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LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Fifth Session)



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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, 23rd September, 1958

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Steamer Services in Bihar

*1477. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 602 on the 28th February, 1958 and state:

(a) the progress made in regard to the restoration of steamer services in the Ganga, in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh which the Joint Steamer Companies had discontinued;

(b) whether the Government of Bihar has made any proposal in this regard; and

(c) if so, the decision taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

It was suggested to the Government of Bihar that they should establish a corporation to operate the Inland Water Transport services and that the Government of India would assist technically and also by giving a loan for the capital and bearing a propor-

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tion of the operational losses in the initial period. The Bihar Government replied that the Corporation should be set up by the Government of India and that the Bihar Government and the Government of India should share the capital and annual losses equally. As experience in operating Inland Water Transport services is an essential requisite for organising an Inland Water Transport service on a commercial scale, an appeal was made to the Joint Steamer Companies to resume operation of the services on the condition that Government would reimburse them the losses. They pleaded that they did not have the capital for the purpose. It was then suggested to them to draw up a scheme for floating a separate company for Bihar Inland Water Transport which would be financially assisted by the Government of India and the Government of Bihar. The outlines of such a scheme have been received and are under consideration by the Government of India and the Government of Bihar.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: It appears from the statement that the Joint Steamer Companies have submitted a scheme to the Central Government. May I know what are the important features of this scheme?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The important features are that the authorised capital would be Rs. 1 lakh consisting of 10,000 ordinary shares of Rs. 10 each. The issued capital would be Rs. 1,000 to start with. This company will have a board of directors consisting of three directors. It will run two vessels which are chartered; Saturn and Ardoch. It will run services from Patna to Rajmahal and from Patna to Buxar. These are the important features. Perhaps I need not go into the details further.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: How long it will take to finalise the scheme?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is yet under consideration of the Bihar Government and the Government of India. We have to expedite consideration and finalise it.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know the number of men rendered unemployed as a result of the discontinuance of the steamers?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That would be a separate question.

श्री भक्त बर्षन : इस प्रश्न में उत्तर प्रदेश का भी नाम लिया गया है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इन स्टीमर सर्विसेज से उत्तर प्रदेश को भी कुछ लाभ पहुंचने की आशा की जा सकती है ?

श्री ए/ज बहादुर : प्रश्न जो है उसका बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश दोनों से सम्बन्ध है लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश की बाबत में अभी कुछ नहीं कह सकता। क्योंकि जो मैंने रूट्स बताये हैं वे तो उत्तर प्रदेश को नहीं आते।

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that the Joint Steamer Companies are asked to float a separate company, may I know what would be the percentage of co-operation in financial terms between the Government of Bihar, and the Government of India on the one hand and the Joint Steamer Companies on the other?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That is a point to be settled. Of course, all the three, the Government of India, Government of Bihar and the Technical Adviser, namely the Joint Steamer Companies will participate.

Amendment of the Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950

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*1478. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri Ram Krishan:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer

to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1942 on the 30th April, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the proposal for amending the Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950, has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The various proposals for amending the Road Transport Corporations Act, 1950 are still under consideration.

(b) Efforts are being made to bring an amending bill before Parliament during its next session.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know in which of the States this Road Transport Corporations Act is in force and whether there is any liberalisation of rules for issuing licences?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Licences are not issued under the Road Transport Corporations Act. Road Transport Corporations Act applies to organisational matters and lays down the provisions under which such corporations can or should be organised. The licensing part of the transport business is covered by the Motor Vehicles Act.

Shri Ram Krishan: May I know the view expressed by the Punjab Government in this regard?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The Government of Punjab have agreed to set up a Road Transport Corporation on the inter-state route, namely, Pathankot-Manali road, in collaboration with the Himachal Pradesh Government.

Shri Ranga: Is any effort being made to advise the State Governments to inform the Union Government here if and when they think of forming their own Corporations nationalising road transport or to place the surplus vehicles at the disposal of the Government of India so that they may be able to make use of them here in Delhi and other places?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think all proposals for nationalisation of road transport, first, have got to be discussed with and receive the assent of the Planning Commission. They are discussed there in consultation with the Ministry of Finance. In the Planning Commission such proposals for nationalisation are taken up if any assistance is sought for from the Centre in this behalf.

Shri Tangamani: In addition to the Punjab Government, may I know whether any State Governments have sent proposals for suitably amending this Act?

Shri Raj Bahadur: For nationalisation?

Shri Tangamani: Yes.

Shri Raj Bahadur: The question does not pertain to nationalisation. The question pertains to the setting up of Road Transport Corporations which in a way involve nationalisation. We have three States, Bihar, Punjab and Rajasthan, from which proposals in this respect are under consideration.

Civil Airport at Delhi

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*1479. { **Shri Ram Krishan:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1717 on the 17th April 1958 and state:

(a) at what stage is the proposal of establishing a civil airport at Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that the proposal has been abandoned;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether some equipment had already been purchased for installation at the proposed airport; and

(e) if so, the total amount of the equipment purchased?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) to (c). No decision has yet been reached on the question of establishing a separate International Civil Airport for Delhi, but Palam will continue in joint use by the Civil Aviation Department and the I.A.F. for the present.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Shri Ram Krishan: May I know whether it is a fact that a decision was taken to construct a civil airport in Delhi? May I know why this decision has been postponed now?

Shri Mohiuddin: No such decision was taken.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : कुछ दिनों पहले स्वयं शासन ने यह स्वीकार किया था कि चूँकि विलिंगडन ऐयरपोर्ट आबादी के बीच में स्थित है इसलिए उसको वहाँ से हटा कर किमी खुले मैदान में ले जाया जाये, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस निर्णय को कार्यान्वित करने में इतनी देरी क्यों हो रही है ?

Shri Mohiuddin: It is a fact that the Willingdon Airport has been surrounded by houses. For the time being it is used only for small aircrafts like Dakotas. Bigger aircrafts use the Palam Airport. The question of a permanent civilian airport is under consideration. I hope it will be decided soon.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Is it not a fact that this dual control has retarded the development of the Port?

Shri Mohiuddin: As far as the construction of buildings and housing for the employees are concerned, it has retarded. But, as far as other developments of facilities for the use of aviation are concerned, there is no difference.

Shri P. C. Berooah: Is it a fact that the runway at Palam is not long enough for modern jet aircrafts and from the defence point of view, it is not suitable to have the civil airport at Palam?

Shri Mohiuddin: The runway at Palam is not sufficiently long to receive Boeings. The question of extending the runway or constructing a new runway to receive Boeings in 1960 is also under active consideration of the Government.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: How are developmental expenditure shared by the two Ministries?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): The expenditure is not shared just now. We have been incurring the expenditure so far as the operational side of it is concerned. The question whether ultimately we shall go or they will go to another place is, as my hon. colleague said, under very active consideration.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: Which are the sites under consideration for the location of this airport?

Shri Mohiuddin: There are more than one sites.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह स्वीकार किया कि कुछ दिनों में इस पर विचार किया जा रहा है। मैं ने जो पहले प्रश्न पूछा था उसी को दुहराना चाहता हूँ कि वह कौन सी खास जगह है जिनकी बजट से निर्णय करने में इतनी देरी हो रही है ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : दूसरी जगह एयरपोर्ट स्थापित करने में करीब १० करोड़ रुपये का खर्च आता है जो कि एक काफी बड़ी रकम है और जब तक हमारे पास काफी पैसा न हो, कोई भी चीज चाहे वह कितनी ही आवश्यक क्यों न हो, वह चीज रुक जायेगी।

Master Plan for Flood Control in Punjab

*1480. { **Shri Ram Krishan:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 197 on the 17th February, 1958 and state whether the draft master plan for flood control regarding the rivers Ravi, Beas and Sutlej in the Punjab has since been examined by the High Level Committee on Floods?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): The draft plan is still under examination.

Shri Ram Krishan: May I know by what time this plan will be examined?

Shri Hathi: The final report of the high level flood committee is expected by the end of November. After that, it will be scrutinised by the board. Then it will be scrutinised by the State control Board. I cannot definitely say how long it will take.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know the total cost of this plan which is under examination?

Shri Hathi: The total cost as estimated by the Punjab Government is Rs. 823.52 lakhs.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know whether any such master plan is being evolved for other States?

Shri Hathi: Yes, Sir. Some States such as Assam and Bihar have submitted such plans.

Inter-State River Waters Dispute between Madras and Kerala

*1481. { **Shri Shivananjappa:**
Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the dispute between Madras and Kerala

on the sharing of the waters of the Paramlikulam river has been referred to the Government of India for arbitration; and

(b) if so, when the decision of the Government of India is likely to be given?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No, Sir. No reference has been received from either of the State Governments for arbitration in the dispute.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Shivananjappa: What are the salient points of the dispute between the two Governments in sharing the waters of this river?

Shri Hathi: The salient point of the dispute is that the Madras Government wants to utilise certain waters of the Chalakudi basin. The Kerala Government feels that if they utilise it, they will be short of water. So, the whole question centres round the utilisation and sharing of the water.

Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan: May I know whether the Madras Government has undertaken a survey at the place, in case the Kerala Government does not agree to the utilisation of the water that is flowing into Kerala, whether they would be allowed to utilise the water from the catchment area in Madras State?

Shri Hathi: I do not think the State will proceed unless and until this question of sharing of the water has been decided.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether this was one of the subjects that were discussed at the recent Southern Zonal Council meeting held at Ootacamund in June, and if so, what was the decision of that meeting?

Shri Hathi: This question was discussed at the Zonal Council and it was decided that a committee consisting of the two Chief Engineers of the

States and the Chairman of the Central Water and Power Commission might go into the question.

Shri Basappa: Instead of leaving it to two separate States to go on with their own projects separately, will it not be advisable for the Central Government to have a comprehensive plan whereby the cost may be reduced?

Shri Hathi: When there is a question of sharing of water between two States, we have an Act of Parliament under which that has to be referred to the Board which would be constituted under the Act. Both the States are yet contemplating whether the matter should be referred to such an arbitration or adjudication.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: Is it not a fact that there is a fresh attempt going on to settle the dispute amicably between the two Governments?

Shri Hathi: The two engineers had met and our information is that the State Ministers of Irrigation of both the States had also met and discussed, but we have not yet officially learnt anything as to whether there was any agreement on this aspect.

Shri Thanu Pillai: If there is difficulty in settling this question as the hon. Minister observed, what is the purpose of including Rs. 70 lakhs in the Plan for diversion of western flowing rivers to the east?

Shri Hathi: As soon as this question is settled, the scheme could start.

Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan: In view of the fact that there are likely to be disputes between the different States regarding the utilisation of water, will the Government think of a plan like the DVC for the combined utilisation of water and power resources for the whole of the Southern Zone?

Shri Hathi: If and when a Board constituted, it will naturally look into this question, and decide about the sharing and an over-all plan. That

is one of the functions of the Board when constituted.

Shri Achar: May I know how long the question has been pending, and as a consequence the water has been flowing into the Arabian Sea?

Shri Hathi: I think since 1956 at least this Ministry has known of this.

Landed but Missing Cargo

*1483. **Shri Assar:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) total amount of cargo reported "landed but Missing" at Bombay Docks during the period from 1st April, 1957 to 31st March, 1958; and

(b) the action being taken to improve the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) 7006 packages.

(b) The declaration of a package as "landed but missing" is mainly due to either or both of the following reasons:—

(i) Pilferage;

(ii) Error or inadvertance on the part of the tally clerk in the tally taken at the time the cargo is discharged. In respect of bagged cargoes the tally is at times erroneous owing to the rapidity of discharge.

2. The action being taken to improve the defects is as follows:—

(1) To arrest attempts at pilferage in the Docks the Watch and Ward staff frequently undertake snap checks of vehicles transporting goods when, these vehicles pass out of the Dock road gates. Also, persons found around the

Dock sheds are frequently requested to produce their identity cards or tokens with a view to detect cases of unauthorised entry to the Docks. The staff who help in detecting pilferers are granted awards. The above measures are regularly reviewed by the Port Anti-Pilferage Committee with a view to determining their adequacy.

(2) Disciplinary action is taken against tally clerks for incorrect tally.

(3) About 3,000 packages are lying unidentified in the Port. Owners of cargoes which are missing are asked from time to time to inspect these packages with a view to find out if the missing cargoes are in the unidentified lot.

Shri Assar: May I know the cost of the missing goods mentioned in the statement?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I will have to cause a full-fledged investigation to be made into the cases of all these goods which are landed but missing.

Shri Assar: May I know whether it is a fact that the Bombay Port Trust is avoiding responsibility under the protection of Port Trust laws and rules with the result that the owner of the goods and the owner of the ship have to suffer great loss? If so, will Government consider any way of avoiding this?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think the Bombay Port Trust does not take advantage, due or undue, of any provision of the Bombay Port Trust Act. What happens is that in case the goods are insured the underwriter pays to the owner. The liability of the ship or the ship-owner does not go beyond landing the goods. In case it has been landed and if it is declared as missing, the ship-owner is not at all put to any liability.

Shri Heda: May I know whether Government would be able to give us any idea as to what portion of these landed but missing goods were banned articles or articles which were imported without proper import licences?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The analysis that I have got of some of the unidentified goods in something like this: 778 packages, 687 coils of wire 274 drums and 741 cases and cartels. I may also give some other figures. From 1st April 1957 to 31st March 1958 out of 41,85,101 tons of dry cargo discharged in this period, only 4,166 packages comprising of cased and drummed cargo and 2,840 packets have been regarded as having been landed but missing.

Shri Hem Barua: The statement says there are 3,000 packages still lying unidentified at the port. May I know how many of these packages contain contraband goods, if any?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have just now given that analysis, and I do not think I can say from this analysis that there are any kind of contraband goods there. There might be, that would be only a subject of enquiry.

Shri Hem Barua: Has the Government enquired about it.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Tangamani.

Shri Tangamani: What is the value of these 3,000 packets which are still unidentified? May I know whether any of them have since been identified?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Whenever any owner claims that his particular package is missing, we direct him to these unidentified packages also because it may be possible to connect the package with the owner, and sometimes we succeed. Many times it happens that a particular packet or cargo or package has not been landed and yet it becomes declared as missing. That is because of certain errors committed occasionally by the tally clerks. The number

7,006 that has been given should not be taken as firm or pucca number to indicate the actual number of packages or packets landed and missing.

Shri Tangamani: I wanted to know the value.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Value I cannot give. I have already replied to the question.

Shri Assar: Will Government consider having a security force to stop articles from missing?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have indicated that the Bombay Port Trust have taken steps in this behalf to minimise this missing or loss of packages. Apart from that, there is a regular Port Anti-Pilferage Committee which is functioning, and they make up their minds in regard to the steps that have to be taken for the efficacy or otherwise of the arrangements made in this behalf.

M.B.B.S. Course in States

*1485. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quota of reserve seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates seeking admission to the M.B.B.S. course has been increased from 10 per cent. to 20 per cent. in all the States, as in the case of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) be in the negative the reasons thereof?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 34.]

Shri Sanganna: From the statement, it is found that the seats reserved for the Scheduled Caste and Schedule Tribe candidates are not filled up by suitable candidates. May I know whether Government contemplate relaxing the admission regulations so that they can be filled up completely?

Shri Karmarkar: The regulation has already been relaxed to some extent, as per the advice of the Ministry of Education. They say, for instance, that where admissions are restricted to candidates obtaining a certain minimum percentage of marks and not merely passing a certain examination, there may be a five per cent. reduction for these people, provided that the lower percentage prescribed does not fall below the minimum required to pass the qualifying examination. Then, they say also that the maximum age limit for admission of students of these communities may be raised by three years. These are the relaxations that have been followed.

Shri Sanganna: May I know the number of doctors from among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in each State in the country?

Shri Karmarkar: I have no idea.

Shri Subbiah Ambalam: May I know the minimum marks prescribed for admission?

Shri Karmarkar: Subject to correction, I think the minimum mark in some of the universities is 50 per cent., and 5 per cent. relaxation is shown by those States where they follow this.

Shri M. R. Krishna: May I know whether the seats that have been reserved for these communities have been fully taken advantage of?

Shri Karmarkar: No, some of the States report that they are not fully taken advantage of.

Shri M. R. Krishna: May I know whether Government have any scheme to help these people so that they can take advantage of at least the reserved quota of seats?

Shri Karmarkar: No, as I said, these are the relaxations allowed, and there is no other scheme for compelling people to go into the medical colleges.

Shri Ayyakkannu: May I know whether the Minister will consider the

question of giving more and more relaxations so far as the Scheduled Caste candidates are concerned?

Shri Karmarkar: That is for another Ministry which is concerned, and I shall be happy to follow the lead that may be given to us.

Shri Supakar: May I know whether there is any special concession given to the students from these communities apart from that in regard to marks?

Shri Karmarkar: As I said, there is a five per cent. reduction in the case of marks. That is what has been advised.

Shri Kodiyar: May I know whether the quota of 20 per cent. of seats reserved in the Delhi Medical Colleges for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has already been filled up?

Shri Karmarkar: I should think so, but I should like to have notice as to whether all the 20 per cent. has been filled up. So far as I can remember, they have been filled up.

Block Advisory Committees

*1487. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Block Advisory Committees will be strengthened; and

(b) if so, in what manner?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, in the following manner:—

(i) In order to emphasise the positive role of the committees in regard to planning and development, it has been decided to redesignate them as Block Development Committees. Sub-committees will also be formed to help in individual fields.

(ii) The committees will be more representative of local institutions such as the village Panchayats.

(iii) The decisions of the Committees will be binding and can be superseded only by the State Governments.

(iv) State Governments have been requested to have non-officials as chairmen of the committees as early as possible.

(v) No diversion of funds from one block to another will be made without the approval of the Block Development Committee. The long-term measure will be the establishment of an elected body in whom responsibility for planning and implementation of the development programme will be vested by Statute.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: One of the items under consideration is the representation of the local institutions and organisations. May I know the names or the nature of the institutions or organisations that are going to be represented?

Shri S. K. Dey: The first is the village panchayat. It is expected that all the mukhiyas of the village panchayats will be members of the block development committee. If the number is too big, then there will be an elected number from out of the mukhiyas. Then, there will be a representative of the Bharat Sewak Samaj, representatives of the State Legislature, the representative of Parliament, and a representative of the co-operatives, and representatives of other social institutions in the area.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know whether the charitable and other social institutions will also be represented in it?

Shri S. K. Dey: I have already mentioned that representatives of prominent social institutions in the area will be included.

श्री भक्त दर्शन: श्रीमन्, बलवन्तराय मेहता कमेटी ने ब्लाक कमेटियों को पंचायतों और जिला स्तर के बीच में कुछ शासकीय अधिकार—स्टैंडर्टरी अधिकार—देने की जो सिफारिश की थी, क्या वह सदा के लिये

समाप्त हो गई है और क्या उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार और दूसरी सरकारों ने उस का विरोध किया है ?

Shri S. K. Dey: Efforts to devise a measure by which there can be devolution of power and democratisation of the operation of this programme are being made by every State. Some States have decided to establish the statutory institution at the block level; some others are considering an institution at the district level.

Shri Venkatasubbaiah: May I know which are the State Governments which have implemented the B. G. Mehta Committee's report about constituting panchayat samitis in the place of the block advisory committees to run the block councils and the NES and community development blocks?

Shri S. K. Dey: The Andhra Pradesh State have already started 20 blocks which are being operated under block panchayat samitis. There is also a statute which is under consideration of the State Legislature. The same thing has been before the State Legislature in Madras, and other States are also going ahead with legislation in one form or the other.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether Government have taken a firm decision regarding the location of the block development committee, and if so, whether they are going to be located in town headquarters or in the rural parts of the country?

Shri S. K. Dey: Wherever the block headquarters is physically located will be the headquarters of the block development committees.

Shri Ansar Harvani: The hon. Minister had stated that all the prominent organisations would be represented on the committee. May I know who will decide the prominence?

Shri S. K. Dey: The State Government.

Shri Heda: May I know whether there is any integrated scheme in this

behalf with the WEP projects, for, one part of these projects connected with the WEP projects will be under the project implementation committee, while the other part will be under only an advisory committee? May I know how Government are going to resolve this anomaly?

Shri S. K. Dey: If I understand the hon. Member correctly, I believe he is referring to the integrated programme between the Ministry of Community Development and the Central Social Welfare Board. There is some difficulty about bringing an integrated approach to the whole question. We are studying this question with the Central Social Welfare Board.

Shri Hem Barua: In spite of whatever the Minister has said about this community development movement working through non-official organisations at the district and block levels, it is still the officials who dominate, and that is one of the reasons for the lack of enthusiasm on the part of the people. Is that so?

Shri S. K. Dey: The distance between the official *raj* and the people's *raj* is a very long one, and the mode of transport in our villages still is the bullock-cart. So, the hon. Member will bear with us.

Shri Hem Barua: Why not provide them with jeep cars?

Shri Tangamani: The hon. Minister said that directions had been sent that in all these block development committees there must be a non-official president or chairman. May I know how many blocks have so far accepted this, and how many have not accepted it?

Shri S. K. Dey: According to the information received by us till date, it is the Andhra State and Madhya Pradesh State that have issued definite instructions in this behalf. The other States are also going ahead.

Conversion of Miraj-Barsi Railway into Metre Gauge

*1488. { **Shri Dige:**
Shri D. A. Katti:
Shri Manay:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2023 on the 19th December, 1957 and state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision about conversion of Miraj-Barsi Railway into metre-gauge during the Second Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, whether the question of diverting the said Railway line via Athni has been finally decided; and

(c) if not, by what time final decision is likely to be taken?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) The hon. Member is presumably referring to the Miraj-Kurudwadi section of the Barsi Light Railway. No decision has yet been taken as the Survey Report is still awaited.

(b) No, Sir. The Railway has investigated the suggestion but a final decision on the diversion will have to await the receipt of Survey Report.

(c) It is too early to say.

Shri Sugandhi: May I know whether this conversion from narrow gauge to broad gauge forms part of the core of the Plan?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: No, it is far away from the core of the Plan.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: What will be the estimated cost for the conversion of the Miraj-Barsi Railway into metre gauge and into broad gauge?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I do not have the figures for the metre gauge. I have only for broad gauge. With regard to Kurudwadi-Miraj section the estimate was Rs. 907 lakhs. That is the position. We do not have the estimate for the metre gauge yet.

Shri Assar: The Poona-Miraj line was sanctioned for conversion to broad gauge. May I know when the work is to be taken up?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It does not arise out of this, Sir.

Contracts

*1490. **Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:** Will the Minister of Railway be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the contractors who were given contract for the assembly of wagons at Waltair have declared a lock-out since April, 1958;

(b) if so, how this lock-out has affected the assembly of wagons; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) 1386 wagons are awaiting to be assembled.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: May I know the reason why this lock-out was declared and also who will be responsible for the demurrage to be paid to the shipping companies for these wagons that are awaiting to be assembled?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The lock-out was declared as a result of labour trouble. The question of imposing any penalties for demurrage is still under consideration.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: More than a year ago it was brought to the notice of this House that various complaints have been received by the Railway Board from the local railway authorities regarding the work of this particular company. May I know what steps were taken by the Railway Board to meet with the situation?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: This company was given the contract for assembling 10,800 wagons. They

carried out a portion of the work. But, at one stage, there was some trouble among the labour and they were forced to declare a lock-out. Since then no progress has been made. We have considered the question of terminating their contract. The matter has been referred to the Ministry of Law and, at this stage, we are not quite ready to take the final action as we have to consult other Ministry also.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: May I know the date on which the contract was given to this firm and also the date on which the final contract agreement was signed and whether there was some delay in this? May I also know whether there were, in fact, complaints about the firm even before the final signing of the contract? And why action was not taken at that time?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The contract was awarded in July, 1955. There was some time-lag between the signing of the contract and the date on which it was awarded.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Bose.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: Is it not a fact that the contractor is not...

Mr. Speaker: I have called Mr. Bose and I will give the hon. Member another opportunity.

Shri Bose: What was the labour trouble about; did they present any list of grievances and was it legitimate or illegal?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: That aspect is being looked into by the South Eastern Railway.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: Is it not a fact that these contractors were not even fulfilling the terms of the contract agreement prior to April, 1958 and why was not earlier action taken in order to prevent this delay in assembling all these wagons?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: They had fulfilled all the necessary conditions, except one. There was a clause about security deposit and this firm made a

representation that this clause was too severe because they will have to give a bank guarantee which may, in some cases, extend to Rs. 2 crores. This was not the only firm that made such a representation. There was another firm in South India that also made a similar representation, that the bank guarantee asked for was too heavy. The matter was considered and it was thought that their representation was reasonable and, as a result of that, certain amendments were made to the original agreement.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Sir, I said Rs. 200 crores; it is not Rs. 200 crores but Rs. 2 crores.

Hepatitis Epidemic

*1491. **Shri Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the virus of infectious Hepatitis (Jaundice) does not get destroyed even after the contaminated water is boiled;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Hepatitis is apparent after 30 days of infection;

(c) how many dirty water nallas or sewages join Jamuna above the pumping station of Delhi water supply; and

(d) at what distances from the pumping station?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The incubation period is from 10 to 40 days, commonly 25 days.

(c) There are two intakes of water supply for Delhi, one at Wazirabad and the other at Okhla. There is now no overflow of sewage upstream of Wazirabad as the Najafgarh Nullah has been diverted 3,000 ft. downstream. There are however 9 points at which sewage overflows into Yamuna between Wazirabad and Okhla.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 35].

Shri Jadhav: By boiling up to what degree centigrade does this infectious virus disappear?

Shri Karmarkar: Our technical advice is that it disappears when water boils. That is sufficient to destroy all this.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: May I know whether it is a fact that the Hajarnavis Committee report has given the opinion that the water supply to Lajpat Nagar and Jangpura area is unfit for human consumption?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice for that. But is it from the Okhla water supply?

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: It is not.

Shri Karmarkar: Then, it is quite all right. From Wazirabad the water is perfectly all right.

Hirakud Dam Project

*1492. **Shri Supakar:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the annual revenue at present derived from the Hirakud Dam Project; and

(b) what will be the revenue from the Project when irrigation water and electricity are fully utilised?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No revenue has been derived from irrigation so far, as it has not been possible for the State Government to finalise the assessment of Water Rates and Betterment Levy. As regards the revenue from sale of electricity, out of the total installed capacity of 1,23,000 k.w., one unit of 37,500 k.w. is kept as a stand-by, and from the balance of 85,000 k.w. installed, 34,000 k.w. or 39.8 per cent. is being consumed at present. The revenue from this source during 1957 was Rs. 30.91 lakhs. The position, however, is steadily increasing as will be seen from the fact that the gross revenue

for the month of May, 1958 was of the order of Rs. 6.42 lakhs.

(b) The net annual revenue anticipated on full development of Hirakud Dam Project (Stages I and II) is indicated below:—

	Ra. in lakhs
<i>Irrigation</i>	
(i) Sambalpur	34.36
Delta	139.04
(ii) Power	204.61
TOTAL	378.01

Shri Supakar: What is the break-up of the 34,000 kw. at present consumed; that is to say, which are the industries which are consuming this electricity?

Shri Hathi: The 34,000 kw. electricity which is at present consumed is mostly by the project authorities, the Sambalpur area and the paper mill, I think.

Shri Supakar: About the future distribution as well as the present consumption—what is the rate at which electricity is supplied? Will there be variation in rates from industry to industry for bulk supply to industries?

Shri Hathi: Some time back I informed the House about the tariff prevailing in the Hirakud project for the supply of electricity. It varies for different categories of consumption for the different purposes for which electricity is required for industrial purposes or otherwise.

Shri Supakar: I am speaking of only big industries.

Shri Hathi: For large industries, for demands of 125 kw. and above for supply at 11 kw., it will be Rs. 5-8-0 per kw. per month plus 125 annas per kw. hour subject to an overall maximum rate of 1.5 anna per kw. hour. That is the general thing. But, it may be that the State Government may enter into agreements with different industries for different tariffs.

Shri Supakar: May I know by what time this will be completed and water utilised for irrigation so far as that area is concerned?

Shri Hathi: I think by 1961-62 it will be possible to start irrigation in Delta area.

Shri Panigrahi: From the statement it seems the water supplied for irrigation from Hirakud channels has not been charged for. May I know whether water from Hirakud is being supplied free to the farmers so long?

Shri Hathi: The rates for the water charges were not yet fixed and, therefore, it has not been possible, as the Orissa Government states, to collect the amount.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether any amount has been collected from the farmers so far as the release of water from Hirakud is concerned?

Shri Hathi: Our information is that nothing is collected.

Shri Supakar: So far as the present idle capacity of 90,000 kw. is concerned, may I know if there is any possibility of probable increase in consumption of electricity before the Rourkela Steel Plant is ready?

Shri Hathi: The position with regard to the consumption of power is this. By the end of this year—December or so—Rourkela will require 60,000 kw. and the aluminium factory, about 25,000 kw.³ These are already booked. So, it will mean about 85,000 kw. Today 34,000 kw. is being consumed. If 85,000 kw. is added to that, it will be the consumption of power generated at Hirakud. Therefore, it is not possible to give power to anybody else because it has already been booked.

Shri Panigrahi: How is it that the Railway Board has decided to take electricity from the Hirakud for electrification of the South-Eastern Railway when there is no electricity available?

Shri Hathi: 25,000 kw. has been promised to them which we may be able

to supply from Chiplima power house. Perhaps the hon. Member knows that one more plant with a capacity of 1,25,000 kw. is being installed to meet power shortage.

Muslim Wakf Act 1954

*1493. Shri Mohammed Tahir: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Muslim Wakf Act 1954 has not been enforced in the Punjab State;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that due to non-enforcement of the said Act the Wakf properties are mismanaged;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of the Punjab has requested the Central Government to enforce the said Act in the Punjab;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to enforce the same and if so when; and

(e) in how many States the said Act has been enforced so far?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 36].

गुड़गांव में नहर

*१४९४. श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री : क्या सिंचाई और विद्युत् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली से मुरंग निकाल कर गुड़गांव में नहर निकालने की जो पंजाब सरकार की योजना है उसके लिये केंद्र ने कितना अनुदान दिया है ;

(ख) इस नहर का निर्माण कार्य कब आरम्भ होगा ; और

(ग) कितना भू-भाग इससे लाभ उठा सकेगा ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत् मंत्रियों (श्री हथी) : (क) गुड़गांव नहर मुरंग योजना के लिये भारत सरकार ने अब तक कोई राशि नहीं दी है ।

(ख) योजना पंजाब सरकार द्वारा तैयार की जा रही है ।

(ग) प्रस्तावित योजना से ५,९०,००० एकड़ क्षेत्र को लाभ होने की आशा है ।

श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री : क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूँ कि इस योजना का श्रीगणेश कब हुआ था, और अब तक इस योजना को कार्यान्वित करने में इतनी अधिक देर क्यों हो रही है ?

Shri Dasappa: I shall be grateful if the English version of the answer is also read.

Mr. Speaker: Let him first answer this supplementary; then he may also read the English version of the answer.

Shri Hathi: Sir, so far as the supplementary is concerned, this scheme has been taken up by the Punjab Government and not by the Central Government. The scheme has not yet been included in the Second Plan nor has it been scrutinised by the C.W.P.C. It is, therefore, not possible to say when the scheme would actually start.

I shall now read the English version of the answer.

(a) No amount has been allocated so far by the Government of India for the Gurgaon Canal Tunnel Scheme.

(b) The scheme is under preparation by the Government of Punjab.

(c) Under the proposed scheme, an area of about 5,90,000 acres is likely to be benefited.

श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि चूंकि गुड़गांव पंजाब का वह जिला है जो सब से पिछड़ा हुआ कहा जाता है,

और वास्तविकता भी यही है, इसलिये उस जिले की स्कीमों में इतनी देर करने से क्या पूरे जिले के पूरे भाग को हानि नहीं होगी ? यदि हाँ, तो सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट इस स्कीम को पूरा करने के बारे में पंजाब गवर्नमेंट को इस प्रकार का संकेत क्यों नहीं देती ?

Shri Hathi: The Central Government does not start any scheme. What the Central Government does is to examine the scheme as submitted by the various States. If it is found that it is technically sound, if the State wants it to be included in the Plan, it goes to the technical committee of the Planning Commission and when it approves it is included in the Plan. To start work is for the State Government. The inclusion is for the Planning Commission. But, as I mentioned, it is not included because the scheme is not in a way complete. They have submitted a canal scheme but there are points to be determined in regard to that scheme: actual sources of water, from which of the sources water has to be utilised, from where, etc.

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : on a point of order. इस भवन का कन्वेंशन यह रहा है, कि हिन्दी का सवाल हो तो जवाब भी हिन्दी में दिया जाता है, लेकिन यहाँ पर अंग्रेजी में जवाब दिया जा रहा है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : पूरी तरह ऐसा नहीं हो सकता।

Shri P. R. Patel: May I know whether the Punjab Government has had any help in the matter?

Shri Hathi: The question of help would only arise when it is included in the Plan and the work has to be taken up.

Shri Kamal Singh: How much amount is the Punjab Government intending to spend on this scheme?

Shri Hathi: The question of spending does not yet arise; it will not arise

until it has been included in the Plan. It is still in the stage of investigation; it has not yet been examined by the technical committee of the Planning Commission.

Shri Kamal Singh: What is the estimated cost of this Plan?

Shri Hathi: About five crores of rupees.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: In view of the different assurances given in this House by the different Ministers—Shri Kidwai, the present Food Minister—and in view of the fact that this problem is being discussed every year, in every session, may I know whether the Central Government has asked the Punjab Government to do something about this?

Shri Hathi: The Punjab Government has prepared a scheme; there is no question of asking them to prepare a scheme.

Shri Jadhav: May I know whether it is likely to be included in the Third Plan?

Shri Hathi: I cannot say today; I hope it will be included.

Tinnevely-Cape Comorin Rail Link.

*1495. **Shri Thanulingam Nadar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey of the Tinnevely-Cape Comorin Railway line in the Madras State has been done;

(b) if so, when and with what result; and

(c) whether a copy of the survey report will be laid on the Table?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). A Traffic survey was sanctioned in 1955. The survey report is under compilation and has not been received as yet.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Thanulingam Nadar: May I know whether the Government proposes to conduct an engineering survey as early as possible?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: At present, as I said, the traffic survey report is being compiled. That was for the line connecting Tinnevely with Trivandrum with a branch line from Nagercoil to the Cape Comorin. Subsequently, it was considered necessary that the traffic prospects and financial implications of the following six alternatives should be assessed separately: Trivandrum-Nagercoil; Trivandrum-Nagercoil-Cape Comorin; Tinnevely-Nagercoil; Tinnevely-Nagercoil-Cape Comorin; Tinnevely-Nagercoil-Trivandrum; Trivandrum-Nagercoil-Tinnevely with a branch line from Nagercoil to Cape Comorin.

Shri Thirumala Rao: May I ask the hon. Minister to explain it with a map?..... (Interruptions).

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I have got the map before me; the hon. Members can see it; these reports are expected.

Shri Thanulingam Nadar: When will the Government take a decision on any one of these lines?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: As soon as the reports are received and properly considered, a decision will be taken.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: What is the total cost of the scheme and is there any possibility of the scheme being included in the Second Plan?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: As regards the cost, even the assessment reports have not been received. With regard to the inclusion in the Second Plan, there is no chance.

Shri Thanu Pillai: When was the report submitted by the Traffic Survey Committee and how long would it take the Government to finalise its consideration?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The traffic survey has been made but the survey report is being completed.

Shri Tangamani: In view of the fact that one whole district is not connected by the railways in Madras State, may I know whether this question of linking Tinnevely district with Kanyakumari district will be considered during the Second Plan?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Sir, as I said, there are limitations: men, money and materials.

Shri Thanu Pillai: Normally the plan projects included in the First Plan are finalised at least in the Second Plan. In the case of Tinnevely-Cape Comorin, the first proposal was made in 1914 and this Government took it up in 1954. The report is not yet ready in 1958. When on earth will we get this railway completed?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: In due course.

Robbery in Train

*1496. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that passengers travelling by Kanpur-Etawah shuttle train in Northern Railway were robbed near the Bharthana Railway Station on the night of 20th August, 1958;

(b) if so, value of articles lost;

(c) the steps taken to apprehend the culprits; and

(d) what measures have been taken to make this area safe for travel?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes. Passengers travelling in a III Class compartment were robbed between railway stations Samhon and Bharthana at 21.30 hrs. on 16-8-1958.

(b) Articles and cash worth Rs. 137|10| were lost, out of which articles and cash Rs. 102|4|- in value have been subsequently recovered.

(c) Five culprits out of the seven suspected to have been involved have so far been arrested.

(d) It was a solitary case of dacoity in the area. Police escorts are, however, being detailed for the safety of passengers.

Shri Tangamani: Is it a fact that this dacoity was committed by seven armed men; and, if so, whether any of the passengers sustained injuries in the attack?

Shri Shah nawas Khan: The dacoity was committed by this gang. From the information that is available with me now, I find that between them they had only one country-made revolver, some knives and lathis. No injury was inflicted upon any passenger.

Shri Tangamani: Although it is a solitary incident and the first of its kind, may I know whether Government will not consider the question of alerting this area to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

Shri Shah nawas Khan: I do not know, Sir, what more can be expected. Four of these people were arrested on the spot by the Railway Protection Force.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question.

Shri Tangamani: May I ask one more question?

Mr. Speaker: I have already allowed two questions. How many questions more am I to allow?

Shri Tangamani: I want to ask a question of fact.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Member must exhaust them in two or three supplementaries.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether the dacoity was committed at the station or in the running train, and where these culprits were apprehended?

Shri Shah nawas Khan: There was a compartment where only four people
203-A L.S.D.—2.

were sitting. This gang entered that compartment at the next station, and in between two stations while the train was running they committed the dacoity. They detained at the next station—Barthana. The people who had been robbed shouted and the Railway Protection Force caught them red-handed.

दिल्ली में भूमिगत नालियाँ

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* १४६८.६ { श्री भक्त दर्शन :
श्री भक्त प्रभाकर :

क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली गेट से मथुरा रोड तक ट्रंक सीवर (बड़ी भूमिगत नाली) बनाने की योजना पर अनुमानतः कितना व्यय होगा ; और

(ख) यह कार्य कब आरम्भ हो कर कब तक समाप्त होने की आशा है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री कर्मकर): (क) अन्दाजन ६४८ लाख रुपये ।

(ख) सितम्बर, १९५८ के अन्त तक कार्य के चालू हो जाने की आशा है । ठेके की अवधि १५ कार्य महीनों तक की है ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो दिल्ली दर्वाजे से मथुरा रोड तक सीवेज लगाया जा रहा है क्या उसके सिवाय दिल्ली में और भी कहीं बड़े सीवर्स लगाने की कोई योजना है, क्या उस पर प्रकाश डाला जा सकेगा ।

Shri Karmarkar: The other schemes to improve the sewage disposal arrangements of Delhi which have either been completed or are now in hand are as follows: (i) North Delhi outfall sewer pumping station sewage treatment plant, and (ii) West Delhi outfall sewer pumping station sewage treatment plant.

श्री जयल बर्बन : श्री विजय विनों सिस्ली जी एक प्रकार से जलमग्न ही यही थी, उसका एक मुख्य कारण यह बतलाना जाना है कि यहाँ का सिस्ली सिस्टम प्रसन्न ही गया था और बल्ल हो गया था, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उसके बारे में क्या कोई खास कार्यवाही की जा रही है और क्या उसके बारे में कोई हीयता की जायेगी ?

Shri Karmakar: I am afraid, Sir, my hon. friend is mistaking drainage for sewerage. Surface drainage of rainfall water is one thing. He is asking about that, whereas what I am telling him here about the sewerage system.

Supply of Foodgrains to U.P.

*1501. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request was made by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for allowing supply of foodgrains to U.P. from Punjab and withdrawal of zonal restrictions; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Centre in this direction?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, a request was made by the U.P. Government for the withdrawal of the existing zonal restriction on the movement of wheat from Punjab to U.P., but it could not be accepted.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the quantity of foodstuffs supplied to U.P. for September and October, and whether this quantity will be sufficient to meet their requirements?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): I have repeated these figures many times in the House. For the month of September we are supplying 85,000 tons of foodgrains; about October, we have not yet fixed

the quantity which we are going to supply.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the Central Government have issued instructions to the U.P. Government to apply rigidly the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act; and, if so, whether this has been done by the State Government, and with what results?

Shri A. P. Jain: The U.P. Government asked for certain powers. There was no question of our giving any instruction. Those powers have been given and some action has been taken. The action is being reported in the papers from day to day.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether this matter was discussed with Government when the Chief Minister of U.P. was here last week?

Shri A. P. Jain: Which matter?

Shri Tangamani: This particular matter about releasing grains from the zonal restrictions.

Shri A. P. Jain: No, this matter was not discussed because this had been decided before.

Shri C. D. Pande: May I know if the Government will consider the advisability of releasing at least wheat seeds for U.P., because no wheat seeds are available there?

Shri A. P. Jain: We have already agreed to do that, and the office of the U.P. Government is in touch with the Punjab Government for the transport of seeds.

सेठ जयल सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि पंजाब से उत्तर प्रदेश को कितना गेहूँ भेजा जा रहा है ?

श्री ज० प्र० जैन : अब उसकी टीकें तादाद तो मैं नहीं बतला सकता लेकिन मेरे क्याल में वह काफी है ।

श्री प्रकाश सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि जो गल्ला केन्द्र से उत्तर प्रदेश को भेजा जा रहा है उसका कुछ हिस्सा देहातों में भी बाँटने के लिये रक्खा है और क्या उन्हें यह पता है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के देहातों में अभी भी गल्ला प्राप्य नहीं है और जो प्राप्य है भी वह बहुत तेज भाव पर है ?

श्री ए० प्र० जैन : जो अन्नाज उत्तर प्रदेश को दिया जा रहा है उसमें से काफी तावादा देहातों में बाँटी जा नहीं है ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the prices of foodstuffs have come down in U.P.; if so, to what extent?

Shri A. P. Jain: The prices of foodstuffs have, generally, come down in U.P. The price of wheat has gone down, roughly speaking, by Rs. 2; the price of rice has gone down in some places by as much as Rs. 6 to Rs. 8, in other places by Rs. 4 and still less in certain other places. The prices of coarse grains have also gone down.

श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि जो केन्द्र से उत्तर प्रदेश को अनाज भेजा जा रहा है, उसके सम्बन्ध में उत्तर प्रदेश शासन को इस प्रकार की हिदायतें दी गई हैं कि बाढ़ पीड़ित क्षेत्रों को उसमें प्राथमिकता दी जाये ?

श्री ए० प्र० जैन : जी हाँ, बाढ़ पीड़ित क्षेत्रों में भी वहाँ से दिया जा रहा है ।

श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या मंत्री महोदय के पास इस किस्म की कोई रिपोर्ट आई है कि उत्तर प्रदेश शासन की ओर से जो सस्ते गल्ले की दुकानें खोली गई हैं उनमें बाढ़ पीड़ित क्षेत्रों के वास्ते ध्यान रक्खा गया है ?

श्री ए० प्र० जैन : ऐसी बात है ।

श्री सिद्धासन सिंह : बाढ़ पीड़ित क्षेत्रों में सस्ते गल्ले की दुकानों पर जो गल्ले की

मिक्चर की, क्या उसके बड़ा दियन गया है और अगर बड़ा दिया गया है तो कितना बढ़ाया गया है ?

श्री ए० प्र० जैन : बाढ़ तो अभी आई थी और अभी ही दुकानें खुली हैं इसलिये उनमें घटाने बढ़ाने का मेरे अन्दाज से तो कोई सबाब नहीं है और दूसरे यह ऐसी तफसील की बातें हैं जिनको कि उत्तर प्रदेश गवर्नमेंट खुद करती है ।

Export of Foodgrains from Rajasthan

*1503. { Shri Harish Chandra
Mathur:
Shri Onkar Lal:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of foodgrains which has been moved out from Rajasthan during the last six months;

(b) what is the quantity of foodgrains sent to Rajasthan to meet the food situation;

(c) the reasons as to why Bombay City has been included in this zone; and

(d) what is the quantity of food required for the city and moved for the city from Rajasthan?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Figures of movement of the different kinds of foodgrains of trade account are not readily available.

(b) 14,200 tons of imported wheat have been supplied from Central stocks during the year upto the September, 1956.

(c) and (d). Although Bombay City was initially excluded from the Western Wheat Zone, it rightly belongs to this zone. The restriction on movement to Bombay City from the rest of the zone was removed in order to allow the people in Bombay City to purchase some indigenous wheat of

their choice, like the rest of the people of the zone. To ensure, however, that unduly large quantities of indigenous wheat are not imported into Bombay City, distribution of wheat from Government stocks has been continued on the previous scale and the flour mills in the City were also prohibited from purchasing wheat from the internal market. About 23,000 tons of wheat are being supplied in Bombay City from Government stocks every month. According to the information available, altogether about 18,000 tons of wheat moved by rail from Rajasthan to Bombay City during the period from 15-4-58 to 7-8-58.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Is it not a fact that the inclusion of Bombay City has disturbed the equilibrium in this zone, and the Chief Minister of Rajasthan has represented in this matter and asked for its exclusion.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): I do not think it has disturbed the equilibrium in the zone to any marked extent. Of course, the Chief Minister of Rajasthan brought this matter to our notice in the month of August and he wanted that Bombay might be excluded, but we felt that exclusion of Bombay at that time will have a deleterious effect on that City.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What assistance is being rendered to Rajasthan to overcome the difficulty which has been created by the inclusion of Bombay?

Shri A. P. Jain: We are supplying overseas wheat to Rajasthan.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: How do we reconcile the two provisions? We are pumping out wheat from here and are sending some wheat from here. Does it not involve the loss of transport and create more difficulties there?

Shri A. P. Jain: It does not create more difficulties because certain trade patterns have been built up, and it

would not be wise for us to tamper with the trade patterns at this stage.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Demurrage paid to Shipping Companies

*1452. **Shri Tyagi:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total amount of demurrage paid by various Ministries and other importers during the year 1956-57 to foreign shipping companies; and

(b) how much of this amount involved foreign exchange?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 37.] No information is available in regard to other importers.

(b) A substantial part of the demurrage was paid in rupee currency but since the foreign shipping companies have the option to repatriate their earnings to their own country, the entire amount, less such part of it as the shipping companies might have had to spend in India owing to delay at the Indian Ports which gave them those earnings, may be regarded as foreign exchange expenditure.

Shifting of Head Office of Indian Airlines Corporation

*1454. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to shift the head office of the Indian Airlines Corporation from New Delhi to Bombay; and

(b) if so, the reason for the same?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) and

(b) Government have no such proposal under consideration. It may, however, be mentioned that the Estimates Committee in paras. 19 and 20 of their Forty-third Report on the Indian Airlines Corporation have recommended:—

- (i) The question whether the headquarters of the Indian Airlines Corporation should remain in Delhi should be examined afresh by Government and Indian Airlines Corporation.
- (ii) No further commitment may be made on the project for the construction of a building at New Delhi to house the headquarters office of the Corporation until re-examination of the location of the headquarters of Indian Airlines Corporation.

Hospital Beds in West Bengal

*1486. **Shri Sadhan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the West Bengal Government have submitted any scheme to the Central Government for providing 9,000 additional hospital beds during the Second Plan period;

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme; and

(c) the decision of the Central Government thereon?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme envisaged the addition of 9,000 hospital beds by the end of 1960-61. Out of this number, 4,000 beds are already included in the Second Five Year Plan of the State, 1,000 beds are to be provided under the State Employees Insurance Scheme and the remaining 4,000 beds to be established with the assistance of Central Government. The estimated capital expenditure on the 5,000 beds proposed to be set up over and above the number included in the Second Plan of the State is Rs. 5.92

crores. Assistance to the extent of Rs. 4.4 crores was sought for from the Central Government.

(c) The Government of West Bengal were informed that there was no scheme in the Second Five Year Plan of the Health Ministry under which Central assistance could be rendered and were therefore advised to include the scheme in the list of schemes submitted by them annually for loan grants from the Government of India and to take up the matter with the Planning Commission at the time of drawing up the Development Plan of the State for the year 1959-60

Ariyalur Train Accident

*1489. **Shri Narasimhan:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enquiry by the Heads of Departments of the Southern Railway into the accident to a goods train on the 9th August, 1958 between Ariyalur and Kallagam stations on Southern Railway, has been completed;

(b) if so, whether he would lay a copy of the report on the Table; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to safeguard rail points and the bridge concerned to avert any fresh danger to the travelling public and goods carried?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). The Enquiry Committee have submitted its report and it is now under examination in the General Manager's office.

(c) The accident in question has *prima facie* not been due to any defect in the bridge or its approaches.

Khosla Committee

*1497. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khosla Committee appointed to go into the condition of Railway Bridges and suggest measures for improving the same have since submitted their report;

(b) If so, what are the main recommendations;

(c) whether the Railway Board have examined the same;

(d) the time by which action is likely to be initiated; and

(e) if the reply to part (a) be in the negative the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

(e) This is a Committee of Experts entrusted with a very important job requiring deep and exhaustive study and collection of voluminous data from various sources. As such it would naturally take some time to reach conclusions especially when the standards to be laid down are bound to have far-reaching effect in the design of bridges and the protection works in future.

Milk Production

*1499. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target was fixed in First or Second Five Year Plan for overall increase in total milk production or per capita consumption; and

(b) if so, what has been the achievement so far in relation to these targets?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Loans for Delhi Transport Undertaking

*1500 { Shri Arjun Singh
Bhadauria;
Shri Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals for the grant of

additional loans for the Delhi Transport Undertaking during the current year to improve the working of the D.T.U.;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

A provision for a loan of Rs. 28 lakhs from the Government of India for purchase of additional buses was included in the Budget of the former Delhi Road Transport Authority for the year 1958-59. The loan could, however, be drawn when the need actually arose and a request to that effect was made to the Government by the Authority and on its supersession by its successor, the Delhi Transport Undertaking through the Corporation of Delhi. A request has accordingly been received from the General Manager of the Undertaking for the grant of this loan and the proposal is under examination. The Delhi Transport Undertaking propose to utilise the loan mostly for the purchase of 47 new buses.

Shortage of Foodgrains in Tripura

*1502. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the present shortage of foodgrains in Tripura; and

(b) the steps taken by the Administration for the growing of more foodgrains?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Tripura is deficit in foodgrains mainly because of heavy influx of refugees from East Pakistan and the taking over of rice to East Pakistan by Jiratia tenants.

(b) Production of foodgrains in Tripura is being increased by the

execution of Minor Irrigation Schemes, distribution of chemical fertilisers at subsidised rates, increased use of local manurial resources and green manure, multiplication and distribution of improved paddy seeds and introduction of improved agricultural practices.

Remodelling of Durgapur and Oriya Stations

*1504. **Shri Subhman Ghose:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to remodel the stations of Durgapur and Oriya in view of the growing importance of Durgapur as a big industrial centre;

(b) if so, whether estimate has been made for that; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not remodelling the station?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to Durgapur and Oriya Stations. If so, it is proposed to remodel Durgapur Station but there is no proposal for remodelling Oriya Station.

(b) Estimates for remodelling the station building and the goods shed at Durgapur are under preparation.

(c) Oriya station being very near to Durgapur, it is not considered necessary to remodel this when Durgapur Station is going to be remodelled.

Sealing of Indo-Pakistan Border

*1505. { **Shri Vajpayee:**
Shri Dasaratha Deb:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over one lakh maunds of jute have been held up at Agartala as a result of the sealing of the Indo-Pakistan border by the Government of Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jais): (a) Yes.

(b) Upto the end of July this year jute grown in Tripura was being despatched mainly by Indo-Pakistan route. But as adequate number of empty wagons were not being made available by Pakistan Railway, limited quantities were also moved by air and all-India route which involve higher transport charges. After the sealing of the border of Pakistan, however, jute was transported by the latter routes only. N.E.F. Railway has allowed concessional rates by reducing the ordinary rates by annas eight per maund for the transport of jute by all-India route.

Air Accident

*1506. { **Shrimati Masda Ahmed:**
Shri Tagamani:
Shri V. F. Nayar:
Shri Ram Krishna:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Night Air Service 'Skymaster' bound for Nagpur crashed near Meenambakkam soon after take off on 8th September, 1958;

(b) if so, what is the extent of damage to the plane and to properties of passengers;

(c) whether any passengers were injured;

(d) what alternative arrangements were made for transport of the passengers; and

(e) whether an enquiry is being held into the cause of accident?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Indian Airlines Corporation Skymaster VT-DIA operating night Air Mail Service from Madras to Nagpur made a precautionary landing at Madras at 2338 hours on 8-9-1958 and during the course of this landing met with an accident.

(b) The aircraft was extensively damaged. There was no damage to properties of passengers.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Indian Airlines Corporation operated two Dakotas as relief aircraft.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Colonies in Delhi

*1507. **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the various approved colonies in Delhi Territory building plans are not being sanctioned;

(b) whether it is a fact that the plot-holders of these colonies have been making repeated representations to the effect that building plans long since submitted by them be approved; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) There are 36 private colonies whose lay-out plans have been approved but construction of buildings is being permitted by the Corporation of Delhi only in 8 such colonies where essential services exist.

(b) and (c). Building plans are not being sanctioned by the Corporation in respect of those colonies where provision of essential services like wholesome water supply, sewage disposal, drainage, roads, etc. are not available.

Food Aid from U.S.A.

*1508. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that U.S.A. has agreed to give \$200 millions food aid to India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b).

The matter is still under discussion with the Government of U.S.A.

Bhakra Dam

*1509. { **Shri Ram Krishan:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 589 on the 28th February, 1958 and state:

(a) the progress made so far in the construction of Bhakra Dam;

(b) the total length and height of the concrete wall above the deepest foundation level constructed so far; and

(c) whether the Dam will be constructed within scheduled period at the present pace?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) A quantity of 29,35,862 cubic yards of concrete had been poured into the Bhakra Dam up to the end of August, 1958. This constitutes 57.3 per cent. of the total concreting to be done.

(b) The concreting is being done along the entire length of the Dam. The average height of the Dam above the deepest foundation is now 390 ft. and the highest block is 414 ft. high. Length at base is 325 ft. and will be 1,700 ft. at top on completion when the Dam rises to a height of 740 feet.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Rural Electrification in Delhi

*1510. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri Radha Raman:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 331 on the 20th February, 1958 and state:

(a) the number of villages in Delhi territory electrified upto the 31st August, 1958;

(b) the number of villages proposed to be electrified during 1958 (from 1st September, 1958 onwards); and

(c) the expenditure so far incurred or this purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) There has since been no addition, and the number of villages electrified remains the same, viz., 11.

(b) Ten.

(c) Rs. 5.2 lakhs.

Steam Power Plant for Jodhpur

*1511. Shri Hariash Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether two 3,000 k.w. plants for steam power generation for Jodhpur under T.C.M. programme have been received;

(b) what is the value of the machinery received;

(c) what demurrage, if any, had to be paid to the Railways for these sets; and

(d) the steps being taken to erect the power house expeditiously in view of the acute shortage of electricity in Jodhpur?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Almost all the plant and equipment relating to two three-thousand kw. steam turbo-alternator sets required for the Jodhpur Power Station has been received at site.

(b) The total value of the machinery required is of the order of Rs. 49 lakhs.

(c) A sum of Rs. 916.37 was paid to the Railway authorities as demurrage charges.

(d) In order to meet the power shortage, a scheme for the extension installation of 2 Nos. 3000 kw. generating sets together with necessary boilers has since been sanctioned. As soon as the civil works for the above of Jodhpur Power House involving power station are completed, the erection

work will be commenced. In the meantime, to avoid difficulty owing to shortage of power supply 2 Nos. 200 kw. diesel generating sets are being installed at the Jodhpur Power House. The new sets are expected to be commissioned very shortly.

Sleepers Washed away to Pakistan

*1512. { Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Hem Raj:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in recent floods in the Ravi in the fourth week of July, 1958 more than ten thousand sleepers were washed away to Pakistan from Pathankot;

(b) their estimated value; and

(c) whether they have been recovered from Pakistan or not?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Electrification of Howrah and Kharagpur Section of S.E. Railway

*1513. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 173 on the 19th July, 1957 and state the progress made so far regarding the electrification of Howrah-Kharagpur Section of the South-Eastern Railway?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): Proposals for carrying Civil Engineering Works are still under examination.

Railway Line for Dandakaranya Project

*1514. { Shri Sanganna:
Shri P. K. Deo:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposed railway line for the Dandakaranya Project across the Bustar-

District in Madhya Pradesh and the Bhubaneswar District in Orissa is being surveyed; and

(b) If so, when the survey will be completed and the actual work taken up?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) A proposal is under consideration.

(b) It is too early to say.

Holiday Homes for P. & T. Employees

*1515. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 99 on the 12th November, 1957 and state:

(a) whether holiday homes for P. & T. Employees in the South have since been started;

(b) if so, where; and

(c) if not, what steps have been taken for opening the same?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It has been suggested that a Holiday Home for the P. & T. Employees in the South should be opened in Bangalore and the Postmaster-General, Madras has been directed to spare some departmental accommodation for the purpose and failing that to secure suitable rented accommodation.

बिस्तरजन लोकोमोटिव वर्कशाप

*१५१६. श्री श्रीनारायण दास : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिस्तरजन का इंजन का कारखाना अपनी पूरी क्षमता से काम कर रहा है ;

(ख) यदि नहीं तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) इसकी वर्तमान स्थापित क्षमता क्या है, और उसकी तुलना में वास्तविक उत्पादन क्षमता कम है ;

(घ) स्थापित क्षमता के अनुसार उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की गयी है ; और

(ङ) कब तक कारखाना पूरी क्षमता से कार्य करना प्रारम्भ कर देगा ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री ब्राह्मणराव दास) :
(क) जी हाँ ।

(ख) सवाल नहीं उठता ।

(ग) कारखाने की मौजूदा स्थापित क्षमता (Present installed capacity) हर महीने १४ डब्ल्यू० जी० रेल-इंजन तैयार करने की है और इतने ही रेल-इंजन तैयार भी किये जा रहे हैं ।

(घ) और (ङ). भाग (क) और (ग) के जवाब को देखते हुए सवाल नहीं उठता ।

Cooling Tower at Central Power House

*1517. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Cooling Tower at the Central Power House at Delhi is likely to be installed; and

(b) if so, its cost and capacity?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Its approximate cost would be Rs. 7 lakhs and capacity, 35,000 gallons of water per minute.

Travelling Ticket Examiners

*1519. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present strength of Travelling Ticket

Examiners on Northern Railways is not sufficient to handle ticketless travelling; and

(b) if so, the steps to be taken by Government to increase the staff?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) Proposals are under consideration to increase the strength of ticket checking staff.

Effect on Indian Shipping of Suez Canal Surcharge

*1520. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a surcharge of 3 per cent. will be levied on the Suez Canal Users to repay the cost of cleaning the Canal; and

(b) if so, what will be its effect on Indian Shipping?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Shipping Companies passing through the Canal have to pay the surcharge of 3 per cent.; they have agreed to meet the additional charge themselves without passing it on to the shippers by way of increased freight rates or asking the Government of India to reimburse them against it.

Influenza

*1521. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any likelihood of influenza which swept India and other countries lately—recurring again in the near future.

(b) if so, the nature of its intensity assessed by experts;

(c) whether World Health Organisation has given any indication in this regard;

(d) if so, the nature of information received therefrom; and

(e) what precautions with regard to prevention and cure of the epidemic have been taken up by the Government?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). As far as can be anticipated, it is not likely that there would be any severe outbreak of influenza in the near future.

(c) and (d). A copy of the W.H.O. Press Release dated 4th September, 1958 is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 38.]

(e) No special precautions are considered necessary at present.

Central Godowns in Marathwada Region of Bombay

2500. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of places of central godowns in the Marathwada region of Bombay for storage of foodgrains; and

(b) the quantity of different kinds of foodgrains released for sale through the fair price shops and the rates thereof upto 31st July, 1958?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) There are temporary Central Government Depots at the following two centres in the Marathwada region of Bombay State:

1. Aurangabad
2. Jalna

(b) About 440 tons of wheat and 1,360 tons of rice were released to the State Government for sale through the fair price shops in Marathwada region of Bombay during January to July 1958. The Central Government issue prices ex-godown (inclusive of the cost of gunnies) were as follows:

	Rate per maund
1. Wheat	Rs. 14
2. Coarse Rice	Rs. 16
3. Fine Rice	Rs. 20

Wild Life in Bombay

2501. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the amount of grants proposed to be given to the Government of Bombay out of the sum of Rs. 135.04 lakhs earmarked under the Second Five Year Plan for the protection of wild life?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): Out of the total plan provision of Rs. 135.04 lakhs, for Wild Life Protection, the allotment for Bombay State is Rs. 31.73 lakhs which is inclusive of Central and State shares of expenditure. The Central share is limited to 50 per cent. of the approved non-recurring expenditure. The following statement shows the total allocations and the estimated Central grants for the years 1956-57 to 1958-59:

Year	Total allocation made by State Govt.	Central grant approved
	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	61,303	6,300
1957-58	6,06,413	13,900
1958-59	4,99,000	2,24,000

Telephone Connections in Marathwada

2502. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the number of telephone connections proposed to be given in 1958-59 in the Marathwada region of Bombay?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): About 74. The total number of applicants is about 100.

National Highways

2503. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the names

of National Highways in the Marathwada region of Bombay?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): Only National Highway No. 9 i.e. Poona-Bombay-Hyderabad-Vijayawada Road passes through the Marathwada region of the Bombay State.

Class IV Employees of Contributory Health Service Scheme

2504. Shri Sadhu Ram: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether summer uniforms have been issued to class IV employees of the Contributory Health Service Scheme for the years 1957-58 and 1958-59; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No summer uniforms were issued to class IV employees under the Contributory Health Service Scheme for the year 1957-58. As regards 1958-59 necessary indent was placed with the Director General, Supplies and Disposals in April, 1958. The supply is expected shortly. Orders have also been placed for the supply of Chappals on the basis of rate contract for the year 1958-59 and the same will be issued to Class IV employees on receipt thereof.

(b) Pending the permanency of the Contributory Health Service Scheme, its status for the purpose of supply of uniforms etc. could not be classified earlier than January 1957. It was, therefore, not possible to supply summer uniforms.

Advisory Committee Meetings

2505. Shri Kumbhar: Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether official and non-official members are paid travelling and daily allowances from the Community Development Scheme funds for attending the Block Advisory Committee meet-

ings, Conferences, Seminars and District Development Board meetings functioning in various Union Territories:

(b) rate of such allowances given to the official and non-official members;

(c) whether the official members are paid from their respective departments and also from the Community Development Department for the same period;

(d) the Union Territories which pay and which do not pay such allowances; and

(e) the details thereof?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) to (e). Information is being obtained, and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Sugar Mills in Andhra

2506. Shri M. V. Krishna Rao: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the sugarcane crushing capacity of the various mills in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the quantity of cane crushed during 1957-58 crushing season in the above factories?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The required information is given below:—

Name of the factory	Crushing capacity per day (Tons)	Total cane crushed during 1957-58 (Tons)
	Rs.	Rs.
Bobbilli	600	81,187
Samalkor	750	1,11,558
Kirlampudi	1,000	1,51,043
Vuyyuru	1,800	2,73,273
Seethanagram	300	56,619
Anakapalle	500	69,492
Shakarnagar	3,200	5,25,046
Andhra	1,000	1,47,197
Repalle	800	20,729
Challapalli	800	52,948
Darlapudi	600	79,374
Viijalaxmi	300	300*

*This factory had only a very short season due to disputes among partners.

Overhead Bridges in Guntur

2507. Shri M. V. Krishna Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 623 on the 25th November, 1957 and state whether any steps have been taken so far to construct an over-head bridge at the level crossing in Guntur Town, Andhra Pradesh?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): Yes, Sir. The Railway Administration have sanctioned an estimate for their portion of the work of construction of the road-over-bridge at the west end of Guntur Railway Station in replacement of the existing level crossing. The Municipality have now taken up the work of approaches and the work on the railway portion will also commence shortly.

Rural Water Supply Schemes in Andhra Pradesh

2508. Shri M. V. Krishna Rao: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of rural water supply schemes received by Government from the Andhra Pradesh Government for 1958-59; and

(b) the assistance proposed to be given by Government for 1958-59?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The following three rural water supply schemes have been received and approved for 1958-59:

Name	Estimated cost
	Rs.
1. Srikakulam in Srikakulam District	} 19.00 lakhs
2. Pulivendla in Cuddapah District	
3. Utnoor in Adilabad District	
	13.39 lakhs

(b) Rs. 10.00 lakhs.

Bridge at Dingraghat on National Highway No. 31

2509. Shri F. G. Sen: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposal to construct a bridge at Dingraghat on the Mahananda on National Highway No. 31 has been abandoned; and

(b) if not, what is the present position and the time that will be required to complete it?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The tenders for the work have been invited and are under consideration. It will take about 3 years to complete the work after its commencement.

Major Irrigation Projects

2510. Shri Abdul Salam: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the capital cost per acre separately for each major completed irrigation project including its canal system since the beginning of the Second Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 39.]

Investigation Units

2511. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the States have organised investigation units for irrigation and power projects for the better implementation of the Second Plan as well as the preparation of the Third Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, which are those States?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 40.]

Tourists who visited Bhakra Nangal Dam

2512. { Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri Pangarkar:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tourists and high dignitaries who visited Bhakra Nangal Dam during the current year so far; and

(b) the names of countries from which they came?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 1,43,081 upto 15th August, 1958, of which 884 were foreigners.

(b) Afghanistan, Algeria, Australia, Austria, Burma, Ceylon, China, Czechoslovakia, East Africa, Egypt, Germany, Holland, Iran, Japan, Nepal, North Viet-nam, Poland, Rumania, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Trinidad, U.K., U.S.A., U.S.S.R. and Yugoslavia.

Ticketless Travelling by Railway Employees

2513. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway employees that have been detected travelling without tickets in upper classes during 1957-58 and 1958-59 so far; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to reduce such unauthorised travel in higher classes?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) 21 in 1957 and 5 in 1958-59 upto end of June, 1958.

(b) All the steps taken against ticketless travel are aimed equally at detecting ticketless or irregular travel in upper classes by railway employees. Further, besides being charged according to the provisions of the Indian Railways Act, railway employees travelling without proper tickets are taken up with departmentally.

Coaches and Wagons in India

2514. { Shri Ram Krishan:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of coaches and wagons manufactured in India and average cost of each coach and wagon during 1957-58 and 1958-59 so far; and

(b) the total number of coaches and wagons imported from foreign countries, country-wise, and the average cost of each coach and wagon so imported during the same period?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Statements are laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 41.]

Small-Pox in Delhi

2515. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that small-pox cases are on the increase in Delhi;

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

(c) what additional steps Government propose to take to check the increase of the disease?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The following preventive measures have been taken:

- (i) Mass vaccination;
- (ii) Health education of the people by publicity;
- (iii) Strengthening of the health staff, viz. vaccinations, and sanitary inspectors, by the Delhi Municipal Corporation;
- (iv) Promulgation of temporary regulations under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897; and
- (v) Isolation of cases.

सूख से प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में अनाज का वितरण

२५१६. श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सूख से प्रभावित विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के लिये भारत सरकार ने अप्रैल, १९५७ से ३० जून, १९५८ तक गेहूं और चावल की कितनी मात्रा दी है ;

(ख) इस मात्रा में से ३० जून तक कितना अनाज बेचा जा चुका है ; और

(ग) सरकार के द्वारा दिये गये खाद्यान्नों का स्थानीय बाजारों पर क्या असर पड़ा ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री अ० प्र० जैन) : (क) सूखे से प्रभावित राज्यों के लिये, अप्रैल १९५७ से ३० जून, १९५८ तक २९ लाख ८३ हजार टन गेहूं और चावल दिया गया था ।

(ख) २७ लाख ५० हजार टन ।

(ग) इस ने भावों की अधिक तेजी को रोकने में सहायता की ।

दिल्ली में पशुओं के रोग

२५१७. श्री जबल प्रभाकर : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली में पशुओं के रोगों की रोकथाम के लिये १९५५-५६ और १९५६-५७ में क्या कार्यवाही की गई ; और

(ख) दिल्ली के पशुओं में अक्सर कौन से रोग पाये जाये हैं ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री अ० प्र० जैन) : (क) पशुओं की सम्पर्कीय बीमारियों के फैलने और बढ़े पैमाने पर बढने की रोकथाम

करने के लिये निम्नलिखित उपाय किये गये :—

१९५५- १९५६-
५६ ५७

- (१) गलघोटू टीका . १७०७९ ८९३०
(Haemorrhagic Septicaemia Vaccination)
- (२) मालमारी टीका ५७५९६ ५६२१२
(Rinderpest vaccination)
- (३) जहरबाद टीका ८२९ २००१
(Black quarter vaccination)
- (४) गलघोटू सिरम का बचाव वाला टीका २०१७ २१८४
(Haemorrhagic Septicaemia Serum inoculation)
- (५) जहरबाद का बचाव वाला टीका ५८० —
(Black quarter inoculation)
- (६) महामारी विरोधी टीका . १४९२ ५५९
(Anti-rinderpest inoculation)

- (ख) (१) गलघोटू
(२) जहरबाद
(३) मालमारी ;
(४) खुरपका, मुहपका बीमारी

दिल्ली में पशुओं की नस्ल सुधारना

२५१८. श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या सचद सभा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली में पशुओं की नस्ल सुधारने के लिये एक योजना बनाई गयी है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस योजना का स्वीकार क्या है ; और

(ग) इस योजना पर कितना व्यय होने का अनुमान है ?

साध तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री छ० प्र० जैन) :

(क) जी, हां ।

(ख) द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में शामिल किये गये अखिल भारतीय नमूने पर एक पशुग्राम और कृत्रिम गर्भाधान केन्द्र खोलने के लिये एक योजना है और यह झील-खुरंजा गांव में स्थापित किया जायेगा । इस योजना में एक कृत्रिम गर्भाधान केन्द्र पशु कालोनी में खोला जाना है और इस केन्द्र के साथ छः पशुग्राम केन्द्र सम्बन्धित होंगे । प्राप्त अनुभव के आधार पर, छः पशुग्रामों के साथ एक अतिरिक्त कृत्रिम गर्भाधान केन्द्र योजना के चौथे वर्ष में खोलने का भी प्रस्ताव है ।

(ग) इस प्रकार के एक केन्द्र खोलने के लिये १९५८-५९ के बजट अनुमानों में २४,००० रुपये की स्वीकृति दी हुई है ।

जमुना बांध

२५१९. श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या सिन्धुई और विद्युत् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि जमुना नदी पर बांधन बांध के लिये जो भूमि ली गई थी उस का कोई मुआवजा नहीं दिया गया ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह कब तक दिया जायेगा ;

(ग) प्रति बीघा कितना मुआवजा दिया जायेगा ; और

(घ) इस बांध के पीचे कितनी भूमि आती है ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत् उपबंधी (श्री हाथी): (क) तथा (ख). शायद सदस्य महोदय का मतलब शाहदरा भाजिनल बन्द से है। दिल्ली प्रशासन से पूछने पर पता चला है कि जो लोग उन को मिलने वाली मुद्रावज्जे की रकम लेने लैंड एक्विजिशन कलेक्टर के पास गये उन को मुद्रावजा मिल चुका है। जो लोग मुद्रावजा लेने नहीं गये उन के वैसे खजाने में जमा करा दिये गये हैं और विवाद वाले मामले मुद्रावज्जे की रकम समेत एडिशनल डिस्ट्रिक्ट जज के पास भेज दिये गये हैं। लैंड एक्विजिशन कलेक्टर के पास मुद्रावज्जे का कोई मामला बाकी नहीं है।

(ग) हर बीच पर मुद्रावज्जे की रकम इस प्रकार है :

क्रमांक गांव का नाम मुद्रावजा (जिस में जमीन की कीमत तथा १५ प्रतिशत अनिवार्य भूमि धर्जन (कंपलसरी एक्विजिशन) की लागत भी शामिल है) रुपये

(१) कारावाल नगर	१२४.०४
(२) बहरीपुर	११३.२८
(३) खजूरी खास	१२२.८८
(४) गोंडा गजरान खादर	६४.७७
(५) गोंडा चौहान खादर	१३१.४६

(घ) ३८५.८६ बीघे।

अध्यक्ष प्रवेश में टेलीफोन लगना

२५२०. श्री डायर : क्या परिबहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश के झाबुआ धार तथा रतलाम जिलों के किन-किन कस्बों में दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत टेलीफोन लगाये जाने वाले हैं; और

(ख) किन-किन कस्बों में किस-किस वर्ग में टेलिफोन लगाने वाले हैं ?

परिबहन तथा संचार मंत्री (श्री स० का पाटिल) : (क) और (ख). दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना काल में जिले-बाध दिखाये गये निम्न स्थानों में प्रत्येक प्रस्ताव की मंजूरी दिये जाने की तारीख से अनुमानतः एक वर्ष के भीतर सम्बन्धित प्रस्ताव के न्याय्य समझे जाने पर ही टेलिफोन-सुविधायें उपलब्ध किये जाने की संभावना है।

जिले का नाम स्थान जहां सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन-घर खोले जाने हैं



झाबुआ	१. झलराजपुर
	२. जोबत
	३. पेतलाबाद
	४. ठंडना
धार	१. बदनावाड़ीघ* २. कुस्ती ३. मनावर ४. सरदारपुर
रतलाम	१. आनोत*

*२२ जुलाई १९५८ को यहां सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन-घर पहले ही खोले जा चुके हैं।

Flood Control Schemes of Various States

2521. { Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Panigrahi:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the amounts re-allocated to each State for

Flood Control Schemes in the Second Plan in view of the fresh appraisal of available resources by the National Development Council?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): The question of reallocation is still under consideration.

Farm Courses

2522. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme has been drawn up by the Government with a view to help Institutions running Farm Courses in Agriculture; and

(b) is so, details of this scheme?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) In 1952, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research formulated a scheme for conducting short term refresher courses of about six months' duration for the benefit of farmers in order to acquaint them with recent developments in the field of Agriculture so that they could utilize the knowledge gained in developing their own lands. The scheme was circulated to the State Governments and the I.C.A.R. agreed to meet 50 per cent. of the recurring expenditure involved as grant during the first one or two years. In response to the above circular, refresher courses for imparting training to farmers were conducted in nine States and a total of about 700 farmers were trained under the scheme.

(b) A copy of the scheme is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 42.]

Foreign Experts in Dam Projects

2523. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign experts still engaged in the Dam construction projects in India; and

(b) the names of countries to which they belong?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). 21 foreign experts are at present engaged on Dam Construction projects in India and are posted as below:

Bhakra Nangal Project—16

Damodar Valley Corporation—2

Rihand Dam Project—2.

Central Water and Power Commission (Water Wing)—1.

Total—21.

They all belong to U.S.A.

Magazines for Passengers in Aircraft

2524. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any journals and magazines are provided in the aircrafts of the Indian Airlines Corporation to the passengers;

(b) if so, what are these and their names; and

(c) the amount spent on this account annually by the Corporation?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 43.]

(c) About Rs. 43,800.

Medical arrangements for Kanchanpur.

2525. Shri Bangshi Thakur: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that representations have been made on behalf of the inhabitants of Kanchanpur to the Tripura Administration demanding better medical arrangements and a 20-bed Hospital in Kanchanpur in view of its large population; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are going to take in this regard and when?

representations have been made to the Tripura Administration.

At present there are two Dispensaries in Kanchanpur Tehsil—one at Kanchanpur proper and the other at Pachertal. Since the population of Kanchanpur has now increased on account of the influx of displaced persons from East-Pakistan, the question of providing additional medical facilities to this area has been under consideration of the Tripura Administration. The dispensary of Kanchanpur Bazar is proposed to be upgraded into a primary health centre with 6 indoor beds to render necessary Public Health and Maternity Services. The proposal is included in the Second Five Year Plan.

Dhatura

2526. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether dhatura is used as poison in different places; and

(b) if so, cases of dhatura poisoning reported in 1957 and 1958 so far in different States?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). The information asked for is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Central Railway Train

2527. **Shri Assar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sitting coach was used as buffet coach on Central Railway train No. 307 Down Express in the months of March-April, 1958;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a stove was used to prepare tea and other eatables in running train; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken in the matter?

A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

One of the 2 Buffet Cars on 307-Down/308-Up Bombay-Poona Express trains had to be sent to the Workshops for repairs during the period from 22nd March, 1958 to 28th April, 1958, and in its place, a Third Class compartment was utilised for storage of edibles, aerated waters etc., for supply to passengers.

The staff of the Buffet Car unauthorisedly used a stove in the Third Class compartment for preparing tea, which they ought to have obtained from the other Buffet Car. In fact, they obtained from the other Buffet Car some tea, which was found to be insufficient.

When the matter came to the notice of the Central Railway Administration, instructions were issued to the staff concerned, that the practice of using a stove in Third Class compartments should not be resorted to. Catering Inspectors and other supervisory officials have also been instructed by the Railway to ensure, by personal inspections, that such lapses do not occur in future.

Production of Tapioca

2528. **Shri Maniyangadan:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum by the representatives of Tapioca growers in Kerala State, suggesting proposals for improving production of tapioca and for ameliorating the present condition of the producers has been received by Government; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government on the said memorandum?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). No memorandum has been received in

this Ministry from the representatives of Tapioca Growers in Kerala State. A memorandum is, however, reported to have been received by the Kerala Government from the Director, All-India Tapioca Marketing Expansion Board and the same is said to be under the consideration of the State Government.

Irrigation Works in Kerala

2529. Shri Maniyangadan: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) what amount was allotted for Kerala State for irrigation works during the year 1957-58; and

(b) how much amount was spent by the Government of that State during that year?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi) (a) and (b). The amount allotted to Kerala for major and medium irrigation works including lift irrigation was Rs. 2,17,63,500 and the amount spent by them was Rs. 2,12,58,735.

जहाज खरीदने के लिये विदेशी मुद्रा

२५३०. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत सरकार ने जहाज खरीदने के लिये १९५२ से अब तक विदेशी बैंकों से कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा प्राप्त की है : और

(ख) कितने विदेशी बैंकों अथवा सरकारों ने भारत को विदेशी मुद्रा देने का प्रस्ताव किया है अथवा सीधे उसे देने के लिये तैयार हैं ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) और (ख). जहाज खरीदने के लिये भारत सरकार ने जो विदेशी मुद्रा प्राप्त की है उसमें

अभी अकेले जापान से ही जहाज लेने संबंधी ऋण मिला है। इसकी कुल राशि २४ करोड़ रुपये (१८ बिलियन यन) है। इसमें से ६.६७ करोड़ रुपये (५ बिलियन यन) की राशि जहाज खरीदने के लिये नियत कर दी गई है।

एसा पता चलता है कि मरकेन्टाइल बैंक आफ इंडिया, लंदन बैंक आफ बड़ौदा और सेंट्रल बैंक आफ इंडिया लिमिटेड आदि कुछ बैंकों ने भारत की जहाजी कंपनियों को षोडी मात्रा के ऋण के रूप में विदेशी मुद्रा देने की सुविधा दी है।

एक जापानी दलाल फर्म से भी बातचीत चल रही है जिसने सरकार को अमेरिका से १६ करोड़ रुपये (२५० लाख डॉलर) ऋण दिलाने को कहा है। इस समय यह सम्भव नहीं है कि यह कहा जाये कि यह बातचीत तय हो जायेगी या कितना धन मिल सकेगा।

Ferry Services

2531. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ferry vessels and the type of boats in use on the river Ganga in the ferry service between Dhulian and Khejuria Ghat, in West Bengal;

(b) the volume of passenger and goods transport traffic that passes up and down through the ferry service every day; and

(c) who runs this ferry service?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

बंगले के चपरासी

२५३२. श्री क० भे० मालवीय : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि रेलवे के अफसरों को बंगले के चपरासी मिलते हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां तो भारतीय रेलों पर ऐसे कुल कितने कर्मचारी हैं ; और

(ग) सरकार को उन पर कितना वार्षिक खर्च करना पड़ता है ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) :

(क) जी हां कुछ अफसरों को बंगले के चपरासी दिये जाते हैं ।

(ख) और (ग). एक विवरण मभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट ६, अनुबन्ध संख्या ४४].

लगेज गार्ड प्रणाली

२५३३. श्री क० भे० मालवीय : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पश्चिम रेलवे में लगेज गार्ड की जगह ट्रेक्स-मैन प्रणाली चालू करने के बाद क्षतिपूर्ति के दावों की संख्या बढ़ गई है ; और

(ख) क्या इस परिवर्तन के कारण कार्य-दक्षता पर भी बुरा प्रभाव पड़ा है ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री स० वें० राम-स्वामी) : (क) और (ख). जी नहीं । इस बात का कोई संकेत नहीं मिलता कि लगेज गार्ड की जगह ट्रेक्स-मैन प्रणाली चालू करने की वजह से क्षतिपूर्ति के दावों की तादाद बढ़ गई है या कार्य-कुशलता पर बुरा असर पड़ा है ।

रेलवे एक्ट

२५३४. श्री क० भे० मालवीय : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रेलवे एक्ट का हिन्दी संस्करण प्रकाशित हो गया है ; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इस के कब तक प्रकाशित होने की आशा है ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) :

(क) और (ख). केन्द्रीय अधिनियमों का हिन्दी अनुवाद विधि मंत्रालय में किया जा रहा है । मालूम हुआ है कि विधि मंत्रालय भारतीय रेल अधिनियम का भी एक द्वि-भाषी, अंग्रेजी-हिन्दी, संस्करण शीघ्र प्रकाशित कर रहा है ।

Private Electric Supply Companies of U.P.

2535. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Private Electric Supply Companies of U.P. have approached the Central Government for assistance for expansion programme;

(b) if so, details of these schemes;

(c) whether Government have considered these schemes; and

(d) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (d). The representatives of a few Private Electric Supply Companies of U.P. had suggested certain modifications to the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 with a view to enabling them to raise capital for fresh development on easy terms. No direct financial assistance from the Central Government for any particular scheme was desired. The proposals in respect of amendment of the Act are being examined.

Telephone Guide

2536. Shri Dasratha Deb: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no up-to-date telephone directory has been published and supplied to the subscribers of Agartala since 1956;

(b) if so, why; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) No. The latest issue — June, 1958 issue has already been supplied to the subscribers.

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

Thefts of Materials

2537. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one Pathan has been arrested at Padgha, District Thana, Bombay State on account of thefts of all sorts of Railway materials;

(b) whether Government are aware that these thefts were committed daily;

(c) whether Government have set up any inquiry against those who were co-operating with the Pathan; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken by Government against the persons responsible for it particularly the Railway Employees?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawas Khan): (a) Yes. One Pathan named Bagh Ali Khan S/o Khuda Bux Khan was arrested by Padgha Police, District Thana, at Padgha on Bombay-Agra Road. He was found removing in a motor truck, some materials which were suspected to be stolen Railway property.

(b) No.

(c) and (d). The case against the arrested Pathan is still under investigation by the police but so far no

railway servant is suspected to be involved in this case.

Bhakra Control Board

2538. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhakra Control Board has drawn a plan for the Development of Bhakra Catchment Area on the upper side of the Dam; and

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

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) A scheme for soil conservation measures in the Bhakra Catchment Area has been prepared by the Chief Conservators of Forests, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, in collaboration with the General Manager, Bhakra Dam. The scheme has been examined by the Bhakra Control Board and is at present under consideration of the Government of India in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture as it anticipates financial assistance from the Government of India.

(b) The main features of the Scheme are detailed below:

(i) **Soil Conservation Measures in Cultivated Areas.**—In the cultivated areas, soil conservation measures have to be carried out by the farmers by levelling, terracing, walling, watt-bunding etc. The average cost per acre is estimated at Rs. 200. As an inducement to the farmers, the scheme provides for a subsidy of Rs. 100 per acre. It is considered that it would be enough to provide for soil conservation measures for 50 per cent. of the total cultivated area during the next 20 years covering an area of 1,66,450 acres.

(ii) **Afforestation.**—The Forest Departments of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh are already

looking after the demarcated forest areas which would not need any special funds for afforestation. In the undemarcated forest areas, it is proposed to undertake afforestation at the rate of Rs. 150 per acre for 70,000 acres during the next 20 years.

(iii) *Grass Land Management and Other Measures.*—In the

waste-land and undemarcated forest areas, where intensive afforestation is not practical, some other soil conservation measures like check-damming and gully-plugging etc. are to be carried out. As the villagers in the hilly tracts are generally poor and depend for their livelihood on cattle grazing, operations like gully-plugging and check-damming are not possible without resorting to closure of these areas. It would be possible to carry out these measures in about 20 per cent. of the undemarcated forest areas during the next 20 years. The total area to be covered during this period is 1,29,100 acres and will cost about Rs. 25 per acre for protection of forests by guards and by fencing, collection and broadcasting of grass seeds, management of grazing and grass land, check-damming and gully-plugging.

(iv) *Spitti Area.*—Special measures have to be adopted for this area which is a huge plain at an average elevation of 11,000 feet. The area is sparsely populated and there are very few trees. Due to excessive grazing and erosion, enormous quantities of washed earth come into the Sutlej from this area. The only soil conservation measure, that can be adopted in this valley, is to reduce the

number of sheep and goats and enforce rotational closures. As a practical measure, the number of grazing sheep and goats will be reduced to 50 per cent. To compensate for the reduction in numbers, improvement in the breeding of sheep will be attempted to get more yield of wool per head of cattle. To enforce rotational closures and limit the entry of cattle into the Spitti Area, provision has been made for Rs. 20 lakhs for the next 20 years.

The total cost of the scheme for the next 20 years has been estimated at Rs. 3,23,72,500. The Bhakra Nangal Project estimate provides only Rs. 2 lakhs for soil conservation. The scheme is now under consideration of the Soil Conservation Board with a view to providing assistance for the implementation of the scheme.

Rail-Cars on Northern Railway

2539. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rail-cars have been introduced on the Northern Railway; and

(b) if so, the names of sections on which these Rail-cars have been and are proposed to be introduced?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The Diesel rail cars are already running on the metre gauge system of the Northern Railway between Sadar Bazar and Sadulpur Jn., and Delhi Serai Rohilla and Hissar Jn. 12 Broad Gauge Diesel rail cars have also been allotted to the Northern Railway and these are expected to be received by them by the end of September, 1958. When received, it is proposed to operate these Broad Gauge Diesel Cars on the following section over Delhi and Ferozepore Divisions:—

(i) New Delhi-Panipat-Kurukshetra - Narwana - Jind - Rohtak-Delhi-Kishanganj.

- (ii) Delhi-Kishanganj-Rohtak-Jind-Panipat-New Delhi.
- (iii) Jullundur City-Ludhiana-Moga Tehsil-Ferozepore Cantt.
- (iv) Jullundur City-Hoshiarpur-Ludhiana-Lohian Khas.

Loss of Crops

2540. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) total loss of crops due to insect pests during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) important feature of measures taken against insect pests?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No authentic information is available.

(b) Plant protection organisations of the State Government organise control measures against insect and other pests. They also assist the farmers by distributing pesticides, spraying and dusting machines.

The Central Government have established 14 Regional Plan Protection Stations in the various States to supplement the resources of the State Governments by supplying pesticides, machines, vehicles and technical personnel, in times of emergency. Aeroplanes are also available for aerial spraying and dusting of crops.

Inspectors of Post Offices

2541. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Inspectors of Post Offices in Bombay;

(b) the number of their offices located at present in private houses; and

(c) their monthly rent?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil):

	For Bombay City	For the whole of Bombay Circle including Bombay City
(a)	12	83
(b)	Nil	37

(c) An allowance of Rs. 5 p.m. is paid to each Inspector of Post Offices for locating the office in a portion of his rented residential accommodation. The total amount payable on this account every month thus comes to Rs. 185 p.m.

Mail Robberies

2542. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mail robberies which occurred in 1958 so far; and

(b) the net loss sustained as a result of these robberies?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) 9.

(b) Rs. 7428.99 n.P.

Indian Registered Air-Craft

2543. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircrafts with Indian registration operating in foreign countries at present;

(b) the number of Indian pilots employed on these aircrafts; and

(c) the reasons for permitting India-registered aircrafts to operate for Non-Indian companies?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Two.

(b) One.

(c) Permission is granted subject to the condition that the aircraft can

be recalled by the Director-General of Civil Aviation when required India registered aircraft operating abroad earn foreign exchange and secure better utilization of aircraft capacity.

River Boards Act, 1956

2544. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the River Boards as envisaged in the River Boards Act, 1956 has started working; and

(b) if so, the name of such project and the State concerned?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). No River Board has so far been established in respect of any river or river valley in the country.

Powers to State Governments

2545. { **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
 { **Shri N. R. Munisamy:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Governments have used the power conferred upon them by the recent notification of the Union Government empowering the State Governments to call upon any stockist to sell his stocks at the average prices of the past three months;

(b) if so, how many State Governments have used that power; and

(c) with what result?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two.

(c) Stocks have been requisitioned and taken over.

Indian Council of Agricultural Education

2546. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the session of Indian Council of Agricultural Education was recently held at Bangalore;

(b) if so, names of persons who attended this session; and

(c) main recommendation of this session?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Two statements are laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 45.]

G.M.F. Schemes in Punjab

2547. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 740 on the 28th February, 1958 and state the additional production of foodgrains obtained during 1957-58 in Punjab through Grow More Food Schemes?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): 50,700 tons, according to the information received from the State Government.

Railway Concessions

2548. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of such bodies of educational, cultural or social importance as have applied for enlistment in the list of such institutions and organisations as are entitled to get Railway concessions for their delegates to attend their annual Conferences held in India during the year 1958 so far; and

(b) the names of those which have been enlisted?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) So far,

during 1958, 22 organisations have applied for enlistment. A list is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 46.]

(b) The list of bodies of educational, cultural or social importance eligible to get railway concessions for their delegates attending Annual Conferences, as furnished under serial number 18(1) of annexure to Rule 118 of I.R.C.A. Coaching Tariff No. 17, is revised periodically and pending the next revision which is in hand, none of the 22 organizations mentioned in answer to part (a) above have been added to the list.

Railway Protection Force

2549. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) what was the strength of the Railway Protection Force of the Northern Railway on the 31st July, 1958 separately on each Division; and

(b) the total expenditure involved for maintaining the above Protection Force in each Division during 1957-58 and 1958-59 so far?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The strength as on 31st July, 1958 and the expenditure incurred during 1957-58 are as follows:—

Division	Strength	Expenditure in Rs.
Delhi	1703	15,73,040
Ferozepur	755	9,08,000
Lucknow	1071	11,66,000
Allahabad	1107	12,91,000
Moradabad	682	7,54,689
Bikaner	493	4,75,033
Jodhpur	167	1,87,471
Hqs. Office	179	2,99,000
Training School	54	1,25,962
Armed Wing	1572	9,73,000
TOTAL :	7783	77,53,194

The probable actual expenditure upto 1-8-1958 during 1958-59 is about 20 lakhs and the budget provision for the year is Rs. 94,37,000.

Aid given to Jammu and Kashmir

2550. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the total amount of aid given to Jammu and Kashmir State during 1958-59 so far under the following heads:

- (i) Road Development;
- (ii) Tunnels;
- (iii) Bridges;
- (iv) Repairs, clearing snow and passes from the Roads; and
- (v) Officers' Quarters and Collies' huts?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (i) to (iii) and (v). Rs. 76 lakhs. Figures for Tunnels, Bridges, Officers' quarters and Collies' huts are included in this amount and cannot be separated without disproportionate labour. Most of the expenditure is on road and bridge works.

(iv) No grant as aid is given for the repairs, clearing snow and passes to Jammu and Kashmir State.

Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack

2551. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grants have been made by the Rockefeller Foundation to the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack for further research programmes;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) what are the research programmes for utilizing this grant?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jais): (a) and (b). The Rockefeller Foundation of America has made a grant to the Central Rice Research Institute of \$1,25,000 for

the purchase and shipment of specialised Laboratory and field equipment and for library materials to be used in fundamental studies on the improvement of rice. The sum is available for use during the 3-year period beginning June, 1, 1958.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 47.]

अष्टाचार

२५५२. श्री महेन्द्र नाथ सिंह : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे में सहायक दावा निरीक्षक के पद के हाल ही के चुनाव में कुछ अनियमितताओं की ओर प्रशासन का ध्यान दिलाया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री शाह नबाज खां) :

(क) पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे में सहायक दावा निरीक्षकों (Assistant Claims Inspectors) की जगहें जिस तरह भरो गयीं उसमें कोई अनियमितता (Irregularity) नहीं हुई।

(ख) सवाल नहीं उठता।

Krishna Barrage in Andhra Pradesh

2553. Shri M. S. Murty: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Krishna Barrage work in Andhra Pradesh is still incomplete due to shortage of steel plates; and

(b) if so, when the required steel plates are expected to be supplied?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The answer is in the affirmative. The shortage is however, in respect of steel angles and rounds and not steel plates.

(b) The indications are that the entire requirements of Krishna Barrage would be met by the end of September, 1958.

Octroi Duty on Foodgrains

2554. { Shri Nath Pal:
Shri Jadhav:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state who is to pay the Octroi duty on foodgrains which is sent in the Municipal limits by Government?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): The Octroi duty on foodgrains sent by the Central Government into municipal limits is paid by that Government wherever it is payable under the Bye-laws of the municipality.

Over-Bridges at Raipur

2555. Shri V. C. Shukla: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the long overdue construction work of over-bridge at the railway station premises, Raipur, which was started recently, has been suddenly stopped;

(b) if so, the reason thereof; and

(c) when the construction work is expected to be resumed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). In connection with doubling of the section, the proposal for large scale remodelling of the yard at Raipur cropped up. In view of this, the work of constructing the foot over-bridge had to be suspended. The work will be resumed as soon as plan for remodelling the yard is finalised.

Constitution of Ganga River Board

2556. Shri Bimal Ghose: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal has requested the Central Government for the immediate constitution of a Ganga River Board under the River Board Act of 1956; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Central Government?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes; a suggestion to that effect has been made by the Government of West Bengal.

(b) The matter is under the consideration of the Central Government.

Erosion of Right Bank of Bhagirathi River

2557. Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal have sponsored a scheme for the protection of right bank of the river Bhagirathi in Nabadwip (District Nadia, West Bengal) for approval for purposes of Central loan assistance under the Flood Control Programme;

(b) whether the scheme has been approved; and

(c) if so, the amount for which it has been approved?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). The reply is in the affirmative.

(c) For Rs. 9,71,300.

Stipend to Public Health Engineers

2558. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have a scheme to give stipends to Public Health Engineers; and

(b) the number of persons granted stipend under this scheme.

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) 205.

Telephone Connections

2559. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants still on the waiting list for installation of telephones in Ferozepore District of Punjab at each exchange;

(b) the reasons for not supplying telephones to them so far; and

(c) when those applicants are expected to be provided with telephones?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 48.]

(c) Action is being taken in all cases and connections will be provided gradually as the work of expansion of exchange capacities and laying of additional cables has been completed.

Telephone Connections in Punjab

2560. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the number of new telephone connections given in Punjab during 1957-58 District-wise?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil):

Name of District	Number of telephone connections given
Ambala	250
Amritsar	343
Bhatinda	63
Faridkot	15
Fatehgarh	11
Ferozepur	94
Gurdaspur	29
Gurgaon	65
Hissar	117
Hoshiarpur	116
Jind	4
Jullundur	138
Kandaghat	20
Kangra	2
Kapurthala	17
Karnal	70
Ludhiana	223
Narnaul	2
Patiala	143
Rohtak	89
Sangrur	38
Simla	399

Aid to Agricultural and Veterinary Colleges

2561. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any aid was given to the agricultural and veterinary colleges in Punjab, by the Government of India;

(b) the names of the colleges that have received the aid and to what extent; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government of Punjab have asked for more financial aid than what has already been granted?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). Yes; the Government of India have sanctioned the following grants and loans to the Punjab Government for the Agriculture College, Ludhiana and the Veterinary College, Hissar:—

Name of College	Total aid sanctioned.		Amount paid up-to-date	
	(Rs. in lakhs)		(Rs. in lakhs)	
	Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan

1. Agriculture College, Ludhiana	15.38	9.62	15.00	9.62
2. Veterinary College, Hissar	12.153	22.59	11.214	6.38

(c) Yes; the matter is under consideration in consultation with the Planning Commission.

Supply of Iron and Steel for States

2562. Shri Ram Reddi: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received reports from any State Government that the agricultural production is hampered on account of the inadequate supply of iron and steel for agricultural purposes.

(b) the quantity of iron and steel allotted for each quarter during 1957-58 and 1958-59 so far for agricultural purposes State-wise; and

(c) the basis on which agricultural quotas are fixed amongst the States?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir.

Recently the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Mysore, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi Administration reported about inadequate supplies of iron and steel for agricultural purposes. They were given additional allocation from the small reserve available.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 49.]

(c) The agricultural quotas of iron and steel for the different States are fixed on the basis of the quantity available and the requirements of the States which far exceed the allocations.

C.H.S. Scheme

2563. Shri Dinesh Singh: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) what is the average monthly expenditure of the Central Government on the Contributory Health Service Scheme for Central Government Services in Delhi and New Delhi including the expenditure borne by the Hospitals in this respect;

(b) the number of Government servants participating in it; and

(c) what was the expenditure just before the scheme when such expenses were reimbursed by Government?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The average monthly expenditure for the last three years incurred on the Contributory Health Services Scheme including the expenditure incurred on the hospitalization of C.H.S. beneficiaries in hospitals other than the Willingdon and Safdarjang Hospitals, New Delhi, is as indicated below:—

1955-56	Rs. 94,631
1956-57	Rs. 1,21,237
1957-58	Rs. 1,43,942

No separate account of the hospitalization cost on C.H.S. beneficiaries admitted to the Willingdon and Safdarjang Hospitals has been maintained, nor is it feasible, but on a

rough computation, on a proportionate basis, the average monthly expenditure for the last two years incurred on the C.H.S. beneficiaries on account of their hospitalization in the two Hospitals is as indicated below:—

1956-57	Rs. 1,11,417
1957-58	Rs. 1,27,073
(b) 1955-56	70,600
1956-57 & 1957-58	88,000

(c) Before the introduction of the Contributory Health Services Scheme, the Ministries Departments Offices concerned were making provision for reimbursement for medical attendance and treatment in respect of Government servants employed under them. No accounts of such expenditure were kept in the Ministry.

Interlocking Apparatus at Dornakal Station

2564. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) when the interlocking apparatus will be installed in the Cabins at Dornakal Station, Central Railway; and

(b) whether Government is aware of the fact that in the absence of same, safe working of the trains at this station is greatly jeopardised in view of the large volume of traffic obtaining at this station?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The interlocking apparatus will be installed at Dornakal Station by March, 1959.

(b) No. Although the station is non-interlocked, suitable procedures and instructions are laid down for safe working of trains at the station. In addition, all trains are booked to stop at this station and enter the station at reduced and controlled speed.

Companies Flying Steamer Services in Assam

2565. Shri Liladhar Koteki: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the names, and capital of companies plying steamer services in Brahmaputra, Assam; and

(b) whether any subsidy or loan had been given to any of the Companies?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 50.]

(b) It is proposed to give a loan of Rs. 30 lakhs to the India General Navigation and Railway Company Limited.

Staff in the Ministry of Health

2566. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Assistants and Clerks in the Ministry of Health; and

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

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar):

(a) Assistants	67
Clerks	142
(b) Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Assistants	8
Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Clerks	19

Irrigation Wells in West Bengal

2567. Shri N. R. Munisamy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 3632 of the 8th May, 1958 and state:

(a) whether any reply has since been received from West Bengal

Government as to the utility of the large sized "Kucha" irrigation wells as a result of its investigations on 5 typical wells;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the result obtained by the Delhi Administration in this regard; and

(d) whether Government propose to popularise this scheme in all States?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The matter is still under investigation of the the Government of West Bengal.

(b) This does not arise.

(c) The site for well construction has been decided but work could not be started so far due to collection of rain water at the site. Efforts are being made to expedite the construction

(d) This will be considered on the basis of results that are achieved on the pilot schemes.

कृषि-अर्धशास्त्र अनुसन्धान केन्द्र

२५६८. श्री प्रकाश शीर शास्त्री : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कृषि-अर्धशास्त्र अनुसंधान केन्द्र भारत के कितने राज्यों में और कब से कार्य कर रहे हैं ; और

(ख) इन केन्द्रों पर अब तक कितना व्यय हुआ है ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री अ० प्र० जैन) : (क) भारत सरकार ने सन् १९५४ में कई विश्वविद्यालयों और अनुसंधान संस्थाओं के सहयोग के साथ चार कृषि अर्ध-शास्त्र अनुसंधान केन्द्र स्थापित किये थे ।

उन केन्द्रों का स्थान और उन से सम्बन्धित क्षेत्र निम्न प्रकार हैं :—

संस्था/विश्वविद्यालय	सम्बन्धित राज्य
१. दिल्ली स्कूल आफ एकोनामिक्स, दिल्ली विश्व-विद्यालय, दिल्ली ।	दिल्ली, पंजाब और उत्तर प्रदेश ।
२. गोल्डे इन्स्टीट्यूट आफ पोलिटिक्स एन्ड इकोनामिक्स, पूना ।	बम्बई और मैसूर
३. मद्रास विश्व-विद्यालय, मद्रास ।	आन्ध्र, मद्रास और केरल ।
४. विश्व-भारती विश्वविद्यालय, शांतिनिकेतन ।	उडिसा, बिहार, पश्चिम बंगाल और आसाम ।

(ख) अभी तक इन केन्द्रों पर १२.७४ लाख रुपये खर्च किये गये हैं ।

Cowdung

2569. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what is the approximate value of cowdung and urine available in the country annually;

(b) what quantities of nitrogen, potash and phosphates could be produced from these; and

(c) what is their value?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) On the basis of cattle census, 1956, it is estimated that about 1,200 million tons of fresh dung and about 335 million tons of fresh urine is voided annually by the livestock population of India. It is not possible to indicate the money:

value of these, as dung is not sold in raw state.

(b) The following quantities of nitrogen potash and phosphates are estimated to be present in the dung and urine indicated at (a) above in terms of N, K_2O and P_2O_5 .

	N	K_2O	P_2O_5
	figures in million tons		
1. Dung	2.4	1.8	1.2
2. Urine	2.0	1.6	0.03

(c) The efficiency of these plant nutrients is estimated at 50 per cent in dung and 100 per cent in urine as compared to chemical fertilisers. On this basis, the value of nitrogen in dung and urine would work out to about Rs. 5,600 millions and of P_2O_5 and K_2O to about Rs. 846 millions and Rs. 1,452 millions respectively.

Dalmia Dadri Cement Factory

2570. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that authorities of Dalmia Dadri Cement Factory have occupied railway land and have constructed a building upon it at Charkhi Dadri;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps so far to recover the land from Cement factory authorities; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No building has been constructed on the Railway land by the authorities of Dalmia Dadri Cement Factory.

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

Sugar Mills

2571. Shri Jadhav: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 840 on the 25th August, 1958 and state:

(a) the reasons as to why only 158 Sugar Mills worked during the last season;

(b) number of sugar mills which did not work in the 1956-57 season; and

(c) what is the cane crushing capacity of the mills that did not work in the last season?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) There were 164 sugar mills in 1957-58. 6 did not work as 5 of them have small and old worn out plants besides being located in unsuitable areas and the sixth one which has been lying idle for the past 8 years due to disputes among owners could not resume working in 1957-58 owing to insufficient supplies of cane in its zone.

(b) 6.

(c) Daily cane crushing capacity of the 6 sugar mills which did not work during 1957-58 totals 2,150 tons.

Sugar Factories

2572. Shri Jadhav: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 793 on the 25th August, 1958 and state:

(a) the name of the sugar factories who took bonds from the agriculturists in order to guarantee the supply of cane in future and what is the duration of the bonds issued by each factory; and

(b) names of the sugar factories which took deposits at the time of guarantee for the supply of cane in future and what is the amount of the same factory-wise?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Besides the co-operative factories the following factories entered into agreements with the cane-growers for supply of cane for the period shown against each:—

Name of the factory	Period of agreement
Malinagar	5 years
Tilaknagar	1 year
Kolhapur	1 to 10 years
Lakshmiwadi	10 to 15 years
Sakarwadi	1 to 12 years
Phalton	1 year
Ravalgaon	5 to 7 years

(b) The following three factories take guarantee deposits at rates and conditions mentioned against each:—

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (1) Lakshmiwadi
(2) Sakarwadi | } | 10% of the bill amount is kept in deposit till the next seasons, supply starts in case of the agriculturists who have entered into long term agreements with the factory. |
| (3) Ravalgaon | } | The agreements provide for the suppliers paying a deposit (which is reported to be Rs. 10/- per ton) within a period of three months from the date of agreement. |

बड़े डाकघर, गाजीपुर

२५७३. श्री सरजू पाण्डे : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गाजीपुर (सीरनगर) के बड़े डाकघर के स्थानान्तरण के बारे में वहां के निवासियों की ओर से कोई ज्ञापन मिले हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो विभाग ने उन पर क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रा: (श्र: स० का० पाटिल) : (क) जी हां, गाजीपुर के बड़े डाक-घर को नगर के बीच में स्थानान्तरण करने के बारे में ज्ञापन प्राप्त हुए हैं ।

(ख) नगर के बीच में एक विभागीय भवन बनाने का प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन है ।

स्पेशल रेलगाड़ियां

२५७४. श्री ए० ला० बाबुवाल : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विभिन्न राज्यों के कौन कौन से वार्षिक मेलों के लिये १९५८ में अब तक वाशियों के लिये स्पेशल गाड़ियां चलाई गयीं ।

(ख) उनसे कितनी अतिरिक्त प्राय हुई ;

(ग) क्या राजस्थान में होने वाले मेलों के लिये स्पेशल गाड़ियां चलाने का विचार है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उन मेलों के नाम क्या हैं ?

रेलवे डायरेक्टर (श्र: शाहजबान खां) :

(क) से (घ) सूचना मंगायी जा रही है और लोक-सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Classification and Categorisation of Dock Workers Posts

2575. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed to report on classification and categorisation of posts of dock workers in the light of recommendations of the first Pay Commission has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the important features of such a report?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir. The Committee was set up only on the 23rd August, 1958.

(b) Does not arise.

Bridge Over River Dikrong

2576. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of construction of the permanent bridge over the river Dikrong on North Trunk Road in Assam which commenced in 1955 has not been completed with the result that subdivisional town of North Lakhimpur remains isolated from the rest of Assam; and

(b) if so, reasons for the delay?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, the bridge is under construction, but communication between North Lakhimpur and the rest of Assam is maintained by means of a temporary bridge during fair weather, and boat ferry during summer.

(b) The Assam Public Works Department, who are incharge of the work, had to modify the design of the sub-structure to suit the foundation bed encountered during execution. The bridge is expected to be completed by the end of 1959.

Bridges in S.E. Railway Zone

2577. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are proposals to construct either over-bridges or under-bridges on the Railway lines of the South Eastern Railway Zone during the Second Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, what is their number;

(c) the names of the Stations where these will be constructed;

(d) whether the plans and the estimates have been approved; and

(e) what is the average cost of each bridge?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Road over-bridges 23. Road under-bridges 6.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 51.]

(d) Yes, in respect of all road over-bridges and four road under-bridges.

(e) It is not possible to work out the average cost of an under or over-bridge as the cost of an under-bridge depends upon the number of tracks to be crossed, the local conditions such as the height of the bank, the cost of the land required for the approaches etc. which would vary

from place to place. For the bridges mentioned in part (b) above the average cost roughly is Rs. 5 lacs per over-bridge and Rs. 2.5 lacs per under-bridge.

Survey Operations in Manipur

2578. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3562 on the 8th May, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the services of Survey Officers from West Bengal Survey Department have since been requisitioned for the survey and settlement operations in Manipur;

(b) if so, their number;

(c) the terms and conditions of their service; and

(d) the period during which the operations are expected to last?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A request has been made by Manipur Administration to West Bengal Government.

(b) One Settlement Officer and two sub-surveyors have joined. Request has been made for the following additional staff:

1 Assistant Settlement Officer (gazetted).

4 Kanungos (non-gazetted).

30 Amins (non-gazetted).

8 Sub-surveyors (non-gazetted).

In addition it has been mentioned that some draftsmen and tracers would also be required later. The total number of entire staff to be brought from West Bengal is expected not to exceed sixty.

(c) The Settlement Officer is an IAS Officer. Other staff will be deputed on the standard deputation terms issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(d) The Settlement operations are expected to take about five or six years. However, the staff deputed

from West Bengal will be relieved as and when the local staff have been trained.

Telephones

2579. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephones at present in the town of Burdwan; and

(b) the number of applications pending for connections, and the date of the earliest applications?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) 237.

(b) 103. Date of earliest application 19-5-55.

Electric Trains

2580. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what was the amount spent for opening ceremony of the electric trains upto Burdwan on the 31st August, 1958?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): Rs. 2180.

Sharavathy Valley Project

2581. **Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the residents of the submerged areas in the Sharavathy Valley Project submitted a memorandum to the Central Government for their rehabilitation and compensation for their submerged areas;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken for implementation of their demands;

(c) the nature of rehabilitation and compensation schemes thought of; and

(d) the total amount allotted for the purpose in the whole project?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of

the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 82.]

मयूराक्षी परियोजना का कानाड़ा बांध

२५८२. श्री वाईका मुरमू : क्या सिंहाई और बिद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उन लोगों को भूमि दे दी गयी है जिनकी भूमि पश्चिम बंगाल के मयूराक्षी परियोजना के कानाड़ा बांध बनाने के लिये ले ली गयी थी ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन्हें किस श्रेणी और कितने मूल्य की भूमि दी जायेगी ; और

(ग) कानाड़ा बांध के लिये किस श्रेणी की भूमि अर्जित की गयी थी और उसका क्या मूल्य आंका गया था ; और

(घ) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर नकारात्मक हो, तो विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं ?

सिंहाई और बिद्युत उपनगः (श्री हाथी)

(क) से (घ) : जानकारी इकट्ठी की जा रही है और लोक-सभा की मेज पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Slum Clearance in Delhi

2583. **Shri Arjun Singh Bhadauria:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of evacuee houses and premises in Delhi transferred by the Rehabilitation Ministry to the Ministry of Health for clearance of slums and development from January 1956 to August, 1958;

(b) the steps taken by the Minister so far in regard to these premises;

(c) whether the authorised tenants of the evacuee houses and premises are permitted to develop the same in accordance with the approved plans

of the Delhi Development Authority if they offer to do so at their expenses;

(d) if the answer to part (c) is in the negative, the reason therefor; and

(e) the facilities provided to the occupants in case of their eviction?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 241 comprising of 124 Katras and 117 small houses.

(b) Basic amenities, viz., water supply, drainage, latrines, etc. have been provided in 95 Katras. 2 Katras which were in extremely dilapidated condition were demolished and 44 families residing therein were provided alternative accommodation. Similar amenities are also being provided in the remaining katras.

(c) No.

(d) The evacuee properties transferred to Delhi Development Authority are owned by Government and the tenants cannot therefore develop them as the right of development vests in the owner only.

(e) Persons who are evicted as a result of slum clearance operations are provided with alternative accommodation in subsidised houses.

निजामुद्दीन और झोलखा के बीच रेल के ऊपर का पुल

२५८४. श्री भक्त वर्शन : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री २३ अप्रैल, १९५८ के प्रतारकित प्रश्न संख्या २६६६ के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली में निजामुद्दीन और झोलखा रेलवे स्टेशनों के मध्य रेलवे लाइनों के ऊपर बनाये जाने वाले दो पुलों का निर्माण कार्य सी च पुरा हो गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन पर किन तिथियों से यातायात आरम्भ हुआ ; और

(ग) उन में से प्रत्येक के निर्माण पर कुल कितना धन व्यय हुआ ?

परिवहन तथा संचार नंबालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) ३१ अगस्त, १९५८ ।

(ग) पुल के पूरे निर्माण के लार्च की रकम के प्राकड़े इकट्ठे किये जा रहे हैं । ऊपर बनाये गये पुलों पर ३२.३५ लाख रुपये व्यय का अनुमान लगाया गया था । यह इस प्रकार है :—

	रुपये लाखों में
(१) सफदरजंग की और जंगपुरा के रेलवे फ्रासिंग के ऊपर के दो पुल	१०.१३
(२) देहली की ओर से मिलने वाली सड़क	४.६७
(३) मथुरा की ओर से मिलने वाली सड़क	६.०१
(४) (१) भाग में उल्लिखित दो ऊपर के पुलों के बीच के भराव पर	८.५७

कुल ३२.३५

Senior Superintendents of Post Offices

2585. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether changes have been effected in 'C' Class cities;

(b) how many such changes have been effected;

(c) how many posts of Senior Superintendents of Post Offices have been created due to the introduction of S.S.P. Scheme; and

(d) what is the amount of extra expenditure involved as a result thereof?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Yes.

(b) Seven towns have been included in the list of 'C' class cities, Bhopal, Tanjore, Vellore, Rajamundry, Ranchi, Cuttack and Jamnagar.

(c) Two.

(d) Rs. 24,000 per annum.

All-India Railway Telegraph Staff Council

2586. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All-India Railway Telegraph Staff Council have passed and submitted a resolution requesting for change in designation of telegraph staff;

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon;

(c) whether it is a fact that Rs. 50 as incentive *ad hoc* allowance has been granted to Telegraph staff qualified in Hindi telegraphy;

(d) if so, whether the same has been given on Railways to Telegraph staff; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Government have not received any such resolution.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, to those for whom it was not a condition of service to qualify in Hindi Morse.

(d) For a period of three years from October, 1957, an honorarium of Rs. 50 will be offered for a telegraphist already in service acquiring a knowledge of Hindi Morse, the number of such persons being regulated according to actual requirements.

(e) Does not arise.

Bridges

2587. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bridges damaged due to heavy rains from Pathankot to Joginder Nagar on Northern Railway during July, 1958; and

(b) the amount spent for repairing them?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) None.

(b) Does not arise.

Northern Railway Reservation Office

2588. Shri Ramakrishna Reddy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to remove all encroaches and obstructions in front of the buildings of the Northern Railway Reservation Office in Connaught Circus; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). The matter has been engaging the attention of the Ministry of Rehabilitation, but due to lack of alternative accommodation it has yet not been possible to shift any of the refugee stalls. Efforts are also being made to shift, as a first step, a few stalls in order to provide a direct entrance from the Connaught Circus side instead of the present circuitous access via the State Entry Road.

Collision of Train with a Truck

2589. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether a goods train collided with a motor-truck at a level-crossing nine miles from Delhi on the 7th September, 1958;

(b) if so, the damage resulting from this accident; and

(c) whether any enquiry has been made into this mishap?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes; One Road Truck while attempting to cross an unmanned level crossing near Badli Station on Delhi-Ambala Cantt. section of the Northern Railway, it dashed against the wagons which were being shunted into the siding. This resulted in the derailment of brakevan and five loaded wagons.

(b) The approximate cost of damage to Railway property is assessed at Rs. 7,975.

(c) An Assistant Officer's Committee has investigated into the accident.

Diesel Cars

2590. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the diesel cars running between Delhi and Hissar on the Bikaner Division of the Northern Railway have been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any early resumption of this service is contemplated?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The Diesel rail cars running between Delhi-Sarai-Rohilla and Hissar have been cancelled, with effect from 1-9-1958, due to mechanical defects in the engines.

(c) After the defects have been rectified, the services will be resumed.

Shipping Rates on Roofing Tiles

2591. { Shri Warior:
Shri V. F. Nayar:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of roofing tiles from Kerala suffers on account of prohibitive shipping rates;

(b) whether any representation has been received in this regard by the Government of India; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) It is a fact that the current freight rates on roofing tiles are high but the export of these tiles depends upon several other factors also.

(b) Yes.

(c) The matter has been taken up with the Shipping interests concerned.

सिडर

२५९२. श्री लच्छो राम : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सेन्द्रल रेलवे के झांसी डिवीजन में कितने नये माल गोदामों के प्लेटफार्मों के पुराने प्लेटफार्मों के बढ़ाये हुये हिस्सों तथा अन्य स्थानों को ऊंचा करने आदि में मिट्टी के बजाय सिडर (जला हुआ कोयला) डाला गया ;

(ख) यह सिडर कितनी तादाद में डाला गया और उसका औसत मूल्य क्या था, और उसकी दुलाई (रेलवे बगन का किराया), बगनों की लदाई उतराई आदि में भलग भलग कितना व्यय हुआ ; और

(ग) यदि सिडर की बजाय मिट्टी डलवाई जाती तो सरकार को निश्चित दर से उस पर कितना व्यय होता ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री बाह्युनवाज जी) :

(क) कहीं सिंकर इस्तेमाल नहीं किया गया। सिर्फ ग्वालियर में मोटर बढ़ाने वाले प्लेटफार्म पर कोयले की राख डाली गयी।

(ख) जैसा भाग (क) के उत्तर में बताया गया है सिर्फ मोटर बढ़ाने वाले प्लेटफार्म पर १३,५०० बल फुट कोयले की राख डाली गयी, जिसकी लागत १,०८० रुपये थी। साल डिब्बों में राख नहीं भेजी गयी। भरायी का काम मजदूरों ने किया।

(ग) कोयले की राख की जगह घग्गर मिट्टी डाली जाती, तो उसकी लागत १,७५५ रुपये होती।

Electric Crematorium in Delhi

2593. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 187 on the 17th February, 1958 and state the progress made so far in regard to the construction of Electric Crematorium in Delhi?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): The matter is still under consideration of the New Delhi Municipal Committee and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

Ghee

2594. **Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of pure ghee produced in India in the years 1935-36, 1945-46, 1948-49, 1953-54 and 1956-57;

(b) how much vanaspati (hydrogenated vegetable oil) was produced in the country in these years;

(c) how much of it was exported;

(d) whether it is a fact that Ghee is largely adulterated with Vanaspathi; Oil;

(e) whether this adulteration of Ghee with Vanaspati is increasing or decreasing; and

(f) what special steps, if any, Government have taken for combating the adulteration during the last four years?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Year-wise statistics in regard to production of ghee are not available. Based on the quinquennial livestock census carried out in 1945, 1951 and 1956, the production of ghee during those years has been computed as under:—

Year	Quantity (Lakh maunds)	Approx. value (Rs. lakhs)
1945	113.0	10,000
1951	103.1	20,000
1956	106.0	19,000

(b) and (c). The production and exports of vanaspati was as under:—

Year	Production (thousand tons)	Exports (thousand tons)
1935-36	18.0	Nil
1945-46	132.0	Nil
1948-49	143.0	Nil
1953-54	200.4	0.90
1956-57	263.8	11.12

(d) No.

(e) From the reports available it appears that between 1955 and 1957 there was increase in the percentage of ghee samples found adulterated with Vanaspati in 5 States and decrease in this percentage in 6 States.

(f) (1) For enabling easy detection of vanaspati in ghee, the following steps have been taken:—

(i) Test-checking and analysis of Vanaspati both at the points

of production and sale has been intensified with a view to ensuring that no Vanaspati is produced or sold in the country which does not respond to the Baudouin Test (for Sesame Oil—which acts as a means of latent colourisation). The factory records are also systematically examined to ensure that the Baudouin Test of every batch of Vanaspati is duly certified by the Chemist.

- (ii) The use of Coconut oil in Vanaspati has been prohibited as presence of that oil in Vanaspati renders detection of adulteration more difficult.

2. With the enactment of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act in 1954, and application of uniform rules throughout the country, the collection of ghee samples and prosecution of offenders have been intensified.

3. For facilitating detection of adulteration of ghee even by the housewife (who has no laboratory facilities) a simplified version of the Baudouin Test has been developed and incorporated in a compact test kit by the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore. The cost of chemicals per test works to 3 p.

Iron and Steel Scraps

2595. Shri Subbiah Ambalam: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of iron and steel scraps that is available annually from the Railways in India;

(b) whether they are being supplied to foundries and steel plants; and

(c) if so, the quantity and value of scraps thus supplied to the foundries and steelplants separately during the years from 1956 to 1958?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Approximately 1,76,000 tons valued at Rs. 177 Lakhs.

(b) Yes.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 53.]

Ship Building Parts

2596. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1473 on the 5th April, 1958 and state what further steps have been taken regarding the manufacture of parts in India required in ship-building?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The Standing Committee of Technical Experts set up under the Chairmanship of the Chief Surveyor to the Government of India to examine this matter has not yet submitted its report. Meanwhile, the Hindustan Shipyard (Private) Ltd. is encouraging the Indian manufacturers by placing orders for more and more indigenous materials in place of foreign materials. The Yard has recently placed orders with the Indian manufacturers to the extent of about Rs. 1 lakh.

The Yard has also been able to persuade Indian manufacturers to take up the manufacture of certain ship-building stores which were being imported from abroad.

The Yard has further endeavoured to obtain patentee's licence for the manufacture of anchors and davits in India.

Post Graduate Agricultural Research Training Centre in Punjab

2597. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have finalised any scheme of Punjab Government to set up a Regional post graduate Agricultural Research Training Centre of higher degrees; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jais): (a) and (b). The Government of India have agreed to render financial assistance to the Government of Punjab for development of the existing Agriculture College at Ludhiana as a centre of post-graduate education in Agricultural Science. A statement indicating the terms and conditions for the grant of central assistance is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 54.] The detailed scheme received from the State Government is under consideration.

Railway Workshop on N. Railway

2598. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to establish any Railway workshop on the Northern Railway during the Second Five Year Plan Period; and

(b) if so, the names of places where these workshops are proposed to be set up?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). It is not proposed to set up any new workshop on the Northern Railway during the 2nd Five Year Plan Period. However, the Amritsar workshop which belonged to the Punjab Government has been taken over by the Northern Railway from 1st June, 1956.

Adult Literacy Centres

2599. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamand:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Adult Literacy Centres are likely to be set up by Railway Board for Railway workers in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such centres; and

(c) the places where these are to be established?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (c). As a result of a review recently made in regard to eradication of illiteracy among Railway workers the Railway Administrations have been advised that in addition to running of their own literacy classes, 5 literacy centres should be set up on each Railway at points of concentration of staff and the State Governments concerned requested to run these centres through the medium of their Social Education Organisations. These instructions having been issued only in August 1958, it will take some time for the Railway Administrations to contact the State Governments concerned for the setting up of literacy centres.

12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

AMENDMENTS TO COTTON TEXTILE (CONTROL) ORDER

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 796 dated the 13th September, 1958, making certain further amendments to the Cotton Textile (Control) Order, 1948. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-941/58].

NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED UNDER THE ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy of each of the following Notifications:—

(i) G.S.R. No. 804, dated the 13th September, 1958.

(ii) G.S.R. No. 805, dated the 13th September, 1958

(iii) G.S.R. No. 806, dated the 13th September, 1958.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-942/58].

**NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED UNDER THE
ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT**

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: On behalf of Shri A. M. Thomas, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy of each of the following Notifications:

- (i) G.S.R. No. 815, dated the 11th September, 1958.
- (ii) G.S.R. No. 816, dated the 11th September, 1958
- (iii) G.S.R. No. 817, dated the 11th September, 1958 containing the Delhi (Guest Control) Order, 1958.
- (iv) G.S.R. No. 818, dated the 12th September, 1958, making certain further amendments to the Rajasthan Gram (Prohibition of Export) Order, 1958.
- (v) G.S.R. No. 818A, dated the 13th September, 1958 containing the Rice, (Northern Zone) Movement Control Order, 1958.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-943/58.]

NOTIFICATION ISSUED UNDER INSURANCE ACT

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): On behalf of Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 2C of the Insurance Act, 1938, a copy of Notification No. S.O. 1831, dated the 13th September, 1958. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-944/58].

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY
MEMBERS**

Shri M. R. Masani (Ranchi—East): Mr. Speaker, yesterday I sought your permission to ask . . .

Acharya Kripalani (Sitamarhi)
rose—

Mr. Speaker: Acharya Kripalani.

Acharya Kripalani: Before you begin the proceedings of the House, for the smooth running of the business of the House, I have certain questions to ask so that I may be able to regulate my conduct in future. The first is whether Members who are addressing the Chair are through the Chair, also speaking to the House, and, through the House to the public, and whether when they speak like that, on certain important national issues, they should be given the opportunity to speak out.

The second question is: Are the Members entitled to correct anything which is put in their mouth by other Members and which they have not said, whether this is done by Members or the Speaker. Have they the right to correct what has been, in their view, misrepresented? Can any arguments be raised upon that misinterpretation?

Yesterday, I repeatedly pointed out, Sir, that the impression given to the public of not allowing Dr. K. B. Menon to make his statement would be that there has been yielding on account of the bullying tactics of the Communist party. I again repeated this when the Home Minister, because he wanted to have a little fun, said that I had said that there was a clique, a league, between the Congress and the Communist party. I immediately corrected him and said that what I had said was, and the House will bear me out, that in politics it is not only that we should be correct but we should appear to the public to be correct. Then, you put it in my mouth that I had accused you of being intimidated by the bullying tactics of the Communists. I again got up and reminded you that I had not said that, but what I had said was that in public affairs it is not only that we should be correct but we should

appear to be correct, and the impression on the public, of not allowing Dr. K. B. Menon to make his statement, would be very bad and the public will think, etc. etc. I think I was entitled to do that, but you, instead of taking my explanation, said that you will be obliged to ask me to leave the House.

The Communists interrupted me in my speech and howled. I am not in the habit of howling. I have never interfered with any Member of the Communist party when he was speaking. As a matter of fact, I am the quietest Member in the House. I have never asked any question. I have never raised any points of order, and I have behaved as the leader of a party, I think, in an exemplary manner.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Acharya Kripalani: If we are to be threatened like that, I am afraid the freedom of speech of this House is in danger.

I also want to know whether the Speaker has authority to take away the remarks of any individual from the proceedings without informing him or without informing the House. All these matters should be cleared up for the smooth working of this House. Otherwise, I am afraid this House may have to witness scenes that are witnessed in other State Assemblies. I want such things to be avoided.

I may also tell you, Mr. Speaker, that I have never acted in this House as a party man; even when my party people have left the House in protest. I have not left it. I would have left the House yesterday but for the fact that I am determined that when once I leave the House I never come back again.

Therefore, I want a clear ruling on all these points and also want to know what remedy we have when the

Chair is rude, as it was a few days back to a lady Member when she raised a question of privilege of the House, and then again when Shri Frank Anthony raised a question, his resignation from the Panel of Chairmen was accepted, but no amends were made to him; he was not even induced not to resign.

Then again, even yesterday . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I have been putting up with it thus far. The hon. Member cannot intervene in the debate like this. If he wanted to make any representation he might have asked me for permission. On account of his importance as a leader, I allowed him to carry on. He is now attacking whatever I have done here, my conduct. I have put up with two or three instances. He is trying to multiply them. If he has got anything to say, he may write to me and I shall be prepared to answer.

I might also tell him what the methods are. This is not the method in which he can proceed. So far as his own case is concerned, I allowed him to speak; I heard him. He is now going to other cases, also, as if there is a charge against me today. I would request him not to pursue it. So far as he is concerned, he has raised certain points. I shall certainly look into them. I shall look into the proceedings of yesterday and I will clarify this issue. If I have been rude—I do not want to be rude but even if I have been rude,—I will certainly say, "I am sorry; I have been rude." So far as he is concerned, he can tell me what has happened to him. So far as the other Members are concerned, he need not raise it now. I know what can be done. The Members from his own party came and talked to me. Possibly he has not been taken into confidence. Under those circumstances, he must stop with this.

So far as the points that have been raised are concerned. I will certainly look into all of them. He is a senior

[Mr. Speaker]

Member here. I expected that the would not wind up by saying "Otherwise, scenes will be created in this House". He might have stopped short of that. It is always open to him to create any scene in this House.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): He said he wants to avoid any scene.

Mr. Speaker: But to say, "Otherwise, I would create scenes in this House" . . .

Acharya Kripalani: I again want to correct you. I said, the proceedings of this House will be interrupted as they are interrupted elsewhere. What I say, I say very deliberately and with calculation. Every word of it is weighed. I do not make any allegations against the Chair. But I am entitled to put forward my point of view and I do not want my point of view to be misrepresented, whether it be by any Member or even by the Chair. You will excuse me if I say that, even if we get angry, if we get excited, if we are in a passionate mood, it must be the work of the presiding authority to remain cool and have a judicial attitude of mind and not get excited himself. I have done.

12.18 hrs.

RE QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

Shri M. R. Masani (Ranchi—East): Mr. Speaker, I have your consent to raise the question of breach of privilege of this House and some of the Members of this House. The subject, which was referred to in the notice, which I have submitted, deals with the telegram sent by the Chief Minister of Kerala to our Home Minister. In the course of that telegram, the Chief Minister is reported to have attributed the motive of 'slander' to certain Members, unnamed, of this House.

'Slander' is a very serious charge to make against hon. Members engaged in the pursuit of their duties

to the country. If Members can be attacked like this and their bona fide questioned, freedom of speech in this House is in danger. 'Slander' involves two things: It involves a lie or mendacity and in addition, according to the law and the dictionary, it also involves malice. In other words, the charge is that certain Members of this House are *mala fide* misusing their position here to slander against party.

The basis on which this privilege motion is raised is this, and it is reflected in *May's Parliamentary Practice*. People may say, "Individual Members may be attacked; what has the House to do with it?" *May's Parliamentary Practice* points out that "Reflections upon Members, even if the particular individual is not named or otherwise indicated, are equivalent to reflections on the House." *May* goes on to explain that if individual Members cannot function without being brow-beaten and maligned in this manner, they are inhibited from functioning freely. Freedom of speech is affected and the whole proceedings of the House are thereby adversely affected. That is why Parliamentary practice dictates that the House should be the sole judge of the legitimacy of its proceedings or the behaviour of individual Members of the House and nobody outside, not even courts of law, leave aside the Chief Minister of a subordinate Government, has a right to sit in judgment over the motives or honesty of the Members of the House.

I do not know who the Members in his mind were. But we know that two Members—Shri Asoka Mehta and Dr. K. B. Menon—very respected Members of this House, whose integrity is accepted all round,—are the victims of this 'slander' on the part of the Chief Minister of Kerala. I request your permission to raise this matter, so that the House may be able to take a decision, either to summon Mr. Namboodripad to the bar of this House to account for his conduct, or

to refer this matter to the Committee of Privileges where this matter can be investigated and a report presented to this House. Sir, I crave your leave under the rules of this House.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta—Central): I happen to be a Member of the Committee of Privileges and we yield to none in our regard for the privileges that the Members of this House enjoy. That is why we should take good care that we do not take a step which is not very considered. I could not quite gather what my hon. friend, Mr. Masani, said about the actual content of his privilege motion. I heard him say that the Chief Minister of Kerala had slandered, according to a report, the conduct of certain Members of this House.

Mr. Speaker: What are the very words?

Shri M. E. Masani: The words are "Trying to slander the State Government in the name of explanation."

Mr. Speaker: Who said so?

Shri M. E. Masani: This is part of the telegram that the Chief Minister is reported to have sent to the Home Minister. I do not know whether it is the same telegram that the Home Minister showed to you yesterday or another telegram. But the Press Trust of India message from Trivandrum quotes official sources as the source of this quotation. Probably the Home Minister can throw light whether or not it is an accurate quotation from the telegram.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I am not going into the merits, but I am just referring to the technicality of it. My submission is, if any communication has actually passed between the Chief Minister of Kerala and the Government here, that is, I take it, in the course of their routine communication from time to time. We do not have anything like a proper report, as far

as we can take cognizance of it in this House, of that kind of communication. It appears that there is a Press report where there are some indications. As far as we are concerned here, we should not utilise the forum of this House to make observations in regard to the conduct of the Chief Minister of a State of the Indian Union, without having gone, in the Privileges Committee or elsewhere in your Chamber, into the authenticity of the telegram, the authenticity of the report and so many other things. I do not think it is right and proper for any Member of this House to make observations which will be reported in papers in regard to the alleged conduct of the Chief Minister of a State.

That being so, I feel that before you take a decision in this matter in regard to the reference of this subject to the Committee of Privileges, it is very necessary that the motion is formulated properly, so that no unmerited reflection is made upon a dignitary of the administration in any part of the country who is performing, I presume, his own duty according to his own light. Therefore, the communication between the Chief Minister of Kerala and the Government of India here is not before us at all. It is only a Press report. If in regard to the Press report, you decide that certain steps are warranted, then it is a different matter; on that we may have to make our submissions later on. But I feel that the way in which Mr. Masani has formulated his proposal is something which goes against the grain of parliamentary functioning. That is why we should take whatever steps are in conformity with the propriety of parliamentary life.

Dr. K. B. Menon (Badagara): The telegram sent by the Chief Minister of Kerala in connection with my motion says "Attempts made by some Members of Parliament to slander the State in offering explanation."

Mr. Speaker: Has he got a copy of the telegram?

Dr. K. B. Menon: Immediately I read that letter, I telephoned to the Private Secretary to the Home Minister and requested for a copy of the telegram. The Private Secretary was not here and the P.A. to the Home Minister answered the telephone. He took my telephone number and told me that he would search for the paper and send me a copy of the telegram, because I wanted to be quite correct in my procedure and submit a copy of the telegram to you when I move the motion. After half an hour, the P.A. telephoned back to me saying that he could not find the paper and that he, therefore, would not send a copy of the telegram to me.

Mr. Speaker: The sum and substance of it is that he has not got a copy. (*Interruptions*).

Dr. K. B. Menon: The Communist Party Members only want themselves to be heard; they do not want others to be heard. That springs from the very basic philosophy of their party.

Mr. Speaker: Has he got the telegram? (*Interruptions*).

Dr. K. B. Menon: Let me continue. Therefore, I requested the P.A. to send me a copy of the telegram after he returned in the evening. I have not received a copy of the telegram so far. That is the reason why I could not submit to you a copy, a full text, an authenticated copy of the telegram. I hope the Home Minister will help us in this matter.

Mr. Speaker: In the absence of the telegram, is it the contention of the hon. Member that with respect to this matter we must act on what has appeared in the newspaper?

Dr. K. B. Menon: I have not made my submission yet. The reference to "some members" is obviously to my colleague Shri Asoka Mehta and to myself—I mean, in the text of the

telegram. Shri Asoka Mehta's name is there. And it comes after Shri Asoka Mehta has moved an adjournment motion in the matter of Kerala. According to the Oxford Dictionary "slander" means false accusations maliciously made. I am quite sure that making any false accusation, especially against a State in the Union, is far from my mind. When I made accusations you asked me to support my motion with statements and I have tried to do so. I have done it only for serving the people of the State and not for slandering the State. When the Chief Minister of my State accuses me of slandering my own State, I feel humiliated and belittled before the world. I feel it is a gag on me as a member of the House and I, therefore, appeal to you, who is the custodian of the rights of this House, in my name and in the name of the members of this House that you protect our freedom of speech and our right to be free from being slandered by anybody, including the Chief Minister. Justice is blind. Therefore, you should take action, whether it is done by the Chief Minister or anybody else.

Shri Narayanankatty Menon (Mukandapuram): On a point of order.

Dr. K. B. Menon: I request you in the name of justice and in the name of the privileges of the House—I am not asking you to give a ruling immediately, but to refer this matter to the Committee of Privileges so that they could scrutinise it and give a decision. May I request the Home Minister to read the telegram, if he could?

Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda): I have also to do something with this Committee of Privileges. Therefore, I feel also interested in this matter.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is the Chairman of the Committee.

Sardar Hukam Singh: This House must and would guard its rights and privileges and would not permit them to be violated, from whatever quarters they might be threatened. When Shri

Masani tabled the motion, it was brought to my notice in my chamber and you, Sir, wanted that it may be examined, I have looked into it. The word "alander" certainly means false accusations and reflections and may also include a case where the accusation is made *mada fide*. But we have to see what record we have before us as the basis for any indictment that may be made by this House. So far, the contents of the telegram are not before us. What we have got is only the newspaper report and our friend Shri Masani has said that this is the official version. Normally, any communication made by any representative of the State Government to the Home Minister is not disclosed, and that is not the subject-matter of any discussion here.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): That is not the case with the Kerala Government.

Shri Nath Pal (Rajapur): The news has leaked out.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members need not commit the same error of which they are accusing the other side. Let us hear the Deputy-Speaker.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Now it is pointed out that the P.T.I. report says that it is the official version. It is either a disclosure made by the Chief Minister himself or it is a leakage. Now, if it is a case of deliberate disclosure by the Chief Minister, it may be very improper. He ought not to have done it. But the point is whether this House can take any action by assuming or taking it for granted that this is exactly what he has said in his telegram to the Home Minister. Even if it were correct, his action may be indictable in some other forum or some other place. So far as we are concerned, even if he disclosed it himself, he might have committed a mistake or it might be an act of impropriety, but that would be for a different authority or official to take

action on it. Perhaps we may not be able to do anything on that, and we ought not to take that into consideration. If it is a leakage, then too I am afraid that no action can be founded on the leakage of an official document that has passed between the Chief Minister and the Home Minister.

Now I will come to the actual words that are before us. In the first instance, I am afraid, after going through the motion I feel that only the press report should not form the basis for an indictment by this august House. Unless we can get the original documents—I have not got access to it . . .

An Hon. Member: You can call for it.

Sardar Hukam Singh: But the fact remains that we have not got it. Without the document, it would not be safe to take any action upon the report that has appeared in the press. That is the first thing that I wanted to bring to your notice.

The second thing is that just now, within the last half an hour, I have gone through the parliamentary debates of the House of Commons and I have found a case reported there.

In 1907, a certain member of the House had been charged with "deliberate fraud and indictment",—these are the words—against the electorate, and a notice was given that severe action be taken against the man who had made that speech, because a breach of privilege had been committed. The Speaker in that case held that in political controversies in the heat of the moment the words used are very strained, considerably strained, but from those strained words we cannot really find out whether really there was *mala fide*, whether the intention was bad, whether it was really to humiliate or bring into disgrace any member or the Parliament as a whole. The Speaker held that

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these words were discourteous, yet no breach of privilege had been committed. That was the finding that he gave, and no action was taken in that case.

Now, two things are necessary. Firstly, it should be *mala fide* and secondly, bad intention should also be there. So far we have got only the word 'slander'. The Chief Minister is reported to have said that some hon. Members here slandered the State Government. But there is one thing that the Committee will have to consider, if it is entrusted to them, viz., even if the dictionary says that the word 'slander' means a false accusation with *mala fide* or bad intention, whether really the Chief Minister had that intention or not. Simply the use of the words 'the State Government has been slandered', so far as the precedents show, would not amount to a breach of privilege.

Shri Mahanty (Dhenkanal): May I point out, Sir, that the hon. Deputy-Speaker is the Chairman of the Privileges Committee and listening to him I am inclined to think that he is prejudging the issue?

Shri Nath Pal: All points, whether they are relevant or not, may be raised in the Privileges Committee.

Mr. Speaker: There are three points he has made. Firstly, there must be an authoritative statement. In a matter of libel or slander, whatever be the accusation made, it depends upon the exact language that is used. If, instead of 'slander', I use some other word, i.e., it is absolutely incorrect, unsupported by any evidence and so on, there would not be any accusation and there would not be any charge. What exactly is the word that was used, other than what appears in the newspapers, is one point which we have to consider.

Shri Hiren Mukerjee is a member of the Privileges Committee and he wanted to place before the House his

view. Therefore, naturally when the hon. Deputy-Speaker, who is the Chairman of the Privileges Committee, got up, I allowed him an opportunity, so that at this stage I may try to get some information about the Rules. Hon. Members will see that if I give my consent, I will bring it up before the House so that the House itself might dispose of the matter or refer it to the Committee for its recommendation as to what ought to be done. These are the two courses. But before bringing it up here, under the Rules there is a provision to enable me to come to a conclusion about its admissibility. *Prima facie* it may not be admissible. But if I have any doubt, I may refer it to the Privileges Committee to give me their advice so that I can act upon their advice and then give my consent or not.

At this stage it is not as if I have given my consent. I wanted to hear Shri Masani. Yesterday, I told him that he may have an interview or a discussion with the hon. Deputy-Speaker because I wanted to have an opinion under the rules, preliminary to giving my consent. Inasmuch as Shri Masani wanted to have it here, I wanted to have some more information as to what is the authenticity of the document on which we are basing it. The hon. Deputy-Speaker is doing nothing more than saying whether, here in the House or there in the Committee, it is right to act upon a document or a message that is reported in the Press without having the original document.

As far as I have been able to understand, he has been reading from an authority to show that in the heat of the discussion some expressions are used. We are one on that matter. The hon. Member referred to the House of Commons practice and so on, and the Deputy-Speaker is saying something on that point. Let me hear him.

Shri Mahanty: May I say one word? With all humility I beg to submit that

you cannot give your consent on this air. Let us see the document. The hon. Home Minister is here. The hon. Deputy-Speaker is building up his case on certain documents which are not before us. Therefore, in order to get a proper appreciation of the subject matter, the hon. Home Minister may kindly be requested to lay that document on the Table at least now.

Sardar Hukam Singh: The hon. Member agrees that there is no document. Certainly, when I read it, I had the same sensitiveness and I had the same objection as Shri Masani has. I take strong objection to the word as it is used. But unless the context is there, how can we found any action on it? A word taken out from the context may mean quite a different thing. This is the objection that I am taking.

Dr. K. B. Menon: May I submit that no contradiction nor correction have been issued by the Kerala Chief Minister even after two days since the thing has been published?

Shri M. L. Dwivedi (Hamirpur): Besides, the word 'slander' has been used either by the Chief Minister of Kerala or by the papers which have published it. The word 'slander' has been used against some hon. Members of this House and therefore we are seized of it. Whether it has been used by the Chief Minister or by the news agency, we cannot say that the word 'slander' has not been used. It has been used by some authority, some person or some source and therefore we are seized of the matter.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khanshpur): rose—

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: On a point of order, Sir. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: This is only a preliminary matter. We are not going into the merits.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Exactly; that was what I was submitting. I am also

not talking of merits. We might come to a different conclusion when we look into the merits. But, whether on this we can go into the merits, whether the material supplied to us is sufficient, whether any indictment can be made on the material that we have got—that is the point for consideration. That is what I am making out.

Lastly, there is another thing also and it has been brought to my notice just now. That is that on our own initiation, it has been decided that when a breach of privilege has been committed by an hon. Member of one House against some other House that matter would be referred to that House for action. Several legislatures are passing resolutions according to that procedure.

An Hon. Member: Which other House?

Sardar Hukam Singh: Therefore that also might be considered by you when you decide whether any action is necessary in this particular case.

Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated—Anglo-Indians): I want to make a suggestion on the preliminary point. My hon. friend here, I feel, is building something which must arise at a subsequent stage, i.e., at the stage after the matter has been considered by the Privileges Committee. The simple issue, as I see it, is whether on a report by an official press agency—a report which is palpably a gross violation of the privilege of an hon. Member—anyone can say, "Oh! we have not got the official document which forms the basis of that report." My respectful submission is that here is a Press report which is palpably a gross violation of the privilege of an hon. Member of this House. I submit that that is sufficient for you to give your consent to remit the matter to the House. Otherwise what will happen is that some person *mala fide*—he may be in an official position—may release or get some of his friends to release something through a Press agency. It

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is grossly in violation of my privilege as a Member. Then all that you will do is to remit the factum of this report to the Privileges Committee. The Privileges Committee will arraign the authors or co-authors of the report, will arraign the Press reporter and also the Chief Minister if they think that he gave this item of news. That is the simple issue at this stage.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Sir, may I be permitted to say something?

Mr. Speaker: I have heard so many hon. Members. Hon. the Home Minister.

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): Sir, I received a telegram from the Chief Minister of Kerala, I think, on the 21st morning or thereabout. In that telegram he had referred to two matters. One of them was Shri Asoka Mehta's adjournment motion. I had requested him to send me his own reactions to what has been said here and let me have his views as directed by you on the incidents that had been quoted. That is one matter to which he referred in his telegram.

The other matter was Dr. K. B. Menon's motion. There he referred to the report that, I think, had appeared in the meantime in the papers that he was presumably to make a statement. He asked me to request the Speaker not to accede to that request at this stage and to let the State Government have the opportunity of stating what they had to say in this connection, so that the whole position may be before the House. I showed that telegram to the Speaker. I did not send it to anybody else. I have myself not published that telegram. So far as I am concerned, I did not like to do more than what I had been asked to do. I received the telegram. I was requested to bring it to the notice of the Speaker, and I placed it before the Speaker. That is what I did in connection with that telegram.

I have received another telegram from the Chief Minister today about the telegram that he had sent me previously. I have brought that telegram too to the notice of the Speaker, as desired by him. He has stated therein that there was never any intention of casting aspersions on anybody and so on.

Now, I am not in a position to say anything myself more than that. The telegram was really meant for you and I placed it before you. As regards the telegram I have received today, I have sent a copy of that too to you. So I will proceed in the manner that you may direct.

Acharya Kripalani (Sitamarhi): When the second telegram has come saying that the Chief Minister had no intention of casting any aspersions upon anybody, he presumably admits the first. As Shri Frank Anthony pointed out, whether it is the Chief Minister or the reporter or the newspaper, it is a fit matter to be placed before the Committee of Privileges, and it is for that Committee to get all relevant facts bearing upon the issue. We here are not them.

As regards what the learned Deputy-Speaker said giving the example of the House of Commons that in the heat of the moment words are used and those words have not the ordinary dictionary significance, may I humbly point out that that refers to words used in the heat of a discussion? It has no reference to words that are put on paper deliberately. The written word is quite different from the spoken word. We here in this House in our excitement use many words which may constitute slander, but they are not actually slander. I can understand that. But we are bound to make a difference between spoken word and written word.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (New Delhi): May I make a submission?

You are the custodian of the honour of this House. From the statement of the hon. Home Minister, it appears that the telegram is with you. We would request you to take the House into confidence and let us have the contents of the telegram.

Shri M. R. Masani: May I just say a word before you give your decision? I think after the clarification given by the Home Minister, the position seems to be simpler. My own respectful submission to you would be to remit both the telegrams to the Committee of Privileges so that they can judge whether, in the first instance, contempt of the House was committed, and whether, in the second, the contempt has been purged by the appropriate party. I think it is for the Committee to consider and report to us whether justice has been done and whether the contempt stands or is purged.

Shri Mohammed Imam (Chitaldrug): We want to see the contents of the telegram.

Shri Mahanty: We would like to have the contents of both the telegrams. Those telegrams have been submitted to you.

Acharya Kripalani: If the whole question goes to the Committee of Privileges, it is all right.

Dr. K. B. Menon: If they have repented . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I have heard him already. Hon. Members will kindly bear with me.

When this motion of privilege came, I wanted to thrash out the facts, as is normally done. As soon as it appeared in the papers and Shri M. R. Masani brought it to my notice yesterday, I wanted to have it verified and find out the actual position instead of spending the time of the House here. Every hon. Member knows that if it is possible to get at the original,

it must be got, to find out what the exact words used are. The reason why I referred it to the hon. Deputy-Speaker was to have it investigated under rule 227. Rule 227 says:

“Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules”—

These rules relate to my bringing it up before the House, if I give my consent, for the House to decide whether it should be referred to the Committee of Privileges or should be disposed of by the House itself—

“the Speaker may refer any question of privilege to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation of report.”

So I have under rule 227 authority to refer the matter preliminarily to the Privileges Committee to thrash out the facts and get all the documents, if necessary, as in this case. The Committee can call for the documents and look into them. That is a preliminary examination before it is brought before the House. But Shri M. R. Masani appeared to be a little impatient. Of course, I do not object to it. If certain words are used, any hon. Member may become impatient.

But we could have asked them to get all the information. They could have got the information and examined it. This could have been easily done. I am asked to do now what they could have easily done.

I would like to know one thing from the hon. Minister. He did not give me a copy of the first telegram yesterday. He showed that portion which related to this. I was not concerned with all that had occurred earlier. I was particular to see that portion. Possibly he intended to show me the whole thing. But I confined myself only to that portion.

There is no meaning in going into this matter in this way now. I acted upon that telegram. It is proper

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and in the interests of natural justice that any person, against whom any action is contemplated, however big or small the action may be, should, irrespective of personalities, be given a hearing. Then we may come to any conclusion. Therefore, I thought it necessary and proper that the matter should first be investigated to ascertain facts, though I could understand the anxiety of Dr. K. B. Menon that notice was given long ago and I ought to have heard the party concerned and taken action immediately. So I allowed opportunity to the other side to place its facts. The House also was considerate and allowed it.

Now, I do not know what the hon. Minister is able to say concerning these documents. How could he ask me to place them before the House? If he is prepared to place them before the House, I have not the least objection. I will look into it. But let nothing wrong be done. As this House is anxious that no wrong should be done to it, let no wrong be done to any other limb of the same federal structure of which all of us are parts. I would like the hon. Minister or any other hon. Member to satisfy me about the action to be taken on the documents. I believe the hon. Home Minister who received that document advisedly did not send the document to me because I find under the rules here relating to questions and other matters arising between a State and the Centre, there is a certain amount of confidence. Rule 41(2)(xx) relating to conditions of admissibility of questions, says:

"it shall not ask for information regarding Cabinet discussions, or advice given to the President in relation to any matter in respect of which there is a constitutional, statutory or conventional obligation not to disclose information."

Again Rule 42 says:

"In matters which are or have been the subject of correspondence

between the Government of India and the Government of a State, no question shall be asked except as to matters of fact, and the answer shall be confined to a statement of fact."

Now the House wants to have a copy of the documents. I would like to know if the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is willing to place them on the Table.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): It is not a question of the States and the Centre.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Home Minister is both a lawyer and the Home Minister. Let him answer.

Pandit G. B. Pant: As I said, I placed the telegram that I received from the Kerala Chief Minister before you.

Mr. Speaker: Which telegram? Today's?

Pandit G. B. Pant: No. Today's telegram, I sent you a copy. Yesterday's, or the first one, I showed you the telegram myself, because I felt that there was some economy of time in placing it before you instead of sending you a copy. And I have so far not given any publicity to it except showing it to you, because I did not like to do so and to be a party myself for publishing the contents of this telegram.

I have received another telegram today from Shri Namboodripad, and so far as today's telegram goes I have sent you a copy.

Mr. Speaker: I have got a copy; I will read it.

Pandit G. B. Pant: You have got a copy. In fact, the request to me in both these telegrams—in the first one was that I should approach you, as I said before, with a request that the Kerala Government must be allowed

to have its say before these things were stated on the floor of this House; and today he has sent me this telegram and he says that his telegram to me was confidential, that it was meant only for the Speaker, that I had to bring it only to the notice of the Speaker.

An Hon. Member: After it had been published!

Pandit G. B. Pant: And he said . . .

Mr. Speaker: That "I never intended to publish this telegram". The hon. the Home Minister gave me the latter telegram wherein it is stated—I shall read out this telegram—"Refer my telegram dated 20th and the motion in Parliament for breach of privilege as reported in Press. I never intended to publish this telegram (which is the subject-matter). On the contrary, meant for your consumption only."

We will assume that I write a letter to some friend and keep it on my table. And some other man steals it and publishes it. Am I responsible? (*Interruption*). Hon. Members need not be in a hurry.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: There must be some contradiction.

Mr. Speaker: I am only trying to clear up a legal issue whether a suit for defamation or anything would lie. He may keep it in his table. He may have many things in his mind. Are we charging him for breach of privilege or contempt? Then he puts it in paper and sends it with all confidence. Therefore, between them, the hon. the Home Minister is not responsible for having given it to the Press; that gentleman says, "I have written to you privately; some other man might have given it to the Press." Are we to take advantage of it? I mean there is a point which has to be considered. I am only trying to ask the hon. the Home Minister if he can place it. But the hon. the Home Minister evidently feels from this telegram that it was intended to be confidential and therefore he is not willing to place it.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): It is not proper to embarrass the Home Minister in this matter.

Shri Bimal Ghose (Barrackpore): Already the Home Minister has stated that the Chief Minister of Kerala did not want to cast any reflection upon anybody. That is a clear statement and we are, therefore, seized of the matter.

Mr. Speaker: There are two things. One is, in the absence of any telegram, how far we can proceed upon the newspaper report. The other is, the previous telegram not having been placed, the latter telegram has been placed wherein he has stated that it is intended to be purely a confidential communication between himself and the Centre.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: After maligning us publicly.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will kindly hear me. Therefore, the question is whether that can form the subject-matter without the original being placed here—where it is a confidential communication, according to him.

Therefore, the only point is whether the Home Minister feels it is a confidential communication. Otherwise, let him place it here; I have no objection.

Shri Frank Anthony: On this legal issue may I make a submission? I do not know whether you will follow the analogy of the courts; whether, merely because somebody, an official, claims that a document is privileged, you will allow him to claim privilege. I submit with the utmost of respect that you will not come down to the level of a magistrate. I am talking from recollection: even in the courts, if a privilege is claimed for a document, it does not oust the discretion of the magistrate. Here you are the Speaker of the supreme Legislature. Merely because—I say with respect—the Chief Minister of Kerala or the Home Minister of the Centre claims

[Shri Frank Anthony]

privilege, will you, merely because they claim it as an *ipse dixit*, accord privilege to the document?

My next submission is, we are not asking, we do not ask for the whole document to be disclosed. We only ask for the offending passage. How can they claim privilege for an offending passage which does not purport to disclose any matter of public importance? We only ask for that offending passage.

Finally, the position is this. If some Member of this House *bona fide* criticises—and it is within his right to criticise—the State Government, and the State Chief Minister chooses to write to the Prime Minister that this man is a blackguard and he has taken a bribe and that is why he is saying so, etc., and that matter is reported, what is the right of a Member of this House? Haven't I an absolute right if the matter is reported in the Press that I am a blackguard, that I have taken a bribe, etc., and can't you not only arraign the Press Reporter but the person from whom he got the statement?

Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi West—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I just wanted to point out one thing. The fact is that the particular item is before the House. We cannot say that that portion is not before the House. I am not prepared to believe that the Home Minister of the Central Government went to see you in your private capacity. He showed it to you as Speaker of this House.

Now, the whole question is, when some communication is there, you are seized of it. The thing is there. We cannot say it is not there. The whole telegram may not be there, but what you are concerned with, what the Home Minister is worried about, has been shown to you.

Mr. Speaker: I did not see the word "slander" there. Hon. Members ought not to come to a conclusion from my

statement that the word is not there. I do not know. All that I can say is that we were pressed for time. It was enough for me to look into that portion where he wanted to say that he wanted an opportunity. Nothing more. It was open to the hon. the Home Minister, instead of having shown it to me there, he could have easily sent it also. There is no difference.

Therefore, the only point that arises is, whether in the absence of the original document where it is said that the Chief Minister of Kerala stated that it is confidentially written to the Home Minister here, when somebody reports it to the Press, we can act upon it. Now, that is one point.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: He could have supplied it to you now. Only for consideration of time yesterday he could not give you.

Mr. Speaker: He is here in flesh and blood. I have heard all sides.

Shri C. K. Nair (Outer Delhi): The Home Minister said it was confidential to him and he was acting only as a post-office to carry the message to you. Now that it is in your hands it is the property of the House. It is high time for you to place it before the House.

Dr. K. B. Menon: One word more. Even before the Home Minister received the telegram saying that this is confidential, I had asked for a copy of the telegram—for which I had a right, because I was slandered. Therefore, when I asked for that copy, it was not a confidential document, and it could not become a confidential document subsequently.

Mr. Speaker: The conduct of the Home Minister is not in question here.

Shri M. R. Masani: Before you take a final decision, may I say a word?

Two things have come out of the discussion here. One is that the second telegram was inspired by the notice in the newspapers about what transpired in the House—and I am glad that a salutary effect had already been produced. The other fact is that the first telegram was not marked confidential: in fact, it was specifically asked that it should be shown to you, so that you may be seized of the Kerala Government's point of view. The second telegram, two days later after debate in the House starts, making the first one confidential retrospectively—does not make it a privileged document. The Home Minister has very frankly said that he is in your hands and he has offered to carry out your decision. I request that you ask the Home Minister to produce a copy of the first telegram also and suggest that both the telegrams may be referred to the Committee of Privileges under the Chairmanship of our Deputy-Speaker for report to the House under Rule 226.

13 hrs.

Mr. Speaker: So far as the telegram that has been sent to me is concerned, that seems also to make a reference to the earlier one—"refer my telegram, dated twentieth". This has been sent to me not in my private capacity, but as Speaker of the House.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I may submit that the other one too that was shown to you not in your private capacity! Whatever I did in this connection, whenever I approached you, it was to convey to you the wishes of the Chief Minister of Kerala and I was the channel through which he wanted his message to be conveyed to you. I have done that. That was my duty. I would not publish it myself because I was commissioned with a certain duty which I have performed and which alone I was expected and desired to perform. The rest does not rest with me.

Mr. Speaker: Let us be clear on this point. So far as this paper is concerned, it is public. It has come to me and I will read it. The hon. the Home Minister, I thought, was only asked by the Chief Minister of Kerala to make a request to the Speaker in the House here to give him sufficient time to make his position clear. That was all that I understood of it. If it was intended to be given to me I would have accepted it.

Pandit G. B. Pant: When I showed you the telegram I thought I had perhaps done the same thing which would have been achieved had I sent you a copy.

Mr. Speaker: Then I would have brought it here. Whatever communication is made to me will be the property of the House. Of course, it would not become public property until I bring it before the House. (Interruptions) I will read this telegram. This telegram cannot be understood, unless the other telegram is also before the House.

"Refer my telegram dated twentieth and the motion in Parliament for breach of privilege as reported in Press. I wish to mention that the telegram read as a whole brings out the main point pressed before you namely that you should persuade honourable Speaker not to permit discussion or explanation by Member without affording Kerala State opportunity to state facts and present case. Telegram was purely private and confidential communication urgently made in official confidence with a view to enable you to present Kerala point of view before honourable Speaker."

It could be that he possibly asked the hon. the Home Minister to tell me without showing me the telegram. (Interruption) Unless an hon. Minister relies upon a telegram and reads it out here I cannot make it the property of the House. It is open to him to say: "Yes, Sir, I have received a

[Mr. Speaker]

telegram, (without quoting it). I want time to be granted to the Kerala State to answer." I understood the position only that way.

I am not competent to ask him, unless he reads it out in the House, to place it before the House. May's Parliamentary Practice is clear on this point. "It has also been admitted that a document which has been cited ought to be laid on the Table of the House, if it can be done without injury to the public interest. A Minister who summarises a correspondence, but does not actually quote from it, is not bound to lay it on the Table of the House."

It was open to him to have said: "I have received a telegram; I wish to place it on the Table of the House" in which case I would have called upon him to do so. If he quotes any particular portion, or otherwise gives information, I cannot ask him to lay it on the Table. If something is confidential, I would not like to go against the rules and break the confidence which the Chief Minister has reposed. Now there seems to be a way out of this.

The telegram proceeds—

"I never intended to publish this telegram. On the contrary meant for your consumption only. Moreover never intended cast aspersions or reflection on any Member of Parliament or his conduct or proceedings of House. Context makes clear my meaning that if State not allowed to present correct facts an one-sided version from a Member may appear as slander on Kerala Government. Never meant to make imputation on Member but pleaded that if Kerala Government's case not before House impression would be damaging to my Government. Pray explain position to honourable Speaker and my complete absence of intention to cast aspersion on Member or House."

This is the copy of the telegram that has been received by me. It will be part of the proceedings. Unless you have the entire document you may not be able to come to a conclusion. So far as I am concerned, I do not think I am called upon to ask the hon. the Home Minister to place the document before the House. The hon. the Home Minister says it is intended to be a confidential document between them. In view of what he has said I believe hon. Members need not pursue this matter. Anyhow I leave it to the House. I have heard both sides. I reserve my decision on this matter.

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): May I submit one thing? In view of the fact that the hon. the Home Minister is willing to be guided by yourself, and in view of the fact that the telegram that you have read, refers to an earlier telegram, it is perfectly open to you to call upon the hon. the Home Minister to give you a copy of it, and that I think is the only thing which will make sense out of the whole correspondence. Otherwise, we will know precious little of the whole thing.

Mr. Speaker: Inasmuch as this telegram cannot by itself be understood without the aid of the other telegram, I request the hon. the Home Minister to place it on the Table of the House. Then I will consider as to what is to be done.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Now that the Chief Minister has said in his second telegram that it was a confidential document and the newspapers have published it, is there not a case separately—it has not been raised by Shri Masani—against the newspapers that have published it?

Pandit G. B. Pant: May I submit that the Chief Minister says in his telegram that his communication to me was confidential and that it was not meant to be published and that he himself had not given any publicity to the contents of this telegram.

Acharya Kripalani: Did he say it confidential in the first telegram?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The first telegram contained only his request about the matter to which I have already referred, about Mr. Menon's and Mr. Asoka Mehta's Adjournment Motion. So far as the first part of the Adjournment Motion was concerned, that was not really an issue yesterday, but we are concerned with the other part. The request of the Chief Minister was that it was desirable and he thought that he should have an opportunity of having his say along with what Mr. Menon had said in this connection so far, and that Mr. Menon might be persuaded not to pursue it with an explanation at this stage. That was what he said especially about this particular thing. There is also reference to the other adjournment motion. It was, in fact, in connection with that motion, under your directions, I had written to him to let me have the relevant material. So far as that part goes, that is not relevant at all. When a person sends a telegram like that, he might not take particular care about every word that he writes. Now, it is an official document as stated by him. I am at your disposal. Whatever you ask me, I will do.

Some Hon. Members: He has asked

Pandit G. B. Pant: Of course, I have to do. But, I would say that in a matter of this type, it is worth considering whether in view of the statement of the Chief Minister, it is really necessary to pursue this matter further; even if it be, whether it will be proper for you to ask me to place the telegram on the Table; even if you think that something has to be placed on the Table whether the whole of the telegram is to be placed on the Table or whether only such part as may be relevant to the discussion. All these are matters for consideration. I should like you to give further thought to this, because, everything that is done in this House serves as a precedent for

the future. The conventions that we build are not only for today or tomorrow, not in respect of any particular Government, but also in respect of all that might happen hereafter, whether in this Parliament or in the State legislatures or in connection with the relationship between the States and the Centre. So, I would request you to give further thought to the matter before reaching any final decision today, because, it is, in my humble submission, an important matter that deserves consideration. Here is a Chief Minister saying that it is a confidential document. I would have said that I would not place it on the Table of the House and claim privilege myself. But, in view of the interest that the matter has aroused in Parliament, I feel I would not be justified in saying so myself or withholding it because when there is so much interest in Parliament, I would not be a party myself for withholding a thing against the wishes of the Parliament and the Speaker. But, I would appeal to the House and also the Speaker to take into account the fact that the Chief Minister has said that it was a confidential telegram that he had sent to me and he has repeated that he had no intention of doing anything that would amount to aspersion on any Member of this House. So, the least that I think is advisable is that you may give further thought to this matter. Of course, I shall submit to any directions that you give to me now or hereafter.

Shri M. R. Masani: I for one would be quite satisfied if the offending portion of the telegram is made available to you so that both of them can be referred to the Privileges Committee to consider (a) whether there was contempt and (b) whether the contempt is purged by the kind of apology submitted by the Chief Minister.

Mr. Speaker: The Law Minister.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. All the five hundred Members cannot go on speaking on this matter.

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): Mr. Speaker, I feel it my duty to offer you such assistance as I may, as you have called upon me to do so.

This is a matter of great consequence. I may submit respectfully that in a matter of this nature, I am sure, the House will not be carried away by sentiment or passion. After all, the dignity and privileges of the House are not built on slender rocks but on solid foundations which are built by mature deliberation and careful safeguarding of those rights which you want to preserve. A light dealing with the matter would not help in building the solid foundations on which you desire these things to be built.

The presumption relating to official communications is that they are *prima facie* confidential.

Shri Raghunath Singh: Is it a code telegram or an ordinary telegram we want to know.

Shri A. K. Sen: I am not dealing with the court, because I will not deal with the argument of privileges and the power of the court to deal with privileges that was raised by Shri Frank Anthony. The hon. Member will please be good enough to bear with me because I am trying to be as objective as possible. It is not a question of party or group, but it is a question of the privilege and dignity of the whole House. Therefore, I would really request hon. Members to be objective and dispassionate.

As I was saying, it will be impossible to transact official business if communications between the Chief Ministers of States with the Home Ministry or the Prime Minister or the President are subjected to scrutiny on the barest of allegation or on its being reported, assuming correctly, in the papers. They are *prima facie* confidential and unless there is evidence

before you to show *alimunde* that these communications were meant to be communicated to you *qua* Speaker, these communications should not be forced to be brought on the Table of the House. I am not saying this because it is now a question of Kerala Government; I am saying this for the purpose of preserving the solid and stable relationship between the Centre and the States that these communications in the absence of evidence that they were meant to be communicated to you *qua* Speaker, should not be on the bare allegation that they might be so, brought on the Table of the House. For, it might prejudice the future open discussion on communications between the Centre and the States. I have no reason to doubt and I do not think any evidence has been offered to the contrary to rebut the contention in the latest telegram of the Chief Minister namely that he did not intend it to be communicated to any one else. There is no evidence before you to rebut that allegation. I humbly submit that the dignity of the House will be best served if you accept that statement as it is without trying to question it. I, therefore, submit, that in view of the latest telegram of the Chief Minister—this matter which is raised certainly in the best spirit, for the purpose of expressing that zealous vigilance which alone preserves the dignity of this House should not be pursued further. I should request the hon. Member Shri M. R. Masani not to press for a decision.....

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Shri A. K. Sen: I would request you to accept that request after the telegram of Shri Nambudiripad.

Mr. Speaker: I will treat this matter as closed and now I will proceed.....

Shri Nath Pai: When shall we know your ruling, Sir? Before the end of this session?

Mr. Speaker: I shall try.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: What is the position, Sir? Will the document be placed on the Table or not?

Mr. Speaker: I will consider that matter.

Acharya Kripalani: You, Sir, said that the second telegram cannot be understood unless the first telegram is shown to you and you did ask the Home Minister to give it to you. As far as the Law Minister is concerned, if every communique from the State Government to the Central Government is of a secret nature, then, there was no need for the Chief Minister to send another telegram asking it to be considered as secret.

Mr. Speaker: In view of what Shri M. R. Masani and other hon. Members wanted, I asked the hon. Home Minister to place it on the Table of the House. Exception is being taken to this. Also I had my own doubts as to whether this official correspondence between a State and the Centre can be brought up and there is no confidence so far as that matter is concerned. The Law Minister has also spoken on this matter. I will consider. Merely because I express a view, a document may not be placed here. It is open to an hon. Minister to say, "No, no, I am not going to place it for this reason." He may claim privilege or confidence or various other things. I cannot immediately come to a conclusion. I will take time to consider this matter.

Shri M. R. Masani: May I take it that you will convey your decision to the House later on?

Mr. Speaker: Certainly.

Acharya Kripalani: Will you also consider that this matter has got to be referred to the Privileges Committee, whether it is the Chief Minister or the press or anybody else?

Mr. Speaker: Of course. That is what has been all along argued in this House. I am not going to make a difference, but I cannot commit that I am going to do one way or the other.

13:20 hrs.

**CLARIFICATION OF REPLIES
GIVEN TO SUPPLEMENTARIES
ON STARRED QUESTIONS NOS.
41, 54, 55 AND 62.**

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): On behalf of Shri Hafiz Mohammed Ibrahim, I make the following statement.

In reply to the supplementary questions by Dr. Ram Subhag Singh on Starred Question Nos. 41, 54, 55 and 62 answered on the 12th August, 1958, I had informed the House that the London conference had been postponed because India wanted time to consider the question.

This reply was given as I thought that the hon. Member desired to know the reason for adjournment of the London conference after presentation of the alternative plan by representative of Pakistan. It appears, however, that the hon. Member desired to know why the commencement of the meeting at London had been suddenly postponed. The position in this regard is that the London conference was expected to commence towards the later part of June, 1958. Actually it commenced from the 7th July, 1958. The postponement was made at Pakistan's request.

13-23 hrs.

**DEMANDS* FOR SUPPLEMENTARY
GRANTS, 1958-59**

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1958-59. As the House is aware, 4 hours have been allotted for discussion and voting on these Demands.

**Demand No. 3
Salt**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,000 be granted to

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Mr. Speaker]

the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1959, in respect of 'Salt'."

Demand No. 128

CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,90,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel'."

Demand No. 130.

CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ROADS

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 52,08,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Roads'."

May I know how we should apportion the time between the various Demands?

Shri Narayanankutty Menon (Mukandapuram): Regarding the Fuel Ministry's Demand, that covers the major portion.

Mr. Speaker: How long does he want?

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: About three hours for that, because that is the major Demand.

Mr. Speaker: Any other suggestion?

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): I think there are two items of new services. Those two items should get more time. Other matters are more or less of a routine nature.

Mr. Speaker: Is fuel also of routine nature?

Shri A. C. Guha: I think those two items—oil and salt—may get something more than two hours. In fact, most of the discussion will be on those two items.

Mr. Speaker: How long is the hon. Minister likely to take?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): It depends on the criticism that is going to be made.

Mr. Speaker: Shall we start with fuel?

Ch. Ranbir Singh (Rohtak): All the items may be discussed together.

Mr. Speaker: Very good. Let us see how long we take. All the items will be discussed together. Hon. Members will not have a second opportunity to speak. At the end, the hon. Ministers, whoever want to reply, may also participate in the discussion.

Any cut motions? None.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: Before the Member begins, I want to make a statement.

Before the discussion on the Supplementary Demands for Grants commences I would, with your permission, Sir, like to correct a mistake which has crept in the Supplementary Demands presented to Parliament on the 5th September, 1958. In the

second sentence of the explanatory foot-note to Demand No. 128—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel—at page 12 of the Supplementary Demands for Grants pamphlet it is stated that copies of the agreement with the Burmah Oil Company and Assam Oil Company were placed on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament in February last. Actually the copies of the Agreement were not placed on the Table of the Houses, but were only sent to Parliament Library on the 17th February, 1958. It is a printer's devil.

Mr. Speaker: So far as cut motions are concerned does any hon. Member want any cut motion to be moved? I do not think any hon. Members specifically want any cut motions to be moved.

I will give 15 to 20 minutes to hon. Members.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: In discussing these Supplementary Demands, I shall confine myself to that part of the Demands which seeks to allocate about Rs. 5 crores for the new oil company and also the oil refineries.

When this Demand comes today before the House, I will be failing in my duty if I do not refer to some of the splendid achievements of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, especially that which they have done quite recently. Those achievements are to be taken in the background of about 28 years of search in India for oil by different interests and companies, and the comparatively short period of work that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has had as far as the exploration of oil is concerned.

The other day the hon. Minister of Mines and Oil announced in the House about certain finds that they have made in Cambay indicating that

there is very good prospect of oil being found there. Later on newspaper reports appeared to the effect that what had been found a few days back had been confirmed. Though according to later reports the press reports have been exaggerated, still there is every indication that we will be able to find oil in Cambay on a commercial scale.

Also, the work of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission at Jwalamukhi has been greatly inspiring and satisfactory.

The news that we have struck oil on a commercial scale at Cambay, even though it is only a find of mineral oil, is having far-reaching revolutionary changes not only on our fuel consumption; our entire economy is being affected. As this House knows, for a long number of years we were depending upon some of the oil companies which were functioning in India for our necessities of oil consumption. Not only that. Because we had to depend upon foreign oil companies for our requirements of fuel in India, it had its implications on the price system; and from different angles also it had very serious implications upon our defence structure. Apart from the fact that during the Plan period the import of oil itself was draining a large amount of foreign exchange from this country which was affecting us very adversely, it had greater implications on our economy. Therefore now when we find that in the near future we have the prospect of oil being drilled on a commercial scale, it is time for the whole House and the whole nation to rejoice over this find. Certainly, those who are responsible for doing this hazardous task both at Jwalamukhi and at Cambay deserve congratulations and good wishes from all sides of the House.

Coming to the specific Demand, the establishment of Oil India (Private) Limited and also Indian Refineries Limited is also a historic occasion because it is for the first time that we

[Shri Narayanankutty Menon]

re having an Indian company at least in name. Even though the agreement between the Assam Oil Co., and the Government of India which led to the formation of the rupee oil company has been the subject matter of very serious discussion in this House before, this is the proper occasion to reflect back on some of the terms of the agreement and how the terms are working today, since we are voting on the Demands for the establishment of these companies.

In regard to the refineries particularly, because of the policy of the Government of India in 1950 and 1951 on the basis that no oil was to be found in India in the conceivable future, and relying upon the foreign oil companies, certain concessions were granted to the refineries being established. As a result, in the transition period we find that without any logic or reason, without a mind to planning, without any foresight, the Government decided to have two refineries established at Bombay and also one at Vizagapatam. Later on we struck oil and we have sought to have a refinery somewhere near Naharkatiya. Now we find at Cambay we have struck oil and there is prospect of more oil being found there. Fate had been very much helpful as far as Government were concerned, and as far as we were concerned. The two refineries with the maximum gallonage being located at Bombay, we shall have to thank God for the fact that oil has been struck at Cambay somewhere in the near vicinity, so that heavy transportation costs on the future oil being carried to the big refineries at Bombay have been avoided. But if oil is to be struck at other regions, what will be our conception in regard to the location of the refineries? Now, Government have taken a decision, as far as the Indian refineries are concerned. We have a refinery in Assam, a comparatively small refinery; we have also a big refinery at Barauni. When these decisions have been taken to

set up refineries, certain anomalies crop up.

The total quantity of fuel, petrol and other petroleum products which we could refine in this country, assuming for the time being that we would be able to strike oil in the country, the total quantity of fuel that would be required in the near future for our consumption, and the types of fuel that would be needed, etc. were rarely taken into consideration early in 1950. Therefore, we are running into troubles now, because the refineries are now functioning in such a way that we are over-producing motor gasoline. After getting crude oil from the foreign countries at a higher rate, when motor gasoline is overproduced, we shall have to sell it in the nearest market; and only the other day, the Minister of Mines and Oil had agreed that somehow we would have to take the risk of getting a lower price. At the same time, in spite of the fact that three refineries are functioning and there is a fourth one in Assam, and with the prospect of two more refineries coming in, one at Assam and the other at Barauni, we are importing today a large amount of kerosene oil at the expense of so much of foreign exchange. That shows that we have no plan at all, as far as the bigger refineries, namely the one at Bombay and the one at Visakhapatnam are concerned, to get more kerosene oil so that our internal market could be stabilised and instead of over-producing motor gasoline, we could get the kerosene oil that is required.

I am pointing this out not for criticising that Government did it deliberately, but only to show the lack of foresight that Government displayed in granting big concessions to the oil companies in 1950, without having any idea of the future prospecting of oil in India and also without taking into consideration the types of fuel that India would require almost for about ten years to come or the question of putting in a clause that the

refineries will be producing such types of fuel as will be required for our internal consumption. At least in the future, when hopes are before us that our own oil is being struck, and when we are having new refineries, the Government of India should bear in mind that the type of the refineries that we are going to establish at Assam and in Barauni will be such that they will be channelised to produce that type of fuel which India requires, and will not be without any type of plan as is the case in regard to the Bombay refinery.

Again, I am pointing this out not because I have any allegation that Government had done it deliberately but because of the following reason. During the earlier days, Government had to rely upon the technical reports of those people who themselves were not interested in balancing the fuel consumption in the country and in producing the fuel in this country. Even today, when three refineries are functioning in full steam, they are laughing at us that in spite of the fact that we are overproducing all these things, our foreign exchange is being drained, and we have no kerosene to sell, because kerosene is still to be imported from either the Persian Gulf refineries or the Abadan refineries. This sort of thing has happened because the technical reports at that time were prepared by those who were interested not in producing the type of fuel that we would require but in producing certain types of fuel with which we shall not be able to face these oil companies in competition.

Therefore, I would urge that we must have an independent thinking over this matter, and there should be a certain plan of production, location, and also the capacity of the two refineries that we are going to establish both at Barauni and at Naharkatiya.

Coming to the formation of the company itself, one important thing that I have to point out is that in the

explanatory memorandum to the Supplementary Demands for Grants, we have not been given the material or the basis on which the valuation of the Assam Oil Co. assets has been made. Even though we have got only 33 1/3 per cent share in the company, which is an Indian limited company, yet, to the extent that the valuation varies this side or that side, our own 33 1/3 per cent shares are affected. Therefore, this House is entitled to know the basis of valuation of the assets of the Assam Oil Co. In any other type of company functioning in India today, this question would not have arisen, because most of the companies functioning here are subject at least to audit by Indian auditors; and their accounts are known. But the oil companies have got a peculiar way of writing their accounts. And when they say that their accounts have been submitted to proper authorities, they mean that a type of profit and loss account has been submitted. It is not only that; the other danger is that this compulsory submission of yearly accounts of the oil companies started, if I remember aright, about the year 1956. Nobody in India knows today the total amount of capital that these oil companies have got here and have brought here. Nobody knows the actual valuation of the machinery and also the storage depots that they have got in India today.

It has been very clear to us that immediately after the war, in 1949, the oil companies in their own classical way, started a new type of accounting system, which is called the appreciating accounting system. In any other company, when a piece of machinery is installed, we find that there is a depreciating account as far as the machinery is concerned. But in the case of the oil companies, there is an appreciating accounting system for their machinery for years to come. If the Assam Oil Co. brought a 'cat cracker' and installed it in 1945 at a cost of 10,000 sterling, the cost goes on increasing to Rs. 15,000 the next year. That is how they had an appre-

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ciating account. In 1949, the oil companies in India started an appreciating accounting system, and the valuation of the stock and assets of the Assam Oil Co. in India which we were valuing was based on this appreciating accounting system. I would like to know whether we have taken into consideration, that is, our own accountants who are responsible for the valuation—I find that a joint committee valued all this—have taken into consideration this sort of appreciating accounting system or whether the valuation has been made solely giving credit to the account books of the company. It is quite a legitimate question that I ask of the Minister concerned. What was the basic approach that was adopted in dealing with this question of valuation? Since the secrets of the accounts shown in the account books of the company are known not in Calcutta or in Bombay or anywhere else in India, but only in London and New York, surely we shall be paying a very high price so far as the valuation of these assets is concerned. Therefore, I appeal to the hon. Minister to tell us the basis of the valuation, and whether at least he is satisfied that we are paying for the assets of the oil company not an unreasonable price but only that price which we would have given them after giving depreciation for their assets and their machinery.

The last point that I would like to know is this. A decision has been taken, as shown in the explanatory memorandum, to set up two refineries. One of these refineries is to be at Naharkatiya with a capacity of 0.75 million tons. There are suppressed reports that the hon. Minister was negotiating with the Rumanian Government for the supply of machinery for this refinery. At this point, we would like to know from him what according to him is the prospect of the establishment of that refinery, and the possible date by which it would be established.

My second point is regarding the Barauni refinery. Both this House as well as the public have been left in the lurch as far as the finances for these refineries are concerned, as far as the machinery of these refineries is concerned, and also regarding the possible date by which we shall be able to establish these refineries. The reason for my pointing this out is this. At present, search for oil is going on at Naharkatiya, in the Indo-Gangetic basin at Jwalamukhi and at Cambay. If surprisingly enough we get oil, we should not be left without refineries to refine this oil, and the Oil and Natural Gas Commission should not be asked to hold on till we get our own refineries.

Then, there is a sort of confusion which is created by the declaration made by Government that the Barauni refinery also will be in the public sector, without pointing out where the finances are going to come from, because there is already ground for a lot of speculations to come.

Recently, there have been some allegations in the Press that the Burmah Oil Company has again approached Government with the request that they may be allowed to run the refinery at Barauni. Obviously, it means that there is some sort of hesitation on the part of Government to have the Barauni refinery in the public sector. I would request the hon. Minister to clear away the doubt in the public mind and to state that the Barauni refinery will be definitely in the public sector. I would request him to say whether he has taken any contrary steps to find out a suitable machinery and the financial assistance as far as the refinery at Barauni is concerned.

In conclusion, I only want to refer to the work of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission. In spite of Government being satisfied with the work of the Commission, how is it that Government is following different policies in different aspects? In Naharkatiya

we were having a system of combination with the Burmah Oil Co., for finding oil. In the Indo Gangetic area, we are entering into an agreement with the Standard Vacuum Oil Co.,—and it is now called the Indo-Stanvac project. In Jawalamukhi the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is having a search for oil with foreign assistance and it has come now to an almost successful conclusion. In Cambay, again, the O. N. G. is looking out for oil itself and we have heard how they have been successful from a very early date. It is high time the Oil and Natural Gas Commission should make out a comprehensive study of how the working of all these different systems is to be scrutinised by them.

If I am right, in the Indo-Stanvac project, in which we ourselves have sunk large amounts of money for exploration of oil, we have given extraordinary concessions to the company, by leaving the whole thing out of the purview of income-tax, as the hon. Minister announced the other day. How far have they been able to find out oil there and what is the comparative cost of each fry well which they are finding in the Indo-Gangetic valley? I have seen certain reports that even after finishing 3 wells, after spending Rs. 33 lakhs on each well—and Rs. 35½ lakhs for one—the Indo-Stanvac project have failed to find out oil there. It might be a surprising thing for oil not being found because every well will not be wet; some well will also be dry as far as oil exploration is concerned. It is a notorious fact that both in the Middle East and the Far East the big companies regulate the production of oil and the finding of oil. If we entrust the finding of oil to a company whose interest, in having a control in the Indo-Stanvac project, is a very different interest, whose controlling interest is that of the Standard Vacuum Co., which runs against our national interests, they will not be looking for oil but they will be looking for not finding the oil. That is the difficulty.

It is high time that Government review the work of the Indo-Stanvac project, the Jawalamukhi project, and the Cambay project and the projects we are running with the disinterested type of help that we are getting.

I am not satisfied with the work in Naharkatia where we are looking for oil along with the Assam Oil Company. We have not found enough oil; all the oil that was to be found has not been found out. The suspicion and doubts are there because in the International Press controlled by the big petroleum agency authorities statements are appearing that the interest of the oil monopolies in the world today in the work is not to find out oil but to cut short the production and to take away from the international field any new oil that is being found. When authoritative pronouncements are being made by those gentlemen sitting in London and Washington that their own interests are not to find oil but to cut short production, how can we entrust to these people the projects for finding out oil? Their attempt and their interest will be not to find oil but to suppress the finding out oil. Therefore, we should take additional care in entrusting at least the exploration of oil to those oil companies who publicly declare that they do not want oil to be found here.

I will again make an earnest appeal to Government to remove from their minds that all the oil has to be decided by the three big monopolists in the world. All the oil need not be decided by these oil people. There are also many other interests in the international plane who are not interested as far as oil is concerned.

I am not for one moment discriminating between American experts, British experts or experts of the Soviet Union and Rumania. If at all I am discriminating, I am discriminating on this ground that the Soviet Union is not looking upon the international market to dispose of their

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surplus oil. They do not want India as a field for selling their oil or petroleum products. Their interest is to find out oil here; and if they find out oil here they are not affected. Similarly, the Rumanian Government is not coming out in the international market to sell their oil. They do not want to have a monopoly of this. Therefore, when they are substantially helping us, they give their honest help, they give their *bona fide* help and their attempt will be to find out oil. Similarly, when the help comes from the other side, from those who publicly declare their interest is not to find oil, that will not be *bona fide* help. We can look at that help with suspicion. The hon. Minister will see and differentiate between the type of work that we are doing as far as the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is concerned with the help of certain foreign people and also the other projects and formulate a policy in future that as far as our oil is concerned, it will be exclusively in our own grip, a State enterprise, whatever there is, that we will have to run and whatever financial difficulties that we have to face we will have to face. Nobody will accuse the hon. Minister that it has been delayed because of finance. If it has to be delayed for two years to come, we will not be surrendering our rights for 20 years in future. It is better to delay for two years than surrender our rights for 20 years as we have done in 1950 when we entered into contracts so far as the three refineries are concerned. I hope and earnestly desire that the whole question of oil will be left to the O. N. G. Commission in future and that there shall not be any compromise on this question that either the exploration or drilling or refining or even the question of marketing will be shared with any other interest. I pointed this out the other day when the hon. Minister mentioned that there is no proposal to take up the distributing machinery.

In the Oil Companies' armoury, production, refinery, pipe line and

distribution are equally powerful weapons and distribution is the most powerful weapon with which they are beating us today. When we form our own company, it should be within our power, not only to have these refineries and to control production, but a skeleton distributing system should form part and parcel of the prospectus of the company. In the near future, as soon as possible, we should be able to build up a distributing machinery so that we need not nationalise the junk that is there in the India of today of the three oil companies today. If anybody makes a demand to nationalise the distributing machinery, certainly, I do not think he is making a reasonable demand because the junk they have built up is there. Let them take it with them. We will build our own parallel system. When we have got our refineries in Naharkatia and Barauni our own distributing machinery should be there; and it is certain that within 5 or 10 years we will be able to complete our own distributing machinery throughout India and by that process we will be able to meet this. I hope the hon. Minister will take particular care as far as the distributing machinery is also concerned because the distributing machinery is as important as exploration, refinery and also marketing.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Bharucha. . .

Shri. Naushir Bharucha (East Khandsh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this House is asked to vote. . . .

Mr. Speaker: Before the hon. Member proceeds further, I would like to know who are all the hon. Members who are likely to participate in this debate and refer to oil in particular.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: There are four. Does the hon. Minister want me to call him after Mr. Bharucha?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): If you so desire, Sir, I would like to speak after Mr. Bharucha.

Mr. Speaker: I have no objection; but other hon. Members also want to speak on oil.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: As you wish, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister might like to hear other hon. Members also, and see if they have got some points which he would like to answer. Or, if he has some other work and wants to go now, he may intervene now; but he may not have another chance. He must decide.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: So far as I am concerned, I am prepared to listen to the arguments that may be advanced in the House. I thought that after listening to two or three speeches I will stand up and explain the various aspects and the decisions; and, if necessary, my colleague may proceed to answer other points. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: I am going to call as many hon. Members as possible. Shri Bharucha.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Sir, the House is asked to grant a demand to the extent of Rs. 3.9 crores for investment in share capital of Oil (India) Limited.

13.51 hrs.

[**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER** in the Chair]

As we are aware an agreement has been executed and the assets of the old company are taken over at the valuation of Rs. 12 crores. The fact that such a company has been established must constitute a land-mark in the development of the oil resources of the country. Even though the objects are limited to the production of crude oil as well as transport of crude oil, still I think that this company has a great future and will exert

a great influence in the economy of this country.

However, the formation of this company raises several issues and I once again find that it is rather unfortunate that this House is not being taken into the fullest confidence with regard to the very many matters which are material and germane and which the House should consider before sanctioning an investment of this magnitude. I would like to ask the hon. Minister to consider, when he comes with a demand like this, that we are just shareholders or prospective shareholders and just as a shareholder will ask for all information about the prospects of the company, similarly, we are entitled to ask for all such information. In the first place, with regard to the valuation of assets, the previous speaker has already referred to it. I am sorry to say that the barest facts have not been given. Take the question of the cost structure of the price of crude oil for refineries. There is hardly anything except very vague reference in very general terms.

I shall presently come to the question of policy of disposal of the balance of crude oil after supply to the two proposed refineries. It is so vague. I see a statement of the hon. Minister in this booklet.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Which Ministry are you referring to?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I am referring to the Supplementary Demands.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Is he referring to the balance of crude oil?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: It has been referred to here. Probably the hon. Minister has not gone through the whole of this. The first point is with regard to the valuation of assets. My hon. friend, the previous speaker, has correctly made a grievance of it.

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

The hon. Minister only says that the assets and the property of the Assam Oil Company which are to be taken over by the new company have been assessed by a committee consisting of two representatives each of the Government and the Assam Oil Company and it is expected that the total value will be of the order of Rs. 12 crores. I ask the hon. Minister whether we are not to be told, when he asks for Rs. 12 crores, what these assets are, whether these assets are worth Rs. 12 crores or whether they are just old junk. No information has been given. In the first place, what are the principles followed with regard to the valuation? Secondly, we do not know what are the lands and buildings? There is not even a bare outline of the assets of the two companies we are taking over. How much of this is allotted for structural equipment and how was the structural equipment valued—the plant and machinery? We do not know whether there are pipelines and if so, what is the estimated value of these pipelines. We also do not know whether even goodwill had been taken into consideration. It is not that I am making a grievance against taking goodwill into consideration. I just want to know the various assets distinctly as any expert valuer would give us and then total all these things and say that these total Rs. 12 crores.

I am not saying that the Assam Oil Company must not be given its just due. I am prepared to say that it should be given its due. All I want to say is, we must have information. But there are just three lines from the hon. Minister to say that the assets have been valued at Rs. 12 crores; that does not satisfy us at all. We also would like to know what is the unexpired life of some of the assets. No information on this point has been given and he asks us to invest Rs. 4 crores in the particular venture.

I shall now come to the question of the cost structure of crude oil that will be found and produced by these companies and sold to the two refineries. We have got absolutely no information as to the formula to determine either the cost of the price. May I invite the attention of the hon. Minister to what he says in connection with this matter and also about the profits. The oil produced by these companies will be sold to the two Government-owned refineries to be set up in Assam and Bihar at either the lowest price at which such crude oil can be secured from any alternative sources or the cost incurred by the company together with the reasonable commercial return, whichever is less, such price being fixed by the company with the approval of the Government after examination of the cost structure. That is what he says. I ask this House whether anybody is any wiser by this vague statement. What we are told is what will be the price at which crude oil will be acquired by the refineries. That will be the price at which crude oil produced by these companies or price of oil which can be secured from any other alternative source. What is the meaning of that? We absolutely do not know. If it is the price of imported crude oil, may I point out that the price of imported crude oil will be calculated on the basis of c.i.f. or landing cost or on the basis of cost of production plus freight. Let us appreciate this fact. When crude oil is produced, at the oil well it is very cheap. Actually the companies add to it a large share of the profit and quote the price inclusive of all ingredients, insurance freight, commission, interest, etc. Therefore, when this company tells us that it will sell oil to the refineries at the same price as that of the imported oil, that does not make us any wiser. That means you are going to pay more. You may say, "to the extent the company makes a profit, to the extent of 33 and 1/3 per cent. we being shareholders we will also make profits." But 66 and 2/3 per cent. goes to them.

Therefore, I ask: why this secrecy about the cost structure when you want to buy this oil which is your own. Nothing is said to us but we are asked to invest so many crores of rupees into this venture.

Secondly, it says that it will be sold at a price which will be the cost of production plus a reasonable profit. Cost means so many ingredients none of which is clear. Then, I do not know from what point of view the profit will be reasonable. From the consumer's point of view ten per cent. may be reasonable but from the point of the view of the oil companies, it may be fifty per cent. So, when you say that it will be the cost of production plus reasonable profit, that also has no meaning.

I should like to know whether the hon. Minister has considered this question, or whether he is just trying to withhold information. I do not even mind withholding information from the House if he is clear in his own mind. What I am worried about is that because he is not clear in his mind, advantage might be taken by the oil companies. I may repeat I do not grudge the oil companies their reasonable dues; I do not grudge the oil companies a little more profit because oil prospecting is a highly speculative business. But surely when you ask the House to invest four crores, the House is entitled to ask for this information because on the cost of production and the cost of the company, the fate of these refineries will depend and also the ultimate cost of kerosene oil which you will distribute to the consumer. There is absolutely no mention as to what the formula for determining the cost would be. I would like the hon. Minister to clear up this point.

Coming to the question of the determination of the cost incurred by the company, it says that the quantum

of such cost shall be mutually agreed between the Government of India and the company. One does not know what the quantum is or what the cost is. The disposal of crude oil produced by the company otherwise than by sale to the refineries shall be subject to the approval of the Government. The price of crude oil for sale by the company other than to the refineries will be an economic price and will be fixed by the company with the approval of the Government. Again, here nobody knows what will be the balance to be disposed of after supplying to the two refineries. He says that it will be an economic price which means absolutely nothing, because an economic price is always in relation to certain set of facts and figures and we do not know any of these things. Therefore, all that we are asked to do is to invest blindly. I am not saying that we shall not invest, because even blind investment in a concern like this will be profitable; but the House is entitled to know all these major details, because on that depends the return of any of the oil companies and also the ultimate price at which the consumer will get his petroleum products.

14 hrs.

Then we come to the question of distribution policy. I do not know why the Government is fighting shy of laying down some distribution policy. May I tell this House, Sir, that in the very illuminating report which the Estimates Committee made—their Twenty-second Report—on the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel, Department of Mines and Fuel, Oil Division, dealing with Oil and Natural Gas Commission and oil refineries,—this report was made in April 1958—they themselves have stated that since we are going to produce crude oil and refine it here it is high time that from now on Government lay down a distribution policy. To whom is the distribution of oil going to be handed over, may I know? May I know whether it is the intention of Government that whatever crude oil

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

we produce from Naharkatiya and other places will be refined in the two refineries and handed over to the oil companies—Burmah-Shell, Caltex or any other company—and they will do the distribution. If that is not the intention, then I should like to know what is the basis of your distribution policy. Not a word of it is said here. It is a very important factor, because oil has to reach nooks and corners of this country.

The most important part of it is that we are asked to invest, but we are not told what type of machinery it will be. As the House is aware, we are surplus in the matter of motor spirit and, to a certain extent, in the matter of furnace oil also. Much will depend upon the type of crude oil that we strike, because that alone can be converted into particular types of petroleum products. It is not open, for instance, for the hon. Minister to say that he will produce kerosene if the crude oil does not lend itself to easy processing into kerosene oil. Therefore, to a certain extent, the hands of the hon. Minister are tied up.

Today our greatest need is kerosene oil and not motor spirit. May I know whether it requires a separate type of refinery to produce kerosene, separate from the type of machinery for producing motor spirit? Therefore, on the point as to whether it is going to correct the imbalance that now exists in the country, we have no information. I think, when he makes a demand of Rs. 4 crores, he should have made all the points clear in his note on the supplementary demand.

With regard to Board of Directors we are told that the Board of Directors of the company as well as the refineries will be one and the same. I should like to know, why is it that the Board of Directors is kept one and the same. I refuse to believe the argument that one and the same Board of Directors is kept because the directors have got experience and, therefore, matters will

work more smoothly. No. The interests of the consumers are likely to be damaged very considerably. Often the interests of the producing companies are in conflict with the purchasing companies' interests. They are bound to be in conflict. Therefore, a different set of directors was necessary.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy (Rajampet): Only the Government directors are common.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: One tends to defend the other. Both sets of directors must be totally different. It is in the interest of a producing company to follow a policy as a result of which the highest price is obtained for the product which they produce. Remember, it is a semi-private company which is bent upon getting profits. Therefore, it may be equally in the interest of that company to restrict production or go in for a particular type of production. On the other hand, the refineries are the purchasers. Their interest is to buy in the cheapest market. Therefore, the two interests are essentially conflicting—the interests of Petroleum India, Limited and the interests of the refineries. I, therefore, submit that the two sets of directors should be totally different, and unless they are different the ultimate result will be that the consumer will be made to pay higher prices.

Sir, so far as the hon. Minister thinks that the consumer's duty is to pay and pay through his nose, he is not entitled to be associated with the formulation of any policy in the matter of price structure, he is not to be associated in the matter of production, he is not to be represented in the matter of refineries or refining of the oil, and he is not to be represented in the distribution process, his job is only to pay. I think a valuable suggestion has been made by the Estimates Committee in their Twenty-second Report that the consumers' interest must be associated

at various stages of this industry, and I demand that the consumers' interest shall be associated. Too long has the consumer paid through his nose without having the smaller voice in any of the matter of fixing the price structure or anything else.

I do hope, Sir, the hon. Minister will in future, when he comes with any matter in which he has to ask for money, give us all relevant particulars, and not treat us as people who are prepared to rubber stamp whatever demands that he may make of the House.

Shri A. C. Guha: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I think the House will give its unstinted approbation for the works done by the Oil and Gas Commission and the proposal before the House is in consummation of the achievements of the Oil and Gas Commission. But there are certain points which have to be clarified.

I do not know if it is quite correct, as Shri Bharucha has said, that the oil refineries or the Indian Refineries (Private) Limited and the Oil India (Private) Limited will have the same Board of Directors. In the note, I find that the Indian Refineries (Private) Ltd., will have a common Board of Directors. I do not think the proposal is that it will have the same Board of Directors as the Oil India Limited. I am not sure about that. If that is the position, I think that would not be a very healthy position, and I hope the hon. Minister will revise if that is the decision on that matter.

As regards the formation of the Oil India Limited, I do not know how the valuation has been made of the assets of Assam Oil Company. We are simply told that two representatives each of the Government of India and the Assam Oil Company made the assessment. Whether there was some unanimous report or there was some difference of opinion between the two sets of assessors, we do not know. Moreover, we also do not know on what basis this assessment was made.

Another point is about the price of crude oil to be supplied to the oil refineries. It is said here: "Either at the lowest price at which crude oil can be secured from any alternative source or the cost incurred by the Company together with a reasonable commercial return, whichever is less, such price being fixed by the Company with the approval of the Government of India." It is a known fact—the hon. Minister knows it much more than we know—that the international price of oil is controlled by some monopoly concerns, and what is known as the 'Gulf price', or something like that, is determined not on the basis of cost but on their own profit motive. Therefore, "the lowest price at which crude oil can be secured" is a very vague expression. If the lowest price means the price prevailing in the Gulf or the 'Gulf rate', I think it will not be a safe standard for fixing the price of the oil to be supplied to the Indian Refineries.

The other alternative given here is "the cost incurred by the Company together with a reasonable commercial return, whichever is less". That is also very vague, and commercial return can be inflated by any percentage. These things require some clarification. I hope the Minister will look into this matter.

With regard to the disposal of the crude oil produced by this Company, I do not know why there is a provision that this can be done by the Company to some other parties besides the two refineries to be established here. I think the capacity of the Assam refinery has been put rather too low. It is only 0.75 million tons of crude oil, and for the Bihar refinery also it is not at a high level. It is only two million tons. If besides the capacity of these two refineries crude oil is available from the Oil India Limited, I do not know why the capacity of these two refineries should not be increased, instead of the oil being allowed to be sold to some other party.

[Shri A. C. Guha]

Moreover, I have something to say about my own State. I think for the last two or three years the Government of India have been trying more or less, as just a subsidiary a partner of the Standard Vacuum, to explore oil in West Bengal. I recollect that more than two years ago, the Minister gave us an assurance that oil would be found in West Bengal and that it is only a question of locating the place where the oil is to be found. There is a feeling in West Bengal that the Standard Vacuum Company is not quite interested in locating the oil. So, I would support the suggestion made by Shri Narayanankutty Menon that instead of leaving this to some foreign firms, the Oil and Natural Gas Commission may take up this matter and try to locate oil in West Bengal. I think the hon. Minister agrees that there is every possibility of finding oil in West Bengal. The only difficulty is that of locating the particular spot where the oil well is placed. So, I hope instead of depending on the foreign monopoly firm, he would try to explore oil through the Oil and Natural Gas Commission which has already achieved some splendid results in two places, particularly in Cambay which has been very recently discovered and about which an announcement was made by the hon. Minister.

Then I should come to the production of salt. There is an item of new service for forming a company Hindustan Salt. Of course the present allocation here is only a token amount, but still it is a new service and I think we should discuss that matter. I find that the Estimates Committee made certain recommendations. All those recommendations have not been accepted by the Government; particularly the recommendation for abolishing registered dealers has not been accepted by the Government. Another important recommendation is of setting up of small co-operative societies for the manufacture of salt and also for the distribution of salt. On that also nothing has yet been

done, though the Government might have accepted it in principle.

The cess on salt was abolished so that the people might get salt at a reasonable price. There should not be any extra burden on account of the salt for the poor man, because salt is just an absolute necessity. But how the salt is priced, at what price the people are purchasing it, what price has the consumer to pay and how that price compares with the cost of salt are all matters that should be enquired into. I find from the Government report that the cost of production of salt in Bombay is only one rupee and five annas per maund. In Travancore, it is ten to eleven annas per maund. In Kathiawar and Kutch it is nine to ten annas per maund. At Sambhar, it is four to five and a half annas per maund. But I think in some parts of India salt is selling at the rate of four annas or five annas per seer. Did the Government abolish the excise duty on salt and surrendered about Rs. 10 crores to Rs. 12 crores because somebody in between the manufacturer and the consumer should make inordinate profits out of the poor man's necessity of life?

There is another point in this connection. Previously also, besides the registered dealers, there were some Government nominees. I am glad that system has now been abolished, but the registered dealers are there. But besides the profits made by registered dealers and other dealers, there is also the question of transport. I find a maund of salt to be carried from Kathiawar or Kutch or even from Bombay to Calcutta, entails a transport cost of about Rs. 3½ or Rs. 4. Why should there not be freight equalisation fund? If there can be a freight equalisation fund for steel and other articles which are not of such a universal and common use as salt, why should there not be a freight equalisation fund for salt which is used by every man and which is used by even the poorest man? Why the poor man should be made to pay so high a

freight charge for his daily necessity of salt? I suggest that there should be a freight equalisation fund so that salt may be available to people in every part of India at a reasonable price, and it should not be more than two annas per seer at any place. Even, that price is also high; it should be below two annas per seer, and there should be a freight equalisation system so that this extra freight may not be realised from the consumer from distant places.

Moreover, the Estimates Committee recommended that there should be some salt factories established on the eastern coast. I think something has been done about Orissa, but nothing has been done about West Bengal. It has been said in the Government report that Calcutta is one of the most important centres of salt distribution. 125 lakh maunds of salt are distributed from that place, but production in West Bengal is only 1.26—lakh tons. After total salt consumption, 20 per cent is distributed from Calcutta. It is just one per cent of the requirements of West Bengal, that is produced in West Bengal. There are certain difficulties in producing salt in West Bengal, but still, the committee which enquired into this question has reported that salt can be manufactured in West Bengal at an economic price. I do not know why that has not been done. There was a proposal that the Central Government as also the State Government should set up some factories for the manufacture of salt in West Bengal but I regret that has not been carried out. I hope that the Government will do something for the manufacture of salt in West Bengal and in the entire eastern region, so that the 125-lakh maunds of salt that are consumed and distributed from Calcutta may not bear this extra freight of Rs. 3 or Rs. 3-8-0 or Rs. 3-12-0 per maund. This question, I think, should be examined by the Government and something should be done.

Then there is another item. It is about road construction in Naga Hills. I am glad that for whatever amount

is put here, more or less an equal amount will be saved in other items, and so there would not be any extra drawing from the Consolidated Fund of India. That is not, of course, the main point to be mentioned here. The main point is, the amount to be saved is due to improvement in the law and order situation, and there will be a saving on expenditure in regard to police items. That is a good point. The law and order position in the Naga Hills-Tuensang Area has improved, and so there would be a saving on that item and that amount which is saved will now be utilised for developing roads in that area. I hope the position in the Naga Hills-Tuensang Area will further improve and that the road communication will lead to better conditions and to the amelioration of the people there. I also hope that the law and order condition there will further improve.

I have nothing more to say. I think the other items are more or less of a routine nature. The only thing is, supplementary demands for grants have almost become a routine matter for every session.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, although the House appears to be empty, yet the large number of cut motions that are on the list here are a sure indication of the great interest that this House is taking in the business of oil and the programme that is being pursued by the Government of this country.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Cut Motions can be given not only by those who are present, but even by those who are absent.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: These cut motions could be put into one lot grouping certain general subjects in a way that we might get a correct idea of all that the Government is doing in this connection. Before referring to the specific points raised by my hon. friend Mr. T. C. N. Menon, Mr. Bharucha and Mr. Guha, I would like

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to refer to some important aspects which emerge out from these cut motions.

Mr. Menon congratulated the Government on the discovery of oil in the Cambay region. I am sorry, as I said, that I have chosen this time to give a statement on what has happened at Cambay, but I must explain why I am choosing this time and not any other time when perhaps more Members would listen to what has happened there. You will recollect that I made a promise to the House that I will be reporting from time to time the progress at Cambay. The first round of events was reported by me on the 9th or perhaps the 12th of September; I am not sure. Immediately after that, I went to Cambay. I checked up and found that the technical report and appraisal made by our experts was a correct and modest one and that the whole nation was thoroughly justified in its excitement. That is quite natural on the first occasion of discovery of an oil field in our country, more especially as a result of the endeavours put in by an infant organisation of oil explorers, as compared to the giant and more experienced oil exploration companies of the world.

I would humbly beg to submit that Cambay discovery of oil is indeed an epoch-making event. Subsequent to my return from Cambay on Friday evening, I read reports in the Press that something extraordinary had happened and that oil was gushing out with great pressure, spurting about 30 or 40 feet above the ground and also that the commercial exploitation of oil in Cambay had been established. I was surprised to see the next morning that our important newspapers flashed out this story, although officially our technical appraisal was exactly not what the Press had made out. We had a hurried conference on Friday evening with our experts who had come back with me from Cambay and they related the facts as they were on Friday evening.

It is a fact that after penetrating 1,600 metres in that Well No. 1 at Cambay, we met with a strata of oil, about which I mentioned the other day. After that, oil horizon was passed, we started drilling in shale and hard rocks. Then again at 1673 metres, we met with another high pressure stratum of oil and gas. It is our estimate that this oil band is a fairly wider one and might last even beyond 60 or 70 feet. But at this stage, the pressure was so great that we get worried over the whole thing and the drilling had to be suspended. We are still in that oil and gas horizon. Although the pressure is somewhat controlled, it is not yet controlled to the extent that we can start drilling operations. So, the news that emerged from a section of the Press yesterday or day before yesterday that drilling operations have been resumed and oil was gushing out was exaggerated from this point of view. The drilling operations have not yet been resumed. Most probably we are still in the second and wider band of oil and gas. We hope to resume drilling operations as soon as we are ready to do so. We cannot afford to take any risk of doing things in a haphazard way.

One thing has to be clarified here and that is about the establishment of commercial quantity of oil. As I said, the excitement and jubilation over this discovery of oil are justified and the local people are very much excited. Yet, nowhere in a single well commercial quantity of oil and gas should be considered. In order to prove the commercial quantity, we must drill a fairly large number of holes in order to limit the area of that particular oil and gas field. Of course, the discovery is very good and a happy one over which we are all entitled to feel happy. It is also a fact that the second horizon has got oil and gas at somewhat great pressure. Our geologists still hope to get another strata of oil field; this we may or may not get. All this is very good. But still

it is not a fact that oil spurts out like that. Again even though the pressure is great, it is not correct to say that commercial quantity has been established. We have, therefore, to wait for some more time, to know more about the commercial aspect of it. I can say that we have discovered an oil field. I can also say that the situation appears to us to be very hopeful. But to compare it with Abadan or Kuwait or to say it is a very prolific oil field or that its commercial possibilities have been proved is, I think, a bit premature.

I also wish to take this opportunity to say a few words about the way in which the Oil and Natural Gas Commission of the Government of India has been functioning as a well-knit party of oil experts. Many friends and also some critics have attributed this discovery to a piece of great luck. Some have also stated that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is so lucky that wherever they touch the ground they feel the sensation of oil or gas and all that. Although in the field of oil exploration luck is very much to be welcomed and is a good element, I would like to draw your attention to the great work and the energetic way in which our young experts are handling this work and also to the encouragement that we are receiving from experienced geologists of international repute. With all sense of humility, we can say that in this short period of 2½ years we have done very good work and our scientific and technical appraisal of oil fields in the northern parts of the country are changing now. Previously, during the British days, there was a gloomy picture drawn of geology in the northern part of the country and it was pointed out that perhaps there is not much of oil or gas. We cannot say yet that it is a completely wrong theory, but, at the same time, we can say that our efforts are proving that we are not so badly off as was made out about two or three decades ago. Jwalamukhi is a definite area of gas discovery, and Hoshiarpur, where we are drilling and

where we have reached about 10,000 ft. the position is very satisfactory. We have not touched the marine strata. Yet, we feel that we might get some thing of interest in the non-marine sediments. This again opens up the possibilities of search for oil, not only in marine sedimentation but also in non-marine sedimentation.

After this, I will, with your permission, refer to two important aspects which have been mentioned in the House. One is about the general policy behind our tackling the oil problem so far as refining, distribution and pricing are concerned. My hon. friend, Shri Menon, is specially interested in an integrated policy of control by the Government so far as exploration, production, transportation and distribution of oil are concerned. I am in general agreement with my hon. friend, Shri Menon, and I think we are not doing something very different from what he has made out. According to the Industrial Policy Resolution oil is completely in the public sector. We are trying to set up refineries and we are searching for oil in the public sector. I can assure the House that the two refineries that are to come up in the eastern part of our country at Gauhati and Barauni will be completely in the public sector. I can also assure the House that we are not unconscious of the fact that when refineries are being put up in the public sector, the work of distribution cannot be ignored.

Nevertheless, I want to make it quite clear to the House that there is no doctrinaire approach in what we are doing with regard to oil. We do it because we think we must get the know-how of all that is happening round about oil and we must have complete control over the oil economy. Further also the Government is convinced that once we have complete grip over the oil economy, the rest of the economy follows. It might take a little more time for the country to realise the truth behind what I am saying, but I have no doubt in my mind that if we discover more oil, the

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entire picture of our country will change completely and there will be a metamorphosis in our economy.

Nevertheless, we cannot ignore the fact that some foreign companies took interest in the oil business, admittedly for profit motive, but also they rendered us help in saving us a lot of foreign exchange by erecting installations in this country at a time when we perhaps knew very little about it. Therefore, on behalf of the Government, I must express my gratitude to those parties. So far as their legitimate rights are concerned, their interests are concerned, I can assure the House that the Government have no intention of letting them down or doing any leg pulling or anything which might be construed as doing a thing against their legitimate interests. We want them to stay here, because we have entered into an agreement with them. We will honour those agreements. It is another thing that a part of it may not suit us with our new knowledge, new circumstances and with the impact of new conditions. Nevertheless, an agreement is an agreement and it cannot be altered because conditions have now changed in our favour. Of course, we shall always try to persuade our friends to do the right thing, if we think they are doing a wrong thing. We shall persuade them to appreciate our viewpoint insofar as the future healthy relations between the foreign companies are concerned, and I am sure that given the goodwill on both sides, we shall be able to find out a way by which the old arrangements can work smoothly and, at the same time, we may not have grounds for complaint against the details of the agreement made, under altered conditions.

I will now take up the question raised by Shri Bharucha about the clash of interests of producers and consumers. I could not make out what he meant. Perhaps there was some confusion and I would like to clarify that point which might have

caused a little confusion in his mind. The Oil India Limited is a private limited concern in which the Government of India and the Assam Oil Company are partners to the extent of 33-1/3 and 66-2/3 per cent respectively in order to produce crude oil in Naharkatiya, Hugrijan and Moran and to transport that oil to wherever we would like them to take. This Oil India Ltd. is the result of our negotiations and is solely meant to confine its activities to those areas for which the Assam Oil Co. got mining lease as a result of their prospecting activities and they were good enough to accept us as a minor partner. We are now trying to solve all the problems of further prospecting in that area, production of crude oil in that area and also the transportation of the crude oil which is produced to wherever we would like them to take it.

With regard to the evaluation of assets, I do not understand what my hon. friends mean. Do they want us to come to the House every second day or every second week and tell them as to what is the basis of evaluating the cost of a drill or depreciating the drill or evaluating the....

Shri Naushir Bharucha: It is a huge sum of Rs. 4 crores.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: I did not mention at any time that every time it should come to the House, but when this demand is excessive and you are going to pay them this amount, we just want to know whether it is based on the oil company's account books or not or whether an independent valuation is done just leaving the depreciation for their concerns.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Shri Menon again reminds me of what he said. We have asked for Rs. 4 crores as our share of contribution to this company and, as is known to the House, an evaluation committee was set up in which representatives of the Government of India and the Assam Oil

Company participate. This evaluation committee went into all the details of evaluating the costs of things that are left to them.

Now, as I was saying, I cannot understand of a principle being aid down in order to assess the details of the cost of a thousand and one things that are all strewn there.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: May I interrupt?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The point that I want to make out is that there is an evaluation committee and we must trust the committee to go into details and put forward a figure before us and say that after thorough examination they have come to the conclusion that the whole of the assets cost about Rs. 12 crores or Rs. 10 crores or Rs. 11 crores.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Without giving a break-up.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Things are still going on and we are not in a position to say anything about the break-up, but, as I was telling the House, when the evaluation committee will have completed its work and submitted its report to us in a presentable form, then in due course of time that report will be put here for the information of the hon. Members of the House so that they can then assess whether we have made any mistake or we have not made any mistake. Even at this stage when we are still trying to negotiate, if according to our calculation the cost exceeds Rs. 12 crores we might have some more savings out of Rs. 12 crores and we might persuade our partners to accept some reduced estimates that we are making for certain items. Therefore, while we are still negotiating and estimating the cost, we have just come forward before the House to demand Rs. 4 crores so that we may be in a position to go ahead according to our schemes and if we are able to say, as we hope we shall say, we will come before the House

and in due course of time the report of the evaluation committee will be placed before the House for its information.

With regard to the price of crude oil, certain points have been raised and I would like to say that it is very difficult for the Government to commit itself to any price structure so far as crude oil is concerned. It is a very very difficult thing and I must confess that many of our experts will have to take some more time to come before the House and say with confidence, "Here is the pattern of price which is the most desirable thing for us to accept." What we have only done is that this agreement clearly provides that the delivery price payable by the Government refineries shall be either the lowest price of delivery at Calcutta at which such crude oil can be secured by the refinery from any alternative source or the cost incurred by the company together with a reasonable commercial return whichever is less, such price being fixed by the company with the approval of the Government of India...

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: How about the second alternative?

Shri K. D. Malaviya:... after examination of the latter—please follow this—i.e., of the cost and subject to review in January and July in each year. Now, what more do you want us to commit ourselves at this stage? Here is an arrangement where we say, "Look here, you say that the price of crude oil in Naharkatiya will be X. We say, no, it will be X-Y" All right, let us agree to reasonable figure. Then, they say that there is an international price. Now, we cannot challenge the price by merely saying, "No, no, it is all wrong. The price paid by the refineries must be reasonable." What should be that reasonable quantity? Then there are only two alternatives. One is to find out the cost structure of the oil that is available to us after learning things, after doing it ourselves, after examining the accounts

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every six months, after going into it and criticising them and persuading them to reduce the figure and then adding to it a reasonable figure of profit.

Now, my hon. friend, Shri Bharucha, asks, "What is this reasonable figure?" Of course, it cannot be 50 per cent, as he has said. We know what is a reasonable figure. We dabble with this reasonable figure and quantum. I know also that some of the famous oil companies are perhaps not very reasonable in the profits that they are making. It might be 7 per cent, it might be 9 per cent or it might be 10 per cent. Well, recently some of the refineries declared about 28 per cent of profits. Then that should be left to the Government. You must presume that we are sensible enough to say that 50 per cent is not a reasonable figure. The refineries declared about 28 per cent is not a reasonable profit. So, while we are negotiating if there is an agreed formula that the cost plus a reasonable profit will be acceptable and if it is less than the international price, why should there be any complaint on that account? I cannot understand that.

Shri Nanshir Bharucha: What ingredients go to make up the cost?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is not possible. We are not in a position to say what ingredients go to make up the cost. If I start indulging in that long story, my hon. friend, Shri Bharucha, will have to admit that it is a much more complicated thing than what he is thinking of just now. I put one single case before you. Suppose, we are able to produce 4 million tons of crude oil from Naharkatiya. Its real cost is much more than the cost of oil produced in Abadan or Kuwait because the production of crude oil in Abadan or Kuwait is much more favourable and the cost is much less than what it might be in Naharkatiya or in Assam. Here we are drilling 10,000, 11,000 or 12,000 feet. Naturally,

the cost of production is much more than that in Abadan where they drill at 4,000 or 5,000 feet. There they are producing 10 million tons or 15 million tons of crude oil. Obviously, we cannot compare with them. Therefore, if we can get this pattern of agreement that if it is less there we will pay you that price and if it is less here then we will pay you this price. Why should you then blame us? I cannot understand whether it is possible for any one either in the Opposition or in any other party of experts to find out any alternative price formula which could guide us for this agreement. Here I may remind hon. Members that this mining lease belongs to the Assam Oil Company and we have found out a solution which has now given us a share not only in the profits but also in the working as well as in consultations in fixing the price and all that. Therefore, I think, on the whole it will not be an unreasonable thing for the House to conclude that this agreement which has been reached between the Government of India and the Assam Oil Co. is a thoroughly satisfactory one under the circumstances.

Now I would like to point to one more criticism which is rather basic, which has recently been mentioned in the Press. I read a few days back that the great experts of the World Bank came here and they are trying to advise the Government of India and perhaps the Planning Commission also on the structure of economy that might be needed for us and some changes and modifications that they might think it proper for us to accept. I am most reluctant to enter into that realm because it is none of my job. But I noticed that there was some criticism made of our oil policy in the report which is reported to have been made by the experts of the World Bank. This is what is reported in the Press:

"The Government's insistence that the refineries must be in the

public sector and its reluctance to grant new exploratory concessions to the oil companies inhibited the participation of private foreign capital in the development of India's oil resources and delayed by two or three years the exploitation of the new fields in Assam".

This is also indicated by certain cut motions to the effect that we have unnecessarily protracted negotiations and thereby delayed the exploitation of the crude oil in Naharkatiya. I wish to submit in all humility and only by way of explanation that this is not a correct appraisal of the facts. Of course, I must not join issue with the great experts of the World Bank. I am too small, a pigmy, before them. I do not claim to possess that knowledge....

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): That is not at all so.

Shri K. D. Malaviya:.. which is possessed by our economic experts who have come from abroad to help us; and we are really grateful to them for all that is being done.

An Hon. Member: He is an Indian oil expert.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: But I would like to point out certain facts. Firstly, not for a day, in my opinion, was the exploitation of oil delayed, so far as Naharkatiya is concerned, by our negotiations. The following facts may be noted not only by the House but by those who are outside the House also, because I hope that after this, this charge will not be levelled against the Government of India that we wanted to keep out certain big friends and oil interests and that delay occurred in the exploitation of Naharkatiya.

The negotiations were started in January 1956—perhaps they were actually started in the last days of 1955. Therefore, I say they started right in

the beginning of January 1956. The negotiations were concluded in January 1958. There were two full years, 24 months or even 25 months, in which negotiations went on. Now in August 1956, a request was made by the Assam Oil Company to extend the area of prospecting so far as Moran was concerned. They knew that negotiations were going on between us and it was mutually agreed that in order to maintain continuity of work and avoid any loss of time, we should grant them further concessions in the Moran area. The point was made quite clear by me on behalf of Government that we did not want to come in the way of the continuity of this work. Therefore, we said: 'Please go ahead. Take the licence and drill for oil in the Moran area and by the time you drill in the Moran area and other areas, you will know more about the quantity. By that time, we will have come to some sort of agreement'.

When they started, they had only 12 wells Naharkatiya. At the time, of completion of the agreement, they had completed 42 wells, out of which about 7 or 8—I do not exactly remember the number—were barren and the rest were all productive ones. If we had stopped these people from drilling and searching for oil and proving the quantity, then we could legitimately have been charged with delaying. But we did not stop them from doing any such thing. We said: 'While you are proceeding with proving the quantity, let us sit down across the table and try to find out a reasonable formula'.

Six months after the negotiations started, the point of refineries was conceded by the representatives of AOC. They agreed readily that the refinery would go under public sector, because according to the old pattern of rules and agreements and laws, we were not bound to give the refineries also to the prospectors or miners of oil. There was no *jhagda* on this issue and we were happy that within the

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six months of the starting of negotiations, it was agreed that the refineries would be out of them. Why should somebody then level this charge against us.—I only want to explain my position—that it was all done because we wanted to grab the refineries for the public sector? There was ready agreement between the parties that the refineries would go under the public sector. Therefore, I make bold to say that it was not because of any 'refinery controversy' that there was any delay, but while oil was being proved, we were just trying to evolve a reasonable compromise which would be acceptable to both the parties. Naturally, it takes some time. But it did not take long for the Oil India Limited to start its exploitation. Even now, after the agreement has been reached, they are quite free to proceed, bring the pipelines and so on—as a major partner, they are naturally interested to do all this; they are doing whatever is possible for them to expedite. But if there is any delay, even now or six months back or six months hence, why should we be blamed that we were responsible for the protracted negotiations and all this delay took place on account of the fact that we did not want to give the refineries to these people or that there was any doctrinairism behind it. There was no policy behind it as such which has an ideological basis, because our approach is not like that. We just wanted to do things in our interest as well as in recognition of the fact that their interest will not be subjected against their wish.

I have said this merely by way of explanation because I heard from several quarters that we were responsible for all this delay and if we had acted promptly according to the wishes of our partners, perhaps oil would have been produced a year before. I am quite sure, as I see things, that even with the best will on the part of both parties, perhaps the

programme of production of crude oil would not have gone on better than it is today.

I will now refer to the refineries because objection was raised as to why these two refineries were combined into one, as to why there was a common board of directorate, because the pattern of production was likely to be different and there should be something different and all that. The idea is to have one single Board of directors to manage the two refineries at Gauhati and Barauni and to add as many directors as are considered proper at the time when Barauni decisions are taken and the Barauni refinery goes ahead. Just now we are busy with the Gauhati refinery. The moment we see it is necessary to increase the number of directors on this Corporation, we will not hesitate to enlarge the Board of directors. This Refinery Corporation is quite separate from Oil India Limited. It has nothing to do with Oil India Limited. Its name is Oil Refinery (Private Limited) and it is completely separate and in the public sector. As pointed out by some hon. Members, the majority of the directors are experts, Government nominees who have to look after the details on behalf of the President of India.

15 hrs.

One point was raised with regard to the interest of the consumers by my hon. friend Shri Naushir Bharucha. I have every sympathy with what he said in a general way. I think the interest of the consumers has got to be safeguarded and has to be put in a way that they may have a legitimate feeling that they have a right to make contribution to the entire programme of consumption of petroleum products, their pricing, and all that. We have, therefore, set up a Petroleum Consumers Advisory Council. It is very soon going to meet. Its functions will be as follows. It

will be mostly a non-official body, with a non-official Chairman. It will consider the question of consumption, distribution and also it will advise the Government on various aspects of the oil industry, its movement and anything that is laid down in the terms of reference, which, unfortunately, I have not before me just now. This question of safeguarding the interests of the consumers also is very much before us. We hope that the hon. Shri Naushir Bharucha will feel satisfied that after what he has said and the Government have created this Council, we will all benefit.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: What is the constitution of the Council? It all depends on that.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I will place the papers before the hon. Member. I have not got it just now before me. I presume it is a representative Council.

There is only one more point which I think I need mention. Shri A. C. Guha raised the question of oil exploration activity being extended in the Standard Vacuum area in Bengal. I am afraid, this will not be possible for us to do because we have also entered into partnership with a friendly Oil company which has come to help us here. It is unfortunate that we have not been able to find oil in West Bengal. Oil is an elusive thing. You cannot say that because you do not find oil today, you cannot find oil tomorrow. Many parties search for oil at a place for a number of years without any positive result. After a number of years or decades, a new party comes and finds oil there. In one place, we drill in about half a dozen places and we do not find oil. In between, we put a hole and find oil. Although it is governed by certain geological facts which we know of and can relate, so far as the present knowledge is concerned, still it is a very elusive thing. Therefore, the Standard Vacuum Oil Co., in conjunction with the Government of India is

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still pursuing this game of hunt for oil in that area and we hope we will be more lucky in the next months to come. Four wells have already been drilled there. A fifth one is going to be drilled at Bholpur in Shantiniketan area. We are again drilling with a lot of hope. If we fail, we shall not despair; we shall go on drilling in three or four places. We hope we shall report to the House something better when I have a chance to do. I have no other point to make except that I again congratulate the House for the interest that they are taking in this business. I may assure them that we are going ahead with a certain amount of luck and the work we shall pursue with honesty, earnestness and energy.

Shri Vishwanatha Reddy: I would like to have one clarification. I would like to know from him whether the whole assets of this Assam Oil Co. have been taken over or only those assets lying in Nahorkatiya and Moran.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: What Shri Vishwanath Reddy says is right. The assets in connection with Digboi do not belong to Oil India Limited. They are separate. The Digboi oil concessions were given by the then Government of India, separate from the Nahorkatiya, Hugrijan and Moran. One block of oil concessions and prospecting licence was given for Nahorkatiya and Hugrijan and later on, Moran was added. This is one block. All the assets in connection with this area were transferred to Oil India Ltd. Digboi oil fields along with the Digboi refinery is a separate entity. It has nothing to do with this. They have got separate assets.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Are we to understand that the Assam Oil Co., the old sterling company will continue to function apart from the Rupee company now formed?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The Assam Oil Co. will continue to function so

[Shri K. D. Malaviya]

far Digboi area is concerned, so long as the concessions are there or so long as the Government wants it to continue or whatever the agreement at that time may be. Just now, they function as a separate entity so far as Digboi area is concerned.

Shri P. C. Borooah (Sibsagar): Deputy-Speaker, Sir, ever since oil was found in the new areas in Assam with the assistance of the Assam Oil Co. in 1953, it was expected that the refinery for processing crude oil will be located in Assam. But, a tentative decision on the part of the Government of India at the time that the location of the refinery will be somewhere outside Assam made the people of Assam go on a state-wide protest. However, subsequently, in tune with the principle of establishing the processing plants as near as possible to the areas where raw materials are available, and also in tune with the principle of the balanced development of the country as a whole, and also to a certain extent to remove the backwardness of the far-flung State of Assam, the Cabinet at the intervention of our Prime Minister revised the decision and accepting the verdict of the people, decided that the case of Assam should also be referred to the International Consultants for examining and preparing project report.

Earlier, the Cabinet decided to form a joint venture with the Assam Oil Co., and Burma Oil Company for production of crude oil from the new-found oil and for transporting the crude oil to the site of the refinery. This resulted in the formation of the oil company named and styled as Oil India (Private) Ltd., with a capital of Rs. 10 crores the Government of India having 33 and $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent of the share capital of the company and the Assam Oil Co., and the Burma Oil Co. jointly 66 and $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. Although we are yet to know about the constitution of the directorate of

this company, and how the Government of India are represented in the Directorate Board, this company has started functioning and as just now said by the hon. Minister it has acquired a property worth about Rs. 12 crores from the Assam Oil Company. Out of this Rs. 12 crores, Rs. 4 crores are required to be subscribed by the Government of India on the proportion of the shares they have in the company. Since provision of Rs. 10 lakhs in the current year's Budget had already been made on this account, a supplementary Demand for Rs. 390 lakhs has now come before the house.

If we can attribute shipping as the second line of defence will there be any harm if we attribute 'oil as the first line of defence'? I therefore feel the Demand will have the support of the whole House, and the hon. Minister will be able to be happy at it.

So far as the establishment of the refineries is concerned, it is a very happy thing that Assam has been selected to have the fifth refinery of the country, and that in the public sector for the first time. It is very well and good, but the hon. Minister will pardon me if I say that we are a bit unhappy at the manner in which the Ministry is moving in this matter.

At page 14 of the Supplementary Demands for Grants, it is stated:

"It was decided that the two refineries to be set up in Assam and Bihar should be wholly Government-owned. A beginning has been made to obtain project reports on these refineries on the basis that the Assam Refinery will be processing about 0.75 million tons of crude oil and the Bihar refinery about 2 million tons crude oil per annum. The Report of the consultants particularly on Assam refinery has been received and is under examination."

We are yet to know who the consultants are who have recommended for establishment of two refineries for Assam oil.

We know of one consultant firm of international fame who have submitted a project report and who have stated that instead of two refineries one refinery will be more economical and more profitable.

I have got with me copy of a letter addressed by the Government of Assam to the Ministry of Fuel and Mines in which they have drawn the attention of the Ministry to the different propositions the consultants have made in their report. The letter is a long one and I do not want to read the whole thing, but I shall read only a few important lines:

"The Government of Assam presume that by now the Government of India might have completed study of the report of the International Petroleum Consultants. The Government of Assam feel that having regard to the difficulties in the sphere of finance and foreign exchange, a proposition most profitable to the country and capable of saving foreign exchange to the maximum extent should be adopted. As such, in the light of the latest developments, the earlier decision of the Government of India to have two refineries needs reconsideration.

It will be seen that the report of International Petroleum Consultants most clearly and undisputably establishes that a products pipeline is capable of carrying all the refined liquid products like aviation gasoline, motor spirit, superior kerosene, inferior kerosene, high speed diesel oil, light diesel oil and furnace oil. Furthermore, it clearly shows that a single big refinery nearest west of the oil fields with a crude

oil pipeline from the oil-fields to it and a products pipeline from the refinery to the centre of distribution would become a most economical proposition."

Then they have stated:

"The four propositions worked out below would bring into clear relief the substantial savings if only one refinery is established."

The four propositions are: firstly, a refinery of 2½ to 3 million tons at Silghat with 20" crude oil pipeline to the refinery and a 12" products pipeline from the refinery to Barauni. This proposition will entail a cost of Rs. 68·17 crores.

The second proposition is also of the same capacity—a refinery at Gauhati with a 20" crude pipe-line from oil-fields to Gauhati and a 12" products pipe-line from refinery to Barauni. This will entail a cost of Rs. 74·99 crores.

The third proposition is also of the same capacity—a refinery at Naharkatiya with a products pipeline from refinery to the Brahmaputra bank, all equipments and provisions for river transport of the finished products from the Brahmaputra bank at Desangmukh up to Fakiragram and a products pipeline from Fakiragram to Barauni, with no crude oil pipeline at all. This will cost Rs. 51·02 crores.

The fourth proposition is: one million ton refinery at Gauhati, which is what we are going to have now with one 2 million ton refinery at Barauni with crude oil pipeline from Naharkatiya to Barauni and capital cost of railway improvement for movement of the products of the Gauhati refinery. This will cost Rs. 131·68 crores.

It would thus be seen that as compared to the cost of two refineries, a

[Shri P. C. Borooah]

single refinery at Silghat would bring about a savings of Rs. 63½ crores, a single refinery at Gauhati would bring about a saving of over Rs. 56½ crores, and a single refinery at Naharkatiya would bring about a saving of over Rs. 80½ crores. It is hardly necessary to emphasize that the nation can ill-afford to lose this huge saving by going in for two refineries instead of having a single refinery in Assam.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Is this the report of the International Petroleum Consultants?

Shri P. C. Borooah: Yes, this is from the report.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Then the hon. Member should also give the antecedents of these consultants so that we may understand it well.

Shri P. C. Borooah: The consultants have prepared a project report and submitted to the Government of India, and I think the Government of India have examined it. From the report itself these figures have been taken and the extract of note prepared by the Government of Assam from this project report, I have read out just now.

I hope the hon. Minister will satisfy us as to how the country is going to be benefited by having two refineries instead of a bigger one in Assam with its distribution centre at Barauni, and that the earlier decision of the Government to have two refineries will not need reconsideration.

श्री० रणवीर सिंह : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जहाँ तक तेल और गैस का पता लगाने, तेल का एक्सप्लायटेशन करने, तेल साफ करने के कारखाने लगाने और तेल की कीमत मुकर्रर करने का ताल्लुक है, मंत्री महोदय ने इस बारे में जो बातें बताई हैं, मैं समझता हूँ कि इस हाउस के बहुत सारे सदस्यों को इस में बड़ी तसल्ली हुई है।

[**PANDEIT THAKAR DAS BHARGAVA in the Chair**]

जहाँ तक पंजाब सूबे और उस के उस इलाके का सवाल है, जहाँ से सभापति महोदय आप और हम आते हैं, हम इस बात के लिये बड़े मशकूर हैं कि तेल और गैस के नाम से हमारे इलाके की तरक्की होने जा रही है।

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : सब तेली बन गये हैं।

श्री० रणवीर सिंह : जहाँ तक ज्वालामुखी का ताल्लुक है, वह पंजाब के हिन्दी रीजन में है। आप को मालूम ही है कि कांगड़ा वह जिला है, जिस की आबादी और इलाका तकरीबन हिमाचल प्रदेश के बराबर है। हिमाचल प्रदेश के ऊपर इन दस सालों में—दो फाइव यीअर प्लान्ज के मातहत—बीस करोड़ रुपया खर्च होगा, लेकिन कांगड़ा के लिये सिर्फ चार करोड़ रुपये खर्च होंगे, हालांकि उस के हालात, उस की आबादी और उसका रकवा हिमाचल प्रदेश के बराबर है। हम मंत्री महोदय के बड़े मशकूर हैं कि उन्होंने बहुत जल्दी कोशिश कर के वहाँ गैस का पता लगवाया है।

श्री के० दे० मालवीय : चार करोड़ रुपया किस में खर्च होगा ?

श्री० रणवीर सिंह : चार करोड़ रुपये पहले खर्च कर चुके हैं। जहाँ तक गैस का ताल्लुक है, एक गैस हिन्दुस्तान के हरेक देहात में मिलती है, जिम के बारे में डिफेन्स प्रोडक्शन की एग्जहिबिशन में और इंडियन एग््रीकल्चरल रिसर्च इंस्टीच्यूट में तगुबं दिखाये जाते हैं। मेरा मतलब है गोबर को गैस में। गोबर की गैस तैयार करने के प्लान्ट में हिन्दुस्तान के सारे देहात की तरक्की की झलक दिखाई देती है। जहाँ तक दूसरी गैसों का ताल्लुक है, उन के लिये बहुत कुछ किया गया है, लेकिन मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगा कि जहाँ तक गोबर गैस के प्लान्ट का ताल्लुक है, उस से हर

देहात में रोशनी भी जा सकती है और देहात की बहनें अपनी आखें खराब किये बगैर अपने खानदान के लिये खाना भी पका सकती हैं। यही नहीं हिन्दुस्तान की खेती की तरक्की के लिये उससे खाद भी तैयार की जा सकती है। यह पता लगाया गया है कि गैस निकालने के बाद जो गोबर बचता है, उस की खाद की ताकत कम नहीं होती है। आज देश में बड़ा प्रचार किया जाता है कि गोबर को खाद के लिये रखा जाय। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस प्रचार के लिये जीपों वगैरह पर जितना खर्च किया जाता है, अगर उसके बजाय गैस प्लान्ट लगा कर गैस और खाद पैदा की जाय, तो काफी हद तक देश की तरक्की हो सकती है।

श्री को० बे० मालवीय : मैं अपने भाई को बताना चाहता हूँ कि गोबर गैस से हमारा कोई संबंध नहीं है। हम अपने साथी श्री अजीत प्रसाद जैन से कहेंगे कि वह अपनी मिनिस्ट्री में इस काम को करावायें।

श्री० रजबीर सिंह : मेरा निवेदन यह है कि आप इस गैस से संबंध स्थापित करें, क्योंकि पैसा आप के पास है। यह एक इतिहास की बात है कि मसूरी में कृषि मंत्रियों की जो कांफ्रेंस हुई थी, उस में वे लोग ११६ करोड़ रुपये चाहते थे, लेकिन वह रकम उनको नहीं मिली। कृषि और खुराक का मंत्रालय एक ऐसा मंत्रालय है, जिसके साथ सौतेली मां जैसा सलूक किया जाता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि मेहरबानी कर के हमारी इस गैस को भी आप ही ले लें, ताकि इस में कुछ तरक्की हो। वह गैस ऐसी है, जो कि सारे हिन्दुस्तान में मिलती है और उससे सारे देश को फायदा हो सकता है।

गैस के बाद मैं नमक पर आना चाहता हूँ। हिन्दी रिजन में रेवाड़ी के इलाके में पहले बहुत ज्यादा नमक पैदा होता था। अंग्रेज के राज में इस देश में कुछ ऐसे हालात पैदा हो

गये कि नमक की पैदावार कम हो गई। रेवाड़ी जैसे पिछड़े हुये इलाके में, जहां न कोई नहर पहुंची है और न तरक्की का कोई काम हुआ है, नमक निकालने का इंतजाम किया जाना चाहिये। सरकार की नीति है कि इस देश में को-प्रोपरेटिव सोसायटियां तरक्की करें। अगर वह नीति सिर्फ कागज पर ही रहनी है, तब तो बात दूसरी है, वरना नमक जैसी चीज का वितरण सिर्फ को-प्रोपरेटिव सोसायटियों की मारफत ही कराया जाना चाहिये। इस से को-प्रोपरेटिव सोसायटियों को भी थोड़ा बहुत बढ़ावा मिलेगा।

मुझे कुछ कर्ज के बारे में भी कहना है। इस सदन में लगातार तीन चार दिन प्लानिंग के ऊपर बहस हुई और उस से पहले खुराक के बारे में बड़ी बहस हुई। खुराक तो इस देश के लोगों को देनी ही होगी, चाहे उस को यहां पैदा किया जाय, चाहे उसको बाहर से मंगाया जाय। जहां तक बाहर से अनाज मंगाने का ताल्लुक है, उस पर इस देश का १३६० करोड़ रुपया खर्च किया गया है। सावाल यह है कि आया हम खुराक बाहर से मंगा कर लोगों को देंगे या इस देश में पैदा करेंगे। हर एक भाई यह चाहता है और सरकार भी यह चाहती है—और उस की बड़ी कोशिश है— कि हम अपने देश में ही अनाज पैदा करें। इसके लिये मेरे छोटे से जिले में १७ के करीब सरकारी जीपें प्रचार के लिये रखी हुई हैं। इस सिलसिले में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि राज्य सरकारों को कम से कम उतना रुपया दिया जाय, जितना कि कुंए, तालाब और माइनर इरिगेशन के तहत अपने संकड फाइव यीअर प्लान में रखा है। आपने प्लान की री-एप्रेजल में बताया है कि तकरीबन साठ फीसदी खर्च कर पाये हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आने वाले छः महीनों में आप स्टेट्स को सारा रुपया दे दीजिये, ताकि उन को यह बहाना न रहे कि चूकि हमारे पास रुपया देर में आया, इस लिये हम कुंए और तालाब नहीं बना सके। इस प्रोग्राम के लिये आप ने जितना रुपया रखा

[श्री० रणवीर सिंह]

है, अगर वह कर्ज के तौर पर ग्राम स्टेट्स को इस साल में नहीं दे सकते हैं, तो कम से कम दूसरे पांच-साला प्लान में जितना रुपया रखा गया है, उसमें जितना ज्यादा से ज्यादा हो सकता है, इस साल में दे दें ताकि इस देश का अनाज का मसला हल हो और बाहर से अनाज आना बन्द हो।

इस के बाद मैं यह प्रर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि इस किताब में इस बात का जिक्र है कि सरकार को कुछ रुपया डिगिरियों के नतीजे के तौर पर देना पड़ रहा है। उस में कुछ रुपया अफसरों की तनखाह के झगड़े का है और कुछ ठेकेदारों के झगड़े का है। सफा १० पर एक केस का जिक्र किया गया है कि एक ठेके की कुछ रकम के बारे में गवर्नमेंट और ठेकेदार में इस्तलाफ-राय हुआ। इसके अलावा उसी ठेकेदार का दूसरे ठेके का रुपया सरकार के पास था? अगर अफसर लोग कोशिश करते, तो उस झगड़े का समझौता हो सकता था। जो ठेकेदार सही तरीके से काम न करे, उस के लिये एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन के पास वगैर किसी अदालत में गये हुये काफ़ी अख्यतार हैं। ऐसे ठेकेदार को ब्लैक-लिस्ट में रखा जा सकता है, जिस के डर से वह काफ़ी समझ से काम कर सकता है। बजाए इसके कि उस ठेकेदार को समझाया जाता कि वह इस को छोड़ दे, वह मामला आर-बिट्रेशन को दे दिया गया और उस ने साढ़े छः हजार रुपये सरकार से ठेकेदार को दिलाये।

इसके अलावा इसमें अफसरों की तनखाहों का भी कुछ जिक्र है और उनके बारे में कुछ झगड़ों का जिक्र भी किया गया है। इस सिलसिले में मैं प्रर्ज करना चाहता हूँ अफसरों की तनखाहों के बारे में वित्त मंत्रालय जिस नुक्तेनिगाह से देखता है वह अच्छा खासा पेशीदा है। बहुत लम्बी चीड़ी उसके अन्दर कारेसपोर्सेंस होती है। केस इतना पुराना हो जाता है और इतनी ज्यादा कारेसपोर्सेंस

इकट्ठी हो जाती है कि जिस अफसर का उससे ताल्लुक होता है, उसको भी बहुत ज्यादा उसके बारे में पता नहीं होता है, वह उसकी समझ में भी बहुत कम आता है। इसका नतीजा यह होता है कि कई बार वह केस अदालतों में जाता है और तब जाकर उसका कुछ नतीजा निकलता है। यही नहीं जहाँ तक छोटे छोटे क्लर्कों का ताल्लुक है चार पांच रुपये उनकी तनखाह बढ़ाने का जब सवाल आता है तो उसके लिये पे कमिशन बिठाई जाती है लेकिन जब कभी ग्रंडर सैक्रेट्री या और बड़े अफसर की तनखाह बढ़ाने का सवाल आता है तो उसका इसी तरह से फैसला कर दिया जाता है। ग्रंडर सैक्रेट्री से लेकर ज्वाइंट सैक्रेट्री तक तथा सैक्रेट्री तक जितने भी बड़े बड़े अफसर हैं उन सब को किसी न किसी नाम से ३०० रुपया महीना फाल्तू मिलता है। अभी पिछली दफा हमने देखा कि नेशनल सेविंग्स स्कीम के अन्दर जो आई० ए० एस० अफसर लगाया जाता है उसको अपनी तनखाह के अलावा ३०० रुपया ज्यादा दिया जाता है। एक तरफ तो आप लोगों से यह कहते हैं कि वे और अधिक बचाव और गवर्नमेंट को दें और दूसरी तरफ आप अफसरों को इस तरह से और ज्यादा रुपया देते जाते हैं। आई० ए० एस० का एक ग्रेड मुकरर है और उस ग्रेड में जो तनखाह वह पाता है उसके अलावा उसको यह रुपया दिया जाता है। मैंने अन्दाजा तो नहीं लगाया है कि कितना रुपया इस तरह से अफसरों को दिया जाता है लेकिन सै समझता हूँ कि यह काफ़ी ज्यादा होगा। कारतकारों के लिये तो आप यह कहते हैं कि ३६०० रुपया साल से ज्यादा वे न पावें लेकिन आई० ए० एस० अफसर को जिसका ग्रेड १५०० तक जाता है, उसको जब किसी दूसरे काम के लिये लगाया जाता है चाहे वह नेशनल सेविंग्स स्कीम के तहत ही क्यों न लगाया जाता हो, उसको ३०० रुपया अलावा तनखाह के दिया जाता है। इसी

सरह से पी० सी० एस० के ग्रेड के आदमी को जब सगाया जाता है तो १५० रुपया अधिक उसको दिया जाता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि वित्त मंत्रालय भन्दाजा लगावे कि कितना रुपया इस तरह से उन लोगों को दिया जा रहा है और मेरा भन्दाजा तो यह है कि स्पेशल एलाउंस के नाम से या डेपुटेशन एलाउंस के नाम से इस देश के भन्दर साल में करोड़ों रुपया उनको दिया जाता है। वह पया उनको देने के लिये कोई भी पे कमिशन नहीं बिठाया गया है। इसके विपरीत जब कभी किसी क्लर्क को पांच रुपया या एक रुपया या आठ आने महीना ज्यादा देने की बात आती है तो कमिशन बिठाया जाता है। एक तरफ तो यह कोशिश की जाती है कि अफसरों को ज्यादा से ज्यादा तनखाह दी जाये और दूसरी तरफ यह कोशिश की जाती है कि दूसरों को कम से कम दी जाये। एक तरफ वित्त मंत्री महोदय के लिये यह कहा जाता है कि उनको कम से कम तनखाह दी जाये और दूसरी ओर जो उनका सिक्रेट्री है और जिसके लिये यह कहा जाता है कि उसकी तनखाह १८०० से अधिक न हो, स्पेशल एलाउंस के रूप में कितना ही रुपया दे दिया जाता है।

श्री हरिश्चन्द्र माथुर (पाली) : २२५० तक उनका ग्रेड है।

श्री० रणवीर सिंह : आई० ए० एस० का ग्रेड ३५० से १८०० तक है और जब उसको ज्वायंट सिक्रेट्री लगाया जाता है तो उसको कम से कम २२५० देना पड़ता है।

समापति महोदय : मैं अर्ज कर रहा था कि आज जरूरत इस बात की है कि हम पैसा बचावें। मैं चाहता हूँ कि वित्त मंत्रालय भी पैसा बचाने के मामले में सक्ती से काम ले और सतर्क रहे। उन अफसरों के बारे में जिन की कलम में ताकत है, शक्ति है सरकार को समझाने की और सरकार को चलाने की, उनकी तनखाहों के बारे में भी सतर्क रहने की अच्छी खासी आवश्यकता है। स्पेशल एलाउंस

की यह हालत है कि जब कभी भी किसी अफसर को दिल्ली में ही एक महकमे से दूसरे महकमे में बदला जाता है तो उसको ३०० या ३५० रुपया महीना अपनी तनखाह के और दे दिया जाता है। इस आई० ए० एस० अफसर को कहीं बाहर नहीं जाना होता है, यहीं दिल्ली में रहना होता है। उसके विपरीत एक क्लर्क को अगर आप दिल्ली से मद्रास भेजते हैं तो उसकी तनखाह में आप कोई बढ़ोतरी नहीं करते हैं।

मैं वित्त मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि एक तो वह खेती की पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिये कर्ज दें क्योंकि वह काम केवल प्रचार के बल पर नहीं हो सकता है। अगर आप दरअसल में चाहते हैं कि खेती की पैदावार बढ़े तो वह ज्यादा रुपया लगाने से ही बढ़ सकती है और किसी तरीके से नहीं। इसके लिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि एग्रिकल्चरल सैक्टर के लिये दूसरे प्लान में जितना रुपया रखा है वह सारे का सारा खर्च किया जाये। उसमें ज्यादा से ज्यादा जितना इस साल खर्च हो सकता है इस साल खर्च किया जाये, इस साल किसानों को दिया जाये और जो बचे वह अगले साल स्टेट्स को कर्ज के तौर पर दे दिया जाये ताकि स्टेट्स अपने इलाकों में खेती की पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिये किसानों को प्रोत्साहित कर सकें। दूसरे जो स्पेशल एलाउंसिस का कायदा है उसको देखा जाये ताकि जो इस सदन का यह इरादा था कि अफसरों की तनखाहों के ऊपर भी सीलिंग हो, वह सीलिंग लगाया जा सके।

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will confine my observations to one point and that is regarding the constitution of this new company, the Hindustan Salt Co., (Private) Ltd., because we are directly concerned with this matter.

Sir, I think the Central Government has transgressed its proper limits in constituting this company. The parties which are definitely concerned with

[Shri Harish Chandra Mathur]

the constitution of this are the Rajasthan Government. I would like to know whether the consent of the Rajasthan Government was obtained in this matter before this company was floated. I had a suspicion that the Rajasthan Government was completely ignored. Therefore, I tabled a question here and asked the hon. Minister about that. Even from the reply which I got my suspicion was confirmed because the Minister told me the other day that the Rajasthan Chief Minister had been invited to come here to discuss this matter.

I cannot understand the implication of such action. The company has already been constituted; the directorate has been appointed and all the directors are already there. You are inviting the Chief Minister of Rajasthan to come here and discuss this matter with you.

This definitely brings out a very important matter regarding the relationship between the State Governments and the Central Government. Already, because of certain trends in the country, the States are being weakened. But, particularly, in such matters, I feel that there is absolutely no justification for the Central Government to have ignored the Rajasthan Government and to have constituted this company without obtaining their previous consent. I would like to know whether, even after the company was constituted, and when the Chief Minister was here to discuss this matter, any final agreement has been reached. And, if so, I would certainly like to know what the terms of that agreement are.

In this connection, so far as I am aware, the Rajasthan Government had an agreement with the Central Government. Even when the financial integration of the States was brought about—though it may be claimed on behalf of the Ministries of Commerce

and Finance that salt remains to be a central subject and the Central Government has got a right to go ahead in this matter in spite of the fact that the salt works in the other States were taken over, an exception was made in the case of Rajasthan, and they entered into an agreement with the Government of Rajasthan regarding the salt works in the area of Rajasthan. Now, I consider this to be a definite violation of that agreement to have started this company without the previous consent of the Rajasthan Government.

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

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: The financial integration agreement—and I think Sir V. T. had something to do with it. An agreement was reached that the Central Government will continue to pay to the Government of Rajasthan a particular amount—I think the total amount comes to about Rs. 20 lakhs a year.....

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: For a limited number of years.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I do not think for a limited number of years. They have got to pay that amount right up to the end of 1960 and the agreement will continue in perpetuity until and unless the Rajasthan Government *suo motu* changed that agreement. It is not open to the Central Government to change that agreement at all. Let us be very clear about it. In the first instance, the agreement lasts up to 1960. But that agreement will continue as it is even thereafter until and unless another fresh agreement is reached.

Even regarding this fresh agreement, it is not open to the Central Government to reopen this matter and ask the Rajasthan Government to come to any other agreement. It is only

open to the Rajasthan Government to ask the Central Government to reopen that thing and to come to some other agreement. But, whatever it is, we are in 1958; we are not even in 1960 and the agreement subsists.

Shri Satish Chandra: But, how has there been a violation?

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: My hon. friend asks me how there has been a violation. I wish he realises what his position is. His position is simply that of a lessee and nothing more than that; and he is responsible to make the payment to the Rajasthan Government to the tune of Rs. 20 lakhs a year. Who is going to make this payment now? Is it the company that is going to make the payment or is it the Central Government? When there is a certain obligation which devolves upon the Central Government, they are legally and constitutionally bound. But, apart from the legal or the constitutional obligation, it is a moral obligation for the Central Government to have consulted the Rajasthan Government, to have come to an agreement with the Rajasthan Government before they floated this company and before they appointed any directorate. It is why I submit that there is a legal and a constitutional violation and there is a moral letting down of the Rajasthan Government in this particular matter.

I would also like to know what is the position as it stands today regarding the payment of Rs. 20 lakhs to the Government of Rajasthan. May I know if the hon. Minister is in a position to give me an assurance that this payment will continue to be made from the Central Government and whether they have come to an agreement in this respect or not.

Apart from this, there is another matter which is allied with this transaction. Now that they have constituted the Hindustan Salt Co., Ltd., the whole jurisdiction over that particular area passes on to this company.

The Rajasthan Government was previously thinking—and I know this from my personal knowledge—of starting certain manufacturing Concerns and having an industrial enterprise which was to be based on the salt bitters and to have a company for heavy chemicals. I want to know now whether this new arrangement will stand in the way of the Government of Rajasthan to have any such enterprise started either in the private sector or by the State of Rajasthan.

If I could understand correctly the passing remarks which were made by the Minister of Industry the other day, I think it is the Central Government which is now thinking of floating another company for the development of heavy chemicals in that particular area. This has an implication. Apart from the revenue of Rs. 20 lakhs which we were deriving from the salt resources, we are being debarred from having a big business enterprise in that area.

15.41 hrs.

[SHRIMATI RENU CHAKRAVARTY in the Chair]

If the Central Government is going to open a factory and start a new enterprise, I should like to know what would be the position of the Rajasthan Government and the Rajasthan State in respect of that factory. May I also know whether any particular enquiry was made before this company was floated, whether any preliminary investigation was made, whether the Central Government has any definite plan or project for the development of the salt resources here and whether they can satisfy us in this particular respect that this company is being floated for the development of salt resources there and for the development of industrial enterprise in the area which will be more to the benefit of the Rajasthan Government and that it will in no way cut down the revenues which the Rajasthan Government has been deriving from this area and also finally it was to be exploited by the Government of Rajasthan? I should like to have this

[Shri Harish Chandra Mathur]

clarification and also would like to know the terms and conditions of the present agreement, if any has been reached. Why is it that it was taken without the consultation and the consent of the Rajasthan Government? What is the position of the Rajasthan State in respect of the revenue of Rs. 20 lakhs which it derived from this source? What would be the position of the State Government in respect of the enterprise which was going to be established in this connection?

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Madam Chairman, I shall confine my speech to Demand Nos. 8, 9, 108 and 117. Demand No. 8 provides Rs. 4,000 and this House is going to vote it as is going to be a sort of compensation to one of the officers in the M.E.S. This particular case which was decided by a High Court has raised a very important issue. An officer in the M.E.S. was reverted on account of unsatisfactory work to a lower grade in August 1953. He appealed against this order on the ground that he was not given adequate opportunity to defend his case. The lower court did not permit this appeal but when the officer appealed to the High Court, the High Court held that the reversion was wrong because he was not given an adequate opportunity under article 311(2) of the Constitution.

My submission is this. Here was an officer who could possibly afford to seek the protection of a particular High Court and that is the reason why he got justice. He was given a sum of Rs. 2,000 and odd. In the year 1956, the dark period in the history of the defence department, when any trade union active worker was discharged or reverted unless he told a lie given by the then Minister of Defence Organisation, nearly 3,000 workers were reverted from A grade to C or even D grade. As a result of that mass reversion there were some strikes in the various defence installations. Till now, no decision has been taken to review whether

those reversions were justified. I am sure that if some of these workers who were reverted at that time went to the High Court, they would have also got this compensation which this MES officer got.

My submission is that under article 311(2), every opportunity should be given to any class of employees, whether he is class 2 or 3 or 4, to defend his case and he should be convinced that his reversion was justified. In this particular case, this opportunity was not given. I feel that a letter issued by the Home Ministry in April or May this year was as a result of such decisions in our High Courts. They have said that the cases of unjustified reversions should be reviewed. But in the concluding sentence of that letter, they say that the past cases should not be reviewed. I fail to understand it if after the lapse of so many years the Home Ministry who really initiated and formulated those orders came to the conclusion that some reversions were unjustified and that injustice should be rectified, why was that particular sentence used that past cases should not be brought up for consideration? I would submit to the hon. Deputy Minister here not to take this personally. I have no desire to attack the Defence Ministry as such. I am only referring to these cases because in these particular cases, about 3,500 persons were involved and they were not like the person who had the opportunity or resources to go to the High Court. No justice could be done in those cases because the orders were very firm that they wanted to revert those people. Now a time has come after the issue of the Home Ministry's letter when the cases can be reviewed and that particular portion which says that the old cases should not be reviewed must be done away with because that gives a feeling that whatever injustice has been done in the past was to stay and only in the future there will be no injustice.

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What will happen to those persons who had been reverted? Their income has been reduced, in some cases, from Rs. 100 to Rs. 35 or Rs. 40. These cases must be reviewed. This article 311(2) was referred to by me in connection with the case of reversion in the Defence department. But under the Government of India, there is a rule called rule (5) under which anybody can be discharged without any reason being assigned and this rule had decided many cases. I have in my possession a long list of those unfortunate employees who had been discharged under this rule. In those cases, they have tried and are still trying to seek the protection of the court and they should have been given an opportunity under this article which guarantees the Fundamental Rights of every citizen but they were unfortunately denied. So, the hon. Members should also consider whether those cases where the people have been discharged without assigning any reason, also deserve review and reconsideration.

My other point is about the payment to the contractor. My friend, Ch. Ranbir Singh has said that there should have been a compromise with the contractor. This contract system is actually on the verge of increase. When the Supplementary Demands came in this House previously, at that time also I raised this question of contract system in the MES or in the cantonments. Due to this contract system, there was a lot of corruption going on in these defence establishments. At that time I remember our ex-Finance Minister, Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, said that he would welcome this provision and would prefer the elimination of contract system from the defence establishments. If I remember correctly, these were his words. For the information of the House I would like to give the value of work done by the department and the value of work done by contractors. In 1955-56 the value of work done by the department through departmental labour was Rs. 374.73

lakhs, and the value of work done through contractors in the same year was Rs. 1263.58 lakhs. In 1956-57, when we agitated that the contract system must be abolished, the value of work done through departmental labour was increased from Rs. 374.73 lakhs to Rs. 380.2 lakhs, and, because we propagated against the contract system, the value of work done through contractors was raised from Rs. 1263.58 lakhs to Rs. 1408 lakhs. Is that the way to eliminate contract system. It is not a question of Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 6,000. Unless we try to eliminate the contract system, the corruption which is going on in the Defence Department, with all the good intentions of the hon. Minister and the Ministry, cannot be eliminated. Corruption cannot be eliminated when there is the contract system where the middleman comes in. Therefore, my another submission is that the contract system must be abolished.

My third point is about the loans and advances by the Centre to the State Governments. The House knows about the food situation in U.P., the State which I represent. It has been brought to my notice—and I mention it here subject to correction—that the Chief Minister of U.P. requested a member of the Planning Commission, Shreeman Narayan, that two crores should be given for minor irrigations in the eastern regions of U.P. This House knows that every year, every month, even every day something is being discussed in this House about the eastern districts of U.P. We know that for want of minor irrigation facilities, for want of money with the State Government, we are unable to solve the problem of food in the eastern districts of U.P. and also have more industrial units to raise the purchasing capacity of the people in those districts.

There is famine condition today in those districts. The Government may or may not declare it, but the fact remains that people have died of star-

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

vation, that people have been completely impoverished due to this situation of having to pay very high prices without having the required purchasing capacity. My submission, therefore, is that it should be considered whether the sum of Rs. 2 crores as asked for by the Chief Minister should be given for carrying out minor irrigation schemes in the eastern districts of U.P.

With regard to advances and loans, I know that the salvation of the eastern districts of U.P. entirely depends on the success of the Rihand project. We cannot do anything in those districts unless we have the Rihand project successfully completed. The success of the Rihand project means the success of those districts. Without the completion of this project, no industrial units can be started there.

My information is that the plan submitted by U.P. was reduced by Rs. 11 crores without the least consideration. In this House it was told that the Finance Minister and the Chief Minister of U.P. were consulted about this reduction. But when I got a question raised in the U.P. Assembly, the Chief Minister or the Finance Minister of that State made a categorical reply that they were never consulted. I do not know who is correct, whether the U.P. Government or the Central Government is correct.

Therefore, something should be done to complete this project if we really want to solve the food problem in the eastern districts of U.P., if we really want to improve the condition and the purchasing capacity of the people there. The advances and loans asked for by U.P. should be given.

With these words, I would request the hon. Deputy Minister for Defence and the hon. Finance Minister to consider these points and throw some light while replying to this debate.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Deputy Minister.

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramalah): Madam Chairman, Shri Banerjee has referred to Demand No. 9, which relates to certain claims.....

Shri M. C. Jain (Kaithal): I also want to speak on Demand No. 9, and it would be better if the hon. Deputy Minister replies afterwards.

Shri Raghuramalah: I have no objection.

Mr. Chairman: All right. Shri M. C. Jain.

Shri Achar (Mangalore): I too wanted to speak on that.

Shri Satish Chandra: If my colleague is not going to speak now, I would like to intervene because some hon. Members have raised points about salt etc.

Mr. Chairman: It is better that the hon. Ministers and Deputy Ministers speak after they have heard the various Members. Therefore, if it is not inconvenient to the hon. Deputy Minister, I would first call the hon. Members who want to participate in the debate, and after that the hon. Minister can reply. I will certainly give him a chance.

श्री म० च० जैन : सभापति महोदय मैं अपने रिमाक्स डिमान्ड नं० ९, ७९, ९५ और १०८ तक, जो कि स्टेट्स को कर्जा देने के मुताल्लिक हैं, महदूद रक्कूमा । कर्जा देने की रकम को छोड़ कर जो चार डिमान्ड्स हैं उन की रकूमात बहुत छोटी है । कुल मिला कर ८० या ८५ हजार रुपया बनता है । लेकिन उन में बड़ा भारी प्रिन्सिपल इन्वाल्ड (Principle

involved) इन रकमों से जाहिर होता है कि हमारी सैन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट की मिनिस्ट्रीज का functioning कितना नाकिस है। मिसाल के तौर पर डिमान्ड नं० ६ को ही लीजिये। अभी मुझ से पहले हुआस की तबज्जह इस बात की तरफ दिलाई गई है एक फौजी अफसर को रिवर्ट किया गया। उसने जितने भी तरीके इन्साफ पाने के हो सकते थे अपने महकमे से कोशिश की लेकिन डिफेंस के महकमे में उसे कोई इन्साफ नहीं दिया। फिर वह रिट पिटीशन में गया। गालिबन् हाई कोर्ट ने कहा होगा कि अभी और रेमेडीज प्रोपन हैं, इस लिये उसे इन्तदाई सिविल कोर्ट में जाना पड़ा। वहां से भी उसे इन्साफ नहीं मिला तो वह हाई कोर्ट में गया और फिर उसे मुभावजा मिला। तो जैसा कि अभी मुझ से पहले बोलने वाले स्पीकर ने कहा यह तो एक अफसर की बात है। उसी का यह दम था कि वह इस तरह से बराबर मुस्तलिफ सरकारी महकमों के खिलाफ अदालत का दरवाजा खटखटाने में लगा रहा, लेकिन कितने ऐसे अफसर हैं, न सिर्फ डिफेंस के महकमे में बल्कि दूसरे महकमों में भी, जिन में महकमों में बैठे हुये अफसर, सेक्रेटरी, डिप्टी सेक्रेटरी, अन्डर सेक्रेटरी से बं इन्साफ नहीं पा सकते। मैं तो सिर्फ यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मेम्बर, पार्लियामेंट इस बात को जानते हैं कि इन लोगों में काफी असन्तोष है। लोग ऐप्रोच करते हैं, मैं हैरान हूँ कि उन को कैसे इन्साफ दिलाया जाय। मैं नहीं जानता कि ministers तक फाइल्स जाती भी है या कि नीचे के अफसर ही उनको decide कर देते हैं। यह एक ऐसी चीज है जिस का ताल्लुक दूसरी डिमान्ड्स से भी है, इसलिये इसका जिक्र उन के साथ ही करूंगा।

इस के बाद आइये डिमान्ड नं० ७६ पर। इस डिमान्ड की रकम तो सिर्फ १,००० रु० है, लेकिन उस को जरा खोल

कर देखिये कि क्या बात है। नीलांबेरी मेरे जिले में है, मेरी कांस्ट्रुएन्सी में है, इस लिये मुझे उस के बारे में ज्यादा पता है, वहां एक गारमेंट फैक्ट्री खोली गई। लिबास बनाने का काम करती थी, उसे सरकार ने कपड़ा supply करने का इकरार किया, और उस फैक्ट्री से ७,००० रु० की जमानत ली। जहां तक मुझे याद है सन् १९४८ १९४९, १९५०, १९५१ और १९५२ में कपड़े की तकसीम पर कोई कंट्रोल नहीं था। मैं नहीं जानता कि क्यों सरकार ने कपड़े सप्लाय करने का वादा किया जब कि उस की कीमत पर भले ही कंट्रोल रहा हो, उस की तकसीम पर कोई कंट्रोल नहीं था। सरकार ने कपड़े की जिम्मेदारी तो ले ली, लेकिन जिस ठेकेदार को लिबास बनवाना था उस ने कपड़े की डिलिवरी नहीं ली। नतीजा यह हुआ कि उस कपड़े को बाद में सरकार को नीलाम करना पड़ा जिस में उसे १६,००० रु० का घाटा हुआ। एक तरफ तो कपड़े की इतनी डिलिवरी कि नीलाम करने पर १६,००० रुपये का घाटा और दूसरी तरफ जमानत सिर्फ ७,००० रु०। ७,००० रु० जब्त हो जाता है। पता नहीं कि जमानत नामों में क्या नुकस था कि वह भी ठिक नहीं सका, जमानत जब्त नहीं हो सकी। वह कोर्ट के पास जाता है, और बिट्टेटर के पास जाता है और वह उसके क्लेम को तसलीम कर लेता है। भले ही यह रकम बहुत थोड़ी हो, लेकिन इस में त्रिसिपल कितना बड़ा इन्वालव्ड (Involved) है कि सरकार रुपये कमें त्वचं करती है, उस में १६ करोड़ रु० का घाटा हुआ। वह तो बजट में आ गया होगा। इस वक्त तो सिर्फ जो डिगरी हुई है उमी का जिक्र है। जो ४१४० रु० की डिगरी हुई है, हमारे सामने उस का सवाल है। क्या इसके लिये कोई अफसर जिम्मेदार नहीं है। जिस ने शुरू में ठेका दिया, जिस ने उस से जमानत ली और उसे एक्सेप्ट (accept) किया

[श्री म० च० जैन]

उस की कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं है ? क्या रिट्रिबिलिटेशन मिनिस्ट्री के किसी अफसर को सजा दी गई कि उन ने एक्स्चेकर (Ex-chequer) का रुपया, इस देश के गरीब लोगों का रुपया जो पैसा पैसा करके वह सरकार के खजाने में जमा करते हैं, उन की खून पसीना की कमाई इस तरह से जाया की, इस के लिये किसी अफसर को सजा हुई ?

16 hrs.

इस के बाद जो अगली डिमान्ड है वह नं० ६५ है। जिस में गवर्नमेंट ने ४०,००,०० टन अमोनियम खाद लेने का एक जर्मन फर्म से इकरार किया था। मैंने एक्स्प्लेनेटरी नोट को पढ़ा तो मालूम हुआ कि कितनी बेदरती से रुपया खर्च होता है, जैसे कोई हराम का माल है। ६० फीसदी रुपया तो उसे पहले ही दे दिया गया १० फी सदी बाद में लिये बचता है। इस खाद को जहाज से उतारने के लिये एक इंडियन फर्म ने जिम्मेदारी ली थी। उससे सिर्फ ५०,००० रु० जमानत के तौर पर लिया जाता है। वह फर्म माल नहीं उतारती। हमारी सरकार गारंटी देती है कि कोई बात नहीं, अगर वह फर्म रुपया नहीं देता तो सप्लायर्स को और से हम रुपया देंगे। माल उतर गया। जो हिन्दुस्तानी एजेंट है उसने माल नहीं उठाया, खुद गवर्नमेंट को माल उठाना पड़ा। इस सवाल का जवाब गवर्नमेंट को देना होगा कि जब आपने उन शिपर्स को गारंटी दी तो क्यों रुपया नहीं दिया। शिपर्स को आपे को देना पड़ा ४०,००० रु० उस को सूद की डिगरी हुई १४,००० रु० और उस पर कॉस्ट थाई ३,००० रु०। क्या आप समझते हैं कि वह रुपया वैसे ही आता है। हमारे लोग टैक्स दे कर रुपया खजाने में दाखिल

करते हैं और हमारे अफसर इस तरह के काम करते हैं। सरकार को ऐसी बातों को रोकना चाहिये। सप्लायर्स को अगरेन्टी करने के बाद हम रुपया नहीं देंगे तो कौन देगा। अगर नहीं देना था तो आपने गारंटी क्यों दी और क्यों शिपर्स को अदालत का दरवाजा खटखटाना पड़ा। इसी तरह से देखिये कि उसके बाद क्या होता है। जो सप्लायर्स थे उन्होंने २३ हजार पाँड का क्लेम कर दिया सरकार के ऊपर। अभी शिपर्स के दावे तो अदालतों में चल रहे हैं। अगर सप्लायर्स ने जो उनके २३ हजार का क्लेम था उनको अरबिट्रेशन के सुपुर्द कर दिया। और अरबिट्रेटरने ६,००० पाँड की डिगरी दे दी, अदालतों में जितने रुपयों के हमारे ऊपर दावे थे वे चल रहे हैं। मैं तो देख कर हैरान हूँ कि किस तरह हमारा रुपया जाया होता है। अभी कल तक भुतवातिर तीन दिन तक प्लानिंग पर बहस होती रही, मुझे उस पर बोलने का मौका नहीं मिला लेकिन हमारे प्लानिंग के मिनिस्टर नन्दा साहब ने जो फरमाया वह मैंने बगौर सुना। उन्होंने शुरू में ही कहा कि क्या ही अच्छा हो कि हमारी फ्रिजूल-खर्ची कम हो जाय और क्या ही अच्छा हो कि हमारे देश में ज्यादा बचत हो जाय और अगर हमारे देश में टैक्स की चोरी बन्द हो जाय तो फिर हमारी यह दूसरी प्लानिंग बड़ी अच्छी तरह कामयाब होगी। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आखिर वे कौन बातें और कौन सी रूकावटें हैं जिनके कारण हमारी प्लानिंग कामयाब नहीं हो रही है, उनके बारे में क्या कोई खोज की गई और उनको दूर और हल करने की क्या कोई कोशिश की गई ? मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो अफसर उस के लिये जिम्मेदार हैं और जिन्होंने कि guarantee देकर शिपर्स को रुपया अदा नहीं किया और उनको उसके लिये अदालतों का दरवाजा खटखटाना पड़ा, आपने उनको क्या सजा दी और क्या आपने उनसे इसका जवाब

मांगा कि उन्होंने इस तरह एक्सचेंजर पर क्यों बोझ डाला। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन शिपर्स ने जिन्होंने कि २३ हजार पाँड का क्लेम दिया था और अदालत ने ६ हजार पाँड की डिमी दी और उनकी अदायगी हो गई, आपने उन से डील करने वाले अफसरान को इसके लिये क्या सजा दी और आपने उनकी तनख्वाह में से वह रुपये क्यों मुजरा करके नहीं दिया।

अगली डिमांड नम्बर १०८ है जो कि डिफेंस कैपिटल आउटले के मुताल्लिक है और रकम उसमें १४,००० रुपये की है। शकूर बस्ती में कुछ सड़कों और क्लबट्स बनाने के लिये एक पार्टी को ठेका दिया गया। ठेकेदार ने मुकर्रा वक्त पर काम पूरा नहीं किया इसलिये उसका कंट्रेक्ट कैंसिल कर दिया गया और बाकी बचा हुआ काम सरकार ने कंट्रेक्टर के रिस्क पर करवाया। अब यह डिफेंस मुहकमे की बात है। श्री बनर्जी ने डिफेंस मुहकमे के इंजीनियरिंग डिपार्टमेंट में जा करफ़ान चलता है उसका जिक्र किया। मुझे पिछले डेढ़ वर्ष से जो तजुर्बा हुआ है उस की बिना र में कहना चाहता हूँ, कि स्टेट पी० डब्लू० डी० में सेंट्रल पी० डब्लू० डी० में करफ़ान ज्यादा है, रेलवे के इंजीनियरिंग डिपार्टमेंट में सेंट्रल पी० डब्लू० डी० से ज्यादा है और रेलवे के इंजीनियरिंग डिपार्टमेंट के मुकाबले में डिफेंस के इंजीनियरिंग डिपार्टमेंट में करफ़ान ज्यादा है। यह चीजें चल रही हैं। अब चूँकि इस मामले में उस ठेकेदार ने वक्त पर काम पूरा करके नहीं दिया और सरकार ने अपनी कीमत पर काम करा लिया तो उस ठेकेदार से कीमत वसूल करनी चाहिये थी की गई। लेकिन मैं नहीं जानता कि क्या हुआ, जो एग्जीमेंट ठेकेदार के साथ लिखा गया था और जो कि हर मुहकमे में लिखा जाता है, पता नहीं उस एग्जीमेंट की शर्तों में क्या नुक्स था कि वह रुपये जब गवर्नमेंट ने ठेकेदार से वसूल किया, उतना

रुपया जब्त किया और ज। ठेकेदार ने उसके लिये क्लेम किया तो सालिस ने उसके क्लेम को जायज़ करार दे दिया और सरकार की बात नहीं मानी, और सरकार के खिलाफ़ ७,५४६ रुपये का एवांड दे दिया। यह तो इस डिमांड का पहला पार्ट हुआ।

डिमांड का दूसरा पार्ट उस काम के मुताल्लिक है जिसमें कि नेशनल डिफेंस ऐकेडमी, खडकवासला में कैडेट्स वार्टर्स बनाने का ठेक; एक फर्म के साथ किया गया। ठेकेदार अपना काम करता है और फर्म को ६,३४६ रुपये का ओवर पैमेंट हो जाता है। उसके डिटेक्ट होने पर उस फर्म को वह रक रिफंड करने के लिये लिखा गया जिसके लिये उसने इंकार कर दिया। इस पर वह रकम उस ठेकेदार के एक दूसरे कंट्रैक्ट के ड्यूज से रिकवर कर ली गई जिसको एक उस फर्म ने मंजूर नहीं किया। इस मामले को ले कर वह फर्म सालिस के पास गई और उसने हमारी सरकार के खिलाफ़ फ़ैसला दिया और यह ६, ७ हजार रुपया इस वजह से देना पड़ा। डिफेंस डिपार्टमेंट का इससे भी ताल्लुक है और चूँकि श्री रघुरामैया यहाँ पर तगरीफ़ रखते हैं इसलिये वे यह बतायें कि क्या जो ओवर पैमेंट हो गया उस फर्म से वसूल कर लिया। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर उन्होंने वसूल कर लिया होता तो हाउस में यह डिमांड ले कर वे न आते। आज हम देखते हैं कि किस तरह पब्लिक एक्सचेंजर का रुपया बर्बाद किया जा रहा है, किस तरह रुपये का वेस्ट हो रहा है और जनता के सामने चूँकि हमें जाना होता है तो हमारे लिये यह मुश्किल हो गया है कि हम उनको इसका कोई तसल्लीबहश जवाब दे सकें। आज जनता में इस चीज को खुले आम कहा जा रहा है कि रुपया बखेरा जा रहा है और सरकार द्वारा इस तरह रुपये को जाया किया जा रहा है।

नीलोखेड़ी की बाबत मैं कुछ कहना चाहूंगा। सन् १९५०-५१ में एक पार्टी

[श्री मू० च० जैन]

ने नीलोखड़ी में एक गार्मेंट फ़ैक्टरी खालू की। उस वक्त नीलोखड़ी का शासन गवर्नमेंट प्राफ इंडिया के कंट्रोल में था। गवर्नमेंट ने रेफ्यूजी भाइयों को यहां पर सेंटिल करने के लिये फरीदाबाद की तरह टाऊनशिप बनाया और वहां पर सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने २०, ३० स्माल स्केल इंडस्ट्रीज खोलीं और उनमें ग्राजिबन एक करोड़ रुपये लगाया। यह हमारे सामुदायिक विकास मंत्री डे साहब नीलोखड़ी के इंचारण होते थे। कुछ दिनों के बाद उन्होंने कहा कि अब आप को प्रापरेटिव सोसाइटीयां बना लीजिये और यह जितना भी सरकार का माल है और ऐसैट्स हैं यह सब हम आपके हवाले किये देते हैं। सब रेफ्यूजीज ने वहां मिल कर कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटी बनाई और इस तरीके से बुक वैल्यू पर उन तमाम ऐसैट्स को लिया जिनकी कि कीमत बहुत डेप्रिशीएट हो चुकी थी।

रेफ्यूजीज की कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटी के नाम उनकी वही बुक वैल्यू ही बढ़ाई गई। इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि वे सारी स्माल स्केल इंडस्ट्रीज एक दो साल में फ़ेल हो गईं। आज गवर्नमेंट उन कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटीज के प्रेसीडेंट, सेक्रेटरीज और जो उनके कोआपरेटर्स थे उनको परेशान कर रही है। अब ग्राजिबनेटर के पास तो सरकारी मुहकमा गया उन्होंने भी लाचार हो कर सिविल कोर्ट के दरवाजे खटखटाना शुरू कर दिये हैं। मेरा कहना यह है कि ईसाफ का तकाजा तो यह है कि आप किसी किस्म की कानूनी कार्यवाही उनके खिलाफ न करें और उनसे वह रुपया बमूल न करें लेकिन अगर यह मुमकिन न हो तो यह एक एक मामला है जो कि हाई लेवल पर लिया जाना चाहिये और इसको छोटे अफसरों के ऊपर छोड़ना ठीक नहीं है क्योंकि ऐसा करने से गरीब लोगों को परेशान किया जायगा और गरीब

लोग फिर तंग आकर सिविल कोर्ट का दरवाजा खटखटाने को मजबूर होंगे और इस तरीके से परेशानी ही पैदा होगी।

बस एक आखिरी बात कह कर मैं बंदे जाता हूँ। स्टेट्स को जो लोन दिये जाते हैं उस बारे में डिमांड २ करोड़ रुपये की है। अभी उत्तर प्रदेश के बारे में श्री स० म० बनर्जी ने कहा। मैं चूँकि पंजाब से आता हूँ इसलिये उस प्रान्त के बारे में थोड़ा अर्थ करना चाहता हूँ। आज जब कि देश के अनेक भागों में खाद्य की कमी महसूस की जा रही है तब हमारा प्रान्त पंजाब उन प्रान्तों की खाद्य सम्बन्धी जरूरत को पूरा करने में काफ़ी मदद कर रहा है और मैं समझता हूँ कि हाउस के तमाम मेम्बरान इससे इतिफ़ाक़ करते होंगे कि पंजाब का खेतीवाड़ी करने वाला किसान बहुत हिम्मती है। लेकिन आज उसके रास्ते में कई रुकावटें आ गई हैं। जिसमें से कि एक बड़ी रुकावट वहां पर बाढ़ का आना और वाटर लीगिंग का होना है और मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि अगर सरकार बाढ़ को रोकने और इस वाटर लीगिंग को वहां पर रोकने का इंतजाम कर दे तो फिर पंजाब का किसान बहुत अधिक पैदावार करके दिखा सकता है। पंजाब सरकार इस के लिये हिन्द सरकार से कर्ज मांगती है। हिन्द सरकार ने कुछ कर्ज दिया भी है। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि उसने पंजाब सरकार को कर्ज नहीं दिया लेकिन जितना कर्ज पंजाब सरकार को इन बाढ़ों और वाटर लीगिंग को रोकने के लिये चाहिये उतना नहीं मिला है और जिसका कि नतीजा है कि पंजाब सरकार के हाथ बंधे हुये हैं। इसलिये मेरा सुझाव है और निवेदन है कि यह लॉस देते वक्त पंजाब सरकार की डिमांड्स का खास तौर पर खयाल रक्खा जाय। और अभी तो शायद मुमकिन न हो लेकिन भगली बार

जब डिमांड्स पेश हों तो पंजाब सरकार को अधिक रकम की मंजूरी दी जाय ताकि वह अपने यहां ह्रास की पैदावार बढ़ा सके। इस मुझे इसके बाद धीरे कुछ नहीं कहना है क्योंकि मेरा समय अब खत्म हो गया है।

Mr. Chairman: I find that six hon. Members want to speak. I am afraid some Members have to be left out for want of time.

Shri L. Achaw Singh (Inner Manipur): No one from my group has spoken.

Mr. Chairman: I do not think it will be possible for all parties to be accommodated. But I will try and accommodate as many as possible.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I would confine myself to Demands No. 117, 128 and 130. I have given cut motions Nos. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 25, 26, 27, 40 and 41.

Mr. Chairman: I have to announce that some of the cut motions given by the hon. Member are out of order. In Demand No. 128, cut motions Nos. 41, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 18 are out of order. In demand No. 130, cut motion No. 127 is out of order. That means cut motions Nos. 40, 14, 25 and 26 are in order.

Failure to set up more than one Refinery in Assam

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,90,00,000 in respect of Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel be reduced to Re. 1.

Failure to ensure greater percentage of profit for the Government in the Oil India Private Ltd., and Indian Refineries Private Ltd.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,90,00,000 in respect of Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel be reduced to Re. 1.

Absence of data and other details in road construction and need for further details in the making of inter-district roads in Naga Hills.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 52,08,000 in respect of Capital Outlay on Roads (page 16) be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for strengthening the Dimapur-Kohima Road

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 52,08,000 in respect of Capital Outlay of roads be reduced by Rs. 100.

At the beginning, I would like to deal with Demand No. 117. This is a demand for Rs. 2 crores to repay outstanding advances from the Contingency Fund taken last year. Last year, in 1957-58, a sum of Rs. 253.08 crores were provided as loans and advances to the States. This sum of Rs. 2 crores is in excess of Rs. 41.5 crores. Actually Rs. 5 crores more were sanctioned this year in February, 1958. Rs. 3 crores were met from savings and Rs. 2 crores are now demanded. I submit that this is very improper and this is not the regular way. The sums had been spent in the year 1957-58 and do not know how and for which these sums had been spent.

We find that the internal resources of our country are in a crucial period

[Shri L. Achaw Singh]

and the States have not been able to manage themselves. So, the Government of India has provided these loans. We would like to request the Government of India to bring pressure on the States to raise the revenue out of their own sources as much as possible.

Coming to Demand No. 128 about this oil refinery business, I would like to submit that the decision of the Government of India to establish two refineries—one in Assam and another in Bihar—is unjustified. You know that there has been a wild agitation over that issue all over Assam. First of all, the Government of India announced that there would be only one refinery and there was a lot of discontent all over Assam. Then the Government of India have come to the decision that there would be two refineries, after that agitation. Still the people of Assam are not satisfied, because they feel that their cause has been neglected, and the Government of India have been indifferent to the rapid industrialisation of that part of the country. The Government of Assam, therefore, referred this matter to some American consultants and they have recommended that a unified refinery should be started in Assam near the oil fields. To transport crude oil, pipelines should be constructed. The Government of India should accept this recommendation of the American consultants and the economic aspirations of the people of Assam should be fulfilled.

I feel that there has been a lot of delay in the Government of India coming to an agreement with the Assam Oil Company. In spite of what the hon. Minister has said today, I feel that it took so much time for the Government of India to come to an agreement with the Assam Oil Company in this matter. It took four years to come to an agreement and Rs. 40 crores to Rs. 50 crores were spent every year in the form of foreign exchange. A royalty of Rs. 3

crores every year has also been paid by the Government of Assam. If the oil refineries were started earlier, if the agreements were reached earlier, the Government of Assam would have saved at least Rs. 3 crores every year and that amount could have been devoted to the development of the State.

I would like to say one or two words about the self-sufficiency in oil products, so far as India is concerned. In India our demand is about 3 gallons a year per head. For industrial countries, the demand is about 500 gallons per head per annum and for the whole world it is about 70 gallons per head. Experts say that our demand is increasing by 10 to 12 per cent every year and within the course of ten years, our demand would be the double the present demand. That is why I submit that the Government of India have not been very serious about the attainment of self-sufficiency in oil products. It is said that Assam oil would be able to meet 56 per cent of the requirements of the whole country and about 10 to 12 per cent of the gas requirements. So, if the Government of India is serious, they should try their utmost to exploit the Assam oil resources.

So far as the establishment of the oil refineries is concerned, I would submit that the Government of India should establish only one refinery in Assam, according to the recommendation of the American consultants. Now, that unusually in three areas we have found oil resources, one in Cambay, the Government of India should make a full assessment of the overall situation of our oil resources throughout the country and then take a decision of establishing another oil refinery somewhere in the western area or in the Central India. Because, the establishment of both the refineries in the eastern part of India would be rather uneconomic. There is still time to decide that only one refinery would be set up in Assam.

Regarding the terms of the agreement that the Government of India has entered into with the Assam Oil Company, I find that we have got only one-third of the shares and, consequently, one-third of the profits. I think that this is quite inadequate. In the Middle Eastern countries, without any investment they have 50 per cent of the share in all those companies started by foreigners. In order to attain self-sufficiency in oil, we should nationalise the Assam Oil Company and all those oil refineries and form a National Oil Corporation for the production, distribution as well as storage of our oil.

Then, aviation spirit and kerosene oil are much in demand and our oil refineries have not produced those products to meet our requirements. We should produce them and the Government of India should take immediate steps to stop the import of those products.

Regarding lubricating oil, only the oil companies have got the necessary equipments. In the agreement which the Government of India has entered with the three oil refineries there is no provision about the production of lubricating oil. Government should take immediate steps so that we may have these lubricating oils and other bi-products and we may utilize all those resources.

Coming to the last Demand, Demand No. 130, I find that the Government has provided Rs. 52,00,000 for the construction of roads in the Naga Hills Tuensang area. I would say that the Government of India has not been so much serious about the development of roads in that part of the country. It is only when an emergency comes that they take up the construction of roads. Here I take this opportunity to congratulate the Indian army for the construction of so many roads, especially new roads, in that area. The difficulty is that we do not get technical men, qualified men, engineers and supervisors for that work.

I want to tell the Government of India that they should, as far as possible, take local men for the making of these roads.

Now no data or information is available about the bridges to be constructed. They should be collected first. It is a mountainous and hilly area and so the construction work there will take much of our time and energy. Lastly, I want to refer to the lifeline of the Naga hills, the road connecting those areas. I request the Transport Ministry and the Government of India to strengthen that road so that it may be convenient for passengers and the inhabitants.

Need for extending the scope of the Hindustan Salt Company (P) Ltd. to salt works of Sumadi, Surala and Huma in Orissa

Shri B. C. Mullick (Kendrapara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That the Demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,000 in respect of salt be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to prepare a Master Plan for the development of roads in Naga Hills.

Shri B. C. Mullick: I beg to move:

That the Demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 52,08,000 in respect of capital outlay on roads be reduced by Rs. 100.

I wish to speak on Demand Nos. 3 and 130. First I will confine my remarks to Demand No. 3 about salt. Under that Demand there is an amount of Rs. 4,000 to meet the expenditure incurred on the registration of Hindustan Salt Company (Private) Limited. It has been said in the footnote that it is a new service opened as recommended by the Estimates Committee in 1954-55. It is a good suggestion and I welcome it. The

[Shri B. C. Mullick]

purpose of this Company is to produce more salt. In this connection, I would like to say that this company should not be confined only to the three factories in Rajasthan and Bombay. The scope of the company should be extended to the salt producing areas in other States.

Here I wish to state that the management of the Sumadi, Surala and Huma salt works in the district of Ganjam in Orissa should come under the control of the Hindustan Salt Company. I will give my arguments in the course of my speech.

It is well known that salt is an important commodity. It is essentially required for human food for fertilizers in agriculture and also for development of industries. The demand for salt is increasing today due to the increase of population and industrial requirements. But it is said that we have not sufficient salt to meet our requirements. I have heard the speech of the hon. Shri Guha where he said that according to the report of the Estimates Committee something has been done in Orissa to produce more salt. But I am sorry to say that nothing has been done so far to produce more salt in Orissa. Further, I am very sorry to say that in Orissa the yield is very poor. Three or four days back the Deputy Minister, Shri Satish Chandra, stated in this House in reply to some question that the yield of salt in Orissa is about 10 lakh to 11 lakh maunds against the total requirement of about 26 lakh maunds. I was surprised to hear this and it is really a very sad news.

Orissa was producing the finest quality of salt in India and up to the beginning of the 19th century she was exporting nearly about 9 lakh maunds of salt per annum to Bengal and other adjoining States. It is the saddest fate of Orissa that due to the imposition of excise duties on salt during the British regime the production of salt went down. Because of

this many people lost their hereditary occupation. Since then no successive efforts have been made to improve the production of salt in Orissa.

The deposits of sodium chloride, common salt, are abundantly found in the soil and sea water of Orissa. There are large number of salt factories in Orissa. Even then there is no good production. There are several reasons for this poor yield: (1) the management is quite unsatisfactory; (2) lack of technical personnel to give scientific guidance to the workers; (3) weak financial position; (4) payment of wages to the workers is very low; and (5) inefficiency of the present salt administration.

I would like to state here that the headquarters of Orissa, which is in charge of an Assistant Salt Controller, are located at Calcutta. Due to this, the Assistant Controller cannot see the work in Orissa and the expenditure incurred is also more.

The Estimates Committee also have given their view that the headquarters should be located at the major producing area. It should not be located in a far away city. It should be located in Orissa. I do not know why it has not been done.

Another more strange thing is that there is no technical staff in any of the salt factories of Orissa. In this connection, I would like to read what the Salt Experts Committee, 1950 have to say in the matter. It says on page 282:

"There is no technical staff at any of the two factories in Orissa to guide the manufacturing operation."

If that is the case, how can you expect good yield?

Orissa can be made self-sufficient, but it would take a little effort. In this connection, the expert committee

on salt, which was set up in 1950, had given their strong opinion. On page 181, item 6.4, they have said:

"It will be seen that the Ganjam District alone can meet the entire requirement of Orissa and has furthermore a potential capacity to export about 45 lakh maunds of salt."

Moreover, it is pointed out that as the Ganjam factories are nearer to Sindri than the Naupada factory, they can meet the demand for salt of the proposed soda ash plant at Sindri more economically than either the Madras, Sambhar or Kathiawar factories. So, I do not understand why Orissa is not taken up first.

The Estimates Committee in 1954-55 felt that the replacement of the present management of salt works by public limited companies will yield more. The Committee has also said that the production of private managed companies is 75 per cent of the entire production of the country whereas the public sector produces only 25 per cent. If such is the case, I sincerely request the Government to take effective steps and bring the management of salt works at Sumadi, Surla and Huma in Orissa under the scope of the Hindustan Salt Co.

Shri Raghuramaiah: Madam Chairman, the first Demand, as far as I am concerned and to which Shri Banerjee and also Shri Jain later on referred, is Demand No. 9, which relates to a case of reversion. As I was listening to Shri Banerjee, it appeared to me that he was trying to draw an argument from this that in every case of reversion Government have been going on very wrongly and unconstitutionally and just because in this case the applicant could go to a court, he got relief and that it would not be so in thousands of other cases. I am afraid Shri Banerjee has not cared to look into the facts of this case.

This is a very peculiar case and I am sure if these facts were known, he

would not have made those remarks. What has happened is that one Shri Kolkar was appointed first as a Superintendent and later on was promoted to the post of assistant engineer. The promotion was, however, done through the UPSC. It was, therefore, a matter for argument whether his appointment was to the post of an assistant engineer or his appointment to the post of an assistant engineer was by way of promotion. The department took the view that it were a case of promotion from the post of a Superintendent to the post of an assistant engineer. If it was just a case of ordinary promotion without the intervention of the UPSC, I am sure it cannot be denied that Government have a right, if he is officiating in a temporary post in a higher job, to revert without resorting to article 311(2) of the Constitution. But in this case the complication arose because the appointment to the superior post was through the intervention of the UPSC. Therefore, the appellate court held that this was not a case of promotion and that this was a case of direct appointment to the higher post.

One can see that this is an arguable matter. As a matter of fact, in the first instance, Shri Kolkar moved a writ petition in the Bombay High Court against the reversion, but the appeal was dismissed. Later on he filed a suit and then there the court held it in favour of the Government. It was on appeal that the appellate court took a different view. It shows that in a matter like this it is a question of judicial opinion and courts holding different views. Of course, we have accepted the opinion of the highest authority in this matter.

I want to make it very clear that this is not one of the ordinary cases of reversion where Government do have the right to revert without resort to article 311(2). This is a special case and it would be wrong, if I may submit, to draw an inference that in every case of reversion we are bound by article 311(2). As a matter

[Shri Raghuramaiah]

In fact the other observation or inference drawn by my hon. friend, Shri Banerjee, is most unfounded. I have myself known cases where we have ourselves *suo motu* interfered in cases where constitutional provisions are violated and rules of procedure of service have not been complied with. This is one of those odd cases and I would submit that it would be wrong to draw any general inference of the nature suggested by Shri Banerjee.

The other Demand is Demand No. 08, which relates to a certain amount which we were called upon to pay to a contractor by virtue of an arbitrator's award. I would not take much time. Shri Banerjee has suggested that we should not do these things through contract system but we should do it departmentally. I would venture to say that it is for the Government in each case to consider whether it is economical to have it done through a Government department or through a contractor. In cases of this type we have found by experience that it is much cheaper and much more economical to have it done through contract system than departmentally. Once we begin to do things departmentally, various factors crop up, for instance, the privileges and amenities which we are giving to other employees of the Government will have to be given here also. There are various other factors which have to be looked into.

In this case also, there is another feature to which I would like to draw the attention of the House. This particular contractor, Shri Kushal Singh, was given a contract for construction of certain roads and culverts. He did not complete the work by the due date and then we cancelled the contract. Later on certain demands were made. One of the items—major item in this case I should say—is an amount of Rs. 8,427 being compensation for delay. The arbitrator reduced it to Rs. 710. It is just one's estimates as

against another's estimates and if the arbitrator chose to reduce it to Rs. 710, we have to accept the arbitrator's award. We have done it. There is nothing like under-estimating here. It is just an opinion and we have submitted to the opinion of the arbitrator.

I would, therefore, submit that in neither of these cases, it is permissible to draw any general inference of any lack of proper care. The House may please vote the Demands.

Mr. Chairman: All the cut motions are before the House.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): A few observations have been made in regard to road development and construction programme in the new Naga Hills unit. As we know, it is a unit which has come only lately into being and the former two divisions in Assam and another division in NEFA, the Tuensang Division, have been combined to comprise it.

The Second Plan provision for roads was very insufficient and we found that it was exhausted quite soon. Last year we spent as much as Rs. 60 lakhs over the roads and this year we find that we would be able to spend as much as Rs. 64·08 lakhs. Therefore, we had to come forward with this demand.

The main point made was in regard to the lack of engineers and that we should go a little more quickly with the Kohima-Dimapur Road. As we all know, this is on our National Highway No. 39 and is an important link so far as it is the only road between Assam and Manipur. I can only say that during this last one year for the improvement of certain sections of the road, we have already sanctioned estimates aggregating to Rs. 25·36 lakhs. I need hardly go into details

thereof, but it may be remembered that it is a very difficult area insofar as every now and then we have got to face landslides on account of heavy rains as also that this is an area, which has been unfortunate in the sense that some anti-social activities have resulted in the burning of some bridges and also the destruction of some parts of the road. So all these damages have got to be repaired and the effects of landslides have got to be removed. Therefore, I plead that this particular Demand may be accepted.

In regard to the lack of engineers and overseers, I can assure the House that we shall look into the matter and in case there is actually some shortage of overseers and engineers, that shall be looked after and proper complement of staff provided.

Shri Panigrahi (Puri): With regard to loans and advances to States, though I am not opposed to the Demand, I would like to refer to the principles involved in making loans and advances to States. In one of the answers to my questions, I was told that the total loans advanced to the States till the end of 1956 were of the order of Rs. 900 crores, and I think after 1956 the amount of loans and advances made to States goes up to some thousand crores of rupees. I was also told that very small amounts of these loans have been repaid by the States to the Central Government. Many of the States, for instance, Orissa, West Bengal, Andhra and Punjab, have time and again come forward with suggestions to the Central Government that the principles of advancing loans and advances to State Governments must be finalised. There are loans, matching grants and grants in aid, different types of advances being made to States. For instance, the Chief Minister of Orissa has stated that by now Rs. 150 crores have been advanced by way of loans to the State Government. In one of his answers, the Chief Minister has said—“Supposing the State Government does not repay any of these loans, can the

Central Government put the State Government to auction”? Some sort of an idea is growing in the minds of the State Governments that there is every possibility of their not going to pay back the loans. On the one hand, the Government of India are advancing loans. On the other, the Government of India themselves are taking loans from foreign countries. It has been said that under the Second Plan, the debt owed by India in respect of capital goods only amounts to Rs. 887 crores as on 1st April, 1958. I think this amount also may go on increasing.

As I said, on the one hand, the Central Government incurs loans from foreign countries; on the other, they also advance loans to the States. It is very good. But what happens is that it looks as if beginning from the Centre the entire Governments are run on loans. A point will come when we will have to ask the State Governments to repay the loans, when we will have to ask them to increase their resources. The rates of interest are also going on increasing.

So there must be some principles finally decided as to how the State Governments will be required to pay back these loans. What is happening now is that the Central Government begin to disbelieve the State Governments. For instance, the Orissa Government pleaded that because of drought, the loss was enormous. But the Central Government could not believe it, perhaps because they thought that the State Government was saying something which was not true. So there is some kind of disbelief developing between the Centre and the States because of this transaction. So there should be finalisation of the principles about the short-term and long-term loans which are being advanced to the States. If the Orissa State is asked to repay the amount of Rs. 150 crores, it will be something which is impossible, if it is not decided that the repayment will be, say, after 50 or 60 years. So my simple

[Shri Panigrahi]

request is that no longer time should be taken in fixing definite principles so far as loans and advances to the States are concerned.

I would only like to refer to another Demand which is regarding Nagaland. I am glad that some amount has been advanced for construction of roads in Nagaland. But there is also a matter of principle involved in this. Have the Government of India got a definite policy so far as the frontiers are concerned? Beginning from Assam to Nepal, Bhutan and Sikkim, the entire Himalayan border, there are so many tribes. Inside the international frontier which has been accepted by the Governments concerned, there are numbers of tribes about whom we do not know at all. Trade and cultural intercourse between all these people in the frontier region is lacking. Communications are entirely lacking so far as the northern and north-eastern frontiers are concerned. I think some definite policy should be evolved so far as the frontier administration is concerned and so far as communications in this frontier areas are concerned.

I was told that with the silent approval of the Government of India, American money and American policy have completely entrenched themselves in Nepalese politics, and they have extended their activities to Sikkim and Bhutan also. So in that entire borderland of Nepal, Bhutan and Sikkim with which we have not been able to make any contacts today, some kind of anti-Indian feeling is being created. I think the Government of India should, therefore, formulate a definite policy so far as these frontiers are concerned. So far as the development of trade, development of communications and increase of the purchasing capacity of the people are concerned, the Government of India lack a definite policy in this region. These people in the frontier areas, who are really our guardians at the frontier, do not know much of the developments tak-

ing place in India because they are out of touch with us. So they do not get any chance of development taking place in these regions. So I would suggest that Government should formulate a definite policy in this regard.

Shri Satish Chandra: I thank you for giving me this opportunity to say a few words in connection with Demand No. 3, which deals with the formation of the Hindustan Salt Corporation. I am happy to see that all the cut motions demand the expansion of the Corporation's activities. So in fact there is no opposition to the idea of the formation of the Corporation. The only dissenting voice which was raised in this House was that of my hon. friend, Shri Harish Chandra Mathur, who probably disputed not only the principle of forming this company, but also the method and procedure we have adopted to form it. I was unable to understand his argument and to follow him clearly when he said so eloquently that it was the legal, constitutional and moral obligation of the Government of India to have taken the permission of the Rajasthan Government to form this Corporation.

Under the Constitution, salt is a Central subject. Salt had been a Central subject even before integration of the Indian States. The Government of India's salt factories in Rajasthan have been worked by the Government of India from sometime in the late 19th century. Of course, these lands originally belonged to the various Darbars in Rajasthan. They were taken on lease 80, 90, 95 or 100 years ago. Some of them have been sub-leased to various other parties by the Government of India from time to time and some of them have been worked by the Government of India directly. Now, if the Government of India decides to sub-lease that land to a big state-owned corporation and to entrust to it the management of these salt works, in pursuance of the recommendation of the Estimates

Committee of this House, I for one am unable to understand the objection that has been raised by my hon. friend. Government have in this case been guided by the recommendation of the Estimates Committee. The Estimates Committee perhaps felt that the management of these salt works could be more efficient and could be carried on in a much better manner if the Government procedures did not apply and these works were not run departmentally. It was, therefore, decided to form a corporation. I may however, say.....

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Was it also the view of the Estimates Committee not to consult the interested parties?

Shri Satish Chandra: How is the Rajasthan Government interested, I am not able to understand it. We are the lessees of the Rajasthan Government. From year to year, for decades, we have been sub-letting portions of that land to various other parties. The point that is being raised today has not been raised during the last 80 years.

Mr. Chairman: To that, the point may be added that the corporation is being set up in the public sector.

Shri Satish Chandra: I am coming to that. We kept the Chief Minister of Rajasthan fully informed about this development. He knew that a company is being formed. There was regular correspondence between the Government of India and the Government of Rajasthan. He agreed in principle to the formation of the company. Of course, certain details are to be decided. He agreed to the formation of the company. We have letters from him. He agreed to this verbally; he agreed to it in writing. It is not correct to say that the company is being formed in spite of the opposition of the Rajasthan Government. I say to emphasise the point that even though the Government of India had no legal or constitutional

obligation to consult the Rajasthan Government or to be guided by the Rajasthan Government in this matter, we have kept them fully into the picture.

The Federal financial arrangement between the Government of India and the Rajasthan Government will expire in 1960. That agreement has taken all the payments that are to be made by the Government of India to the Government of Rajasthan into account and lays down as to what payment should be made. That is being done. Payment shall continue to be made till 1960. What the arrangement would be after 1960 has to be decided in the light of the existing Federal financial arrangement and the agreement to be reached between the Government of India and the Government of Rajasthan, when the revision of the existing agreement takes place.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know if any agreement has been reached between the Government of Rajasthan and the Central Government or this company regarding these payments now and hereafter?

Shri Satish Chandra: The Government of Rajasthan will continue to receive all these payments from the Government of India up to 1960 as provided in the Federal financial arrangement. The company is only a lessee of the Government. The Government of India and the Government of Rajasthan are bound by their obligations to each other. There is absolutely no change in that status. Instead of these salt works being run departmentally, they are now being entrusted to a State-owned company. The company will be a sub-lessee of the Government of India and the right to sub-lease these lands has been exercised by the Government all through these decades.

That is my point.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I am very sorry, I feel the hon. Minister has not understood the real point. Is it his contention that the Government of

[Shri Harish Chandra Mathur]

Rajasthan is under any obligation to perpetuate this lease after 1960?

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister has made that clear that up to 1960 the present arrangements will continue.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: They are lessees, but is there anything which compels the Government of Rajasthan to perpetuate the lease even after 1960?

Mr. Chairman: That is another point that he is putting forward.

Shri Satish Chandra: I say that after the integration of the States, the federal financial arrangements and the agreements entered into by the various States and the Government of India govern the relationship in these matters, and that federal financial arrangement that has been entered into not only in regard to this company or this land, but in regard to all such matters between the Government of India and the State Governments is due to expire in 1960, and a fresh agreement will have to be negotiated between the Government of India and the State Governments at that stage. That will cover several other things, probably leases given for railways, leases given for various other things, for highways, roads etc., and that will be the proper opportunity to raise this issue. Possibly just as a committee was appointed in this case under Shri V. T. Krishnamachari to look into this matter, another commission may have to be appointed to look into the future arrangements. I cannot say precisely as to what is going to happen after 1960, but whatever is decided, the present obligations of the Government of India are there as they used to be. The Rajasthan Government will not deal directly with the company, but will continue to deal with the Government of India in this matter. I think I am quite clear as far that matter is concerned.

There has been some difficulty about the exploitation of bitters to which

my hon. friend referred, because those 80 year old agreements only give the right to exploit salt and not the salt bitters or the other chemicals which can be extracted out of those salts. I do not know whether about 80 or 90 years ago the existence of these bitters in the salt brine was known either to the Government of India or the Government of Rajasthan. The development of chemistry in later years perhaps made us aware of the existence of some other salts which can be economically recovered, and incidentally reduce our dependence upon foreign imports.

16.59 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

There are few chemical salts which are available in the salt bitters of Rajasthan. I do not know whether it would be a practical proposition that the State Government should set up a chemical factory right in the heart of the Sambhar salt works which are managed by the Central Government, whether it would be possible for salt brine to be processed up to a particular stage by an agency of the Central Government, then to be passed on for processing at a middle stage to the State Government, and obtained back for further processing for the recovery of salt by the Central Government. We have been talking to the Rajasthan Government, have offered to pay a reasonable royalty on the recovery of the salt bitters, and the matter is under negotiation. I do not think that there will be any difficulty in coming to some arrangement.

Some other points have been raised by hon. Members, but I think they deal more with the Salt Commissioner's Organisation rather than the formation of Hindustan Salt Corporation, and I do not wish to take the time of the House to cover those points. It is already 5 o'clock.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure might begin tomorrow.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: Yes, Sir.

17 hrs.

EXPORT OF COAL*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, we shall take up the half-an-hour discussion.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : (वाराणसी) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज हम यहां पर कोल के विषय में चर्चा करने जा रहे हैं। मैं इस सदन का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि दिन पर दिन कोल का एक्सपोर्ट कम होता जा रहा है। सन् १९४६ से लेकर सन् १९५७ तक भारत ३७ मुल्कों को कोल का एक्सपोर्ट किया था। आज यह तादाद घट करके कुल १४ रह गई सन् १९५८ में मई तक का जो आंकड़ा मुझे मिला है उससे साबित होता है कि छः और मुल्कों में कोल का एक्सपोर्ट करना बन्द कर दिया है। इस प्रकार ३७ मुल्कों में से केवल ७-८ मुल्कों में ही हिन्दुस्तान के कोल का एक्सपोर्ट होता है अपनी गलत नीति के कारण २६ मुल्कों को कोल के मामले में अपने हाथ से खो दिया है। सन् १९५८ में जिन मुल्कों को कोल एक्सपोर्ट करने का व्यापार हमने खोया है वे हैं सिंगापुर, साऊथ कोरिया, भूटान, इजिप्ट, ईस्ट अफ्रीका, हांगकांग और कुछ जापान में भी। कि सन् १९५१ में २५ मुल्कों में कोल एक्सपोर्ट होता था। सन १९५२ में वह १६ मुल्कों में हुआ, १९५४ में १३ मुल्कों में, १९५५ में ११ मुल्कों में, १९५६ में ८ मुल्कों में और आज इन मुल्कों की तादाद घट कर ७ रह गई है। इन दस बरसों के अन्दर जहां पहले ३७ मुल्कों में हमारा व्यापार होता था वह अब घट कर सात आठ मुल्कों में ही रह गया है और २६ मुल्कों में साथ हमने अपना व्यापार खो दिया है।

एस्टीमेट्स कमेटी ने जब यह बात देखी तो उसने सन् १९५४-५५ की रिपोर्ट में इसकी ओर ध्यान आकर्षित किया।

इस रिपोर्ट के सफा १६ पर आप यह लिखा हुआ देखेंगे :—

"In May, 1953, surcharges were abolished but by that time India has already lost these markets."

एस्टीमेट्स कमेटी के इस रिपोर्ट के बावजूद भी हमने अपनी नीति को नहीं बदला और उसका परिणाम यह हुआ कि कुछ भी तरक्की नहीं हुई और हालत खराब होती चली गई।

मैंने अभी आपका मुल्कों की तादाद का बताया है। अब मैं आपको कोल के एक्सपोर्ट के आंकड़े बतलाना चाहता हूँ। १९४८ में २२ लाख टन, ग्रांड नम्बर को मैं छोड़ देता हूँ, कोल हमने एक्सपोर्ट किया। १९४९ में २७ लाख टन एक्सपोर्ट किया और १९५२ में ३३ लाख टन हमने एक्सपोर्ट किया, लेकिन १९५७ में यह तादाद ३३ लाख टन से घट कर १७ लाख टन रह गई अर्थात् केवल तीन वर्षों में हमने ५० प्रतिशत काल की मार्केट को अपने हाथ से खो दिया। फिर भी हमारी आँखें खुली नहीं, हमारी नींद खुली नहीं। आप देखेंगे कि सन् १९२० से लेकर १९५६ तक जैसा मैंने आपको आंकड़ों से बताया, हमने करीब ५० प्रतिशत काल की मार्केट खो दी, अब हमें पड़ोस की कंट्री को लेना चाहिये। सीलोन, बर्मा, सिंगापुर, मलाया, भूटान और ईस्ट अफ्रीका, जहां हमारा होम ट्रेड है। अभी जब शिपिंग बिल चल रहा था उस वक्त मैंने कहा था होम ट्रेड के बारे में। हम सीलोन को सन् १९४९ में ३ लाख टन कोल एक्सपोर्ट करते थे। सन् १९५६ में आकर वह १ लाख टन हो गया, अर्थात् ७ वर्षों के अन्दर सीलोन को हमारा एक्सपोर्ट ३ लाख टन से घट कर १ लाख टन हो गया, और सन् १९५८ के पहले पांच महीनों में हमने सिर्फ ६,१३६ टन कोल सीलोन को एक्सपोर्ट किया। अगर

[श्री रघुनाथ सिंह]

पांच महीनों में हम कुल ६ हजार टन कोल एक्सपोर्ट करते हैं, और इसी हिसाब से साल भर का अन्दाजा लगाया जाय, तो हम मुश्किल से १५ हजार टन कोल सीलान को एक्सपोर्ट करेंगे। यह तो हमारी अवस्था है। ३ लाख टन से घट कर मीलोन को हमारा ट्रेड सन् १९५८ में १२ हजार या १५ हजार टन रह जायगा।

इस्पात, खान और ईंधन मंत्री (सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह) : मेरा इंटरफियर करने का इरादा नहीं है, लेकिन हम लॉग ५०,००० टन कोल जनवरी से जून तक सन् १९५८ में भेज चुके हैं।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मंने उसे जांडा है। यह सब कागज मंने मिनिस्ट्री से मांगे थे और ये वही से आये हैं।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : कहीं से आये हों, वह आनरेबल मेम्बर के कब्जे में हैं इसलिये मैं उन पर एतबार करता हूँ।

Sardar Swaran Singh: The hon. Member may continue his argument. Let him not enter into these figures.

Shri Nath Pal (Rajapur): They seem to be trading at the street corner.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : अब मैं सिगापुर को लेता हूँ। सिगापुर का हमने सन् १९४६ में १ लाख, ७९ हजार टन कोल एक्सपोर्ट किया। सिगापुर एक मेजर हारबर है और सारे इंडोनीशिया और दूसरे स्थानों को उससे जहाजों से माल जाता है। इतना बड़ा जो हारबर सिगापुर का है उम्माँ लिये हमने सन् १९४६ में १ लाख, ७९ हजार टन कोल एक्सपोर्ट किया। सन् १९५१ में हमने कुल १ लाख, १६ हजार टन एक्सपोर्ट किया और सन् १९५७ में सिर्फ ५५ हजार टन एक्सपोर्ट किया। इससे मानें यह है कि हमने दस वर्षों में ५० परसेंट मार्केट सिगापुर की खो दी।

अब सन् १९५८ की जो हमें किताब दी गई है उससे मालूम होता है कि सिगापुर के लिये हिन्दुस्तान ने कोई काल नहीं भेजा। मई सन् १९५८ तक हमने सिगापुर की मार्केट को बिल्कुल खो दिया।

आप पाकिस्तान को लें। पाकिस्तान को हम सन् १९४८ के आकड़े के अनुसार १६ लाख टन कोल एक्सपोर्ट करते थे। सन् १९४९ में हमने १९ लाख टन एक्सपोर्ट किया और सन् १९५७ में वह जा कर ९ लाख टन रह गया। अर्थात् ८ वर्षों के अन्दर पाकिस्तान में हमने ५० परसेंट से ज्यादा मार्केट खो दी, और सन् १९५८ की मई तक का जो आकड़ा दिया है उससे साबित होता है कि हमने पाकिस्तान को सिर्फ १ लाख टन कोल एक्सपोर्ट किया है। अर्थात् हम साल भर के अन्दर अब पाकिस्तान को सिर्फ २ लाख टन कोल भेज सकते हैं जबकि सन् १९५७ में हम ९ लाख टन एक्सपोर्ट करते थे। यह हमारे उन तीन मुल्कों का हाल है जहाँ हमारा एकाधिकार था, जहाँ के लिये हम पूरा-पूरा कोल एक्सपोर्ट करते थे। वह मार्केट हमने खो दी, फिर पा सकेंगे या नहीं इसमें बहुत सन्देह है।

यहाँ पर यह कहा जा सकता है कि शायद हमारे कोल का प्रोडक्शन कम हो गया होगा इस वास्ते हम एक्सपोर्ट नहीं कर सकते। लेकिन जो प्रोडक्शन के आकड़े दिये गये हैं उनसे जाहिर होता है कि सन् १९५० में ३२ मिलियन टन कोल का प्रोडक्शन हुआ और सन् १९५७ में ४३ मिलियन टन प्रोडक्शन हुआ। अर्थात् प्रोडक्शन तो कम नहीं हुआ, लेकिन हमने अपनी एक्सपोर्ट के मार्केट खो दी। उस दिन मंने स्वर्ण सिंह जी से प्रश्न पूछा था कि आखिरकार जब कोयला हमारे पास इतना है तो हम अपने बाहर की एक्सपोर्ट मार्केट क्यों खोते जा रहे हैं? इस का कोई कारण तो होना

चाहिये क्योंकि जब व्यापारी एक बार बाजार खां देते हैं, एक दफा जब दुकान बन्द कर लेते हैं, तो दुबारा दुकान चलाने में बहुत समय लगता है, तब कहीं जा कर दुकानदार उस को चला सकता है। उस दिन जब मैंने प्रश्न किया था तो मंत्री जी ने बहुत सहानुभूतिपूर्वक उसका उत्तर भी दिया था कि वह भी चाहते हैं कि कोल के व्यापार की वृद्धि हो। लेकिन हमारे सामने सब से बड़ा सवाल पैदा हो गया चाइना का। आखिरकार हमारी मार्केट ली किसने? हमारी बर्मा की मार्केट ली, सीलोन की मार्केट ली, सिंगापुर की मार्केट ली, लेकिन वह ली चाइना ने। चाइना केवल कोल की मार्केट नहीं ले रहा है, बल्कि हमारी कपड़े की मार्केट भी चाइना ने कैप्चर कर ली है। बर्मा में हम हिन्दुस्तानियों की तादाद करीब ६ परसेंट है। थाईलैंड में जितना काटन क्लाय का व्यापार है वह नामधारी सिखों के हाथ में है, और कुछ खानियों के हाथ में भी है। बैंकाक में जितनी भी कपड़े की दुकानें हैं सब नामधारी सिखों की हैं, कुछ खानी हैं और कुछ यू० पी० के लोग हैं। उनसे मैंने बात की। उन्होंने कहा कि हम कपड़े का व्यापार खो रहे हैं। मैंने उनसे पूछा कि आखिर आप हिन्दुस्तान के आदमी हैं, आप कपड़े का व्यापार क्यों खो रहे हैं? उन्होंने कहा कि हिन्दुस्तान की पालिखी ही ऐसी है। हमने इम्पोर्ट तो बन्द कर दिया हम चाहते हैं कि हमारा सामान दूसरे लोग खरीदें लेकिन हम दूसरों का सामान न खरीदें। इसी तरह हर मुल्क सोचने लगा। मलाया भी सोचने लगा, इंडोनेशिया भी सोचने लगा, सब सोचने लगे कि हिन्दुस्तान हमारा माल नहीं खरीदता तो हम हिन्दुस्तान का सामान क्यों खरीदें। लिहाजा इन मार्केट्स को हमने खो दिया। अगर हम इन मुल्कों को अपना माल एक्सपोर्ट करते हैं तो हमको उन मुल्कों के माल को इम्पोर्ट भी करना चाहिये। हम सोचते हैं कि हम दूसरे मुल्कों से रपया

ले लें, लेकिन उनको रपय न दें। इस तरह से एक तरफा प्यार नहीं हो सकता। इसलिये चाइना ने दूसरी नीति अपनाई। उसने वार्टर की नीति अपनाई, और वह यह कि जो कोल हम तुम्हें सप्लाय करते हैं उसके बदले में तुम हमें अपना माल दो। लिहाजा इन मुल्कों की मार्केट्स को चाइना ने कैप्चर कर लिया। चाइना ने कोल की मार्केट को कैप्चर किया और जापान ने कपड़े की। और हम आज कहीं नहीं रहे।

दूसरी बात में यह कहना चाहता था कि बर्मा में हिन्दुस्तानियों की इतनी तादाद है, थाईलैंड में इतनी तादाद है। मलाया में हिन्दुस्तानियों की तादाद १२ परसेंट है और सिंगापुर में हिन्दुस्तानियों की तादाद १३ परसेंट। तो बर्मा में, थाईलैंड में, इंडोनेशिया में, सिंगापुर में, मलाया में जो कम्पटीशन है वह हिन्दुस्तान के व्यापारी में और चाइना के व्यापारी में है जो कि वहां रहते हैं। बहुत दिन नहीं हुए, जब मैं वहां गया। हमें बताया गया कि हिन्दुस्तान के व्यापारी में और चाइना के व्यापारी में इतना कम्पटीशन है कि पता नहीं पांच पा दस वर्षों के अन्दर वहां कोई हिन्दुस्तानी व्यापारी बच भी सकेगा या नहीं। मगर गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से वहां एक आदमी भी नहीं गया। हमारी इतनी बड़ी पापुलेशन है साउथ ईस्ट एशिया में, थाईलैंड में, बर्मा में। लेकिन कोई कदम नहीं उठाया गया वहां के हिन्दुस्तानी व्यापारियों को कांफिडेंस में ले कर उनके द्वारा अपना व्यापार बढ़ाने के लिये। दूसरी तरफ चाइनीज गवर्नमेंट हर एक चाइनीज का खयाल रखती है। जो चाइना के व्यापारी हैं, उन में से हर एक समझता है कि हम चाइना का सामान ले कर यहां बेचें। आप जानते हैं कि सारे साउथ ईस्ट एशिया में, बर्मा, कम्बोडिया, थाईलैंड और वियटनाम में चाइनेज पापुलेशन करीब ३० परसेंट है। यह पापुलेशन चाहती है

[श्री रघुनाथ सिंह]

कि हम चाइना का भाग लाकर वहां बेचें। हम चीन का क्लाइ बेचें। चीन गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से कोशिश हो रही है लेकिन हमारी गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से कोई कोशिश नहीं हो रही है। हमारी वहां पर इतनी बड़ी पापुलेशन होते हुये भी, हम अपने भाइयों के साथ हमदर्दी जाहिर करें और उनसे राय ले कर हम अपने व्यापार की वहां पर तरक्की करें, इसके लिये कोशिश हमारी तरफ से नहीं हो रही है।

चीन का कोयला वार्टर सिस्टम पर है। चीन का कोयला सस्ता पड़ता है और उसके सस्ता होने का कारण चीन का कोयला भाज वहां पर बहुत ज्यादा एक्सपोर्ट हो रहा है। हमें भी यह सोचना चाहिये कि चीन के कम्पीटीशन का हम कैसे मुकाबला कर सकते हैं।

श्री सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह यह बात सोच रहे हैं कि हमारा एक्सपोर्ट कैसे बढ़े। अभी हमारे यहां आयल निकल आया है हमारे यहां कोयला इतना भरा पड़ा हुआ है तो मैं समझता हूं कि हमारी फ्यूल की समस्या आसानी के साथ हल हो सकती है। इस वास्ते भाज जो भी हमारा मार्केट बचा हुआ है, ७, ८ मुल्कों में जहां हमारा कोयला जाता है, वहां पर जाता रहे और वह मार्केट हमारे हाथ में बना रहे और साथ ही साथ हमारी यह कोशिश होनी चाहिये कि दूसरे मार्केट्स और खास कर इंडियन ओशन का जो मार्केट है, उन मार्केटों में भी हमारा कोयला जाये ताकि फ़ारेन एक्सचेंज मनी की जिसकी कि हमें बहुत जरूरत है वह हमें प्राप्त हो सके। अकेले वन बे ट्रेडिक से यह काम बनने वाला नहीं है। उसके लिये हमें जहां जरूरी सामान मंगाना होगा वहां हमें अपना सामान बाहर के देशों में भेजना भी चाहिये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं धाखा करता हूं कि श्री सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह धाबधक कदम उठावेंगे ताकि भाज जो हम २६ मुल्क खो चुके हैं उनमें हमारा व्यापार फिर बढ़े और वहां के जो हिन्दुस्तानी भाई हैं उनको अपने साथ में लेकर और अपने कांफिडेंस में से कर हिन्दुस्तान के व्यापार की प्रभिवृद्धि करेंगे। ऐसा करने से मुझे विश्वास है कि हमारे देश का व्यापार तरक्की करेगा।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister. The time is equally divided between the two.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am sorry, Sir, but I thought he had taken fifteen minutes and so I might also require fifteen minutes.

Shri Raghunath Singh: It is a two-way traffic; 50 : 50.

Sardar Swaran Singh: But not on a barter basis, I suppose.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, so far as the anxiety of the hon. Member to see that we export as much coal as possible is concerned, I am one with him; there is no dispute on that score.

The present discussion arose out of the fall in our exports to Ceylon; so I would first deal with that matter before I say something about the other general issues that have been raised by the hon. Member who has raised this discussion. So far as Ceylon is concerned; it has to be remembered that our exports to Ceylon have not been very sizeable at any time. It is true that Ceylon being next door, we are naturally the suppliers to Ceylon.

Our general policy in the matter of export of deal has not in the past been motivated by a very strong desire to push out as much as we can and, even recalling the whole thing in retrospect, I think that the policy cannot be said to be incorrect. We have got our own

internal requirements. Our policy has been somewhat like this. There are certain countries that adjoin India, and naturally India is a source of supply to those countries. Our attitude has been that consistent with our internal requirements we should undertake the responsibility of looking after their coal requirements. Our attitude has been more or less of going to their help and assistance—although in particular matters this is always mutual—in the matter of supply of coal. That has been our attitude with regard to our supplies to many of the countries. Although the list is not as large as 37 which he read out, in most of these countries in the South-East Asian region, in the southern Asian region and in Pakistan our attitude has been that of meeting their requirements as best as we can, regard having always had to our internal requirements. That has broadly been our policy.

The exports to these various countries have varied from time to time depending upon the general conditions prevailing elsewhere. The hon. Member has picked up the figures of exports for the year 1952. That, I concede, was a year of boom exports, but I would like to remind this hon. House that the year 1952 cannot, by any stretch of imagination or any accepted standards, be regarded as a representative year. There were many exceptional circumstances, mostly of an international character, arising out of the post-Korean conditions. There was a certain spurt in exports because other sources were cut out. To quote only one example—I do not want to burden my submission by putting in too many details—to Japan alone, in 1952, we sold 7,65,000 tons of coal. Every one knows that Japan is a big producer of coal, and their demand has always been erratic. They might like to import for certain reasons certain quantities from India, but that cannot be regarded, by any standards, as a market which can be termed as a stable or a constant market. From seven lakhs in 1952 they came down and purchased only 17,000 tons in 1955, and in 1956 it has come down to only 11,000 tons.

Therefore, the 1952 figures, upon which my hon. friend relied for the purpose of comparison, cannot be termed as representative figures, nor can the year be termed as a representative year.

Our attitude in the matter of supply of coal to Pakistan has also been in the spirit of discharging our obligations, because they had all along been purchasing coal from our Raniganj—Bihar areas, the Central India areas, and we rightly entered into a trade agreement with them and undertook to supply roughly 1.2 million tons of coal to Pakistan. Out of this, to East Pakistan we are to supply 55,000 tons per month by rail and river. To West Pakistan we are to supply 30,000 tons per month by rail. To both East and West Pakistan we are to supply 15,000 tons per month by sea or river. This is broadly the agreement, the total being 1.2 million tons per year. We could push more coal if the bottleneck of Moghal Sarai was not there. That expression is quite familiar to the ears of the hon. Members here. The difficulties that we experience in the movement of wagons above Moghal Sarai stand in the way of moving coal to West Pakistan, because movement to West Pakistan by rail means movement of wagons above Moghal Sarai, and there being a bottle-neck, that sets the limit up to which we can supply coal to West Pakistan by rail.

The hon. Member comes from Uttar Pradesh, and I have got some personal experience of Punjab. I know how starved both these areas have been, particularly in certain categories of coal mostly on account of the movement difficulties above Moghal Sarai. In spite of these difficulties, we have tried to do our best to honour our commitments with regard to the supply of coal to Pakistan.

Then, so far as Ceylon is concerned, I think it requires a somewhat detailed statement because this discussion has arisen out of the supplies to Ceylon. During 1956 a total of 1,90,000 tons—I am giving in round figures—was exported and in 1957, 2,06,000

[Sardar Swaran Singh]

tons were exported. As against these, exports during the first half of the current year are only 50,000 tons. It is not as bad as Shri Raghunath Singh tried to make out. I concede that it is very much less than that in the year 1957, and I will presently come to the reason for this supply in a reduced quantity. In September last year, the Ceylon railways invited tenders for the supply of 1,76,000 tons of coal for the railway's requirements; in 1958 we were able to obtain orders for the supply of only half of this quantity, the other half going to China. It was reported to us that China was able to obtain this order due to the fact that Ceylon shipping lines were able to transport coal from China at a rate of 39 shillings per ton f.i.o. This will be interesting; this was also the rate for Indian coal from Calcutta to Colombo. Both these were transported by the Ceylonese shipping lines and they are transporting coal from Calcutta to Colombo and from China to Colombo almost at the same rates. What is the mystery of this, I would not like to go into, but I would leave the House guessing as to what could be the reason behind this.

Shri Raghunath Singh: It is practically the bungling of the shipping company.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am not bungling. I am supplying f.o.b. coal to Ceylon at a price which is a shade lower than the f.o.b. price in China, although I am entitled, on account of our geographical nearness to Ceylon, to certain freight differential. Even if the f.o.b. cost in India were slightly higher, normally it should be offset by the lower freights, but actually, the quotation with regard to f.o.b. prices is a shade lower from India as compared to coal from China.

For instance, the F.O.B. prices of Indian and Chinese coal are Rs. 36 and Rs. 39.6 per ton respectively. The cost in India is Rs. 3 lower than the F.O.B. cost in China. A query can be well raised as to what can be the reason for this. It would be too much for

me to go into the reasons which motivated the Ceylonese buyers to prefer Chinese coal to Indian coal.

There is something in what Mr. Raghunath Singh said that there was a barter agreement. I want to tell him that the barter appears to have been entered into not with a view really to push out Chinese coal, but really to purchase rubber, which is really the commodity which Ceylon is anxious to sell for a variety of reasons which are not unknown to the House, and which China is anxious to purchase. The sources of purchase of rubber to China are not many and if they can purchase rubber from Ceylon, they would welcome that and in exchange, they are prepared to supply coal; the price also can be adjusted by the mutual consent of the two parties.

This is the story with regard to Ceylon, but it should be appreciated that this is not by any means a large quantity and when we quote a price, it is reasonable that we should leave it to the buyer to make a selection. If a selection has been made, we should not make that a point of grievance. For instance, when we invite tenders, there are various quotations from the Soviet Union, West Germany, U.K., U.S.A. and so on. Having regard to a variety of circumstances, we decide to purchase from one country. Then the other countries from which we have not purchased are not entitled to make that a point of grievance. If they do so, we do not accept that as a point of grievance. Similarly when we are in international trade, we should not make it a point of grievance merely because another person is not purchasing at the price we are quoting.

Now that our exports and imports are likely to increase—it is our desire that they should increase—situations like this might arise not only in coal, but in a number of other commodities also. After all, so far as our total export earnings are concerned, coal has never been a big export earner. It is a very bulky thing. A lot of

problems of export and a variety of other problems arise and the resultant money that we get by way of foreign exchange is not by any means spectacular. Still, we have approached this problem with a view more or less to meet our obligations to our neighbouring countries which look upon us as a natural source of supply. Incidentally it is also a valuable foreign exchange earner which we can spare consistent with our internal requirements. That has broadly been our approach.

As a result of our recent foreign exchange difficulties, we are anxious to earn more foreign exchange and even at some sacrifice, we have taken a decision that during the remaining period of the current year, we might be able to export two lakh tons of even metallurgical coal, which is not easy for us to spare. We have to weigh the necessity to earn foreign exchange as against our capacity to spare. Even at some pinch, we have taken a decision that we will be prepared to export two lakh tons. During the next year, our intention is to export even five lakh tons of metallurgical coal. This will be at some sacrifice and it may cause some strain in view of our steel plants reaching a fairly advanced stage during the next year. The decision to export 5 lakh tons of even metallurgical coal is a point which clearly shows not only our desire to preserve the markets but our anxiety to explore new ones where there will be buyers for metallurgical coal even outside those countries which are near us geographically.

The hon. Member was surprised by the number of countries that we have lost. Being a democrat leader, he believes in numbers. But I think that number of countries apart, it is the quantity exported that matters, and the decline has not been of the order which he tried to make out, merely because the number of countries to whom it

was being exported was cut out. Among some of the countries about which he mentioned, we were sending some hundreds or thousands of tons. There may be even a two-digit number of tons sent to a country. Even that country will figure among the 37. But surely cutting out 50 tons or even 900 tons will not make such a big drop in our exports. Therefore, we have to look at the total tonnage that is exported, and not at the number of countries to whom we are supplying.

Looked at from that angle, over the last several years, if we exclude the boom year of 1952, the total exports in tonnage are as follows:

1953	--	19 lakh tons
1954	--	20 "
1955	--	15 "
1956	--	17 "
1957	--	17 "
Up to June 1958	--	7,52,000 tons

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): How much for 1952?

Sardar Swaran Singh: In 1952 we exported 33 lakh tons.

So, we will have to adopt an attitude of understanding when we are talking of our neighbour countries with whom our relations are very friendly, and compete in a clean and healthy manner trying to push out our best things, but never entering trade in a spirit of letting down other countries.

Some other questions have been raised about the general attitude on textiles and other matters. I do not think that is relevant to the discussion before us.

17.33 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 24th September, 1958.

[Tuesday, 23rd September, 1958]

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PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 8048-49

The following papers were laid on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 796 dated the 13th September, 1958 under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, making certain further amendments to the Cotton Textile (Control) Order, 1948.
- (2) A copy of each of the following Notifications under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 :—
 - (i) G.S.R. No. 804 dated the 13th September, 1958.
 - (ii) G.S.R. No. 805, dated the 13th September, 1958.
 - (iii) G.S.R. No. 806 dated the 13th September, 1958.
- (3) A copy of each of the following Notifications under Sub-section (6) of

**PAPERS LAID ON THE
TABLE—contd.**

Subject	COLUMNS
Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 :—	
(i) G.S.R. No. 815 dated the 11th September, 1958.	
(ii) G.S.R. No. 816 dated the 11th September, 1958.	
(iii) G.S.R. No. 817 dated the 11th September, 1958 containing the Delhi (Gueat Control) Order, 1958.	
(iv) G.S.R. No. 818 dated the 12th September 1958, making certain further amendments to the Rajasthan Gram (Prohibition of Export) Order, 1958.	
(v) G.S.R. No. 818A dated the 13th September, 1958 containing the Rice (Northern Zone) Movement Control Order, 1958.	
(4) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 1831 dated the 13th September, 1958 under sub-section (2) of section 2(c) of the Insurance Act, 1938.	

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE 8053-83

Shri M. R. Masani raised a question of privilege in regard to newspaper reports of a telegram alleged to have been sent by the Chief Minister of Kerala to the Minister of Home Affairs. After some discussion, the Speaker held over his decision on the matter.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER 8084

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi) made a statement correcting the reply given on the 12th August, 1958 to a supplementary by Dr. Ram Subhag Singh on Starred Question Nos. 41, 54, 55 and 62 regarding Indo-Pakistan Canal Waters Dispute.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS 8084-8178

The discussion on Demands for Supplementary Grants in respect of Budget (General) for 1958-59 commenced. The discussion was not concluded.

Subject	COLUMNS	Subject	COLUMNS
HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION	8179—92	Grants in respect of Budget (General) for the year 1958-59 and considering and passing of the following Bills :—	
<p>Shri Raghunath Singh, raised a half-an-hour discussion on points arising out of the answers given on the 11th September, 1958 to Starred Question No. 1153 regarding export of coal. Sardar Swaran Singh replied to the debate</p>		(1) The International Finance Corporation (Status, Immunities and Privileges) Bill, 1958; and	
AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, 24th SEPTEMBER, 1958—		(2) The Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Bill 1958	
Further discussion on the Demands for Supplementary			