, but I want to see that the ultimate control of the management must be in the hands of Indian nationals. At the same time, the ships should be manned by our personnel. As the majority of the cargo sent from India or coming to India is on account of the Government, it is necessary that the ship should have funds cent per cent from India. Then, if there is some emergency, it is necessary that all the capital should be ours. **Shri M. A.**

Master has said in his evidence that it is a historical truth that in times of emergency your sympathies will lie with the people of the country to which you belong. This fact is very pertinent and it must be taken into consideration, as also the fact that it is also a key industry. It is high time the whole capital is made Indian.

My amendment 156 is self-explanatory.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: My amendments read thus:

Page 36, line 12, add at the end—

"and the meetings of the Board of such company are normally held at any place in India."

Page 36, line 13,—

for "seventy-five" substitute "sixty-six and two-thirds".

Page 36, after line 14, add—

"Provided that for the purposes of sub-clause (ii) above, a transfer or alienation of interest in the equity capital held by a citizen of India, whether by way of mortgage, hypothecation, gift, bequest, lien, charge, sale or otherwise, or by operation of law, to a non-Indian national shall be deemed to be a transfer of ownership in the equity capital so transferred or alienated:

Provided further that equity capital or any interest therein, standing in the name of a proved benamidar shall be deemed to be a transfer of such equity capital or interest therein to the person for whom the benamidar holds."

My amendments relate to clause 21. The purpose is to fix the ratio at two-thirds indigenous capital and one-third foreign capital. I do not agree with the hon. Minister in charge of the Bill who said that this is merely a

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

nominal ratio that is being fixed, and that no fool of a foreign capitalist is going to invest here. If the return from the shipping industry in India pays, then foreign capital will invariably flow in here, and that has to be taken into consideration. At the same time, my point is to see that the ratio reserved for the foreign capital is not utilised for other purposes of increasing the ratio, for instance, by means of mortgages and other methods.

Suppose foreign capital is given one-third ratio, and then the foreigners acquire more shares in the shipping concern by way of mortgage, then, with the change of ownership, the effective control will pass on to the foreigner. Therefore, I have put down one additional amendment, namely amendment No. 76, to the effect that:

"Provided that, for the purposes of sub-clause (ii) above, a transfer or alienation of interest in the equity capital held by a citizen of India, whether by way of mortgage, hypothecation, gift, bequest, lien, charge, sale or otherwise, or by operation of law, to a non-Indian national shall be deemed to be a transfer of ownership in the equity capital so transferred or alienated:"

Unless this is put in, it will be quite possible through the back-door for foreign equity capital to get an increased share.

The second proviso which I seek to put in is:

"Provided further that equity capital or any interest therein, standing in the name of a proved *benamidar* shall be deemed to be a transfer of such equity capital or interest therein to the person for whom the *benamidar* holds."

It is possible for a foreigner to say that Mr. Bharucha is the holder of the equity capital, whereas I may be

merely a *benamidar* and an absolute tool in the hands of the foreign capitalist.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): God forbid.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: If a *benamidar* is proved under the Bill even then you cannot challenge it. Therefore, in order to fill up those loopholes it is necessary that these two provisos must be inserted in the Bill.

Coming to clause 32, certain documents are required in original to be submitted by the shipowners to the Registrar, and they remain with the Registrar. Certain documents constitute title-deeds and if they are to remain with the Registrar, there must be some provision made for certified photostat copies to be given to the shipowners. So, my amendment, namely amendment No. 77, says:

"Provided that on application by an owner of a ship, the registrar shall furnish to him as many photostat copies of the documents mentioned in this section, as he may desire, duly certified by the registrar, on payment of actual costs thereof."

I now come to amendment No. 78 to clause 42. Clause 42 is an absolute misprint in the Joint Committee's Report. It reads this way:

"Every such instrument shall be entered in the register book expedient so to do....."

'expedient so to do' is absolutely meaningless. Obviously, some lines have been omitted, or some lines have been massed up. Therefore, I have recast it as follows:

"The Central Government may if it considers it necessary or expedient so to do for the purpose of conserving the tonnage of Indian shipping or in the interest of developing Indian shipping re-

fuse to give its approval to any such transfer or acquisition.”.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I understand that some corrigendum has been issued, so far as this is concerned.

Shri Nanshir Bharucha: It reads:

At page 43, for line 11, read:

“(2) The Central Government may, if it considers it necessary or”.

That is my amendment.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That corrigendum has already been issued.

Shri Nanshir Bharucha: There are so many corrigenda issued for everything that though I am keeping track of the corrigenda, I have not been able to find it quickly. The corrigendum reads:

“The Central Government may, if it considers it necessary....”

Even then, it does not read properly. You will have to issue perhaps a corrigendum to a corrigendum. I do not think that these words “The Central Government may, if it considers it necessary” fit in well. Let Government consider this. The whole thing has been misprinted. I am talking of clause 42 which reads:

“Every such instrument shall be entered in the register book....”

That is how it begins. The corrigendum reads:

“For line 11, read: “The Central Government may, if it considers it necessary or....”

Anyway, I have put it that way.

Coming to amendment No. 79, I seek to insert a new clause 44-A for giving of notice in case any person becomes entitled to any interest, and the new clause reads thus:

“Every person becoming entitled howsoever to ownership or

share of, or interest in, any Indian ship, and any shipping company owner or part-owner of an Indian ship who has notice of such other person becoming so entitled, shall, within one month of such person becoming entitled, or of such notice, as the case may be, communicate in writing to the registrar, all essential particulars of such ownership, share or interest.”.

This clause has been sought to be put in to prevent any back-door increase of foreign capital.

Then, I have got amendment No. 80 to clause 45. Here, I want to add the following proviso:

“Provided that the High Court shall, in making such order, direct that the first option of purchase shall be offered, in case of a share or interest in the ship, to other owners of shares who are Indian citizens, at a reasonable valuation of such share or interest.”

Clause 45 relates to order by the High Court for sale, where a ship has ceased to be an Indian ship. Supposing, by operation of law, the foreign capital somehow or other is increased, then the High Court's order can say that the ship should be sold. What would happen then is this. Supposing I am three-fourths owner of the ship, and Mr. X is one-fourth owner, and his share is increased by a small percentage, then the result is that the High Court may order that the whole ship should be sold; there might be a distress sale, and I may suffer. When the High Court orders the sale of the ship, the Indian holders of that ship will undoubtedly suffer for no fault of theirs if a distress sale of the ship takes place. Therefore, I have put in this amendment that the first option must be given to the Indian owner of that ship to buy up the ship at a valuation to be fixed. That is the intention of this amendment.

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

Amendment No. 82 to clause 64 is a minor amendment on which I shall not take up the time of the House. Amendment No. 103 is also a minor amendment. I leave it to the care of the hon. Minister.

These are the amendments that I have moved, but I shall certainly invite the attention of the hon. Minister to see that even if the 25 per cent is kept, it is not increased by backdoor, and, therefore, there must be some sort of control over mortgages and other transactions, because mortgage does not necessarily mean transfer of ownership—the ownership remains with the Indian citizen—but the result will be that in name the capital will be Indian while actually it will be foreign.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, Shri Aurobindo Ghosal.

Shri Mahanty (Dhenkanal) rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has Shri Mahanty also some amendments

Shri Mahanty: Yes, I have amendment No. 59.

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: My first amendment is amendment No. 20. Clause 88 in the Bill empowers the Central Government to make rules for the prescription of the minimum manning scale of seamen for the different ships. We have received complaints, when we went to Bombay and Calcutta, from the seamen that the shipowners very often want to run their ships with depleted staff. When the Central Government are being empowered to prescribe the minimum manning staff, there should also be a provision that if at any place the manning scale falls short, that should be made up at the next port of calling. So, I have moved this amendment which reads:

"88A. If the manning scale falls short of the prescribed number at any port other than the port of

engagement due to death, discharge, illness etc., the shortfall shall be made up at the very next port of calling."

If there is no seaman available in that port, then there is no compulsion, but at least the provision should be there so that the shipowner may not run his ship with depleted staff.

My next amendment is amendment No. 21 to clause 89, which deals with the duties of shipping masters. Under this clause, shipping masters are given power to hear complaints from seamen. But if there is any complaint regarding violation of any term of the agreement between the seaman and shipowners, then there is no provision. My amendment seeks to provide that if there is any such violation and the seaman also complains, then the shipping master should be empowered to hear that grievance.

Then, I have got amendment No. 22 which seeks to amend clause 101. I want to provide that in the agreement itself, the weekly working hours should be mentioned. We have received several complaints; and it is a practical difficulty also that because they are on the ship, they are considered as whole-time servants, and they are to work even for 24 hours a day. Therefore, whatever might be the use, it should be mentioned in the agreement clearly so that the seamen can understand that they have to work only for the specified period. So I have brought in this amendment to the effect that the agreement should have stated in it the working hours.

As regards the other amendment, to the same clause, I want to be stated after 'capacity' in item(e) of sub-clause (2) of clause 101, 'with specific nature of work'. I say this because we have heard that seamen whose job has not been specified are asked to do work from sweeping of

the deck board to cooking in the kitchen for the Master. Therefore, we should specifically state the job in order to enable him to know what he is expected to do. So this should also be stated in the body of the agreement.

My amendment No. 24 is to clause 138. Clause 138 says:

"A seaman's right to wages and provisions shall be taken to begin either at the time at which he commences work or at the time specified in the agreement for his commencement of work or presence on board, whichever first happens".

I submit that for "either at the time.. first happens", we should substitute "from 24 hours after he is selected at the Muster including victual charges at the rate of Rs. 3 per day", because as soon as he signs off, he cannot take any other job. Therefore, if he is under contract, he is entitled to the victual allowance. This is actually given also. So I see no reason why it should not be incorporated in the body of the Bill.

Shri Mahanty: I beg to move:

Page 36.—for clause 21, substitute—

"21. For the purposes of this Act, a ship shall not be deemed to be an Indian ship unless owned wholly by the Government of India or any of the States of the Indian Union, or any Corporation or Corporations established under these authorities".

(50)

I do not know how this amendment will commend itself to the hon. Minister in charge of the Bill. I have not much illusion about it either. But I have moved it as an act of faith and my only purpose is to invite the attention of this House in general and that of the hon. Minister in particular to the urgent need of nationalising

the shipping industry. It is well known that two or three houses have practically monopolised the overseas trade in Indian shipping. For them the cargo is made readily available by the Government of India. When we look to their resources, they are sustained by the tax-payers' money. If we turn to the Scindias, the pioneering house in Indian shipping, on 30th June 1957 this total paid-up capital was Rs. 1138.57 lakhs including premiums on shares and debentures. The Government of India have granted them a loan of Rs. 1120.22 lakhs. When we come to the Indian Steamship Company, the pattern is not much different. I do not wish to go over the capital structure of the various companies here. I have neither the time nor the intention. I am only citing this as an illustration, as to how these Indian shipping companies, in the name of cheap patriotism, have been kept sustained by the Indian tax-payers' money. The Government of India are providing them with ready made cargo. Their shipping line is being kept sustained by the Indian tax-payers' money.

Therefore, from the resources point of view, there is every reason why these shipping companies should be nationalised.

Shrimati Ha Palchowdhuri: May I just say that patriotism is never cheap?

Shri Mahanty: Patriotism does not mean making money. Patriotism means something else, losing money for an ideal, for a cause.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon (Mukandapuram): Patriotism brings money!

Shri Mahanty: I fail to understand this type of patriotism.

Shri Nath Pai: They have a variety of patriotisms.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This limited time should not be used for a discussion on patriotism.

Shri Mahanty: The sooner we are saved from this type of patriotism, the better for the country and for the taxpayers. Let us not have misguided notions about patriotism.

Apart from the aspects of the resources of these companies and the cargo—as I said, the Government of India, the nation at large, is providing them with ready-made cargo—when we come to the aspects of the technical know-how, we find that it is the Government of India who are sponsoring marine colleges for training of the technical personnel for Indian shipping.

All these considerations apart, there are two most important reasons. In this country, in the name of a socialist pattern of society, we have nationalised even goods trucks—goods transport. We have nationalised road transport, we have nationalised air transport—of course, we have nationalised rail transport. May we know why ship transport should not be nationalised? What overriding reasons are in favour of the Indian shippers that they should not be touched, particularly when they have neither the resources nor the technical know-how.

Then between 1955-56 and 1958-59, these shipping companies have been sanctioned loans to the extent of Rs. 29.69 crores, out of which they have lifted so far only Rs. 18.48 crores because they are not organised on a competent basis to utilise this whole loan. If this money had gone to our shipping corporations in the public sector, they could certainly have much improved upon their existing conditions.

There is another consideration. As is well known, today our Indian marine defence also consists of our Indian merchant navy.

Therefore, from all these points of view, there is a very strong case why Indian shipping should be nationalis-

ed. I hope that even though my amendment is not acceptable to the hon. Minister, he will at least let us know the reasons which stand in the way of nationalising the Indian shipping industry.

Shri Tangamani: My first amendment is No. 42. It is a very formal amendment which seeks to mention five out of the six major ports in clause 23. The other two amendments, Nos. 91 and 92, deal with conditions of labour. The points have been touched upon partly by Shri Nath Pai also.

Clause 130 (1) says:

“When a seaman is discharged from a ship in India, the master shall furnish to the shipping master before whom the discharge is made a report in the prescribed form stating—the quality of the work of the seaman”.

I want “the quality of the work of the seaman” to be deleted because this is a very dangerous provision, when the seaman wants to get employment in other ships.

The other amendment is No. 92 to clause 143. This is similar to what Shri Nath Pai has stated. Where a person has been discharged, he is entitled to the full wages due to him; it should not be left to the discretion of the shipping master.

I would also like to lend my support to amendment No. 22 moved by Shri Aurobindo Ghosal to clause 161 which deals with the terms of agreement between the shipping company and the seaman. If we go through all the terms which have been mentioned, nowhere do we find the hours of work stipulated. There is a very vague reference:

“stipulations relating to such other matters as may be prescribed”.

Now we have accepted an 8-hour day under the Factories Act. In certain industries, even this is being suggested to be reduced. So there must be a specific stipulation in the terms of the agreement about hours of work and the hours of work must be eight-hour day or 48-hour week. Unless this is done, I am afraid, as I mentioned during the first reading itself, we should be recruiting more in the nature of slave trade.

If this is not acceptable, at least the amendment of Shri Ghosal for a new clause 189A, when the time comes for it, should be taken into consideration because nowhere do we find the hours of work for seaman and nowhere do we find the question of social security schemes for the seaman like the Employees State Insurance Scheme or the provident fund mentioned as in the case of other workmen in the country. I request that falling anything else, this amendment No. 22 to clause 127 may be accepted.

Shri Amar: Sir, I have moved my amendment that in page 36, line 25, for the figure 15 substitute 30.

This amendment is meant for country craft vessels because there are so many such vessels which are running for about 30 to 50 miles and they are running with 2, 4 or 6 seaman. Their income is very limited and after the passing of this Bill it would become very difficult for them to run their business. Therefore, this important question may be considered. The country craft and sailing vessel business is so ruined that they cannot maintain themselves without any government contribution. Government contribution is not given up till now but without the contribution it is impossible to run them. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to exempt these small sailing vessels and country craft up to 30 tons.

The most important thing is that many of the owners of the small sailing vessels are uneducated and they do not know what the law is and how to deal with it. The fear is that they will be harassed by the officers and it will spell the ruin of the small owners.

Shrimati Ila Falchoudhuri: My amendments are mainly for the welfare of the seaman. As my hon. friend, Shri Nath Pai has said, it is really the people who count on a ship. I would request the Government to see their way to accepting some of the amendments at least because they are innocuous.

By amendment No. 138 to clause 27, I say that it should be made clear in this clause that the surveyor before granting the certificate must ensure about the satisfactory conditions of crew accommodation because in the ships manned by Asian crews the arrangements for the accommodation of the crew is very often unsatisfactory. So, I hope the hon. Minister will accept this innocuous amendment because we must look to the welfare of the seamen.

With regard to amendment No. 140 to clause 122, I think it is very necessary. Instead of 48 hours of arrival of the ship it should be made within a fortnight after the incident of desertion or failing to join or hospitalisation has taken place. In almost all cases of failure to join or hospitalisation, the seamen are made to wait inordinately to receive the balance of their wages. If they have to wait till the Master comes, sometimes the ship may not touch the port of engagement at all. Therefore, to avoid harassments to seamen who are landed at foreign port or hospitals, a provision like the one suggested should be included. It does not alter the Bill in its content in any way.

With regard to amendment No. 141 to clause 126 about the disrating of seamen, we also have to be careful

[Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri]

because disrating is a serious punishment. It is liable, sometimes to be given vindictively. So, unless the Shipping Master is given the final authority to approve or disapprove it should not be done. The provision of this clause is likely to be badly used.

I now come to amendment 142. I think this sub-clause (3) has to be made clear. Here the Shipping Master's decision is intended to be recommendatory and if the owners do not accept his award or do not give effect to it, the aggrieved party will have to go to court. These poor seamen have neither the money nor the time to go to court. They cannot do this. The master's decision in this respect should have the validity of a court's decision. I hope the hon. Minister will find it in his heart to accept the amendment from the point of view of the welfare of seamen.

श्री १० इ० बिच : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस विधेयक के क्लॉज नम्बर २१ पर ६० नम्बर का मेरा जो अमेंडमेंट है वह इस तरीके से है :

Page 36, line 13,—

for "at least seventy-five per cent."

substitute "seventy-five per cent. or such other percentage as the Government may direct by notification in the Official Gazette".

वही अमेंडमेंट मेरे भाई श्री रघुनाथ सिंह ने दी थी और उस को कल हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब ने ज़रीब ज़रीब मंजूर कर लिया है। मेरे इस अमेंडमेंट को रखने का सिर्फ़ तात्पर्य यह है कि उस में यह बात बढ़ा दी जाय कि उस का नोटिफिकेशन आफिशिएस गज़ट में हो ताकि इन परसेंटेज के बारे में कहीं आफिस की गड़बड़ी की वजह से

कोई दूसरी चीज़ न हो जाय। यह मेरा बहुत मामूली सा अमेंडमेंट है और मैं समझता हूँ कि मिनिस्टर साहब इसे मंजूर कर लेंगे।

श्री नरदेव स्वामी : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं क्लॉज २१ पर अपना १७५ नम्बर का अमेंडमेंट मूव करता हूँ जोकि इस प्रकार है :

Page 36, line 13,—

for "seventy-five" substitute "sixty".

कल मंत्री महोदय ने अपने भाषण में भी कहा था और कल इस विधेयक पर यहाँ सदन में बर्बाबली उस में भी घनेक माननीय सदस्यों ने ६० और ५० परसेंटेज रखने का सुझाव दिया था और उस पर मंत्री महोदय ने भी यह कहा था कि यदि इस को करने की आवश्यकता पड़े तो उस को करने में भी कोई आपत्ति नहीं है परसेंटेज चाहे ५१: ४६ हो, ६६: ३३ और ३३: १३ हो अथवा ५५ और ४५ हो, रेशियो से कोई बहुत अन्तर नहीं पड़ता है अगर फ़ारेन सेयर कैपिटल क्रिकस करने के लिये हव सरकार को अधिकार दे दें। वैसे जो ६० और ५० का सुझाव दिया गया है यदि मंत्री महोदय इस को मान लें तो मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारी सिपिंग इंडस्ट्री के अन्दर काफ़ी तरक्की होगी क्योंकि फ़ारेन कैपिटल उस हानत में अधिक से अधिक आयेगा और हमारा जहाज़रानी का व्यवसाय काफ़ी उन्नति करेगा। मेरी अपनी इच्छा है कि माननीय मंत्री इस को स्वीकार कर लें और यह भी किया जा सकता है जैसाकि कल कुछ सदस्यों ने कहा और मंत्री महोदय ने भी कहा कि गवर्नमेंट को यह अधिकार दे दिया जाय कि इस परसेंटेज के मायके में आवश्यकतानुसार जैसा चाहे परिवर्तन कर सके परन्तु मेरा सुझाव यही है कि ६० और ५० का रेशियो मंजूर कर लिया जाय।

Shri Raghunath Singh rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Raghunath Singh has already said enough.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मेरा अमेंडमेंट है जिस पर कि मैं कुछ शब्द कहना चाहता हूँ ।

सरकार इकबाल सिंह : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय मचेंट शिपिंग बिल के क्लॉज २१ पर मेरा १३१ नम्बर का अमेंडमेंट है जोकि इस प्रकार है :

Page 36, line 13,—

for "seventy-five" substitute "sixty".

इस सम्बन्ध में श्री रघुनाथ सिंह ने जो अमेंडमेंट प्रभी दिया है उस का मैं समर्थन करता हूँ । हम कम्पनी के इस शेयर कैपिटल में फ़ारेन और इंडियन उन का क्या रेशियो हो, इस मामले में गवर्नमेंट के हाथ बांधना नहीं चाहते बल्कि उस के हाथ और मजबूत करना चाहते हैं ताकि अगर गवर्नमेंट समझे कि ७५ और २५ का रेशियो रखने से हिन्दुस्तान का जहाज़रानी व्यवसाय तरक्की करेगा तो वह उस को रख सकते हैं लेकिन अगर वह समझे कि इस परसेंटेज में कुछ बदलाव की ज़रूरत है और कम या ज्यादा करने की ज़रूरत है तो वह इस को कर सकते हैं । गवर्नमेंट को यह अधिकार दिया जाना चाहिये और हम वास्ते मैं श्री रघुनाथ सिंह के अमेंडमेंट का समर्थन करता हूँ ।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा इस विवेक के क्लॉज २१ पर २६२ नम्बर का अमेंडमेंट इस प्रकार है :

In page 36, after line 14, insert the following:—

"Provided that the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, alter such minimum percentage, and where the minimum percentage is so 100A LSD—7.

altered, the altered percentage shall, as from the date of the notification, be deemed to be substituted for the percentage specified in this clause." (262)

यह बड़े हर्ष का विषय है कि पाटिल साहब ने कल इस सिद्दात को स्वीकार किया और हम सब उन को इस के लिये धन्यवाद देते हैं कि हम लोगों ने स्टेटस को मॉटेन किया और १९४७ में जो गवर्नमेंट की पालिसी थी उसी पालिसी को आज हम स्वीकार करते हैं । १९४७ में जो सिद्दान्त था उस सिद्दान्त को आज स्वीकार किया जा रहा है । इस अमेंडमेंट के द्वारा सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट को यह अधिकार दिया जा रहा है कि अगर वह ज़रूरत महसूस करे तो आफिशियल गजट में नोटिफिकेशन कर के मिनिमम परसेंटेज को बदल सकती है । इस दृष्टि से यह समन्वयी संशोधन है और सब पार्टीज़ को इस से संतोष होना चाहिये । २५ परसेंटे से सरकार कम भी कर सकती है और ज्यादा भी कर सकती है जैसीकि आवश्यकता समझी जाय । जब यह शिपिंग ट्रेड मुल्क को सेकेन्ड लाइन आफ डिफेंस है तो उस के हाथ बांधने नहीं चाहियें उस के हाथ उन्मुक्त होने चाहियें और इस दृष्टि से मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह अमेंडमेंट मंज़ूर किया जाय ।

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur):
I second this, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We ought to be more serious; the time is running short. All the amendments are before the House.

Shri S. K. Patil: I am only referring to clause 21. The other clauses will be taken care of by my hon. colleague.

I have hardly anything to add to what I have said yesterday so far as participation of the foreign capital is concerned. But a new point has been raised by my hon. friend, Shri Bharucha that in the case of shares

[Shri S. K. Patil]

being mortgaged and that sort of thing, what should happen. His amendment is in that particular point and so it must be given a serious consideration. I have seen the other enactments of the Government of India in similar circumstances what they have done; whether they have taken care of the contingency, which my hon. friend has in mind.

I would say that this amendment would not serve any useful purpose but will merely complicate matters further. For the purpose of computing percentage of share, it is not necessary to go into the question whether shares are mortgaged, hypothecated, etc. The formula adopted in this clause has been adopted in some other Acts without the limitations now proposed. Section 617 of the Companies Act, 1956, defines "Government company" as a company in which not less than 51 per cent of the share capital is held by the Central Government or by any State Government. Similarly, the Explanation to section 5 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, recently passed by Parliament defines "Indian national" in relation to a public company as a company in which *inter alia* not less than 51 per cent of the share capital is held by persons who are citizens of India. Section 7 (e) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 also uses the expression "in the capital of which the appropriate Government has not less than 25 per cent share". As regards shares held *benami*, section 163 of the Companies Act does not recognise any trust in respect of shares.

I am merely pointing out that it is not particular to this enactment; there are other enactments of the Government of India where these percentages have been used and therefore we should differentiate and put another thing so far as this particular Bill is concerned.

Arguments were again advanced about 25 per cent and 75 per cent. My hon. friend Shri Mahanty, who does not seem to be here, combined one hundred per cent of the capital being held by the citizens of India with the nationalisation of shipping. These are two things apart. One hundred per cent capital might belong to the citizens of India but that does not mean that the company is nationalised in the sense we understand nationalisation. Therefore, combining these two things together does not produce any nationalisation at all. If this House really feels that at some stage shipping has got to be nationalised, it is another matter altogether. The House is competent to deal with it; it does not arise out of this particular thing. I do not want to repeat the arguments which I have advanced yesterday. These questions do not arise.

So far as the amendment of my hon. friend, Shri Raghunath Singh is concerned, there is no question of my acceptance or non-acceptance. I am merely saying that the Government is empowered. It is empowered both ways. It is not merely to raise the percentage of non-Indian—I do not say foreign—participation from 25 per cent to onwards but if the Government finds that even this 25 per cent should not be had, it can reduce it. Under the scheme that is contemplated here, one-fourth of the directors may be those who represent the one-fourth capital. Therefore, if we do not want any non-Indian to sit as a member of the directorate or to have any other part anywhere else, possibly the Government itself will come to that conclusion that there should not be this 25 per cent. If that works that way, Government should be empowered not merely to raise that but even to lower it in order that the purpose of this Bill could be adequately met. So, we have said that we have no hesitation in accepting that particular amendment.....

Shri Tangamani: It will work the other way also.

Shri S. K. Patil: Therefore, I have said that it is loose enough. That amendment says that Government by notification may, if necessary, either raise or lower the percentage. I have made it abundantly clear. My hon. friend Shri Tangamani should have no apprehension in his mind, that was the whole substance of my speech yesterday. It was just to point out that so far as shipping is concerned, we do not welcome any non-Indian capital. Of course we are talking of our difficulties of foreign exchange. They are thinking that these five or ten years' period is the whole history of India. We may be in difficulties during these years and possibly we may have to do something but that does not mean that we are really limiting the possibilities of our shipping only for the difficulties that we have got during these ten or more years.

My hon. colleague will reply to what Shri Nath Pai has said. He has said that it is not enough that the capital is 75: 25; we should attend to the manning of the ship. I wholeheartedly agree with him. He possibly does not know that when we talk of these percentage of the sailors etc. they are not of the Indian ships. These sailors are mostly taken by the foreign ships and not our ships. That is what we mentioned. I go whole-hog with him in what he said about, manning the ships, about the training facilities, etc. That is our purpose. Here it does not contain 100 per cent. or everything that has got to be done. When the National Shipping Board comes into existence, it will be for that Board to lay down policy which will be of a permanent type and that is why these things have not been covered in this Bill.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Sir, I shall begin with the point raised by Shri Nath Pai about 100 per cent. manning of our ships. I can assure him that clauses 77 and 99 provide for this.

Clause 77 provides that an officer will not be deemed to be duly certificated under this Act unless he holds a certificate of a grade appropriate to his station in the ship or of a higher grade granted in accordance with this Act. He should have an Indian certificate or a certificate recognised by Indian Government. Clause 99 says that only seamen in possession of such certificates shall be engaged under this Bill. Both these provisions give adequate power to the Government to regulate or stop the employment of foreigners in Indian ships.

The next point raised by Shri Nath Pai was in regard to the "Home-trade ships". I refer to his amendment No. 261. I hope he will agree with us that the exemption powers given to the Director-General will suffice for this purpose. We shall see that no seaman or officer he has in view shall suffer on that account.

He referred to clause 129 and wants that all the payments should be made by the shipowners in 48 hours. Perhaps he forgets that this point was thoroughly thrashed out in the Joint Committee and it was a unanimous settlement that we came to in regard to this time of four days. Previously the provision was five days, and we came down to four days. I think when we have come to a compromise, a unanimous compromise on that particular point, and he was also a party to it, we should not go back on that.

Then I come to clause 143(1). I think it would be a very unjust principle if we make no discrimination between seaman discharged before the commencement of a voyage and seaman discharged after the commencement of a voyage. The provision now is that it will be one month's wages in the case of seaman discharged before the commencement of a voyage and three months' wages in the case of seaman discharged after the com-

[Shri S. K. Patil]

mencement of a voyage. I think that discrimination is necessary.

I will now take up the amendment of Shri Naushir Bharucha to clause 32. I only want to point out that there is also another provision in clause 72(1) under which certified copies of entries in the book can be obtained. It may not be possible or economical to make arrangements for photostat copies. The provision for making out and giving copies is already there, and I think that should suffice.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I was talking about copies of the title deeds which the shipowners may have to surrender. You are only referring to the entries in the book.

Shri Raj Bahadur: If he meant the title deeds and agreements, they are voluminous and lengthy documents, and I do not think it would be possible for us to make photostat copies thereof either.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Ordinary agreements are being photostated.

Shri Raj Bahadur: He also said that a new clause 44A should be added. I think I may refer him to clause 54 which takes care of the point that he wants to cover or provide for by his amendment. That clause deals with transmission of interest in mortgage in certain circumstances. I think that covers the point that he wants to achieve through his amendment.

Hon. Members Shri Ghosal says that the crew should be completed at any port at which there happens to be any deficiency in the crew according to the manning scale. I only want to say that a minimum manning scale is already laid down under the relevant clause, and no ship can sail without that manning scale. Normally, it so happens that the ships always carry about twice the number, or even more than that, that is provided as the

minimum manning scale. Therefore, the eventuality envisaged by the hon. Member will never occur. Moreover, it will be inconvenient and inadvisable for ships to go on recruiting crew at any other port outside India. So we cannot accept this amendment.

Through his amendment No. 22 he wants to insert the words "along with the weekly working hours" in clause 101. I only want to say that it is not possible to provide for the prescription of weekly working hours or nature of work because, as was thoroughly understood during the discussions in the Joint Committee, according to international conventions we cannot provide for weekly working hours, minimum wage or the nature of work in the terms of agreement. They are always settled between the two parties, between the seamen on the one hand and the shipowners on the other.

Shri Tangamani: There is no question of any convention. Are we afraid that if we stipulate 7 hours or 8 hours work the shipowners may not be willing to recruit our seamen?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I may only remind him that this agreement is between the two parties: seamen and shipowners. In regard to all these matters we have to depend not only on our laws, but our seamen have to depend on foreign laws also. Unless the shipowners recognise our laws and agree to abide by them, it would be futile to provide anything here. They will go to other countries for recruitment, and thereby we shall be doing a very great damage to our own seamen so far as employment opportunities are concerned.

Shri Tangamani said something about ports of registry. As we all know, the number of ships that are registered every year will not be more than a dozen, or twenty or thirty. For that purpose we have provided—I speak from memory only—that Bombay, Calcutta and Madras shall be the ports of registry. I think it is

not necessary for us to provide or make full arrangements for registration at all the major ports.

By his amendment No. 91 he wants to delete those words relating to the quality of the work of the seaman. He wants that the quality of work should not be entered in the discharge certificate given to a seaman. I will only refer him to article 14 of the Seamen's Articles of Agreement, under which it has been provided that seamen shall at all times obtain from the Master a separate certificate as to the quality of work or, failing that, a certificate indicating whether he has fully discharged the obligations of the agreement. In fact, this convention was adopted for the advantage and benefit of seamen, it was not for the benefit or advantage of ship-owners. It is obvious that if there is certificate of good work he may not find any difficulty in his future life or career. It is a certificate of conduct for him, and he should not be afraid to have it.

The last point he made was the same as the one made by Shri Nath Pai, to reduce "96 hours" to "48 hours".

Shri Nath Pai: That is from the Payment of Wages Act. I agree that these points were discussed and decided in the Joint Committee, but we have changed many things that we agreed to.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I did not give all my arguments to economise on time. He knows very well that the ship-owners do require some minimum time to complete their accounts as to how much has been paid to each worker as part of the wages, how much he has been allowed to remit to his home and so on. Without compiling proper accounts it is not possible to make payments. He has to make payments within the prescribed time, failing which penalty will be imposed upon him. If he is not able to complete the accounts in 48 hours, from

the next day he will have to pay double the amount. Therefore, we should not make it so penal for the other side also.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri said something about accommodation for the crew. I can assure her that we have ratified the relevant convention about that. As I said yesterday, all ships which have to perform voyages for more than 120 hours are to be provided with cent. per cent. bunkers even for deck passengers. We have also taken good care to see that all new ships which have been constructed after 1948 are provided with crew accommodation, and care is also being taken to see that this facility is provided in the second-hand ships that are being acquired as far as possible. Apart from that, we are fully alive to the situation and we are ourselves very conscious of the needs of the crew in this respect.

Another point that she made was about the welfare activities. She knows that there is the National Welfare Board for Seamen, which has got many committees. On that Board the seamen and shipowners are represented, as also other interests. I do not think Shri Nath Pai can point out any instance where we have differed from or rejected their advice or we have not given satisfaction in the matter of accepting their suggestions as far as we could. Of course, we have always had to act within our limitations but have respected their advice.

With these remarks, Sir, I think I have covered all the important amendments. There may be some other amendments, but I have only to say that all these points were thoroughly discussed in the Joint Committee and I do not want to repeat those arguments again here.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta-Central): Sir, may I ask for one clarification from my hon. friend, the Minister of Transport? Do I understand

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

my hon. friend, Shri Patil to say that he accepts Shri Raghunath Singh's amendment which enables Government to "allow" any other percentage than 25 to foreign capital from time to time? Do I understand him to say that he wishes this power to Government without any reference to Parliament, because in that case I feel, perhaps, some second thought is necessary and no snap decision should be made by the Minister. It is rather extraordinary and, I should say with all respect, improper, if after so much discussion in Parliament in regard to the proportion we are going to give an omnibus authority to Government to change the proportion one way or the other. My friend may have the best of intentions with regard to foreign capital as far as I am concerned I am prepared to accept his *bona fides*; but I do not see how we can accept an amendment which suggests that Government, without reference to Parliament, can change the proportion which Parliament is lawing down. I think we should give second thought to this matter and not take a snap decision.

15 hrs.

Shri S. K. Patil: Without taking much time of the House, I should like to say this. Even the policy resolution of 1947 was on these lines namely, that 75-25 was not absolute. There was also a proviso to that policy, namely, that if in certain circumstances Government thought that there should be a slight change, the Government could make it.

In regard to this case, I can give the House an illustration. There was a case before the Government; a certain party represented that unless that 25 per cent. was raised to 33, he would not be, and he was not, getting the money, that is, obtaining foreign participation.

So far as the Government's position is concerned, I can make it once again

abundantly clear that we are in no need for foreign participation so far as our shipping is concerned. God forbid—we should not so go down in our economic position that it becomes necessary, because that type of shipping is not really ultimately helpful to our country. But it remains there; the policy resolution had remained there. I merely said that I saw a keen sense in the House. There were some Members who wanted 100 per cent. with the Government and no foreign participation at all. There were others who wanted even more, 49 per cent. or 33½ or 25, and many speeches were made where 40—60 was desired. Ultimately this thing came out, namely, that if that power was left with the Government that in certain cases, if they wanted, they can either raise or lower it, such a power should be given.

I made a declaration in my speech yesterday that we are not enamoured of such a power being given to Government. I can quite understand that in sheer democratic way of thinking such a power is really too much to be vested in the Government. But looking to the special necessities of this case, I merely said that while Government does not want those powers, if the House is prepared to invest Government with those powers in special circumstances which have been mentioned....

Shri Nath Pal: How can we impose such a power when a power is not there? How is it that we can say that?

Shri S. K. Patil: I even said that so far as I am concerned my opinion is that if there is any chance of giving those powers, one could perhaps use that power to lower the rate of 'foreign' percentage. Therefore, those powers are permissible. It is absolutely in the hands of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are no amendments to clauses 17 to 20. The question is:

"That clauses 17 to 20 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 17 to 20 were added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We shall now dispose of clause 21. I shall put Shri Raghunath Singh's amendment No. 262. The question is:

Page 36, after line 14, insert the following:

"Provided that the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, alter such minimum percentage, and where the minimum percentage is so altered, the altered percentage shall, as from the date of the notification, be deemed to be substituted for the percentage specified in this clause."

Those in favour will please say 'Aye'.

Several Hon. Members: Aye.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Those against will please say 'No'.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think the 'Ayes' have it.

Some Hon. Members: The Noes have it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let it be held over. We shall now proceed with the disposal of the other clauses.

Shri Nath Pal: Sir, you must give us a few minutes to speak on clause 150.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall come to that.

Shri Tangamani: Amendment No. 22 to clause 101, by Shri Aurobindo Ghosal may be put separately.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right. So, I am putting all the other amendments, excepting amendment No. 22 to clause 101 and amendment No. 262 to clause 21, to the clauses that have been moved.

The amendments Nos. 88, 40, 41, 87, 48 to 50, 74 to 82, 176, 178, 179, 257, 154 to 156, 42, 91, 92, 197, 198, 173, 20, 21, 23, 24, 131, 261, 157 to 162, 138 to 142, and 59 were put and negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clauses 22 to 100 and 102 to 149 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 22 to 100 and 102 to 149 were added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, I come to amendment No. 262. The question is:

Page 36, after line 14, insert the following:

"Provided that the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, alter such minimum percentage, and where the minimum percentage is so altered, the altered percentage shall, as from the date of the notification, be deemed to be substituted for the percentage specified in this clause."

The Lok Sabha divided: Ayes 104; Noes. 34.

श्री उमराव सिंह (घोसी) : श्रीमान्, मेरी बत्ती नहीं जली ।

श्री सुरंत प्रसाद (मुजफ्फरनगर) : मेरी राय गलत इंडिकेट हुई है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The 'Ayes' have 103. With two more added, it would make 104.

Division No. 5]

AYES

[15-09 hrs.

Achar, Shri
Anjanappa, Shri
Arumugham, Shri S. R.
Ayyakannu, Shri
Benerji, Shri P. B.
Basappa, Shri
Bhargava, Pandit Thakur Das
Bhatkar, Shri
Bhattacharyya, Shri C. K.
Birbal Singh, Shri
Boroosh, Shri P. C.
Chanda, Shri Anil K.
Chandak, Shri
Chandra Shanker, Shri
Chavda, Shri
Choudhry, Shri C. L.
Chuni Lal, Shri
Daljit Singh, Shri
Dube, Shri Muichand
Eacharan, Shri I.
Gandhi, Shri Feroze
Ganpati Ram, Shri
Ghosh, Shri N. R.
Gohain, Shri
Gounder, Shri K. Periaswami
Harvani, Shri A. S.
Heda, Shri
Iqbal Singh, Sardar
Jhunjhunwala, Shri
Joshi, Shri A. C.
Kotoki, Shri Liladhar
Kedaria, Shri C. M.
Kekar, Dr.
Kistaiya, Shri
Krishna, Shri M. R.

Krishna Chandra, Shri
Kureel, Shri B. N.
Mafida Ahmed, Shrimati
Manaan, Shri
Mandal, Dr. Pashupati
Manjula Devi, Shrimati
Masuriya Din, Shri
Mehra, Shrimati Krishna
Mishra, Shri S. N.
Mitra, Shri R. D.
Mohammad Akbar, Shaikh
Morarka, Shri
Murmu, Shri Paika
Murti, Shri M. S.
Nair, Shri Kuttukrishnan
Naldurgker, Shri
Nanda, Shri
Nehru, Shrimati Uma
Oza, Shri
"adalu, Shri K. V.
Padam Dev, Shri
Palaniyandy, Shri
Panna Lal, Shri
Patil, Shri S. K.
Pillai, Shri Thanu
Radhamohan Singh, Shri
Raghunath Singh, Shri
Raj Bahadur, Shri
Raiiah, Shri
Ram Krishan, Shri
Ram Shanker Lal, Shri
Ramakrishnan, Shri P. R.
Ramananda Tirtha, Swami
Ranbir Singh, Ch.
Rane, Shri

Rangarao, Shri
Rao, Shri Jaganatha.
Raut, Shri Bhola
Reddy, Shri Narapa
Reddy, Shri Rami
Roy, Shri Bishwanath
Rungsoo Suias, Shri
Sadhu Ram, Shri
Sahodrabai, Shrimati
Samanainhor, Dr.
Sambandam, Shri
Sharma, Shri D. C.
Shobha Ram, Shri
Shukla, Shri V. C.
Singh, Shri H. P.
Singh, Shri M. N.
Sinha, Shri B. P.
Sinha, Shri Gajendra Prasad
Sinha, Shri Satyendra Narayan
Sinhasan Singh, Shri
Snatak, Shri Nurdeo
Sumat Prasad, Shri
Tahir, Shri Mohammed
Tariq, Shri A. M.
Tewari, Shri Dwarikanath
Tiwari, Shri R. S.
Umrao Singh, Shri
Upadhyay, Pandit Munishwer Dutt
Upadhyaya, Shri Shiva Datt
Vedakumari, Kumari M.
Vyasa, Shri R. C.
Vyasa, Shri Radhelal
Wadiwa, Shri
Wazir, Shri Balakrishna

NOES

Banerjee, Shri S. M.
Bharucha, Shri Naushir
Chaver, Shri D. R.
Dasgupta, Shri B.
Dasaratha Deb, Shri
Dige, Shri
Ghosal, Shri
Ghose, Shri Bimal
Godse, Shri S. C.
Halder, Shri
Jadhav, Shri
Kar, Shri Prabhat

Katti, Shri D. A.
Kodiyan, Shri
Kunhan, Shri
Manay, Shri
Matin, Qazi
Menon, Shri Narayanankurty
Mukerjee, Shri H. N.
Nuth Pai, Shri
Nayar, Shri V. P.
Palchoudhuri, Shrimati Ina
Panigrahi, Shri

Parulekar, Shri
Patil, Shri Balasabeb
Ramam, Shri
Rao, Shri T. B. Vittal
Salunke, Shri Balasabeb
Sampath, Shri R. V. K.
Singh, Shri L. Achaw
Sugandhi, Shri
Tangamani, Shri
Valvi, Shri
Warior, Shri

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 21 as amended stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 21, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now amendment No. 22 to clause 101. The question is:

Page 64, line 26, add at the end—

"along with the weekly working hours".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 101 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 101 was added to the Bill.

Clause 150.— (Power to refer disputes between seamen and their employers to tribunals)

Shri Tangamani: I beg to move: Page 86,—

omit lines 23 to 29

(93)

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

Page 86,—

after line 29, add—

"Provided further that when the Government rejects such award or modifies it, it shall cause a copy of the original award and the modification thereof with a statement of reasons for such rejection or modifications to be placed before each House of Parliament."

(94)

Page 86,—

after line 29, insert—

"(4A) An appeal shall lie from an award of the Tribunal, and in the event of such award being rejected or modified by the Government, from such rejection or modification, to the High Court, within thirty days of the date of publication of the award or publication of rejection or modification by the Government.

The High Court may, after hearing parties to the appeal and the Government, if necessary, make such order as it thinks fit, and the decision of the High Court shall thereupon become enforceable."

(95)

Shri Raj Bahadur: I beg to move: Page 86,—

after line 16, insert—

"(2A) No party to a dispute shall be entitled to be represented by a legal practitioner in any proceeding before the tribunal except with the consent of the other party or parties to the proceeding and with the leave of the tribunal."

(185)

Page 86,—

after line 34, insert—

"(5A) Save as otherwise provided in the award, an award shall remain in operation for a period of one year from the date on which it becomes enforceable and shall thereafter continue to remain in operation until a period of two months has elapsed from the date on which notice is given by any party bound by the award to the other party or parties intimating its intention to terminate the award."

(186)

Shri Nath Pal: I beg to move: Page 85, line 38,—

omit "or is apprehended".

(163)

Page 86, line 1,—

after "employment" insert—

"or non-employment or the terms of employment".

(164)

Page 86, line 21,—

after "published" insert—

"in the appropriate State Government Gazette".

(165)

Page 86, lines 21 and 22—

omit "on the expiry of thirty days."

(166)

[Shri Nath Pal]

Page 86,—

omit lines 23 to 29

(167)

Page 86,—

after line 34, insert—

“(5A) the award shall remain in operation for a period of one year from the date of its publication in the State Government Gazette and it shall continue to remain in operation and binding on the parties until a period of two months has elapsed from the date on which notice is given by any party bound by the award to the other party or parties terminating the award.”

(168)

Page 86,—

after line 40, add—

“(8) No party to a dispute shall be entitled to be represented by a legal practitioner in any proceedings before the Tribunal except with the consent of the parties to the dispute and with the leave of the Tribunal.”

(169)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: My difficulty is that I have to finish the whole Bill at 3.15.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Is the guillotine to be applicable to the third reading, Sir? I had an impression that this Bill, being the first of its character since independence, would be given a fair reading in the Lok Sabha. In the other House, they had so much time..

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: My hon. friend would like to go to the other House for this purpose?

Shri Nath Pal: I beg to submit that clause 150 is very important and we should have at least a few minutes to move our amendments.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What idea has the hon. Member about ‘few minutes’?

Shri Nath Pal: 10 minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right; I give 10 minutes.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: We can have the third reading and then Mr. Nanda can hold the fort for the rest of the day.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: My difficulty is that the Speaker has declared that the guillotine should be applied at 3.15. Nobody objected to that then.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: May I point out that this is a very important clause....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Member did not object to that when the Speaker announced it in the House, what can I do?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The House can revise its opinion at any time.

Shri Bimal Ghose (Barrackpore): Did the Speaker mention that the third reading also should be finished by 3.15

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He said all.

Shri Nath Pal: I have moved amendments 163 to 169....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He can only take a share out of the 10 minutes.

Shri Nath Pal: I will take the minimum required. My amendment No. 163 reads:

Page 85, line 38,

omit “or is apprehended”.

If this clause is allowed to be put on the statute-book without this amendment, it will be a monstrosity and it will be nullifying such of the good labour legislation as we have in this country. I have no time to labour on my points; I shall straightaway come to the amendments I have moved. I hope he will give more consideration to it than he has given on the previous occasion when he dealt with our

amendments. The word used is "apprehended". This is notional trouble and this gives extraordinary powers to the executive. Even if any trouble is apprehended, the powers will be vested in the Government. We have tried to fight this for a long time. I plead that only when there is actual dispute or trouble, the Government should come into the scene and not otherwise.

I come to my next amendment, seeking to insert the words "or non-employment or the terms of employment" after "employment". This was incorporated after the Supreme Court had decided that this was necessary in the case Western India Automobile. This particular provision, which I am moving as an amendment, has been taken from a judgment of the Supreme Court, which subsequently was incorporated in the Indian Industrial Disputes Act, section 2(k).

I do not think you can have any objection to my amendment No. 165, which says after "published"—published in what? "In the appropriate State Government Gazette". That is what the amendment seeks to add, in order to make the employees know about it. I do not have to say anything more about it.

Amendment No. 166 seeks to omit the words "on the expiry of thirty days". There is no right of appeal and so, why are you providing for these 30 days? This is superfluous and can be dropped.

Now I come to a very important thing, amendment No. 167. I suggest that lines 23 to 29 be totally dropped. The Government has, under the Industrial Disputes Act, section 70, power to modify the award given even by a judicial or quasi-judicial body only in the case of Government employees. It is an extraordinary thing to first refer the dispute to a judicial body and then to reserve the power to qualify, modify or amend it. It nullifies the whole procedure. We propose that Government try to dispense with

this power and see that the sanctity of the award is maintained.

Having said this much, I come to amendment No. 168. I do not read it since I do not have the time. But the amendment has been given after we looked into the decision given by the Supreme Court in the case Burn and Company, *Res judicata*, 289, and this is what the Supreme Court had to say on this point. This is a very important point and I hope he will agree to look into this. This is the provision further in the Indian Industrial Disputes Act section 19(b).

I come to amendment No. 169 which says,

"(8) No party to a dispute shall be entitled to be represented by a legal practitioner in any proceedings before the Tribunal except with the consent of the parties to the dispute and with the leave of the Tribunal."

The industrial tribunal is not an ordinary court. We do not require the ordinary lawyers. I know some lawyers are likely to be offended by it. I see the angry look which my hon. friend, Shri Bharucha, who normally supports me in a good cause, is casting in my direction.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: This is not a good cause.

Shri Nath Pal: This is a court of social justice, where no legal niceties are required, but only the knowledge of legal justice that we are trying to usher in. A very pernicious point in having lawyers appointed is that very often labour is saddled with the heavy cost. I am a lawyer too, but we should look to the interest of the employees and dispense with it.

I come to amendment No. 170 to clause 151 which says:

Page 87, line 2, before "no" insert—

"in respect of any matter connected with the dispute".

[Shri Nath Pai]

This concession is given to both the sides in the Indian Industrial Disputes Act in sections 23 and 24. This is a very important thing. It reads like this:

"(a) no seamen or class of seamen or union of seamen shall go or remain on strike...."

If the words "in respect of any matter connected with the dispute" are not incorporated before the word "no", they are not putting the employer and the employee on the same level. The employer is bound only in respect of any matter connected with the dispute, as line 12 suggests. But in the case of employees, this inequity is being brought in that he shall not agitate. Certainly he shall agitate with regard to every matter excepting the matter in dispute. This has been accepted in our law, but here they are trying to take that right which has been given in section 36(4) of the Industrial Disputes Act. There both the parties have been placed, so far as disputes are concerned, on a par. I plead with the hon. Minister that this very very important right given to the workers both by the Supreme Court and the Industrial Disputes Act should not be so lightly taken away.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: This is a new principle which has been incorporated in clause 150, whereby it is intended to give the Government power to modify the tribunal's award. My submission is that whenever any variation takes place, the Government must place a copy of the modification on the Table of each House of Parliament and the Parliament must have an opportunity to discuss that.

In my amendment No. 95, I go a step further. I have suggested that,

"An appeal shall lie from an award of the Tribunal, and in the event of such award being rejected or modified by the Government, from such rejection or modification to the High Court, within thirty

days of the date of publication of the award or publication of rejection or modification by the Government."

I can understand the Government saying that the Tribunal may have given an award without taking into consideration the far-flung repercussions of its impact on other industries or other interests. But if the Government makes a modification, what is the objection, if the High Court considers that the Government is justified or not in making such modification. Therefore my amendment provides the facility to the Government to convince the High court, if necessary, that such modifications or rejection was justified. Unless that is done, I should think that the Tribunal under the Merchant Shipping Act will be a farce.

Shri Tangamani: I want only two minutes. This is a very vital provision. My amendment No. 92 seeks to delete the proviso. I would like the hon. Minister to refer to the Industrial Disputes Act from where this particular provision has been taken. When the Labour Appellate Tribunal came under the Industrial Disputes Act there was such a provision and we know what happened. The Central Government intervened in the Bank Appellate Tribunal Award and as a result of that there was a strike, and a special commission had to be set up. The Industrial Disputes Act does not give this power to the Central Government or the State Government to interfere in this award and modify it. So, when they are copying it from the Industrial Disputes Act, at least let them be faithful to the Act and try to bring in the spirit of the Act instead of trying to bring a portion of it and create further disturbance. I will press my amendment, which only seeks to delete this proviso.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I would like the hon. Members to bear two fundamental points in mind while proposing these amendments to this clause. Firstly, in this particular industry we

have got a body with its own stature and utility, namely the National Maritime Board. We have to refer all disputes arising between the ship-owners and the seamen to the National Maritime Board. I do not know whether there is any parallel to this institution in any other industry. The second fundamental point is that we have not only our own Indian ship-owners but we have ship-owners of foreign countries as well, who are not bound by our laws. They are not bound to recruit seamen from India. Out of the 60,000 and odd seamen that we have got, only 5,000 are employed by our ships. Rest of the 55,000 are employed in foreign ships. So we have got this precious possession or precious advantage which we should not miss, lose or lightly tamper with. Therefore, all these amendments, whatever they are, have got to be considered against this background.

I will first come to amendment No. 164 by Shri Nath Pai. By his amendment he seeks to insert the words "or non-employment or the terms of employment" after the word "employment". Of all people he knows very well that seaman's job is not a continuous one. Sometimes he is employed and sometimes he is in lay off: sometimes he is signed on and sometimes he is not signed on or is signed-off. So, that is a peculiar type of job. So the question of non-employment or unemployment will not arise and will not fit in with the scheme of the clause.

Then in amendment No. 165 he says that it should be published "in the appropriate State Government Gazette". We are already putting it in the Central Government Gazette. Ports, seamen and shipping form part of the Government of India business. Therefore, it is published in the Central Government Gazette, and there should be no difficulty about that.

Then, about the enforcement of the award, he wants that the thirty days should be eliminated. I think that is

hardly possible, because some time is required for adjustment and we have got to deal with so many things. Here I would also like to refer to one thing, namely, the parallel that has been drawn between the Industrial Disputes Act and this particular provision. As I said yesterday, the provisions that we have here differ in three respects, even after they have emerged from the Joint Committee, and they are as follows. Under the Industrial Disputes Act there is a ban on the appearance of advocates. Secondly, in the Industrial Disputes Act it was provided that the award shall be in force for a minimum period of twelve months in the first instance and thereafter indefinitely until two months, if it is so desired by one of the parties. Shri Nath Pai has moved his amendment about this clause. There are already Government amendments Nos. 185 and 186 and both these things are provided for. We are incorporating this particular provision so that the difference between the Industrial Disputes Act and this Act is narrowed and minimized.

With regard to the amendment by Shri Bharucha I would only say that there is the National Maritime Board to which all disputes are referred, and it will try to settle all those disputes. Then, if the National Maritime Board fails, there is the machinery of the Director-General of Shipping which also works for conciliation of such disputes as are not settled at the National Maritime Board level. So, all such disputes are settled through the medium or through the agency of the good offices of the Director General of Shipping. So, I do not think it is admissible or practicable for us to allow a further opportunity for reference to the High Court, in case Government choose to modify or reject a particular award.

The essential point to be borne in mind is that in this matter foreign employers are also concerned. Here I may say that occasionally we are confronted with situations where the

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

foreign ship-owners are threatening to go to other countries for recruitment. We should not, at any time, jeopardise the chances of recruitment of our seamen. Unemployment of seamen will be a much more serious calamity than not allowing the Government to be divested of its power in regard to a particular matter.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: On a point of order. The hon. Speaker has two or three times given the direction that none of the hon. Members should approach the Speaker when he is in the Chair. May I know whether that direction applies only to the hon. Members on this side of the House or that side too?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: To every side it applies, but not to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I hope I have set at rest all the doubts raised by the hon. Members and I would earnestly request hon. Members to withdraw the amendments.

Amendments made:

Page 86,—

after line 16, insert—

“(2A) No party to a dispute shall be entitled to be represented by a legal practitioner in any proceeding before the tribunal except with the consent of the other party or parties to the proceeding and with the leave of the tribunal.”

Page 86,—

after line 34, insert—

“(5A) Save as otherwise provided in the award, an award shall remain in operation for a period of one year from the date on which it becomes enforceable and shall thereafter continue to remain in operation until a period of two months has elapsed from the date on which notice is given by any party bound by the award to the

other party or parties intimating its intention to terminate the award.”

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

Shri Tangamani: Amendment Nos. 93 and 187 are the same. They may be put to vote separately.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 86,—

omit lines 23 to 29.

(93)

The motion was negatived.

Shri Tangamani: Now amendment No. 167 may be put to the vote.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is the same as amendment No. 93. So that is barred. Now I will put all other amendments to the vote.

The amendments No 94, 95, 163, 164, 165, 166, 168 and 169 were put and negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That clause 150, as amended, stand part of the Bill”.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 150, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That clauses 151 to 217 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 151 to 217 were added to the Bill.

Clause 218.—(Functions of National Welfare Board for Seafarers)

Page 112, line 14,—

add at the end—

"and the manner in which the proceeds of such fees, after deduction of the cost of collection, shall be utilised for the purpose specified in clause (d)."

(187)

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 218, as amended, stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 218, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clauses 219 to 322 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 219 to 322 were added to the Bill

Clause 323.—(Inspection and control of Load Line Convention ships other than Indian ships)

Amendment made

Page 159, line 1,—

for "clauses (a) and (b)" substitute "clauses (c) and (d)"

(206)

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 323, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 323, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clauses 324 to 426 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 324 to 426 were added to the Bill.

Clause 427.—(Mortgages of sailing vessels)

Amendment made:

Page 198—

for clause 427, substitute—

"427. Mortgage of sailing vessels.—

(1) Every mortgage of a sailing vessel or of any interest therein effected after the date on which this part comes into force shall be registered with the registrar.

(2) Every mortgage of a sailing vessel or any interest therein effected before the date on which this part comes into force shall, if subsisting on that date, be registered with the registrar within three months of that date.

(3) The registrar shall enter every such mortgage in the sailing vessels register in the order in which it is registered with him.

(4) If there are more mortgages than one recorded in respect of the same sailing vessel or interest therein, the mortgages shall, notwithstanding, any express, implied or constructive notice, have priority according to the date on which each mortgage is registered with the registrar and not according to the date of each mortgage itself:

Provided that nothing contained in this sub-section shall affect the relative priorities as they existed immediately before the date on which this part comes into force as between mortgages of the same vessel or interest therein affected before such date which are registered in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (2)."

(188)

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 427, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 427, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clauses 428 to 453 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 428 to 453 were added to the Bill.

Clause 454.—(Powers of persons authorised to investigate, etc.)

Amendment made:

Page 224, line 35,—

for "any" substitute "and" (207)

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 454, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 454, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clauses 455 to 457 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 455 to 457 were added to the Bill.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: May I submit that it is such an important Bill and all these important provisions are being carried with such a speed that some time is allowed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have rather over-stepped the time limit that was fixed with the approval of the House by the hon. Speaker. I have, therefore, no authority to go beyond that.

Shri V. P. Nayar: We stand for complete co-operation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I admire and appreciate that.

Shri V. P. Nayar: We never indulge.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Nobody is insinuating him.

Clause 458.—(Provisions with respect to rules and regulations)

Amendment made:

Page 266—

(i) line 4, for "one year" substitute "two years"; and

(ii) line 5, for "three thousand rupees" substitute

"ten thousand rupees."

(208)

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 458, as amended stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 458, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clauses 459 to 461 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 459 to 461 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule

Amendment made:

Page 228, under the column "Extent of repeal,—

for lines 6 to 10, substitute—

"In so far as it applies to sea-going ships fitted with mechanical means of propulsion and to sailing vessels."

(189)

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Schedule, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Schedule, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

Shri S. K. Patil: Sir, I move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Is it the wish of the House that half an hour more be given?

Several hon. Member: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Even then only one or two speakers can be accommodated.

Shri V. P. Nayar: We may even sit till late.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We have already transgressed that limit by fifteen minutes. By 15:15 hours we ought to have passed the Bill.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: We have guillotined 300 clauses of the Bill.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Sir, it is not because I love the sound of my own voice that I wish to have a third reading of this Bill. I have spoken too often, but I feel that this Bill is of such importance that at least a decorative conclusion to the debate

ought to be the task of the hon. Members of this House. We have had our differences with Government in regard to the formulations it has made in this Bill and we are rather unhappy that on one occasion we had to ask for a division in order to register our differences. But on the whole it is a proud occasion, it is the first time since Independence that we are putting on our statute-book our first national law on merchant shipping.

There has been a keen debate, particularly in regard to the infiltration of foreign capital and it is in regard to that that I have certain misgivings. As it is known very widely and I do not need to repeat it our attitude towards foreign capital is that we should not have it in our country at all, if we can help it, and we had a feeling, particularly in view of the Shipping Resolution of 1947, that it was about time that we did away altogether with foreign capital. But in the Joint Committee, where I had the privilege of being a member, the discussion proceeded in a very co-operative atmosphere and a kind of compromise was accepted. Government came forward virtually to reiterate the 1947 Resolution and therefore the majority of the Joint Committee agreed to the proportion of 25:75 as far as foreign capital was concerned.

In this connection I should say that I have to refer with great regret to a kind of lobbying which has gone on in Parliament and round about on the part, no doubt, of certain interests which we do not wish to see in this Parliament and its precincts too often. I do not say that we do not want to be educated, and very important people came representing the industry and the seamen and gave evidence before the Joint Committee—we had talks with them and all that—but what I have disliked is the persistent kind of buttonholding of hon. Members, which has gone on, for a number of weeks in order to bring about a certain change in the mental climate which was expressed in the report of the Joint Committee.

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

Now, I am unhappy that my hon. friend, Shri Patil, for whom I have great respect—we are very different, but I know with him where we stand and I know at the same time that if he says a thing he means it—when he tells me that he considers the 25 per cent. proportion of foreign capital to be a “notional” matter, I take him at his word. But at the same time when he accepted Shri Raghunath Singh’s amendment, I felt that he was not giving proper form to the entire proceedings. I have a fear that when he goes to the other House, maybe by that time as a result of deliberations he would realise that it is nearly—I should not say contempt—ignoring the wishes of this House. (*Interruption*).

Shri Raghunath Singh: No, certainly not. (*Interruption*).

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Government can without reference to this House, by virtue only of a notification, change the proportion of foreign capital which is incorporated in the statute. This is a point on which I feel rather strongly and I do wish that the hon. Minister gives more thought to it. There is still time and maybe he will come back to us again after he has been to the other House.

I am happy that the hon. Minister of Shipping has referred to the condition of Indian seaman. Though I know very well that he has not accepted certain amendments, which were put forward from this side of the House, in regard to the applicability of the Industrial Disputes Act and its principles to seamen, I am very sorry that it has not been found possible by Government to accept the idea that in regard to the hours of work of Indian seamen there should be a certain limitation put by the statute. I say this because our seamen go from country to country and they must have facilities so that they can really represent India, if not at its best at least not at its worst. I know that sometimes in foreign countries Indian

seamen, who are among the cheapest and the best in the world, have to go about in such conditions, in such clothing and because of poverty, because of conditions of labour, because of almost brutalising conditions of labour on board ship that they develop certain traits which are by no means satisfactory and which give a very bad impression of Indian life and character abroad. These Indian seamen are the salt of the earth. I know how very well they can work, how expert they are at their jobs, how valuable they are, but at the same time because of brutalising conditions of work sometimes they give a very bad impression abroad. Now that we have a Government of our own, it is very important that seamen are provided with facilities and minimum facilities certainly include a provision of limitation in regard to hours of work and their rights as specified in the Industrial Disputes Act.

I shall finish now. We are all in a hurry. I should only say this that we have still a long way to travel before we reach our targets which are very modest indeed. The 2 million ton target was set up a long time ago. We are nowhere near it. We can only perhaps achieve 900,000 tons by the end of the Second Five Year Plan. But, we have wonderful traditions of seamanship in our country. It was from the port of Tamralipti that Fa-Hien went home in the fifth century A.D. It was from the ports of Eastern India, of the south, and the west that Indians have gone abroad not merely for purposes of business, but for cultural conquest, for the addition of different areas of the world abutting on the Indian ocean to the kind of culture which India represented. To the beginning of the 19th century, ship-building was a flourishing industry in our country and that was strangled by the British imperialists. Therefore, with such traditions of seamanship and ship-building, surely we can build a future

at least as well, at least commensurate with the past. Therefore, I feel that this is an occasion when the Lok Sabha should feel rather happy. I am only sorry that there are certain lacunae in the Bill, certain serious defects which we have tried to point out but the Government have not been able to accept.

Shri Nath Pal: Sir, I should like, in the few minutes which you have been kind enough to give me, to call the attention of the hon. Minister Shri S. K. Patil that he comes from a little town on the coast. There is an old fort that stands there as a standing monument of the glory of a sea power that India was. I say, Sindu Durg; the fort built by Shivaji is there. That is a monument of what India can achieve so far as maritime power is concerned, and the ships built by this country. Compare that and see how poor, how un-imaginary and how legalistic is the approach to the whole Bill. Of the ships that we built, there is the glorious history of the Tweed which, when it came to the port of London, struck terror and jealousy in the hearts of the great ship-builders of London. In the reign of Akbar, the Ain-e-Akbari says that 40,000 vessels were carrying on the trade of this country. Marco Polo pays a tribute to the way Indians were carrying on these great industries. Finally there is Gabriel Snodgrass's note to the East India Company which says, if Britain wants to have its own navy, it has a lot to learn from India. He knows something of it. But, it was a pity that when at last this Parliament got an opportunity of laying down the foundations of building a mighty merchant navy, that opportunity was lost. My regret is that this Bill is totally devoid of any vision or idealism. It has a legalistic approach. It goes on codifying such things that we have had so far as merchant shipping was concerned. It has no vision before it.

I would like to point out to him a thing which he knows, which perhaps some of the Members of the

House do not know. A man coming from the coast knows and knowing something of that glory, I thought that would inspire the new Bill before us. The Americans when they came to it, this is how they draft the Bill and this is how they lay the foundations of the merchant navy. Yesterday he played much with the word when we called it as the second line of defence. We were not concerned whether a ship was fitted with some turrets or something else. It is something far more important. The merchant navy is vitally linked with the defence of the country. We have not one alley or two; we have got three oceans to look after. There is the Arabian Sea, there is the Indian Ocean and there is the Bay of Bengal. If we look at the pathetic figure of our shipping, what is the total? One hundred and thirty-seven ships and the total at the end of the second year of the Second Five Year Plan was 611,000 tons. My hon. friend Shri Raghunath Singh is fretting in his seat because he knows this is his figure. There is no quarrel between your ideal of building a mighty Indian merchant navy and ours. The only thing is, what has this Government done to lay the foundation of this? Here was an opportunity to codify the law as it existed in such a manner that it gives us an opportunity of creating a navy which such a long coast and three oceans demand. We have lost it. This Bill neither looks to the future, nor does it take pride from the past. That is the regret that I feel with regard to this Bill.

I should like to harp on one point which was perhaps most ably dealt with by my friend and senior colleague Shri Goray. They have said, why are we so much worried. It is not a question of worry. There is a proverb which I need not quote, which he knows very well. We lost virtue; we did not get anything. He says, by this 25 per cent. offer also, not much of foreign capital will be coming. If that is so, why are you losing virtue? Why not retain 100 per cent? Our first plea is, let all

[Shri Nath Pai]

new enterprises be State enterprises. If you cannot do it, we do not want Indian capital to be beaten by foreign capital. I stand for State enterprise. If you are not powerful enough, if you have not enough vision, if you are not courageous enough, do not invite foreign capitals.

Then, there is this question of 25 per cent. not being a danger. I should like to quote some authority because they get into the habit of answering everything that everything that we say is only emotional. In the East India Company, out of the total shares of 1865, 350 were controlled by an interest called the Shipping interest. With less than 25 per cent., they could dominate the East India Company. Twenty-five per cent., if it is in a block, can be a menace. Therefore, we were opposed to it. Now comes the danger in a very sinister form. I have not the slightest doubt about the *bona fides* of the Minister. He was himself sincere when he said that it will not be abused. Then, why is this loophole opened? It is a dangerous thing. At least I should like to say that all his assurances will not lay my fears at rest. He has assured us—I am not supposed to quote what transpired in the Joint Committee—that it was as a result of mature deliberation on the part of the Cabinet that this 25:75 was allowed. What has happened during this fortnight that compels you to change and accept an amendment in which Government get additional powers to change this ratio. We are very sorry that this has been done.

Finally, I want to say one thing before I conclude. It is regarding the poor deal that seamen will be getting. I quite understand the anxiety of the Minister that if we make the responsibility and burden on capital very onerous, they may look for labour somewhere else. He has said

it that he does not want additional unemployment in India, if we make all these provisions which I want and which he wants. How long are we going to put up with this trick that Indian labour will be unemployed and so it can be sold at the cheapest? They come here not because they discover any virtue in Indian labour. They have been the cheapest and the easiest to exploit. That is why they come and employ. We must find ways of putting an end to it.

Regarding the last thing, it is not my anxiety. A great Indian com-patriot of ours, a great labour leader, one who belonged to your party, resigned for a principle about which I am pleading with you. It was on this principle of modification of awards that Shri Giri resigned. I plead with you that it was not too late for you to accept this. It would not have been a concession to any opposition. It would have been an upholding perhaps of those principles which you and some of us here had jointly built up.

Shri S. K. Patil: I am very glad at the response that the House has given. I can quite understand the anxiety of my hon. friends that foreign capital should not come either by the front door or the back door. I thought when I explained the Government's position to this House, I also cleared some misunderstanding. After all, it is not the percentage that will ultimately determine what type of shipping policy we shall have in this country. I told the House that where the percentages are much higher, even in places where the percentage is 51:49,—I am talking of maritime countries like Italy, like the U.S.A., like the U.K.—there are percentages of even 66 and 33—not a dollar, not a pound, not a rupee—of course when I come to India, it will be the rupee—has been introduced into national

shipping. Therefore I cannot understand this, as if the law is one thing, the first thing and the last thing that would determine as to what our patriotism should be and what our national policy in Indian shipping should be. I do not accept that position. Here, even if the percentage was kept as 51:49, yet, if I had anything to do with Indian shipping if I were in charge of the portfolio of shipping, I would not accept one rupee of foreign capital, if I can do without it. Therefore, it is not a question that we are enamoured of foreign capital. I even went to the extent of saying that so far as this business is concerned, our difficulty today is a temporary phase. Do you mean to say, is there any Member who would say that we are perennially going to be in difficulty of foreign exchange, and therefore we must look to the other countries in order to help our national shipping? This is a temporary difficulty. It will be got over. I am ashamed to call this 900,000 tons as a target after five or ten years. Poor as the country is, there is a determination of the country that we shall have our merchant shipping of the standard and quality and even quantity which will do credit to our country. Therefore, I went on saying that this 25 per cent. is a notional, is a nominal thing.

Then you ask me how is it that I accept this amendment. He can understand if he puts himself in my shoes and consider this. We did not want this power at all, but the 1947 policy resolution has also got a proviso which my hon. friend Shri Raghunath Singh has introduced. Therefore, if the 25 per cent. is notional even that amendment is going to remain notional. We do not want it at all.

I can tell the House that even if we do not achieve our target, if it has to be done at the cost of inviting foreign capital in a vital industry like national shipping, I would rather remain without that shipping than

really endanger our shipping by inviting capital from outside. Therefore, let there be no misapprehension in the minds of my hon. friends that foreign capital is going to be invited by the mere acceptance of the amendment, merely because the Government is empowered or invested with this power. If the House has got confidence in the Government that it would be used in the right direction, it would have been very unwise on my part not to accept it. Then I come to the question of the seamen. There, my mind is very much exercised. I can assure the House that this Bill was not intended to take that aspect in its entirety into consideration. There are many flaws, many defects, and I know we cannot make them good while we are laying the foundations of our merchant marine by enacting this law. It will be possible for our National Shipping Board to consider all those things, and if after gaining experience of one or two years, a comprehensive law in which the welfare of our seamen is guaranteed could be brought before the House, I shall be a happy Minister, and the House will be entitled to consider all those things. Therefore, if I have not been able to consider half a dozen things, it does not mean I am indifferent to the welfare of the seamen.

With this assurance, once again I must express my profound gratefulness for the live and keen interest hon. Members have taken in national shipping, and I know with a good beginning we shall also see that our national shipping progresses from success to success.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

**MOTION RE:
APPRAISAL AND PROSPECTS OF
THE SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN**

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): I beg to move:

"That the Planning Commission's Memorandum on Appraisal and Prospects of the Second Five Year Plan, laid on the Table of the House on the 8th May, 1958, be taken into consideration."

Shri Nath Pal (Rajapur): Reappraisal.

Shri Nanda: Yes.

Just about this time last year I had the privilege to move the motion:

"That the Second Five Year Plan in relation to the current economic situation be taken into consideration."

At that time certain adverse signs had already appeared in the economic situation. There was evidence of considerable stress and strain in the economy but at that time we were not in a position to measure the impact of those factors with any accuracy and state in quantitative terms as to the effects of various changes on the Plan. The Planning Commission has been engaged during the intervening period in making a close examination of all aspects of the problems facing the Plan, including the economic situation, progress of the Plan etc. At that time all that we could say was that, having regard to certain estimates of changes in the cost of certain projects, we might just be able to maintain the outlays in financial terms of the Second Five Year Plan, not claiming to be able to realise all the physical targets. But even then, I had indicated, that the achievement of the aim was conditioned on the fulfilment of certain conditions.

When we started looking into this matter, it was chiefly in relation to the decline in the foreign reserves, to the increase in the deficit in the balance of payments. It was chiefly the heavy commitments on foreign exchange account on which our attention was focussed at that time. These facts came to our notice in a pronounced way by the end of the year 1956. Various aspects of the situation were kept under close examination while simultaneously efforts were being made to take remedial action.

The National Development Council reviewed the whole situation in the month of May this year, and a document entitled *Appraisal and Prospects of the Second Five Year Plan* was placed on the Table of the House. In the course of the time that has elapsed since then, certain changes have occurred and such information as is possible to give about the developments which have since taken place has been incorporated in another document, a resume which has been just circulated to Members of Parliament.

I might say something about this process of re-appraisal. When the Second Five Year Plan was formulated, one aspect which was emphasized was relating to flexibility in the working of the Plan, particularly having regard to the fact that the targets had been enlarged and it was going to be a much bigger plan than the First Five Year Plan.

The Plan was based on certain assumptions, according to the best judgment that we could then make regarding the developments in the economy. Certain calculations were made about the consequences of such developments but the situation changed and some other developments occurred. There were elements of uncertainty which are well-known, because of a fairly large component of foreign exchange in the Plan. There were uncertainties regarding imports

of equipment, and securing foreign aid, and there were also some uncertainties about the basic conditions of the Indian economy. Even in a regimented economy, one cannot be very sure that everything that has been placed in the Plan by way of targets in various directions is going to be fulfilled. In a democratic set-up, with a largely free market, where many of the things depend upon the free choice of a vast number of individuals, particularly when the economy is not insulated from the impact of what happens in the international situation, the variations that may occur can be very large. So, it becomes imperative that at intervals reappraisal should be undertaken. In the case of the First Five Year Plan also, we had to consider this aspect and undertake a reappraisal, as a result of which the size of the Plan had to be enlarged by about Rs. 200 crores. The object then was that employment opportunities should be enlarged since for various reasons which are well known; there was slackening in the pace of development at about that time.

16 hrs.

In the case of the Second Five Year Plan, at this stage of the progress of the Plan, the position is that substantial reductions are occurring. It is our duty and obligation, to acquaint Parliament, as fully as possible, with the extent, character and the kind of the changes that are taking place, particularly when the revision is in a downward direction. Some members of Parliament might very well ask the question: 'Could not this be avoided? We had very solemnly undertaken to fulfil a Plan of this size. Why is it then that the Plan had to be curtailed?'. Parliament can well ask: if the Plan is to be curtailed, is it because of certain circumstances which were beyond our control, and which were unforeseen, or is it that the responsibility lies on the Planning Commission and the Governments who were charged with the implementation of the Plan? The question could also

be asked whether there was any weakness in the assumptions on which the Plan was based, and whether with the techniques of planning available to us, we could not have had a more accurate Plan, and whether we could not improve upon those techniques.

The question of the approach of the Plan, so far as I believe, does not arise in the course of this reappraisal. But Parliament is fully entitled to ask questions about it and confirm it or question the very postulates on which the Plan is based.

I would now like to give some information about the economic background of the situation as it developed which necessitated this kind of reappraisal. The first signs, as I have already stated, which arose, and which we had to take notice of, were when we found that our foreign exchange reserves were declining. While in the Plan a deficit of about Rs. 1100 crores in the balance of payments was assumed over the whole period of five years, the actual position that emerged was as follows; in the first year the deficit as current account amounted to Rs. 387 crores, and in the second year Rs. 411 crores, making a total of Rs. 798 crores in the first two years of the Plan. This deterioration in the balance of payments position had started earlier, that is, towards the end of the first Five Year Plan period. On broad calculations, the revised estimate of the aggregate deficit for the whole Plan period is likely to be a great deal more; we may not be very sure or precise, but it may be perhaps 70 per cent more than was visualised when the Plan was framed.

The natural consequence of this was the progressive decline in the foreign exchange reserves to the extent of Rs. 219 crores, that is, at an average rate of Rs. 18.2 crores per month in the first year, and another Rs. 260 crores,—that is, a rate of 21.7 crores per month in the second year; and in the course of the first five months of the current year, there has been a further fall

[Shri Nanda]

of Rs. 80 crores,—that is, an average monthly rate of Rs. 15 to 16 crores. The foreign exchange reserves now stand at about Rs. 187 crores. This is the broad position, notwithstanding the utilisation of the IMF credit to the extent of Rs. 95 crores.

There is another big factor in the economic situation which has a bearing in the consideration of the Plan, and that is the price level. The wholesale price index stood at about 113 at the commencement of the First Plan as against 100 at the end of the First Plan; that is, there was a fall of about 13 per cent. By the end of the first year of the Second Plan, the index was 105.6. That meant a rise of about 5.6 per cent as compared to the last year of the First Plan. The average price level during 1957-58 was about 3 per cent higher than in the preceding year. The figure for August, 1958, is 115.9, which means an additional rise of about 10 per cent. So, during the period of the Plan, the price level has gone up by about 16 per cent. Between February, 1958, when the index was 104.7, and August, 1958, there has been a continuous rise to the extent of 10.7 per cent. Among the constituents of the index, food articles had risen during the period of the Plan by about 25 per cent, industrial raw materials by 7.2 per cent, semi-manufactures by about 2 per cent and manufactures by about 6.2 per cent. The Consumers Price Index has also gone up by 14 per cent during the period of the Second Plan. There is an inter-relation between the price level and the balance of payments position. The major factors involved in the trends of price variations are money supply and the level of production.

I should like to say something about the course of production during the last few years. The index of agricultural production in the first year of Second Plan rose by about 6.1 per cent as compared to the last year of the

First Plan. In the second year, however, there has been a decline of 7.8 per cent as compared to the previous year. The outstanding fact of the agricultural situation is the fall in production of foodgrains from 68.8 million tons in 1956-57 to 62.1 million tons in 1957-58, that is, a decline of 9.7 per cent.

With regard to industrial production, the noteworthy fact is the slackening rate of advance. There was a rise of only 1.5 per cent in 1957-58 as against 8.6 per cent in the previous year. The deterioration, I believe, reflected the difficulties experienced by the textile and light engineering industries besides some other industries. The reasons for the decline in output were not the same in all cases. In one case, it was probably the difficulties arising out of the cuts in imports, and in another case, it was the general slackening of demand.

I would now like to place before the House the outcome of the reappraisal. We have in the documents which Members have already got and must have read, plenty of facts and figures—information which I need not repeat. But I propose to give in a condensed form the essence of the changes that have occurred and the proposals that are being put forward.

The question of reappraisal has been before Parliament for over a year. This was in the context of rising cost estimates and the difficulties experienced in the matter of external resources. It was obvious that the ceiling of Rs. 4800 crores would have to be raised to a considerable extent if the physical targets were to be realised. But as I have already informed the House, a decision was taken that the size of the Plan would not be raised in terms of financial outlay. The impact of the changes which necessitated revision have not been of the same order in the case of various heads of development. A number of conclusions which have emerged as the

outcome of the reappraisal may be briefly stated. Considering that various sectors had not progressed uniformly and additional provision had to be made for certain essential programmes, some reallocations became necessary. It was felt that nearly Rs. 200 crores more should be provided for Industries and Minerals. Cuts of various sizes had, therefore, become necessary under other heads. It was intended that the provisions under Agriculture and Community Development, Village and Small Scale Industries and, for all practical purposes, Transport and Communications, should continue at the old levels. There would thus be a certain reduction of allocation for Irrigation and Power and Social Services. This is the re-allocation on the basis of the Rs. 4800 crore Plan. At the same time, a closer review was made of actual progress and the position and prospects regarding the resources for implementing the targets of the Plan. The estimated outlay for the first three years of the Plan is Rs. 2456 crores. This means that a further amount of Rs. 2344 crores would be required to complete a plan of Rs. 4800 crores, that is, 48.4 per cent of the total.

I may add that in the course of these three years taking the budgetary resources have been responsible for Rs. 1101 crores, external assistance Rs. 438 crores and deficit financing Rs. 917 crores, that is, 54 per cent, 42 per cent and 76 per cent of the original estimate made in each case. An assessment was made of the resources which might be available during the last two years of the Plan in the light of past experience, present trends and the existing scale of effort. This figure was estimated at the figure of Rs. 1804 crores. This would have meant a Plan outlay of just Rs. 4260 crores in the course of five years. It was obvious that if total Plan outlay was to be restricted to this figure, serious consequences would arise. The consequences would be that a number of schemes already taken in hand could

not be seen through, the structure of the Plan would be distorted and a state of imbalance would be created. There was a real risk of not being able even to maintain the tempo of development which had been reached during the current year. The rate of growth of production and employment would be affected; the progress of social services particularly would suffer severely.

An attempt was, therefore, made to re-examine the possibilities of raising further resources. The conclusion was that if efforts were intensified, internal resources for the Plan could be supplemented by, say, Rs. 240 crores bringing up the outlay in the last two years to Rs. 2044 crores and raising the total outlay for the Plan period to Rs. 4500 crores.

The sources for the additional Rs. 240 crores were, additional taxation Rs. 100 crores, loans and small savings Rs. 60 crores and economies in expenditure and collections of arrears of tax, loans etc. Rs. 80 crores.

The resources position now emerging for the five year period, as compared with the original scheme of financing looks like this: the budgetary resources are likely to yield about 50 per cent, external assistance 23 per cent and deficit financing 26 per cent under the Rs. 4500 crore scheme. The scheme of reallocation on the basis of Rs. 4500 crores has been presented in the documents which Members have with them. Compared to the original allocation, the relative position of the various heads of development necessarily becomes altered under the revised scheme. Industries and Minerals have taken Rs. 100 crores more than the provision in the original Plan. That constitutes an increase of 3.1 per cent in the allocation. Other heads suffer a reduction of Rs. 400 crores in the aggregate, the overall percentage of decrease being 9.7 per cent. 'Industries and Minerals' have increased from 14.5 per cent to 17.5

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percent, "Transport and Communications" from 28.9 per cent to 29.5 per cent, the principal change being that Industries and Minerals absorb 17.5 per cent of the total outlay as against 14.4 per cent in the original scheme. 'Transport and Communications' also have been somewhat higher than before and 'Social Services' lose their position slightly, coming down to 18 per cent from 19.7 per cent; 'Village and Small-scale Industries' come down to 3.6 per cent from 4.2 per cent.

These figures do not represent very large changes in the structure of the Plan. It may be remembered that even with the Plan outlay of Rs. 4500 crores, the level of expenditure during the next two years would be considerably higher than in the first three years of the Plan. This is true in the case of the Centre; it is even more true in the case of the States. Against an average expenditure of Rs. 344 crores for the first three years, the reappraised Plan provides for an annual outlay of Rs. 478 crores during the next two years. Allocations between the Centre and the States will change very slightly. Originally, the Centre had 53.3 per cent and the States 46.7 per cent; now the corresponding figures are 54.4 per cent and 45.6 per cent respectively.

These proposals were placed before the National Development Council at its last meeting. The Council decided that within the ceiling of Rs. 4800 crores, the Plan should be divided into two parts. Part A of the Plan, involving a total outlay of Rs. 4500 crores, it was decided, should include projects relating to increase in agricultural production, 'core' projects and projects which have reached an advanced stage and other inescapable schemes. The remaining schemes should be included in Part B of the Plan with a total outlay of Rs. 300 crores. To the extent additional resources become available, projects from Part B of the Plan can also be undertaken.

The resume of the reappraisal of the Plan which has been circulated separately to hon. Members explains in some detail the steps which have been taken since May. The House will observe that the Central Ministries and the State Governments have been requested not to accept any commitments concerning projects not yet begun without specific reference to the Planning Commission. The reappraisal does not affect to any extent the plans for the current year because, as I explained earlier, these were prepared after giving full consideration to the total economic situation and the resources that could be secured. At the same time, the Planning Commission has placed great emphasis on efforts being made to reduce the gap of Rs. 240 crores in the resources over the next two years.

It has been pointed out in the papers circulated to hon. Members that during recent discussions between Planning Commission and the Central Ministries, the need for additional provision has been strongly urged. The additional outlay asked for is of the order of Rs. 150 crores. The Planning Commission holds to the position taken in the National Development Council meeting to limit the outlay under Part A of the Plan to Rs. 4500 crores unless resources of a larger order can be found by the Central and State Governments.

In view, however, of the pressing and to some extent unavoidable demands which have been put forward especially on behalf of the important industrial projects which will mean much to the future progress of the country, the Planning Commission has come to the conclusion that a larger effort than that envisaged in its memorandum of May last is imperative. The gap in financial resources, the nation is called upon to make good is of the order of Rs. 300 to Rs. 350 crores rather than Rs. 240 crores mentioned in the memorandum. Out of this the task of finding about Rs. 140 crores has

been laid on the States. The Planning Commission is now engaged in a series of discussions with the Chief Ministers and Finance Ministers of States which will conclude about the middle of October. The results of these discussions will be placed before the National Development Council early in November.

Sir, this is very briefly a resume of the reappraisal. I might give to the House a picture of the progress that has been made during this period, what has been achieved, the outlays that have been incurred and of our expectations for the remaining period of the Plan, based on the reassessment of the resources and the re-allocations that have been proposed.

To take agriculture first, the total provision for Agriculture and Community Development for three years—I am referring to the outlay—is 46 per cent and the revised target for 1956—61 will mean 90 per cent of the original target of outlay. Minor irrigation, 66 per cent for the three years and 140 per cent during the period of the Plan; warehousing, marketing and co-operation 38 per cent now and 68 per cent later on; and in the case of N.E.S. and C.D. it is 43 for the three year period and 85 per cent for the whole period of the Plan. Regarding minor irrigation I might say that there is, in addition, about Rs. 55 crores provided in the N.E.S. and Community Projects.

In terms of physical targets, that is the total production potential that is being built up, in the first year of the Plan it was 1.3 million tons; in the second year it was 2.3 millions and in the third year, it is 3 million tons. The total for three years is 6.6 million tons. The original target of 10 million tons of production of foodgrains was raised to 15.5 million tons. So 43 per cent of the target will have been achieved during the first three years. And, it is expected that with all the effort that we are now making and will continue

to make, the entire revised target should be realised by the end of the Second Plan period in respect of agricultural production, particularly foodgrains.

In the matter of Community Development and N.E.S. there was a revision and the programme has been prolonged over more years. The position now is that at the end of first three years (1956—59), 41 per cent of the population will be covered by C.D. and N.E.S. programmes and at the end of the Second Plan, the figure will go upto 65 per cent. The provision for agriculture and Community Development is Rs. 510 crores in place of Rs. 568 crores. For agricultural production programmes during the period, the allotment is proposed to be raised from Rs. 170 to Rs. 201 crores. The need to provide larger funds for the next two years as compared to the first three years of the Plan has been kept in view and an additional allotment of Rs. 26 crores has been made to facilitate the completion of distributaries where storage has already been established and for the expansion of minor irrigation in places where the results are assured.

So far as the Planning Commission is concerned, it will do its best to ensure that—provided that there is adequate organisation and the full co-operation of the people is coming forth. I am certain that agricultural production programme should not suffer for want of financial resources.

I now take irrigation and power. The original investment proposed was Rs. 913 crores. In the first three years we will have incurred an outlay of 479 crores, that is 52 per cent. The revised estimate for five years is Rs. 820 crores, that is 90 per cent of the original allocation. In terms of physical targets, the area to be irrigated was originally estimated to be 12 million acres. On the basis of the outlays in the three years about 32 per cent has been achieved and it is expected that by the end of the Plan period it will be 87 per cent.

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Regarding power, during this period of three years we will have got about 26 per cent of the original target of 3.5 million kw. and by the end of the Plan period it will be 82 per cent. The reduction in the target for irrigation represents the result of assessment so far made. It is partly due to shortage in the supply of steel. All possible efforts are being made to ensure fuller utilisation of the irrigation potential created so far.

I now come to the large and medium industries. The expenditures in the first three years represent about 64 per cent, compared to the contemplated plan outlay. By the end of the Plan it is expected to increase by about 14 per cent. As regards physical targets, the hon. Members have a large amount of material in the memorandum and I would not like to go over the whole ground again. But it will be interesting to note that in the case of a number of important industries the actual physical realisation will be about 100 per cent and in certain cases even more.

The House would have perhaps noticed the increase in the allotment for industries and minerals. A greater part of this increase arises from the need to provide adequate resources for the three steel plants—Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur for which the provision of Rs. 350 crores indicated in the Plan was found to be insufficient. It is now estimated that the expenditure on these three steel plants would be Rs. 495 crores. Similarly, in respect of certain other schemes like, expansion of the Sindri Fertilizer, Nangal fertilizer project, the South Arcot lignite project, etc. the original provision made was found to be inadequate. On the basis of the latest appraisal, the provision for industries will have to be increased from Rs. 617 crores to a little over Rs. 650 crores, if the entire programme originally envisaged is to be implemented. The

revised provision indicated for industries in the appraisal document was Rs. 705 crores which was insufficient, compared to the requirements. The Planning Commission had a series of discussions with the various Ministries concerned and the proposals for revising this provision further are under consideration. Other important projects which are in themselves of great significance for the future development of our economy, such as the heavy machinery project, and the projects relating to the manufacture of raw film, development of iron ore deposits for export, oil exploration in the Naharkatiya oil fields in Assam. These projects and steel plants will go a long way to help us build up a strong industrial structure. They are essential to the development of the economy whose ability to earn foreign exchange is not unduly dependent on exports of agricultural raw materials and which can develop further production capacity largely from indigenous sources. In this period of construction, some degree of strain is inevitable but over the years the projects now in hand will do much to strengthen the economic structure.

To sum up, the performance in the public sector in the industrial field has hitherto been very satisfactory inasmuch as it has made an important contribution in the nature of achieving self-sufficiency in certain essential goods like penicillin. Considering the nature of the projects undertaken in the public sector and the difficulties of foreign exchange which had to be faced with, delays were inevitable. But every effort has been made not only to arrange for foreign exchange and deferred payments etc. but also to stick to the original investment, so far as is possible. It may be mentioned that the projects included in the core of the Plan among industries are only the steel plants, including the ferro-silicon plant of the Mysore Iron and Steel Works, coal programme and the mining part of the Neyveli Project.

For these schemes foreign exchange has been released without insisting on deferred payments while in other cases deferred payment arrangements had invariably to be insisted upon.

Regarding minerals, the provision now required is Rs. 110 crores in place of Rs. 85.5 crores, as indicated in the Planning Commission's memorandum. The additions are in respect of coal from Rs. 28.4 to Rs. 40 crores and for oil exploration from Rs. 11.3 to Rs. 20 crores. In the case of coal there may be a short-fall of about 3-4 million tons in the target of 60 million tons by the end of the Plan.

The head Social Services claims special attention especially because it is going to undergo an unfavourable change. The outlay for three years will be 38 per cent and the revised outlay for the five year period is going to be 86 per cent of the original plan outlay. On Education it will be 89 per cent, on Health, 89 per cent, on Housing 70 per cent and on Others, social service, 84.4 per cent. That is for the entire Plan period. Taking health first, in respect of physical targets, the intention is that at least both in the matter of hospital beds and doctors, there will be a hundred per cent realisation of the targets. Housing is going to suffer. The outlay will be about 61 per cent of the target that was aimed at. Many hon. Members of the House will no doubt be exercised over the reduction of Rs. 135 crores in the total outlay on social services. The Planning Commission share this anxiety. While the living conditions, opportunities for education, health and sanitation services and other needs of less developed areas and backward sections of the people claim an urgency, it is undoubtedly a matter of regret that the expenditure on social services which was by no means too large even in the original plan should at all be diminished. Here, two facts have to be kept in view. The first is that a greater part of the burden for finan-

cing the social services has to be undertaken by the State Governments although doubtless to the limits of its capacity, the Central Government will also endeavour to help. In the main, however, the resources that the Central Government can provide by way of assistance to the States have to be concentrated on agriculture, irrigation, power and village and small-scale industries and special programmes in the field of social services. Secondly, as compared to a total expenditure of Rs. 360 crores on social services in the first three years of the Plan, in the next two years the total outlay will be Rs. 450 crores. Thus the expenditure on social services will increase on an average from Rs. 120 crores to Rs. 225 crores a year. From the current year's Rs. 150 crores, it will be Rs. 225 crores each year over the next two years—an increase of more than 42 per cent from the current year's level. While realising the nature of the difficulties with which we are faced and in particular the impact on social services, the hon. Members would rest assured that in the reappraisal of the Plan, the requirements of social services have been watched with sympathy. In the matter of Education (*Interruptions*). I say so because, if we had not stretched the resources and made an effort to increase them, in view of the commitments in industry, etc. the social services would have suffered to a large extent. Therefore, the efforts now being made to raise additional resources at the Centre and in the States are intended very largely for this purpose, namely, that social services should not be allowed to suffer any more.

So far as the number of school-going children of the primary stage are concerned, the revised targets are likely to be realized. It is going to be 119 per cent. In the case of the middle-stage, it is 168 per cent, and in the case of secondary stage, 117 per cent. This is, when we take the

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number of students for whom facilities were to be made available. In the matter of technical education to which all of us attach special importance, the targets likely to be achieved during the rest of the Plan period and also the targets achieved so far are indicated in the memorandum. The number of engineering colleges and polytechnics and also the additional intake in the case of both were raised at the time of the formulation of the Second Plan. Later on there was a further revision upwards. The original target in the Second Plan was to increase the intake capacity from 4735 and 9286 to 5745 and 11886 respectively, for degree and diploma courses respectively by the end of the Plan. This meant a very substantial increase. In the progress of setting up new institutions proposed for the two years, 1959-61, there was an addition of six engineering colleges and 32 polytechnics. Similar progress has been made in other directions.

In respect of Transport and Communications the revised outlay would be 96 per cent for railways, 100 per cent for roads and road transport, 87.4 per cent for ports and harbours, 105.7 per cent for civil air transport and 86.5 per cent for posts and telegraphs. I have condensed the figures of outlay, original and anticipated, in terms of percentages so that it may be possible to see in proper perspective the change that is likely to occur.

Sir, I have given the factual position regarding the outlays concerned, and also the progress of the Plan achieved so far and anticipated during the remaining period of the Plan. The question arises that in several directions, as I have indicated, there are going to be short-falls in financial outlays and in physical terms. It may be asked, why these difficulties have arisen, whether they could not be avoided, and what we propose to do about the future.

Regarding internal resources the position is—that is the essence of the whole matter—as against the additional taxation target of Rs. 850 crores, the yield over the five years from the measures of fresh taxation is estimated at Rs. 920 crores—Rs. 725 crores on account of measures taken at the Centre and Rs. 195 crores in the States. Thus the yield from additional taxation is expected to exceed the Plan target by Rs. 70 crores. In spite of this, the estimate of the surplus from current revenues as worked out now shows a shortfall of about Rs. 441 crores as compared to the estimates envisaged in the Plan. This is mainly due to increase in non-plan expenditure under both non-developmental and developmental heads.

If we were only to consider the effort that is made to increase revenues from taxation compared with what was visualised when the Plan was formulated, it has not fallen short of that level, that magnitude. Other things have occurred which have led to this position. The amount made available for the Plan out of these additional resources was very much less so far as the Centre is concerned. Here is the well known fact of transfers made to the States which, of course, does not make any change in the overall position. But there is the expenditure on defence, which has been showing an upward trend during the period of the Second Plan. Considering the total expenditure on defence over the Plan period, it is likely to show an increase of Rs. 325 crores as compared to the level envisaged at the time of formulation of the Plan. The remaining increase of Rs. 62 crores is explained by such items as increases in expenditure on civil administration, tax collection, food subsidies, etc. So far as the States are concerned, there also the effort has been considerable but it did not reach the level that was required but even the additional resources raised by the States have not

been channelled into the Plan to the full extent.

In regard to the development expenditure outside the Plan, the estimate for the last year of the First Five Year Plan was placed at Rs. 249 crores, whereas the estimate for 1958-59 works out at Rs. 336 crores, an increase of Rs. 87 crores. This increase is mainly accounted for by the increase in committed expenditure under certain heads like education, health, etc., and by certain new schemes which are being executed outside the Plan.

Taking the non-developmental as well as the developmental expenditure outside the Plan, the increase registered for the first three years is of the order of Rs. 147 crores. While framing an estimate of non-plan expenditure at the time of the formulation of the Plan, alongside, an allowance had been made for a certain order of increase, but it appears that the increase has actually been of a much higher order than was taken into account at that time.

Taking all factors into account, the conclusion that follows is that non-developmental expenditure and the developmental expenditure outside the State plans for the five-year period will absorb an amount of Rs. 224 crores more than what had been originally visualised.

This information which I have given explains the fact and answers the question as to why there is a shortfall in the matter of internal resources to the extent that we are experiencing now.

In the matter of external resources, the House will recall the Planning Commission's paper on fall in foreign exchange reserves which was presented to the House about six months ago. As the hon. Members will remember, foreign exchange difficulties in the Plan had arisen by the heavy imports which took place in 1953-56 and

1956-57. There were a number of factors which accounted for these large imports: the increased requirements of raw materials and components for supporting a higher level of industrial production in the private sector; higher imports of consumer goods, increase in prices and freight rates, the need to import more foodgrains than originally anticipated, and increased requirements for defence. The upshot was that in 1956-57, our sterling balances declined by Rs. 221 crores and in 1957-58 by further Rs. 260 crores. At the same time, as it happened during the first two years of the Plan, external assistance contributed a little less than 10 per cent to the total Plan outlay of Rs. 1,500 crores. This fact has also contributed to the foreign exchange problem. During the past years India's requirements for foreign exchange have received much support which we value and appreciate. Including Rs. 132 crores aid funds carried over from the first Plan up to March, 1958, the total external assistance available for the Plan amounts to Rs. 859 crores. Of this, the USA accounts for about Rs. 400 crores, the World Bank for Rs. 136 crores, the Soviet Union Rs. 123 crores, West Germany Rs. 75 crores, the United Kingdom Rs. 35 crores and the Colombo Plan for Rs. 43 crores. The external assistance of such magnitude has not only helped to finance the foreign exchange expenditure in many directions which are crucial to our economy but has also facilitated the mobilisation of our internal resources of the Plan. Yet, it is essential for any country in our position to limit the foreign exchange expenditure and foreign exchange borrowing to reasonable proportions.

As the House is aware, in the last year of the current Plan, for a number of years, the re-payment of foreign loans will involve an average foreign exchange expenditure of about Rs. 100 crores a year. It is, therefore, all the more essential to determine priorities for allotment of foreign exchange

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with the utmost care and to build up our own foreign exchange resources. It is from this point of view that Government are considering it necessary to distinguish certain projects requiring foreign exchange as "core" projects. These include steel plants, coal, railways, ports and certain other projects and involve together a total foreign exchange expenditure of Rs. 962 crores or roughly about two-thirds of the total foreign expenditure of the projects in the public sector in the Plan.

Since the beginning of 1957, allotments of foreign exchange for the private sector, regarding which at one time complaints were voiced in this House, have been drastically curtailed. The first priority in foreign exchange allocation is now given to the maintenance of the economy, i.e. to the provision of raw materials, components, spares, etc., to meet the needs of existing industries. The amounts allowed for import of capital goods are limited to cases such as those in which the bulk of the import is covered by long-term loans or deferred payment arrangements, where the bulk of foreign exchange has already been released and certain items of equipment are required for completing the projects and where on completion the projects are calculated to save or earn foreign exchange within relatively short periods.

I have presented to the House a factual position. I have indicated at the outset the circumstances which necessitated the reappraisal. Then I indicated also the questions that might well be asked. There might be questions about the implications of the position that has developed. The problem is largely spelled out in terms of shortage of resources. We have developed the capacity to spend, we have developed the momentum of industrial development absorbing capital resources, but we have not yet moved very much towards the self-

sustaining stage, which was aimed at in connection with the Plan. Frankly the position is that we are very much dependent for our resources on deficit financing on the one hand and foreign assistance on the other.

I compared the various stages of the formulation of the Plan, taking only three constituents—budgetary resources, external assistance and deficit financing. As we visualised the position at the time of formulating this Plan, the break-up of Rs. 4,800 crores would be 58·3 per cent budgetary resources, 16·7 per cent external assistance and 25 per cent deficit financing. But the break-up of Rs. 4,500 now will be 50 per cent budgetary resources, 23 per cent external assistance and 27 per cent deficit financing. That means, our dependence on external assistance and deficit financing is relatively very much larger than it should be. That is the crux of the whole situation.

Now we see the whole situation regarding the Second Five Year Plan, the extent it has gone forward, the difficulties which it is encountering and what we visualise for the future. The question is being asked in this country and this view is also being expressed abroad that our second Five Year Plan is over-ambitious. It is much more than what we can execute with the resources which we have got and can legitimately count upon. From the facts that are presented to the House it would look as if the Plan is over-ambitious, because we are not able to carry it out. But those who say that the Plan is over-ambitious, here in this country as well as outside, they have acknowledged the fact—that the living standards in our country are pitifully low. They are aware of the fact of unemployment in the country and the problem of poverty. They are also aware of the fact that the population has increased and is increasing at the rate of 1·5 per cent per annum. The Second Five Year Plan envisaged an increase of 10 per

cent in the per capita income, over the Plan period, that is from Rs. 281 to Rs. 330. This is the measure of the ambition that we have entertained with regard to the Second Five Year Plan. As far as doubling the per capita income is concerned, we will have to wait for five plans, that is till 1976 or so, for the leeway that we have to make up is very large, if we ever think of comparing ourselves with other countries, of coming up anywhere near the levels that they have attained. We find that the per capita national income in United States is about 36 times and in United Kingdom about 16 times and Japan about 4 times, as compared to India's. Very few countries stand below us in the matter of level of national income. The population, as I said, is increasing at the average rate of 1.5 per cent. Then, urbanisation is a very important factor. It is increasing at a bigger rate—2.4 per cent. With the increase in population, naturally the working force will increase.

Let us understand that it is not as if we have to simply provide for the increase in population that is there. We have also to consider the requirements of the people that we will have to provide for in the matter of education, housing, transport, employment etc. Naturally, their aspirations will be higher and their needs will be more and there has to be a measure of satisfaction of those needs. We are providing on a larger scale, albeit gradually, health services and other social services. So, the maintenance of those services will require larger resources. Therefore, looked at from any point of view, the amount of plan outlay is not at all too big. Considering all these things, I think, it is too small.

There is another aspect of the size of the Plan, which is being stressed and emphasised, and that is the foreign exchange component. It is in the character of the Plan. The question arises: should we not change the

structure of our Plan, the character of our industrial development? There may be less of heavy industries and less production of capital goods. It may be an attractive and tempting proposition from one point of view. But what would it mean eventually. It would mean that our dependence on foreign assistance will be extended over a much longer period. The date when we can become relatively self-reliant in the matter of foreign exchange will be removed very far, and I am quite sure that we have no intention of maintaining or increasing our dependence on foreign aid beyond a point. It is too big in proportion to the Plan that we have now. It should be less. I believe that as we advance, say, to the Third Five Year Plan and later on....

17 hrs.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Those hon. Members who do not want to listen should not ask for opportunity to speak.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): Certain hon. Ministers have been disturbing....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They do not ask for opportunity to speak.

Shri Nanda: I was explaining that even for the purpose of reducing our dependence on foreign assistance, it is imperative that we give as much attention to building our capital base and to develop our heavy industry as possible. There are other countries also working out their plans and pursuing a course of development and we are told that they are meeting with great success in this direction. Is it this success that crowns their efforts? What are the reasons for that? What is it that we are lacking? In a democratic set-up, I believe it should be possible to increase the effort of the people to an extent that not only we can match the performance of others but we may excel. The possibilities cannot be denied. Have they

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been realised? That is the question. What should be done about that in order that this challenge that we are facing in this country with a democratic framework, which has become a kind of a laboratory for process of development and economic growth in democratic conditions could be met? Could we not find a way to answer that challenge? I think that this is an important question which we have to answer. There may have to be a good deal of rethinking to be done in this country because the fact is that the progress is not on the scale and of the size and dimensions that would be necessary and that would be called for in order to hasten the pace of advance on the scale that is necessary for solving our various problems, e.g., unemployment and low standards of living. What are those factors to which we have to give our attention? I would like to make a brief mention of them. There are two aspects which are very important. One is that out of our existing provision it should be possible for us....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Will the hon. Minister like to take some time?

Shri Nanda: Yes, Sir. Another ten to fifteen minutes.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): I suggest that this document should be circulated to all of us.

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): It has been circulated.

Shri Nanda: I may continue tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister may continue tomorrow.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Sasaram): The time allotted may be extended from ten to eleven hours.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House stands adjourned now to meet again at Eleven of the Clock tomorrow.

17.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 18th September, 1958.

[Wednesday, 17th September, 1958]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

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1312	Chhaganlal Textile Mills (Private) Ltd. Chalisgaon	6847-48
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1317	International Labour Conference	6854-58
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1323	Indians in Burma	6861-63
1324	Sixteenth Indian Labour Conference	6863-64
1325	Tea Trade with Iraq	6864-56
1326	Forged passports	6865-68
1327	Indian Commissioner in Nairobi.	6868
1328	Indian Ambassador to Iraq	6869-70
1330	Lay off of Textile Workers, Kanpur	6870-73

S.N.Q. No.

14	Violation of border by Pakistanis	6873-75
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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

S.Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
1311	Small Industries Service Institute, Delhi	6875-76
1313	Sports Goods Industry	6876-77
1314	Rise in prices of food-stuffs	6877
1318	Meeting of Purchase Advisory Council	6877-78
1319	Displaced Persons in Tripura	6878
1320	Khadi Industry	6878
1329	Small Scale Industries	6879
1331	Small Scale Industrial Under of Punjab	6879
1332	Radiation danger in Kerala	6879-80
1333	Racial riots in U. K.	6880-81

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—contd.

S.Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
1334	Sewing Machine Industry in Punjab	6881
1335	Exports of tobacco to Belgium	6881-82
1336	Export Duties on Oil-seeds	6882
1337	Local development works	6882-83
1338	Sub-soil water in Delhi	6883
1339	Employees' contribution to Provident Fund	6883-84
1340	Khadi and Gramodyog Bhandvan	6884
1341	Manufacture of trucks	6884-85
1342	Employment Exchanges	6885
1343	Export of iron ore	6885-86
1344	Sale of electrical goods	6886
1345	Tea Exports	6886-87
1346	Sixteenth Indian Labour conference	6887
1347	Long staple cotton	6887-88
1348	Narsing Girji Manufacturing Company Ltd., Sholapur	6888-89
1349	Corporation for coir products	6889
U.S.Q. No.		
2177	Export of cloves and cardamom	6889-90
2178	National Small Industries Corporation (Private) Ltd.	6890
2179	Films' production	6890-92
2180	Documentary on skin diseases	6891
2181	Allowances to Stevedore Workers in Calcutta Port	6891-92
2182	N.E.F.A.	6892-93
2183	Radio transmitters at Delhi and Cuttack	6893
2184	Broadcasting studios at Srinagar and Bhopal	6894
2185	India Stores Department, London and India Supply Mission, Washington	6895-96
2186	Tea Board	6896-97
2187	Import of films	6897
2188	Import of milk food and dairy products	6898-99
2189	Export of hides and skins	6899
2190	Export of skins and meat	6899-6900
2191	Export of live animals	6900
2192	India's export trade	6900-01
2193	Prices of gwar	6901

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS—*contd.*

U. S. Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
2194	Export of <i>guar-gum</i>	6902
2195	Hides	6902-03
2196	Bharat Sevak Samaj	6903
2197	Handloom Industry in Andhra Pradesh	6903
2198	Iron sheets and cement to Rajasthan	6903
2199	Central Schemes in Rajasthan	6904
2200	Employees' State Insurance Scheme	6904-05
2201	Immigration of Indians to foreign countries	6905
2202	Second Five Year Plan	6906
2203	Registered companies	6906
2204	Cement factories	6907
2205	Grievance procedure	6907
2206	Land Nationalisation Act in Burma	6907-08
2207	Development of handicrafts	6908
2208	Goa-Bombay Steamer Service	6908-09
2209	State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd.	6909
2210	C.P.W.D.	6909-10
2211	Allotment to displaced persons	6910
2212	Export of jute goods	6910
2213	Trade with Afghanistan	6910-11
2214	Import of raw films	6911
2215	Ambar Charkha programme in Punjab	6911-12
2216	Introduction of Ambar Charkha in Jails	6912
2217	Cement quotas to Punjab	6912-13
2218	Handloom Cooperatives in Punjab	6913
2219	Custodian-General, Delhi	6913
2220	Electrical Sub-Divisions of C.P.W.D.	6913-14
2221	Industrial development	6914-15
2222	Distribution of cotton yarn	6915
2223	Small scale industries in Punjab	6915
2224	Export of agricultural commodities to Russia	6915-16
2225	Indian officials kidnapped by Pakistanis	6916
2226	Tata Mercedes Benz Trucks	6917
2227	<i>Khadi Gramodyog Bhavans</i>	6917
2228	Import of tractors and bulldozers	6918

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS—*contd.*

U. S. Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
2229	Displaced persons from West Pakistan	6918-19
2230	Displaced families from East Pakistan	6919-20
2231	Compensation to displaced persons	6920
2232	Central assistance to U. P.	6920-21
2233	State plans	6921
2234	Stipend to Amber Charkha trainees	6921-22
2235	Film "Ten Commandments"	6922-23
2236	Shifting of Offices	6923-24
2237	Bara Hoti	6924
2238	Research and Reference Division	6924-25
2239	Registered companies in Himachal Pradesh	6925
2240	Border incidents	6925-26
2241	Foreign Service Inspectors	6926
2242	Staff of the Indian High Commission in U. K.	6927-28
2243	Cottage industries in Punjab	6928
2244	Land for rehabilitation of displaced persons in Tripura	6927-28
2245	Displaced persons' camp in Tripura	6928-29
2246	Indian Green Tea Delegation	6929-30
2247	Employees in the External Affairs Ministry	6930
2248	Staff in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	6930-31
2249	Staff in the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply	6931
2250	Export of sewing machines	6931-32
2251	Processed Indian Films	6932-33
2252	Daily Wages of stevedore workers	6933-34
2253	Stevedore Workers	6933-36
2254	Trees in Delhi	6935-37
2255	Employment Exchanges, Punjab	6937
2256	Pilgrims from Pakistan	6937
2257	Stock of cloth with Amritsar mills	6938
2258	Iron and manganese ore mines in Orissa	6938
2259	Industrial Estate Malegaon (Bombay)	6938-39
2260	Indians repatriated from abroad	6939-40

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS—*contd.*

COLUMNS

U. S. Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
2261	Development works .	6940
2262	Allotment of accommoda- tion	6941
2263	State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd.	6941-42

PAPERS LAID ON THE
TABLE — 6943-44

The following papers were laid
on the Table—

(1) A copy of Notification
No. G.S.R. 748 dated the
30th August, 1958, issued
under Section 5 of the
Essential Commodities
Act, 1955.

(2) A copy of the Annual
Report of the Employees'
State Insurance Corpora-
tion for the year 1957-58
under Section 36 of the
Employees' State Insu-
rance Act, 1948.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE
ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLU-
TIONS—PRESENTED. 6945

Twenty-seventh Report was
presented.

CALLING ATTENTION TO
MATTER OF URGENT
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE 6945-46

Shri P. K. Deo called the
attention of the Minister of Health
to cholera epidemic in Kalahandi
District of Orissa State.

CALLING ATTENTION TO
MATTER OF URGENT
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—*contd.*

The Minister of Health (Shri
Karmakar) made a statement in
regard thereto.

BILL INTRODUCED. 6946

The Poisons (Amendment)
Bill, 1958.

BILL PASSED 6947-7068

The clause-by-clause consi-
deration of the Merchant Shipping
Bill, 1958, as reported by the
Joint Committee was taken up and
thereafter the Bill was passed as
amended

MOTION UNDER DISCU-
SSION 7059-34

The Minister of Labour and
Employment and Planning (Shri
Nanda) moved that the Planning
Commission's Memorandum on
Appraisal and Prospects of the
Second Five Year Plan laid on
the Table on 8-5-58 be taken into
consideration. The discussion
was not concluded.

AGENDA FOR THURSDAY,
18TH SEPTEMBER, 1958—

Further discussion on the
motion re: Appraisal and Pros-
pects of Second Five Year Plan.