

Par. 82.L1.52  
838

Thursday,  
27th November, 1952



# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

OFFICIAL REPORT

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**PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT**  
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THE  
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES  
(Part I—Questions and Answers)

Acc. No. 25084  
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OFFICIAL REPORT

855

856

**HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE**

Thursday, 27th November, 1952

*The House met at a Quarter to Eleven  
of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
(FOREIGN EXPERTS)

\*746. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign experts who are at present engaged in the services of the Government of India in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture; and

(b) the number of foreign experts working in India under the Indo-U.S. Technical Co-operation Agreement?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) 14.

(b) 64.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** How far has the presence of these foreign experts led us towards self-sufficiency in respect of technical know how in the field of Food and Agriculture?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is helpful, Sir.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know the average monthly or annual expenditure incurred by Government in respect of the travelling and other allowances of these experts?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It would be very difficult to calculate. I have not got the figures, but the amount is comparatively insignificant.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether any foreign experts are going to be associated with the recently

founded Division of Agricultural Publicity?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** There is a likelihood.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know how many?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** That has not been determined.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** We find from para 3 of Article 1 of the Indo-American Technical Co-operation Agreement that our Government has undertaken to provide to the American Director, his staff and the team of specialists all facilities for supervising how the fund is spent. Could we have some idea as to the kind of facilities that are made available to the American Director and his team of specialists?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I must ask for notice.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know for how long this flow of foreign experts will continue and is it going to be stopped in the near future?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The period is stated in the statement already laid on the Table. The information as to how long they are likely to continue to be here is given in the case of every technician.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** May I know whether these foreign experts have been called here at the initiative of the foreign Governments or at the suggestion of our Government and for the subjects selected by our Government?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is entirely at our initiative that they have come.

GHEE ADULTERATION COMMITTEE  
REPORT

\*747. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Report of the Ghee Adulteration Committee appointed in May, 1951 has been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, which of the recommendations of the Committee have been accepted and given effect to by Government?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Yes.

(b) The Committee has made the following important recommendations:

(1) Under the Vegetable Oil Products Control Order, 1947 incorporation of sesame oil in the vegetable oil product is compulsory so that the product gives the Baudouin test which is a distinctive test for the presence of sesame oil. The Government should ensure by law that every lot of vanaspati, produced in a factory should be accompanied by a certificate that it gives the Baudouin Test. Efforts should also be made to make extensive use of this test and municipalities and other bodies should be asked to use this test for detecting adulteration of ghee with vanaspati.

(2) All vanaspati produced in the country should be coloured orange by using carotene oil concentrate as a colouring medium in addition to the incorporation of sesame oil.

(3) Vanaspati should be fortified with synthetic Vitamin 'A' so that its nutritive value could be increased.

The Government of India have accepted the recommendations No. 1 and 3 and necessary steps to implement them are being taken under the Vegetable Oil Products Control Order, 1947.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know when this report was received and when was the final consideration given to it by Government?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Now that the final consideration has been given, I do not think the date is very material. I am afraid I could not give the date, although I can mention that Government's resolution was issued sometime in October 1952.

**Shri S. N. Das:** What were the functions of the Expert Committee on Ghee? Were they similar to those of this Committee?

**Mr. Speaker:** The Committee has reported, I think. He may refer to the report.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** He refers to the Committee on Ghee.

**Shri S. N. Das:** Yes, Sir. Apart from the Ghee Adulteration Com-

mittee there was another Expert Committee on Ghee which was appointed, I think, in 1949.

**Mr. Speaker:** He refers to another Committee. Can the hon. Minister answer that question?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I have no information.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** What are the reasons for not accepting recommendation No. 2.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Recommendation No. 2 was not accepted for the following four reasons:—

(1) This was not a unanimous recommendation. There were minutes of dissent by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava and Dr. Patwardhan.

(2) The colour imparted by carotene oil concentrate is of unstable nature and will disappear when vanaspati is heated or is kept without heating for some months.

(3) The Committee has stated nothing about the adaptation of the carotene colour which should be given to vanaspati. They have left this point for the decision of the Government and this will inevitably mean the conduct of further experiments.

(4) Carotene oil concentrate is not produced in India and its import will cost Rs. 1 crore annually in dollars.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** In view of the fact that vanaspati is mixed with *shudh ghee* and *shudh ghee* is always sold with this mixture, may I know whether Government has any other scheme of colouring to prevent this mixture, because this is very necessary?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The method is being continuously investigated and the present position is as I have stated in reply to this question.

#### CENTRAL MANURE (COMPOST) DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

\*748. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the important features of the work so far done by the Central Manure (Compost) Development Committee constituted in March, 1948;

(b) whether this Committee is likely to continue or whether it has been wound up;

(c) what is the total expenditure incurred on account of this Committee; and

(d) the precise functions of this Committee and the number of meetings so far held?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) The Committee reviewed the position of Compost Schemes in operation in the country and made certain recommendations for increasing the production and distribution of compost manure from urban and rural refuse materials.

(b) The term of the Committee expired on 15th October 1952 and it is now proposed to have one Central Committee for development of all manures and fertilisers as recommended by the G.M.F. Enquiry Committee.

(c) The total expenditure amounts to Rs. 2,557.

(d) The functions of the Committee are given in the statement placed on the Table of the House.

There were 4 meetings; 2 of the General Committee and 2 of the Executive Committee.

#### STATEMENTS

The functions of the Central Manure (Compost) Committee constituted in March, 1948 are as follows:

(1) to review periodically the progress of compost production and allied schemes in India;

(2) to work out detailed plans for increasing the rate of compost production in the country, so as to cover the whole of the refuse materials available in the rural and urban areas;

(3) to consider such other manurial schemes and plans as may be entrusted to the Committee by Government of India from time to time;

(4) to hold meetings at least once in 6 months in order to review the work done and frame a programme for the next six months;

(5) to organise Provincial Compost Development Conferences and Committees in different areas, for the purpose of Co-ordination and intensification of work in those areas;

(6) to undertake and organise intensive propaganda for securing complete development of local manurial resources; and

(7) to take such other steps as may be needed to achieve the objects of the Committee.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the same Committee will continue, or will another Committee be appointed, or will the same Committee be reconstituted?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The Committee which has been operating so far will be discontinued and a fresh Committee, which will be a Central Committee, will be appointed.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether that Committee will be an ordinary Committee or a statutory one?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is not a statutory one, Sir.

**Shri N. Somanā:** Is any subsidy given to local bodies to prepare compost?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Yes. Considerable expenditure has been incurred on this account.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** Have Government any scheme to exempt human labour from being employed in the production of compost manure?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** No, Sir. This does not fall under our purview.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Sarangadhar Das.

**Shri Achuthan:** Has the report of the Committee been submitted, and if so, has it been sent to all State Governments?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Yes, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** I may just remind the hon. Member Mr. Achuthan that without being called he has put the question. Actually I called Mr. Das.

**Shri Achuthan:** Sorry, Sir. I shall abide by your decision.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** Have Government any information as to the total tonnage of compost manure produced and distributed to the fields all over India, and what is the average percentage of nitrogen, phosphorus and potash in this material?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I have not got here the chemical contents, but probably they will vary, because after all it is compost prepared from various things. But I can give the hon. Member the figures in regard to the progress made in the compost development in urban as well as rural areas. From a mere 1.83 lakh tons of compost produced in 1944-45 we have now gone to 16.95 lakh tons. The quantity of compost distributed is about 12.52 lakh tons and the Government of India subsidy during 1951-52 was Rs. 9.49 lakhs. So far as rural compost scheme is concerned, from a mere 1,826 villages under the scheme

we have now 1,88,574 villages where the compost scheme is now working. The compost production has gone up from 2.10 lakhs to 106.04 lakhs. The distribution has also been fairly satisfactory. So, we have made very considerable progress.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know, Sir, what is the number of conferences held by the Committee?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I am afraid, I have not got the information.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know whether the compost produced is distributed through co-operative agency or it is sold in the open market?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I have no information.

**REPORT OF EXPERT COMMITTEE OF MANURES AND FERTILISERS**

\*749. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Report of the Expert Committee of Manures and Fertilizers has been considered by Government; and

(b) the important recommendations of the Committee which have been given effect to and those which have not been accepted?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Yes.

(b) A note containing the summary of the important recommendations made by the Committee is placed on the Table of the House. Recommendations 1 to 9 have been accepted by the Government of India. Nos. 1, 2, and 4 to 9 have been commended to the State Governments for further action and Nos. 3 and 6 are being given effect to by the Government of India. Recommendations 10 and 11 are still under examination.

**STATEMENT**

(1) *Full utilization of sources of indigenous manures—*

The Committee has recommended that the indigenous sources of organic manures such as cow dung, farm yard and stable manures, oil-cakes, bone-meal, green manures, compost and Nitre earth must be fully utilised.

(2) *Production in the country of chemical fertilisers—*

The Committee feels that there is considerable scope for increased use

of artificial fertilisers in this country. The results of fertiliser trials in India point to the beneficial effect of increased use particularly of nitrogenous fertilisers alone or preferably along with phosphatic fertilisers. The Committee has recommended that steps should be taken to increase the production and utilisation in the country of these fertilisers.

(3) *Use of the concentrated fertilisers—*

The Committee endorse the views of Dr. Stewart (1947) in popularising the use of concentrated fertilisers like Urea and of Ammonium Nitrate granules. The Committee recommends that the production of these in India may be given consideration. In their opinion, when manufactured on a large scale they will be found to be cheaper because of their high Nitrogen content.

(4) *Use of suitable combinations of artificial fertilisers—*

Use of suitable combinations of artificial fertilisers like sulphate of ammonia and superphosphate have given good yields. The Committee advocates their use wherever possible.

(5) *Use of suitable combinations of Organic and Inorganic fertilisers—*

In view of the slow availability of nutrients from bulky organic manures the Committee feels that suitable combinations of organic and inorganic fertilisers are the best especially in hotter regions where due to rapid oxidation the organic matter and nitrogen status of the soil are low. Use of farm yard manure or green manure with phosphatic fertilisers will go a long way in the improvement and maintenance of soil fertility.

(6) *Irrigation facilities—*

The Government's plans to bring as much land as possible under irrigation by constructing dams etc., should be given top priority. In the meantime efforts should be made to find out the best methods of manuring for lands which have no facilities for artificial irrigation.

(7) *Spread of Education amongst the farmers—*

Steps should be taken to spread education extensively amongst the farmers in the methods of proper soil and water conservation and land utilisation and in the best cultural, manurial and operational practices. Intensive propaganda should be carried out to make the farmers more manure minded than they appear to be at present.

(8) Experiment in the cultivator's fields—

Simple experiments should be conducted in the cultivators fields to test the best combinations of organic and inorganic fertilisers in different soil-types.

(9) Research—

Fundamental investigations should be carried out on various subjects in order to throw more light on the properties and manner of action of Manures and Fertilisers.

(10) Exports of oil seeds and bones—

Bones and oilseeds should not be allowed to be exported from the country. Bones should be either converted to bonemeal and superphosphate or crushed and composted with straw, sand and sulphur.

(11) Establishment of a Permanent Organisation—

A permanent organisation called the "Central Manure and Fertiliser Development Board" should be established and be entrusted with the task of preparing the plans and schemes for increasing the production and utilisation of indigenous manures and fertilisers and to forward those schemes for the consideration of the Central and the State Governments concerned. The Board according to the Committee should also review periodically the progress made in the matter of production and utilisation of indigenous manures and fertilisers. To enable the Board to work on a self-supporting basis the Committee has recommended that the Board may be guaranteed a steady income from the levy of a small cess on compost, sewage and sludge, bones etc.

**Shri S. N. Das:** In the summary of important recommendations it is stated that the Committee had recommended the establishment of a permanent organisation. May I know whether this organisation will be different from the one already working, or it will be the same one?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I do not know what other organisation the hon. Member refers to. There will be only one organisation.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know, Sir, whether this report has any recommendation for the dissemination of required scientific knowledge for the use of manures and fertilisers to the peasantry?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** If the hon. Member wishes to know whether there will be any effort made in that direction, I would say 'Yes'.

**Shri Raghavaiah:** In the report submitted by the expert committee is

there any mention about distribution of fertilisers and manures through the Agriculture Department and not through private agencies, because of black-marketing indulged in by the latter?

**Mr. Speaker:** He need not draw these inferences; he may ask for information.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I would require notice of that question.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** Is it true that the Government of India have stopped the subsidy to the States in regard to manure and fertilisers?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** There is economy being effected on this item, because now people are taking up to compost and more expenditure is not considered necessary.

**Shri S. N. Das:** In view of the fact that this committee was appointed on 7th January 1949, may I know the reasons for so much delay in the submission of the report?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I am not able to give any answer.

COCONUT PRODUCTION

\*750. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what is the percentage of shortfall in India's production of coconut with reference to her requirements?

(b) What were the amounts of annual production of coconut in India and its prices and what was the acreage under coconut cultivation year by year from 1947 to 1951?

(c) What are the names of places in different States where coconut is grown?

(d) What was the amount of copra and coconut oil imported in the years from 1947 to 1951 (year by year)?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) About 18 (eighteen) per cent.

(b) to (d). Four statements giving the required information are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 34 (a).]

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** From the reply to part (c) of the question given in the Statement I find that there are three research stations in West Bengal—24 Parganas, Howrah and Midnapore. I am a member from Midnapore District. I find that there is no research station there: I also know that there is no research station at Howrah. May I know how such a mistake has crept in. May I also know whether in Kamrup and Darang there are such stations?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** If there is any mistake, I am prepared to take the information from the hon. Member.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** From the statement I find that during the three years from 1947-48 to 1949-50 there has been an increase of production of only about 50,000 coconuts. May I know, Sir, why areas in West Bengal and Assam where there is a large prospect of coconut cultivation, have not yet been taken up?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** My friend who is a member of this Committee is in a better position to answer the question.

**Shri N. P. Damodaran:** May I know, Sir, how many research stations are there on the West Coast of India and where they are located?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I would require notice of that question.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know the percentage of coconut oil available in India through imports and internal production which is consumed for purposes of food as also the percentage which is used for soap industry?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I am afraid this information will have to be asked from the Commerce and Industry Department.

#### JUNGLE-CUTTING CONTRACTS

\*751. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the Divisional Engineers, Telegraphs, favoured certain contractors in the year 1943 and gave them the entire amount of contract money even before their tenders were actually accepted;

(b) whether he ignored all rules and propriety in helping the contractors and put Government to a loss in connection with the work of jungle-cutting; and

(c) what action has so far been taken against that Divisional Engineer and what post is he occupying now?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) to (c). Certain grave irregularities alleged to have been committed by a Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs, were brought to the notice of Government. After due enquiry in accordance with the prescribed procedure, the case has been referred to the Union Public Service Commission for their advice as required under the rules. The Commission's recommendations are awaited.

The officer mentioned above is now officiating as a Director of Telegraphs.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know, Sir, what is the amount of loss involved?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The total amount of loss has not been calculated by me but a part of that loss is proposed to be realised from him.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** What is that amount?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** It is proposed that Rs. 12,000 will be realised from him if the Union Public Service Commission so agree.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** In view of the fact that there is a strong allegation against this particular officer, is he allowed to enter into further contracts?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** At present he is discharging the normal functions of the post he is holding.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** May I know as to when Government came to know of these irregularities and why it has taken such a long time to refer the case to the Public Service Commission?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The matter pertains to the year 1943. The case was handed over to the Police who took two years to complete the investigation. That came to about 1945. They recommended that departmental action only would meet the needs of the situation. Then a charge-sheet was framed. Meanwhile the case was taken to a court and all the relevant documents on the basis of which departmental proceedings will have to be taken against the officer were filed in the court. We have obtained copies of these documents and on the 16th January 1952 we have framed a fresh charge-sheet against him.

#### ANTI-LOCUST OPERATIONS (CHEMICALS)

\*752. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what chemicals have been used in the anti-locust operations by the Central Government; and

(b) whether any research was done prior to the use of chemicals to find out whether these chemicals will or will not be injurious to the vegetation in the areas in which they are used?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Benzene Hexachloride 2.5—10 per cent. and Aldrin.

(b) Yes; Experiments carried out in U.S.A. have proved that these insecticides are not injurious to plants. This has been confirmed by our use of them in India. Nowhere has vegetation been injured by them.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know, Sir, whether these insecticides have

been used in India after ascertaining the results and possible injuries to plants in India under Indian conditions?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Yes, Sir, They have now been used in India and we have not found it injurious to plants.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know, Sir, whether in the areas where these chemicals have been used the people have been informed about the use of these chemicals?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Yes, Sir, every precaution is being taken. As a matter of fact up to the percentage of mixture that has been mentioned here, there is not much risk.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether it is a fact that Government had invited certain Soviet experts in 1945 or 1946 for advice on anti-locust operations, and may I also know whether Government have any proposals for inviting a team of Soviet scientists to advise Government on anti-locust operations?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I regret to say I have not been in contact with the Soviet experts, nor do I know that they had come to India.

#### SUGAR (EXPORT)

\*753. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what amount of sugar would be available for export in the ensuing year from the country?

(b) What is likely to be the foreign demand for our sugar in the year 1952-53?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) About 2 lakh tons.

(b) It is not possible to estimate at this stage, the likely foreign demand for Indian Sugar during 1952-53.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Are we in a position to know at present by what time we shall be able to dispose of our excess stocks of sugar?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is very difficult to say, Sir.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** What will be the effect of the law that we passed only two or three days ago on our export? Will it adversely affect our exports?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a matter of opinion and speculation at present.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** What is the difference between the prevailing world prices of sugar and the Indian price?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I am afraid the Indian prices are comparatively high.

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** What is the policy of the Government—to increase the production of sugar for export or to confine the production only for internal consumption?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** First of all to see that all demands of internal consumption are met, and, if there is any surplus, to export it.

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** I want to know what is the policy—to increase the production of sugar and to export it, or to confine it only for meeting internal consumption.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Both, Sir.

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** May I know the total cultivation of sugarcane this year?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The figures are not available yet.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know whether Government has got any scheme to reduce the cost of production of sugar in view of the unfavourable balance in the world market?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Not reduction of sugar but reduction in the acreage of sugarcane.

#### TRADE UNIONS

\*754. **Shri Nambiar:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether the Minister of labour has been pleading for unity among the various Trade Unions in the country, during his tour?

(b) Has he also been advising Trade Unions to exclude the All-India Trade Union Congress from any move for unity?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) Yes.

(b) No.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether in the speeches made during his tour in the Madras State recently the hon. Minister mentioned certain unions as Communist-controlled unions and gave a call to unity other than with these Communist-controlled unions?



**Shri V. V. Giri:** I have already given the answer. I never mentioned.

**Shri Venkataraman:** What in the opinion of the Government is the reason for the disunity among the trade unions?

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the opinion?

**Shri Venkataraman:** No, Sir. What, in the opinion of the Government, is the reason.

**Mr. Speaker:** That comes to the same thing. He is asking a question on opinion. I cannot allow it.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether in any of the speeches that he made the hon. Minister made mention of the same type about Railwaymen's unity, naming certain unions as Communist-controlled?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** I am sorry.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know whether Government has any intention to exclude such unions alleged to be implicated in subversive activities according to government officials?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** Not to my knowledge.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether the reports which appeared in certain newspapers about the alleged speech of the hon. Minister were brought to his notice and, if so, what action he has taken on that?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** Nothing of that kind has been brought to my notice.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Can we take it that the desire of the Labour Minister is the unification of the different trade unions, including the All-India Trade Union Congress, into one centralised union?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** It is for the unions to take that action.

**Shri Venkataraman:** Do Government propose to take steps in the matter of bringing together all the different trade unions into one central organisation?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is what he just replied to.

**CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH IN  
INDIGENOUS SYSTEMS OF MEDICINE  
AT JAMNAGAR**

\*755. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether any Advisory Council to the Central Institute of Research in Indigenous Systems of Medicine at Jamnagar has been set up?

(b) If so, who are the members of the Council?

(c) What is the programme of work before the Institute for 1952-53?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) and (b). The Central Institute of Research in Indigenous systems of Medicine at Jamnagar has not yet started functioning. A Governing Body which will have administrative control of the Institute has been set up. A Scientific Advisory Council which will assist the technical staff of the Institute in formulating the research programme has recently been constituted. A statement is placed on the Table showing the names of the Members of the Governing Body and the Scientific Advisory Council. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 34(b).]

The Government of Saurashtra has promised to provide the buildings for the Institute at Jamnagar at an early date. The appointment of the Director is under consideration.

(c) In view of what I have stated, it is for the Governing Body now to chalk out its programme. The necessary funds have been provided by the Government of India.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know what will be the function of the Scientific Advisory Council?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** The function of the Scientific Advisory Council will be as regards the programme of research.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether this Council will have anything to do with the day-to-day business?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** May I answer the question, Sir? The Scientific Advisory Council has been set up on the recommendation of the Committee that was formed to formulate programmes for the uplift of Ayurved, and its essential function will be to assist the technical staff of the Institute in formulating the research programmes both initially and also during subsequent years.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether the members mentioned in the statement supplied to me have been nominated by the Government, and if they are nominated whether Government have any intention in future to have them elected as persons representing different categories?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** Well, Sir, as a matter of fact even though they are nominated by Government they have practically been elected by the members of the Committee, the majority of whom were members of the Ayurvedic profession.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** There is an Ayurved Vibhag in the existing hospital attached to the research institute. May I know whether the number of beds there have been increased for facilitating research work?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** It is proposed to increase the number of beds. But, as has been stated in the answer, the building has yet to be put up.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Is the Sidhdha system (Sidhdha Vaidyam) which is prevalent in Madras also one of the subjects of study there?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** Yes.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** In view of the fact that there is a branch of medicated oil in the Ayurvedic system which is developed mainly in Travancore-Cochin, may I know whether any of the members of the Committee have been taken from Travancore-Cochin State?

**Mr. Speaker:** He is going into details of the programme.

**Shri N. P. Damodaran:** May I know whether there is any proposal to open a similar institute in the South, especially on the west coast, in view of the fact that Ayurveda has made great progress in the west coast?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** No.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** Is it within the purview of the organisation to advise as regards cheap production of ayurvedic medicines?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** They will do research into these medicines and as to how they may be produced.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** In the existing hospital there are about fifty beds already for Ayurved Vibhag. I wanted to know whether more have been added and whether Government have any intention to attach any T.B. clinic also there?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** There is no intention to attach a T.B. clinic. The beds will be increased, but as I have already said in the answer, the buildings are going to be provided by the Government of Saurashtra.

#### "GROW MORE FOOD" CAMPAIGN

\*756. **Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the modifications made in the yard-sticks for assessing the results of the "Grow More Food" Campaign?

(b) In the light of such a modification, what is the target of production of wheat and rice respectively for the year 1952-53?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) and (b). The question of modifying the official yard-sticks in the light of the Grow More Food Random Sample assessment surveys is under consideration. The main difficulty is that the surveys conducted so far are not comprehensive enough to warrant a decisive modification in the official yard-sticks.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** Is it true that the G.M.F. Enquiry Committee in its report has stated after assessing the results of the past few years that the yard-sticks need modification?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Yes, Sir. That was the view, expressed.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** What is the position now even after the ICAR Enquiry?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** As has been already stated by me, the results are not decisive enough.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** In view of the fact that at least two Committees have suggested modification in the yard-sticks have Government considered the question of revision of subsidies to States on the various GMF programmes?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I do not think there is any likelihood of this.

#### AIR ACCIDENTS (COMPENSATION)

\*757. **Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aeroplane accidents in the years 1950, 1951 and 1952 up-to-date respectively;

(b) the number of deaths in each of the above-mentioned years;

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the dependents of the victims and if so, what is the average amount; and

(d) what compensation to the dependents was paid in the case of the victims who were Government employees, journeying on duty?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) The number of accidents involving serious injury or death to crew or passengers or damage to aircraft was 62 in 1950, 38 in 1951 and 27 up-to-date in 1952.

(b) 120 in 1950; 24 in 1951 and 25 up-to-date in 1952.

(c) None was paid or payable by Government.

(d) There has been no such case of any employee of the Central Government.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know how many of these accidents were caused to passenger planes and how many to freighter planes?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:**  
*Passenger Scheduled Services.*

5 in 1950

2 in 1951

3 in 1952

*Freight services*

1 in 1950

1 in 1951

2 in 1952

**Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** May I know whether an enquiry was held and it was found that these accidents were due to the fault of the pilots?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Enquiry was held in all cases and due to the error of the pilot.

40 accidents were accounted for in 1950

30 do do 1951

18 do do 1952

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** May I know whether the companies are paying any compensation?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** That is not the rule.

#### MINIMUM WAGES ACT

\*758. **Shri N. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act have been applied to the Coal fields in Bihar?

(b) Has the Mica industry been brought within the purview of the Act or not?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) The Minimum Wages Act is not applicable to coal fields.

(b) The Act is applicable to mica mines and mica factories and the State Governments of Madras, Bihar, Ajmer & Rajasthan have already taken necessary action.

**Shri N. P. Sinha:** May I know, Sir, so far as mica factories are concerned, whether all those States have implemented this Act?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** They have implemented, Sir.

#### POST OFFICE FOR MAHE

\*759. **Shri Nambiar:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state where is the Post Office for Mahe situated?

(b) Is it a fact that the situation of the Post Office in French Territory is causing a lot of hardships to the people of the surrounding areas?

(c) Have any representations been made to Government on this question and are Government considering the opening of a Post Office inside the Union Territory?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Mahe combined sub post office is situated in French territory in Malabar District in Madras State.

(b) It has been reported that the public residing in the adjoining area of the Indian Union find it inconvenient to go to the Mahe Post Office.

(c) Representations were received by the Postmaster-General, Madras, in the matter. A sub post office has been opened in the adjacent Indian Union Territory from the 20th of this month.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know, Sir, whether this sub post office can serve the purpose of the Indian Union people because it is only a sub post office which has no telegraph or telephone communication?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** It can serve the purpose of the Indian Union people because it is in the adjoining Indian Union Territory. With regard to the establishment of a combined post office, I think it can be taken into consideration.

**Shri Nambiar:** I want to know whether there are telegraphic or telephonic connections in that sub post office?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** It is not connected with telephone for obvious reasons.

**Shri N. P. Damodaran:** In view of the fact that the important post office is situated in the French territory, is there any proposal under the contemplation of the Government to close down the Mahe post office in the French territory?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** This is in foreign possession. That is not our.....

**Shri N. P. Damodaran:** No Sir, the post office is ours though it is situated in the French territory.

**Mr. Speaker:** In view of the fact that it is managed by the Union Government.....

**Shri Nambiar:** I want to get the information from the Minister whether.....

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** There is no proposal like that before us at present.

#### TELEPHONE LINK WITH MAHE

\*760. **Shri Nambiar:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Mahe is connected by telephone with other centres and if not, why not?

(b) Is there any plan to connect Mahe by telephone?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) No. There is no telephone exchange at Mahe and it is not connected to the All-India trunk network.

(b) No.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether there is any representation or report from the people asking for telephone connections in this area?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I am not aware of that.

**Shri N. P. Damodaran:** Since the Minister said that a new post office has been opened in the Indian Union Territory, is Government considering the opening of a telephone call office at that place?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Not at present Sir.

#### RAJPUTANA DESERT

\*761. **Shri N. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for prevention of the spread of Rajputana desert;

(b) if so, what are the present steps; and

(c) what amount is proposed to be spent?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Yes, a pilot scheme has been sanctioned.

(b) A Desert Research Station at Jodhpur has recently been established and projects are in hand to immobilise sand dunes.

(c) An amount of Rs. 70,000 is likely to be spent during the current financial year (i.e. 1952-53) and an amount of Rs. 4,00,000 is being provided for next year.

**Shri N. P. Sinha:** Is it still in an experimental stage or some work has been done?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** A definite scheme has been formulated and it is going to be worked out.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know when it is expected that effective steps will be taken for the prevention of the spread of Rajputana desert?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It has already started.

#### FIRM OF DREDGER ENGINEERS

\*762. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether Government have secured the services of a suitable firm of dredger engineers for the benefit of our intermediate ports?

(b) If so, what is the name of the firm and the terms of its engagement?

(c) Do Government propose to train Indian engineers in this line?

(d) If so, how and when do they propose to carry out their intention?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) and (b). The Government of India have requested the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration to secure the services of a firm of dredger engineers of standing or of one or two experts drawn from such a firm for investigating into the problem of dredging at the more important minor ports. This request is under the consideration of that administration. No firm of dredger engineers have been approached direct.

(c) and (d). The dredgers at all major ports are mostly manned by trained Indian personnel. Necessary facilities for training in marine engineering exist at Calcutta and Kharagpur.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** How long do you think the organisation will take to secure the services of the Engineers?

**Shri Alagesan:** Shortly they will be getting the services of those experts.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** What are the likely costs of these operations?

**Shri Alagesan:** I have no idea at present, Sir.

#### STAFF CARS WITH MINISTRIES

\*763. **Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state what was the total number of staff cars available with each Ministry and its attached offices in New Delhi and Delhi prior to 15th August, 1947?

(b) What is the number of staff cars available with each Ministry and its attached offices in Delhi and New Delhi at present?

(c) Has there been an increase in the yearly consumption of the quantity of petrol for the use of these staff cars after 15th August, 1947?

(d) If the reply to part (c) above be in the affirmative, what has been the increase in the quantity of petrol consumed?

(e) What is the total yearly increase in expenditure on the maintenance of the staff cars after 15th August, 1947?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) and (b). A statement giving the information asked for is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 35.]

(c) to (e). There has been an increase in petrol consumption of approximately 11,917 gallons a year since 15th August, 1947. There has also been an increase in the expenditure on the maintenance of staff cars of approximately Rs. 49,883/- per year. This data does not, however, include the figures of petrol consumption and expenditure on maintenance of cars belonging to the Defence Ministry, as all the vehicles belonging to the 3 Services are maintained in Army Workshops and it is, therefore, not practicable to separate the figures pertaining to staff cars alone.

**Shri Gidwani:** Are the Government aware that these staff cars were utilised by any Minister for election work in the last general elections?

**Shri Alagesan:** We are not aware.

**Shri Gidwani:** Will the hon. Minister then collect that information and lay it on the Table of the House?

**Shri Alagesan:** I do not know how it arises.

**Shri Gidwani:** It does arise I want to know whether they were used for the purpose for which they were intended.

**Mr. Speaker:** The difficulty will be, to my mind, that Ministers are changing.

**Shri Gidwani:** Provided the Ministers continue I want the Minister, whoever.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Any other question?

**Shri Gidwani:** May I know whether apart from these staff cars any other vehicles were supplied to any Ministry?

**Shri Alagesan:** We are not aware.

**Shri Gidwani:** May I know whether a daily record is maintained to show for what purpose these cars are being used?

**Shri Alagesan:** Yes, Sir. Now a scheme for the pooling of all the staff cars has been finalised and approved. Uniform log books have been issued and they are very properly and regularly maintained.

**Shri Gidwani:** May I know whether any record is maintained as to the quantity of petrol used every week, if not daily?

**Shri Alagesan:** All these things come in.

**Shri Gidwani:** What is the . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order; let us not go much into detail.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** Is there a central servicing station and repair workshop for all the staff cars or are the different Ministries free to send their cars for servicing to private workshops?

**Shri Alagesan:** Yes, Sir. It is proposed now under the present pooling arrangement to have all the staff cars serviced in the Civil Aviation Department Workshop.

**Shri Nambiar:** Arising out of the answer given by the Minister, may I know whether Government have instituted an enquiry into the fact as to why such a huge increase is there in the consumption of petrol by the Ministers' Cars?

**Shri Alagesan:** It is not Ministers' cars, but Ministries' cars. Because the work has increased considerably, a larger quantity of petrol is consumed.

#### UPGRADING OF MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS

\*764. **Dr. Rama Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state what is the Scheme of 'upgrading of departments' which was inaugurated at the Medical College at Madras?

(b) Is it a Scheme suggested by the Centre or has it been done on the initiative of the State concerned?

(c) Has the Centre incurred any expenditure for this upgrading?

(d) Does the Centre contemplate recommending this Scheme for other States also and if so, what are the details?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) The upgrading scheme mentioned is a scheme for the improvement or up-grading of selected branches in certain existing Medical Colleges for the purpose of providing facilities for post-graduate teaching and research. The expenditure on the upgrading of the selected institutions is to be shared by the Central and State Governments concerned. The following departments in Medical Institutions in Madras City have been selected for up-grading:

- (1) Anatomy Department, Stanley Medical College.
- (2) Venereal Diseases Department, Madras Medical College.
- (3) Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department, Women and Children's Hospital.

(b) The Scheme was suggested by the Central Government.

(c) Not so far, but the Government of India have accepted certain commitments to share the expenditure, both recurring and non-recurring.

(d) There are proposals for the up-grading of certain departments in other important Medical Institutions in the various States. A list of all the departments recommended for up-grading, arranged in order of priority, is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 36.]

**Dr. Rama Rao:** Do the Government contemplate taking any steps regarding the Delhi University or any of the Medical colleges in Delhi?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** As far as Delhi University is concerned, we have already given money for the development of the T.B. Institute here. There is no Delhi college at the moment in existence. That will come into being with the All India Medical Institute.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** Is it a fact that the Irwin Hospital authorities, that is the Delhi State, have refused to hand it over to the Government?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** That is so.

**Shri C. K. Nair:** May I know if Health in the Part C States is a transferred subject or a reserved subject?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** Health is a transferred subject. But of course, in the Part C States, there are directives that can be issued from time to time. The position is not the same as in Part A States.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** What time would the Government take for up-grading the various departments in the Medical colleges so that our students who wish to have post-graduate training in Medicine and Surgery may not have to go overseas?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** As quickly as possible. When the expenditure is shared by both the Central Government and the State Governments, a great deal depends on how much and how soon the State Governments can put their share into the scheme.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** May I know what the Government propose to do in connection with the All India Medical Institute, because the Delhi State authorities have refused, as the hon. Minister said just now, to hand over the Irwin Hospital? Where do they want to start the Institute?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** In Delhi. A scheme is under consideration. It is now with the Finance Ministry. We have suggested that we take over 150 acres in the Safdarjanā area.

#### AGARTALA-KURTI ROAD

**\*765. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state how much money has so far been spent for the construction of Agartala-Kurti (Dharma Nagara) Road?

(b) Has the Road been completed?

(c) Was any co-operation sought from the local people for the construction of this Road and if so, what was the response?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) About Rs. 190 lakhs upto the end of October 1952.

(b) The formation of the road with temporary bridges has been completed throughout, but metalling and construction of bridges is still in progress.

(c) Yes; the response was poor.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** May I know how much money has been lost and what punishment was given, to the defaulters and who was the person?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** There is no question of defalcation.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Is there any chance of a new alignment for the completion of the work?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** A new alignment has already been completed.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will it be a commercial route within a year or two?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** The idea is not to have this as a commercial route. The importance of the road lies in its military strategic value.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May we...

**Mr. Speaker:** Let us go to the next question.

#### HOSPITALS IN RURAL AREAS OF TRIPURA

**\*766. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the number of hospitals in the rural areas of Tripura?

(b) Do Government propose to increase their number this year?

(c) What is the rate of child mortality in Tripura?

(d) If the rate is very high, what are the reasons for it?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) There are no hospitals in the rural areas of Tripura. Two out of the three hospitals in Tripura are situated at Agartala and one at Kailasahar.

(b) It is proposed to establish one hospital in the rural areas under the Community Projects scheme.

(c) Reliable figures are not available.

(d) The main reasons for a high infant mortality all over the country are poverty, ignorance and the lack of proper medical aid and relief.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Is it a fact that a scheme for a mobile anti-malaria medical unit has been submitted by the Health Officer, Tripura?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** I have no information.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister tell us whether this scheme is going to get a grant this year?

**Mr. Speaker:** Which scheme?

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** The scheme that I mentioned just now.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister said that she has no knowledge about it.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Is it a fact that, in order to check the high rate of child mortality, a women's organisation, namely the Tripura Rajya Ganantrik Nari Samity has demanded the opening of a training centre of Midwifery in Agartala and will the Minister consider this proposal?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** When the request comes up, I will certainly consider it.

#### RAILWAY WORKSHOPS

**\*767. Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many factories are there in India for the production of wagons?

(b) Are attempts being made to make India self-sufficient in the production of coaches and wagons?

(c) When is India expected to reach that stage?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Four:

- (1) Messrs. Burn and Co. Howrah.
- (2) Messrs. Indian Standard Wagon Co. Ltd., Burnpur.
- (3) Messrs. Braithwaite & Co. (India) Ltd., Calcutta.
- (4) Messrs. Jessop & Co., Calcutta.

(b) and (c). The wagon and coach production capacity in India is adequate at present to meet normal replacement requirements. Self-sufficiency in respect of the increased demands of coaching and Goods stock is expected to be reached in about 5 years time with the combined production of the new Integral Coach Factory, Perambur; Railway workshops; Hindustan Aircraft Ltd., the four firms referred to and some other Indian manufacturers who are at present being tried out with educational orders.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** What is the total requirement of coaches and wagons, (a) by broad gauge, and (b) by metre gauge?

**Shri Alagesan:** Normally, the replacement requirement for broad gauge is about 350 and metre gauge about 300; for goods wagons the proportion may be in the order of 2:1.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know when the wagon manufacturing factory in Perambur will start functioning?

**Shri Alagesan:** The work on the factory has just started, and in a few years' time, it will start functioning.

**Shri Nambiar:** How many thousands or hundreds of workers are to be employed in the factory?

**Shri Alagesan:** We have no idea at present.

**Shri Nambiar:** What is the proposal exactly, if they have no idea of the number of workers to be employed?

**Mr. Speaker:** The proposal may be to increase the work, and then to employ workers as the work increases.

**Shri Nambiar:** What is the scope, and how many are likely to be employed?

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not think that arises.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May we know what specific help such as allotment of iron, or financial help, is given to these British-owned factories who, just at the present moment, supply us with wagons?

**Shri Alagesan:** Help is given to meet their manufacturing requirements.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Last June the Railway Minister had told us that a United Kingdom firm had failed to deliver certain component parts which made us change the target of our production of wagons. Now, is that kind of hindrance in the way of our production of wagons continuing, and if so, what steps are taken to remove this sort of difficulty?

**Mr. Speaker:** This question is important, but I am afraid it does not arise out of this.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Sir, it does refer to the production of wagons.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not inclined to hold that view.

#### RESTORATION OF DISMANTLED RAILWAY LINES IN SALEM

\*768. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether there has been a representation by various associations and by the Legislators of Salem district that the work of restoring the two dismantled Railway lines in the Salem district be started as a famine relief measure?

(b) Is it a fact that those two Railway lines were constructed as a famine relief measure in about 1900?

(c) What is the estimated cost of restoring the lines (i) Morappur to Hosur and (ii) Tiruppathur to Krishnagiri as metre gauge lines?

(d) Have Government come to a conclusion in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The rough estimated expenditure on restoration of Morappur-Hosur Narrow Gauge line is Rs. 104 lakhs. The cost of restoration of Tiruppathur to Krishnagiri has not yet been worked out.

(d) No.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** What is the total length that has been dismantled?

**Shri Alagesan:** The Morappur-Hosur line is 73 miles; it is a narrow gauge line; and the Tiruppathur-Krishnagiri line is 25 miles.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** At the time the lines were dismantled, was a solemn undertaking given that they would be restored as soon as the war was over?

**Shri Alagesan:** I do not think such undertakings can be termed "solemn".

**Mr. Speaker:** Was any such undertaking given, solemn or not?

**Shri Alagesan:** I am afraid, no, Sir.

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** What is happening to the assets of these lines, and what are the arrangements for the maintenance of these assets?

**Shri Alagesan:** The assets are preserved.

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** What about their maintenance?

**Mr. Speaker:** The lines are removed. What is to be maintained?

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** But the building and other materials are there. Are they being maintained, or allowed to decay?

**Shri Alagesan:** I am afraid I am not at present ready with that information.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether the restoration of the Shoranur-Nilambur Railway line is also considered along with that?

**Shri Alagesan:** I do not think it arises out of this.

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** Could the Minister give the proportion of these two dismantled lines to the total lines dismantled in India during the war?

**Shri Alagesan:** I am afraid I do not have the information at present.

#### COACH-BUILDING FACTORY, PERAMBUR

\*769. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) when it is proposed to start the coach-building factory at Perambur and when will it go into production; and

(b) what is its capacity to produce finished coaches per annum?



**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Work on the Perambur Coach Factory was started in the beginning of 1952.

Production is expected to begin in 1955.

(b) The Factory is designed to manufacture 350 unfurnished coaches a year when production is fully-established.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** What is the estimated cost of each coach to be produced in this factory? I put that question once, before. How does it compare with the cost of the coaches produced in the Hindustan factory now?

**Shri Alagesan:** The estimated cost of the coaches may be a little more in the beginning, and when full production is established, the cost is bound to come down.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** I am sorry my question has not been answered. What is the cost of the coach now manufactured by the Hindustan factory, and what is going to be the cost of the coach manufactured by the Perambur factory?

**Shri Alagesan:** The cost of the Hindustan factory coach is about Rs. 1,30,000.

**Mr. Speaker:** What about the other coach?

**Shri Alagesan:** That I cannot give just now.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether the Perambur coach manufacturing factory is going to be an assembling factory or production factory? Will it produce underframes also?

**Shri Alagesan:** There are no underframes. The whole thing is called "all steel all welded light weight integral type" coaches. That is the long name that has been given to it. There is no underframe going into the construction of these coaches. It will be a full production factory and not an assembling factory.

#### BRIDLE PATHS

\*776. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state what is the total length of the bridle paths in the hills of Manipur?

(b) Is it a fact that the hill villagers living near the bridle paths are required to clear the same twice a year for which they receive Rs. 20/- only per mile and if they refuse to do so, they are liable to heavy punishment?

(c) Is it a fact that the hill people consider this action of Government as amounting to forced labour?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) About 1100 miles.

(b) These bridle paths are similar to village roads in other parts of India, which are looked after by village panchayats and local bodies. As there are no panchayats or local bodies in Manipur, portions of the bridle paths are allotted to the tribal villages according to the size of the villages for maintenance and repairs. The work consists mainly of clearing of jungle and weeds and removal of slips, if any, during the rainy season and occasionally construction and repair of small wooden bridges. The rate of payment for this work varies from Rs. 7/- to Rs. 25/- per mile according to the amount of work actually done. As the maintenance of the paths is for the benefit of the villagers themselves, they are expected to do the work. There has so far been no instance of defaulting villagers being punished. Sometimes some defaulters have been warned that they might be punished.

(c) Not so far as Government are aware, though they understand that there is complaint from some quarters against the arrangements mentioned.

**Shri Rishang Keishing:** What is the total amount spent annually for the maintenance of these bridle paths?

**Shri Alagesan:** I am afraid I should ask for notice.

**Shri Rishang Keishing:** In view of the fact that the tribal people are paid less than Rs. 1/8/- per furlong for cutting grasses and clearing slips and that they do the work for fear of getting punishment, may I know how long will this state of affairs continue and whether Government do contemplate to redress their grievances?

**Shri Alagesan:** Government are prepared to consider this and raise the rates if possible.

**Shri Rishang Keishing:** Is it not a fact that several complaints have been lodged with the authorities by the villagers?

**Shri Alagesan:** I think I have answered that already.

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to know whether there are any complaints.

**Shri Alagesan:** No.

## GUNTUR-REPALLE BRANCH LINE

\*771. Shri Raghuramalah: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether ticketless travel is on the increase on the Guntur-Repalle Branch Line in Madras State;

(b) whether it is a fact that the trains running on that line are not keeping up the timings announced in the time-table; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take to stop the ticketless travel and ensure the proper running of trains on that line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Ticketless travel on the Guntur-Repalle Branch Line of the Southern Railway has lately decreased.

(b) Their punctuality is not what it should be.

(c) All trains running on the section are now manned by a Travelling Ticket Examiner.

As regards punctuality of trains, improvement will be effected with the conversion of Kolluru Road into a crossing station, which work is now in hand, and also with the utilisation of the new engines which are expected early in 1953.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

## ASSAM RAIL LINK

\*772. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the amount of money so far spent for making temporary arrangements for running the trains over the Assam Rail Link on account of breaches of the rail-road and bridges during the floods in June-July of 1952?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): About Rs. 12 lakhs have been spent on temporary repairs and other arrangements on this section.

## ASSAM RAIL LINK

\*773. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred in construction and maintenance of the so called "Hidden works" for protect-

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ing the bridges and rail-roads from the onrush of waters from the Himalayan regions in the Assam Rail Link since its inception; and

(b) how far it has been a good protective measure in that line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) About Rs. 20,000/- on two hidden works and about Rs. 2,000/- on their maintenance.

(b) The works have proved very effective.

## WOMEN WORKERS IN TEA GARDENS

\*774. Shri K. P. Tripathi: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to refer to his answer given to starred question No. 2096 asked on the 24th July, 1952 regarding women workers in Tea Gardens and state:

(a) what information, if any, Government have collected, as was promised;

(b) whether Government have reconsidered the whole position;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of women workers have been thrown out of employment since the decision of the tribunal; and

(d) what steps, if any, Government propose to take to relieve the distress?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) In Assam, 11,223 women are working along with their husbands in 98 tea gardens other than those in the membership of the Indian Tea Association. In West Bengal, the number of such women workers in 41 tea gardens in Jalpaiguri District under the Indian Tea Planters' Association is 10,590. Further information is being collected by the State Governments.

(c) Information regarding the number of women workers discharged since the decision of the Tribunal is not readily available and is being collected through the State Governments concerned.

(b) and (d). Government have been considering the matter, but cannot see how, in view of the considerations mentioned in the reply to part (a) of question No. 2096, Government can interfere with the discretion of management.

## TEA LABOURERS

\*775. Shri K. P. Tripathi: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Tea Association has issued a

notice to the effect that the Tea Industry is going to cast aside labourers without wages in winter;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to prevent this or to save the labourers from starvation during the period; and

(c) what will be the number of workers involved?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) to (c). No information is available regarding West Bengal. As regards Assam, it is understood that a circular letter has been issued by the Assam Branch of the Indian Tea Association indicating the possibility of lay-off of workers during winter for whom sufficient work may not be available. The State Government, who are responsible for dealing with industrial relations in the Plantation industry, have issued a directive that labourers who might be thrown out of employment should be employed to the maximum possible extent on Public Works Department projects and are also persuading local bodies, contractors and other concerns to give work to as many labourers as possible. The exact number of workers who might be laid off cannot be ascertained at present as it is related to the volume of work which employers might find it possible to provide.

#### HINDI TELEGRAPH SERVICE

**\*776. Shri Telhikar:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindi Telegraph Service in Devanagari script is going to be extended to some stations in Hyderabad State; and

(b) whether there is any possibility of establishing Telegraph Service in Devanagari script in all or any other Indian language?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes. Efforts are being made as a first step to provide the Devanagari telegraph service at Secunderabad.

(b) The service is already available for telegrams in any Indian language, written in the Devanagari script between stations having the Hindi telegraph service.

#### EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

**\*777. Shri Telhikar:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether Employment Exchanges

have been made use of by private employers and employees;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Employment Exchanges have collected necessary statistical information from private concerns from all parts of India; and

(c) whether there is any periodical of the Department publishing up-to-date information on the subject?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, there are two sources of information available to us. One through the Inspectors of Factories in respect of large industrial establishments, and through a Return prescribed for the use of Exchanges in respect of private establishments within the jurisdiction of the Exchanges.

(c) Statistics relating to Employment Exchanges are published in the Monthly Review of work done by the "Directorate General of Resettlement and Employment", "Employment News", and "Indian Labour Gazette".

#### VIZIANAGARAM-RAIPUR RAILWAY LINE

**\*778. Shri Sanganna:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of Railway stations on the Vizianagaram-Raipur Railway line of the Eastern Zone which have no waiting rooms for passengers?

(b) Do Government propose to construct waiting rooms at all such railway stations and if so, when?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) At only two stations on the Raipur-Vizianagaram section, there are waiting rooms for First, Second and Inter-class passengers. Waiting halls for third class passengers, however, exist at 31 out of 32 stations on this section. At the remaining station Dolkalu the waiting hall is already under construction.

(b) Additional waiting accommodation is proposed to be provided as follows during the current and next financial years:

Titilagarh	} Inter class waiting rooms
Parvatipuram	
Nawadara Road	} Upper class waiting rooms including improvements to existing ones.
Kesinga	

## CHITTORE-KOTAH RAILWAY LINE

\*779. **Shri Bheekha Bhai:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal of linking up Chittore to Kotah by constructing a new line;

(b) whether the preliminary survey of the line has been conducted long since; and

(c) the estimated cost of constructing the line?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahawaz Khan):** (a) Not at present.

(b) A preliminary survey for a metre gauge line connecting Chittorgarh and Kotah was carried out in 1945-46 and 1946-47.

(c) A metre gauge link is likely to cost about Rs. 4 crores, while a broad gauge link will cost about Rs. 6 crores.

## RIVER VALLEY PROJECTS

\*780. **Shri A. N. Vidyalankar:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to refer to the answer given to the starred question No. 1901 on the 21st July, 1952 regarding labour laws in river valley projects and state whether the information had since been collected and if so, when it would be supplied to the House?

(b) Has any action been taken in the matter referred to in part (c) of that question, and if so, what is the result?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) and (b). A statement giving the information asked for by the Member is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 37.]

## AERODROME FOR NILGIRIS

\*781. **Shri N. M. Lingam:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a civil aerodrome in the Nilgiris; and

(b) if so, at what stage the proposal stands at present?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

## IMPORT OF FOOD GRAINS

\*782. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any decision as to the quantity of food grains to be imported during the year 1953; and

(b) if so, what are the quantities of rice, wheat and other grains that would be imported and from which countries?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. F. S. Deshmukh):** (a) A final decision has not been taken but the imports are provisionally expected to be about 2.6 million tons.

(b) About 1.85 million tons is expected to be wheat from U.S.A., Canada, Australia and Argentina and about 0.75 million tons rice mainly from Burma, China and Thailand.

## CENTRAL ROAD RESERVE FUND

260. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given or are going to give any grant to Bombay Government from the Central Road Reserve Fund during the current year; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the total amount of such grant and the categories of roads after which it is to be spent?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Yes.

(b) Grants aggregating about Rs. 30 lakhs have been offered and of these Rs. 11 lakhs are likely to be allotted this year for certain bridge works, village roads, and road works of inter-State or national importance. A sum of Rs. 30,000 only has so far been allotted during the current year towards the cost of one of the State's road schemes.

## FODDER SCARCITY

262. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the area or areas in India where fodder scarcity existed during the past six months;

(b) what steps were taken by Government to ameliorate that scarcity;

(c) whether any cattle death has occurred in any of these areas on account of starvation; and

(d) if the reply to part (c) above be in the affirmative, how many fodder starvation deaths have occurred?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Fodder scarcity prevailed, until the summer rains this year, in the States of Ajmer, Bombay (Gujerat area), Delhi, Kutch, Madras (Rayalaseema area), Mysore, PEPHU (Mohindergarh Distt.), Punjab (Hariana tract) Rajasthan, Saurashtra and U. P. (Eastern Districts).

(b) A note describing the measures taken by Government is placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Yes.

(d) Cattle deaths on account of starvation occurred in District Mohindergarh of PEPHU and District Hissar of Punjab, the number involved being 1,200 and 29,056 respectively. A few heads of cattle died of starvation in Rajasthan too but the number is not known. Some deaths occurred in District Gonda of U.P. as well, but these were not directly due to starvation. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 38.]

#### PILFERAGE OF GOODS FROM RUNNING TRAINS

**263. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which reports of goods and parcels having been pilfered from running trains were received by different railways during the year 1951-52;

(b) the cases in which goods or parcels were recovered by the Railway Police or any other police;

(c) the cases in which prosecutions started and offenders were brought to book; and

(d) whether railway men were found to be involved in such cases and if so, in which of the cases?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) 5400.

(b) 575.

(c) 401.

(d) Yes, in 150 cases.

#### CARRIAGE OF FOODGRAINS BY RAILWAYS

**264. Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the total tonnage of foodgrains carried over by different Railways during the years 1950 and 1951?

(b) What was the weight of foodgrains lost or damaged in transit by rail on which claims were preferred during these years?

(c) What was the total amount of claims preferred by the various State Governments during these years?

(d) What was the amount finally paid by the Railways during this period?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Total tonnage of foodgrains carried by different Railways during the years 1950 and 1951 was 68,77,178 tons and 75,20,804 tons respectively.

(b) The weight of foodgrains lost or damaged in transit by rail on which claims were preferred during the years 1950 and 1951 was 6,508 tons and 7,160 tons respectively.

(c) The total amount of claims preferred by the various State Governments during the years 1950 and 1951 was Rs. 21,02,718 and Rs. 23,45,954 respectively.

(d) Amount finally paid by Railways during the years 1950 and 1951 was Rs. 8,24,857 and Rs. 7,89,428 respectively.

#### GODOWNS

**265. Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss of food grains due to want of proper storage in stores under the management of the Central Government during the years 1949, 1950 and 1951; and

(b) the steps taken for improved storage?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a)—

	1949	1950	1951
Tons		Tons	Tons
	817	405	369

(b) The grain is stored in suitable godowns and disinfection measures and fumigation of infested stocks are carried out systematically to ensure that there is no deterioration. Technical staff has been provided at each centre.

#### EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME

**266. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state the total number of employees and of what industries who are to get benefit of the employees' provident fund scheme under the Employees' Provident Fund Act?

(b) What are the conditions for the application of this scheme to the factories and what will be the contributions of the employers and the employees?

(c) How will the funds be administered in the Centre and the States?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) The six industries which are at present covered by the Act are cement, cigarettes, electrical, mechanical or general engineering products, iron and steel, paper and textiles. Accurate information is not available in respect of the total number of employees entitled to the benefits under the Act. It is, however, estimated that the number of such employees is likely to be between 13 and 16 lacs.

(b) The scheme applies to all factories engaged in the industries mentioned in reply to question (a) in which fifty or more persons are employed; except (i) a factory belonging to the Government or a local authority, and (ii) any other factory which is not three years old.

The contribution payable by the employer under the scheme is at the rate of one anna in the rupee of the basic wages and the dearness allowance payable to each employee and the contribution payable by the employee is an equal amount.

(c) The Fund will be administered by a Board of Trustees in the Centre and by similar Boards in the States. The Central Government have, however, taken over the responsibility for the administration of the Fund during the first year, after which, powers are intended to be delegated to the State Governments under Section 19 of the Act.

#### FOOD GIFTS FROM CHINA AND RUSSIA

**267. Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether certain private organisations in China and Russia have sent gifts of food-grains and money for relief of distressed areas in Madras and Travancore-Cochin?

(b) If so, how have these gifts been distributed?

(c) What is the total amount of gifts received so far in money and in kind?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Yes. Certain gifts have been received from private organizations in Russia and China for relief work in distressed areas.

(b) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 39.]

#### CALCUTTA PORT (CONGESTION)

**268. Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state what was the amount of imports of all commodities at the port of

Calcutta during the months of June and July, 1952?

(b) What was the corresponding amount of exports in the same period (month by month and commodity-wise)?

(c) What was the average number of vessels that were accommodated daily at the port of Calcutta both for export and import?

(d) What further steps have been taken to meet the congestion of ships at the port?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) to (c). Two statements giving the required information are laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 40.]

(d) The congestion in the Port of Calcutta during recent months has been almost entirely due to the rush of shipping for cargoes of coal. The quantity of coal that can be exported through the Port is limited by the wagon supply position and the number of berths with facilities for handling coal. Attention is invited to the reply given by the Minister for Production on the 21st November 1952 to part (b) of the Question No. 554 by Dr. Ram Subhag Singh in which the steps taken to remedy the situation have been indicated.

#### GODOWNS

**269. Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of godowns in each State owned by the Central Government meant for the storage of food-grains, their holding capacity and the cost of constructing them;

(b) whether all of them are waterproof and insect-proof;

(c) the number of rented godowns in each State and the monthly rents thereof;

(d) whether the godowns referred to in part (c) above are all waterproof and insect-proof; and

(e) the extent of the deterioration, if any, of the foodgrains stored in the godowns during the year 1952?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 41.]

(b) and (d). They are waterproof but not insect-proof. Bag Storage godowns cannot be made insect-proof.

(e) 448 tons.

## FAILURE OF RAINFALL

270. **Shri T. N. Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the areas where there has been failure of rainfall and the areas where there has been heavy rainfall resulting in any damage to crops in the year 1952?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): A statement giving the available information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 42.]

## POST OFFICES (REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE)

271. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Post Offices, or combined Post and Telegraph offices, opened in each of the last five years, ending 31st March, 1952, in each of the Part A, B and C States, and the number of such offices closed down during the same period in the several States and the volume of postal business of the different kinds done in each office; and

(b) the revenue and expenditure of each of these Post Offices, or combined Post and Telegraph Offices, in each of the five years ending 31st March, 1952?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A statement showing the number of Post Offices and Combined Post and Telegraph Offices opened and closed in each of the last five years ending 31st March, 1952 is attached. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 43.]

Regarding the volume of Postal business of different kinds done in each office and the revenue and expenditure of each of these Post Offices or combined Post and Telegraph Offices, in each of the five years ending 31st March, 1952, as more than 16,000 offices were opened during the period the time and expense involved in the collection of this mass of information will not be commensurate with the result.

## RAILWAY STORES ENQUIRY COMMITTEE REPORT

272. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the value of the stores maintained in or for the Railways in each of the last five years, ending 31st March,

1952, and the corresponding value of Railway Stores on the 31st March, 1939; and

(b) the action taken by Government on the recommendations of the Shroff Committee on the purchase, storage, maintenance and allocation of stores to the several Railways?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):

(a) The value of stores held in stock at the end of the last five years ending 31st March 1952 was:—

	Rs.	crores
On 31.3.1948	28.40	
On 31.3.1949	36.44	"
On 31.3.1950	46.65	"
On 31.3.1951	58.13	"
On 31.3.1952	63.32	"

(Provisional)

The corresponding value on 31.3.1939 was Rs. 10.08 crores.

(b) A statement showing the relevant recommendations of the "Shroff Committee" and the action taken thereon is appended. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 44.]

## DERAILED WAGONS

273. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the time after which the derailed wagon or wagons thrown off the track are removed; and

(b) whether Government are aware that some derailed goods wagons are lying in ditches between Nayagaon and Sitalpur Railway Stations on the N.E. Railway for the last several months?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):

(a) No specific time limit is laid down as the expedition with which removal of such wagons is arranged depends on the circumstances of each case. They are, however, removed as expeditiously as possible.

(b) After a derailment on 3rd March, 1952, some wagons were left lying by the side of the railway track between Nayagaon and Sitalpur stations and they were cleared on 4th September, 1952. Suitable notice is being taken of the delay in this case.

## GONGS BOUND FOR ASSAM

274. **Shri Bell Ram Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased

to state whether it is a fact that considerable volume of goods arriving in Calcutta Port bound for Assam do come by steamer?

(b) Is it also a fact that goods from Assam go to Calcutta by steamer and not by rail link?

(c) Is it a fact that the steamer freight is higher than the Railway freight?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) and (b). Yes. During 1950-51 the all rail borne traffic constituted 31 per cent. of the imports into Assam and 40 per cent. of the exports from Assam. The balance moved either by rail-cum-river route or all-water route.

(c) Yes, in some cases.

#### TELEPHONIC CONNECTIONS

**275. Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the places where telephonic connections are proposed to be provided in Bihar in the near future; and

(b) the progress made in each case?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Telephone exchange at Daltonganj and Public Call Offices at Sitamarhi, Madhubani, Jainagar, Saharsa and Jarmundih.

(b) Daltonganj and Jarmundih	} The works are in progress.
Sitamarhi Madhubani Saharsa Jainagar	
	} Arrangements for commencing the works are being made.

All of these works are expected to be completed before the end of the current financial year.

#### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME (FELLOWSHIPS)

**276. Shri Bansal:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fellowships and scholarships offered to India so far under the Technical Assistance Scheme and any other scheme of the International Labour Organisation;

(b) the number of applications received and the actual number of per-

sons selected from each of the following categories of persons:—

(i) Central and State Government employees; and

(ii) Private organisations and individuals; and

(c) what is the machinery for screening the applications and selecting the candidates?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) In all 8 fellowships have so far been awarded under the I.L.O. fellowships programmes.

(b) Thirty two applications were received from the Central and State Government servants and sixty applications were received from individuals and through the organisations of employees and employers. Two Government servants, two employees of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation and four nominees of workers' and employers' organisations were selected.

(c) For fellowships awarded by the I.L.O. under its regular programme of technical assistance selection is made by a selection committee consisting of representatives of Government, Employers and Workers. For fellowships under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance which are linked to specific projects, no special machinery has been established for the screening of applicants. Screening is done in the Ministry of Labour on the basis of the following criteria—

(i) The relative need for obtaining training facilities and the benefits which are likely to accrue from such training.

(ii) The relative ability of the candidate to benefit from training in a foreign country.

(iii) The relationship of the candidates' present work with the training.

(iv) The prospects of candidates utilising the training undergone for the good of the country.

It may also be mentioned that as a rule the Ministry of Labour entertain applications only on the recommendations of Government and employers' and workers' organisations, and the selection of the candidates is made with the express approval of the Labour Minister.



## FERTILISERS (DISTRIBUTION)

277. Shri Jasan: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state at what rate the fertilizers produced by the Sindri Factory are supplied to the cultivators?

(b) Is any concession being given to the cultivators under the 'Grow More Food Scheme' and if so, at what rate and under what terms?

(c) What is the proportion of the yield of crop increase by the application of fertilizers?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) A Statement furnishing the rates at which fertilizers produced by the Sindri Factory are supplied to the cultivators in different States is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 45.]

(b) Nitrogenous fertilizers like Sulphate of Ammonia, being very popular with the agriculturists is not eligible for subsidy. A total subsidy of not more than 25 per cent. is however, given for the distribution of other fertilizers. Short term loans at about 3 per cent. per annum are also given for financing the purchase of fertilizers.

(c) The application of 1 ton of sulphate of ammonia normally gives an increased yield of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ton to 2 tons of extra food-grains.

## FAMILY PLANNING COMMISSION

278. Shri Balakrishnan: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether Government have taken steps to popularise the Family Planning Scheme?

(b) If so, what steps are being taken to popularize the Scheme?

The Minister of Health (Bajkumari Amri: Kaur): (a) and (b). Government have screened a film called "Planned Parenthood" in English and six other Indian languages. Three centres have been opened where pilot studies in the rhythm method of family planning are being conducted. A leaflet on the subject has been circulated in the Family Planning Centres and to individuals who asked for it. It is also proposed to film the working of the Centres, to arrange radio talks and to get posters printed for exhibition. Married persons are being given advice on the Rhythm method in the Family Planning Centres at Delhi and Ramnagar.

## JUTE

279. Shri K. C. Sodhia: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what was the total amount of grant spent by the Central Government to secure increase in the production of jute during 1951-52?

(b) What was the amount of grant given to each State?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Rs. 8.47 lakhs.

(b) West Bengal	Rs. 3,90,800
Assam	Rs. 85,540
Bihar	Rs. 73,570
Orissa	Rs. 1,07,575
U.P.	Rs. 1,89,725

## EXTRA DEPARTMENTAL BRANCH POST MASTERS

280. Shri Achuthan: (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state how many Extra Departmental Branch Post Masters are now working in India?

(b) Are there any qualifications fixed for appointing them and whether the local revenue authorities are consulted before appointing them?

(c) How many hours per day are they expected to attend the office and do they enjoy any prior claim to be selected to the regular service if otherwise qualified?

(d) What are the main contents of the latest memorandum submitted by them and what are the decisions thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 33,460 on 30th April, 1952.

(b) No minimum educational qualifications have been prescribed, the main criterion being that the persons selected must have private income or business of their own and live permanently at the places at which they are employed and must be otherwise suitable. Local Civil authorities are generally consulted before making such appointments.

(c) Upto five hours a day. They are eligible to take the Postmen's test as departmental officials provided they are within 40 years of age. Such of them as are otherwise qualified (viz. possess the minimum educational qualification of a pass in the Matriculation examination or its equivalent) are permitted to appear upto the age of 30 years as outside candidates in the examination for recruitment of clerks.

(d) The latest letter referred to is dated 19th November 1951, from the All-India Postal and R.M.S. Union to the Minister requesting enhancement of allowances paid to extra departmental agents, especially to extra departmental Branch Postmasters. The question of enhancement of allowances was examined and it was decided in June, 1952 that the Heads of Circles may, at their discretion, sanction allowances not exceeding Rs. 10/- p.m. in addition to the allowances justified when they are required to undertake work other than their usual one, viz. conveyance and/or delivery of mails in case of the extra-departmental postmasters.

#### T. B. AMONG P. & T. EMPLOYEES

281. Dr. Rama Rao : (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state what is the total number of persons employed in the Posts and Telegraphs Department?

(b) What is the estimated number of persons falling ill due to Tuberculosis among these employees and their families, according to the T. B. Adviser to the Government of India?

(c) How many beds are considered necessary to meet their needs according to the same authority?

(d) How many beds have Government provided?

(e) Are Government contemplating constructing new Sanatoria for these employees and their families?

(f) If so, when and where and if not, why not?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 2,13,545 as on 31st March, 1952.

(b) The T.B. Adviser has not been specifically consulted on this point. Information is, however, being collected from the Heads of Circles. On the basis of the accepted morbidity rate of 0.5 per cent. the number would be roughly 4,000.

(c) About 800 according to departmental estimate.

(d) 13 beds are reserved for the P. & T. staff at various sanatoria.

(e) and (f). Government are considering a proposal to construct special P. and T. Wards in six selected sanatoria at Madanpalle, Miraj, Pendra Road, Kasauli, Itki and Madar (Ajmer), providing in all for 120 beds in the near future.

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#### N. W. RAILWAY (CONTRACTS)

282. Shri C. K. Chowdhary: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the Government of India have accepted initial liability for the contractual claims over old N.W. Railway operating now over the Northern Railway?

(b) When did they accept such liability?

(c) How many such claims have so far been made and what is the total sum so claimed?

(d) How many claims have so far been accepted and paid?

(e) How many are still under consideration?

(f) How many claims have so far been rejected?

(g) How many of these rejected claims have been taken to court?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Abegama):

(a) and (b). Besides the claims for which the Government of India is legally liable in terms of article 8 of the Indian Independence (Rights, Property and Liabilities) Order 1947, India took over the initial liability for the contractual claims against the old N.W. Railway which are the legal liability of the Government of Pakistan as an *ex-gratia* measure in terms of Government of India Press Communiqué of 23rd May 1948.

(c) 4396 claims for Rs. 2,37,66,044.

(d) 803 claims

(e) 1987 claims

(f) 1606 claims

(g) 1 claim.

#### MILK POWDER

283. Shri Natesan: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) how much quantity of milk powder has been received from foreign countries from January to the end of October 1952; and

(b) how much of this quantity has been supplied to Madras State?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) It is presumed that the reference is to gift supplies received from abroad by the Central Government. The total quantity of milk powder received in the period including supplies received from the

United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund is 10,34,600 lbs. The total quantity of condensed milk received in the same period is 2,30,172 lbs.

(b) 500,000 lbs. of milk powder and 50,000 lbs. of condensed milk. Besides, 20,000 lbs. of milk powder and 10,000 lbs. of condensed milk have been supplied to Madras in this period from a consignment received in the last year.

#### SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS TO MADRAS

284. Shri Veeraswamy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of foodgrains required for annual consumption in Madras State;

(b) the number of tons of foodgrains asked for from the Centre by Madras State for 1951-52;

(c) the number of tons of foodgrains promised and allocated; and

(d) how many tons of foodgrains have so far been supplied?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) It is difficult to give any definite figure to represent the requirements of the State in which a large part of the population is not rationed. The requirements will depend a great deal on the price. The rationing requirements of Madras in a normal year used to range from 15 to 18 lakh tons.

(b) to (d). The basic plan of distribution of foodgrains is worked on the basis of the calendar year. For 1952 Madras estimated a deficit of 9.5 lakh tons at the beginning of the year, and they were promised a supply of 6.8 lakh tons as their ceiling import quota. The allocations upto November amount to 4.34 lakh tons, of which 4.06 lakh tons were despatched upto 7-11-52, the latest date for which the information is available.

#### SUPPLY OF RICE TO HYDERABAD

285. Shri H. G. Vaishnav: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rice allocated to Hyderabad State out of the rice quota which India is going to receive from China and Japan within next few months; and

(b) what is the total demand of rice made by Hyderabad State to the Centre for the next six months?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The entire quantity of rice due to us from China against the existing purchases will have arrived before the end of December, 1952 and it is not proposed to allot any of this rice to Hyderabad during December, 1952.

No rice has been purchased from Japan.

(b) The Basic Plan of distribution of foodgrains is worked on the basis of the calendar year. For 1952, Hyderabad wanted 24,000 tons rice which has already been allotted to them. For 1953, their provisional estimate of the rice required from the Centre is 37,000 tons and the quota will be fixed at the beginning of next year taking into account overall availability of rice and the actual requirements of the State and other deficit areas.

#### SUBURBAN TRAIN SERVICE IN BOMBAY

286. Shri K. G. Deshmukh: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a new arrangement has been made for running a local train at an interval of every five minutes on the suburban services of the Central and Western Railways in Bombay from January, 1953?

(b) How many local trains are running in the above-mentioned area at present?

(c) What will be the additional number of trains due to the introduction of this new scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes, from 1st January 1953 arrangements have been made to maintain a 5-minute service into and out of Bombay during the morning and evening peak periods.

(b) 629 trains.

(c) 108 trains.

#### WAGONS (CAPACITY)

287. Shri Achuthan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative load capacity of a metre-gauge and a broad-gauge wagon and the running cost of both types of trains per mile; and

(b) the approximate additional capital expenditure required per mile if a broad-gauge line is to be constructed instead of metre-gauge?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):**

(a) The average capacity of a Broad Gauge wagon is 21.8 tons and that of a Metre Gauge 13.6 tons. The working expenses per train mile are Rs. 13/- for Broad Gauge and Rs. 10.1 for Metre Gauge.

(b) The difference in the capital expenditure for Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge lines depends upon the type of country and the standard to which the line is to be constructed, but on the average it may be taken as about Rs. 2 lakhs per mile.

**बालामऊ और सीतापुर के बीच रेलगाड़ियों का चलना**

२८८. श्री बी० नार० वर्मा : (क)

रेल मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार को पता है कि बालामऊ और सीतापुर तथा बालामऊ और कानपुर के बीच चलने वाली रेलगाड़ियां हरदोई से चलें इस मांग के सम्बन्ध में उत्तर प्रदेश के हरदोई जिले की जनता द्वारा एक समृतिपत्र भेजा गया था ?

(ख) यदि पता है तो, इस विषय में क्या पग उठाये गये हैं ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):**

(a) Yes.

(b) The suggestions have been examined. There is no sufficient traffic justification for extending the train services to and from Hardoi.

**UJJAIN-INDORE RAILWAY LINE**

289. Shri N. L. Joshi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the survey work of a broad-gauge line between Ujjain and Indore is completed?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** No survey has yet been undertaken for a broad gauge line between Ujjain and Indore, but a project for connecting Indore by broad gauge railway to Maksi or Tarana is under examination.

**MINOR IRRIGATION WORKS**

290. Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of Rs. 10 crores, set apart for minor irrigation works in the Budget for 1952-53 has been distributed among the various States; and

(b) if so, when and in what proportion?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) and (b). Under the G.M.F. Rules, these funds are not distributed in any proportion between the various States but are made available to individual States on the basis of specific approved schemes. The basic principles applied in judging the suitability of minor irrigation schemes to be financed out of this fund are that the schemes should be economical and of permanent productive value, ready for immediate execution and capable of producing results within the next two or three years. Proposals have been received from a number of States and these are under scrutiny. So far, a total sum of Rs. 2,13,10,000/- has been sanctioned out of this fund out of which Rs. 34 lakhs have been given to Bombay, Rs. 94,10,000/- to the U.P., Rs. 20 lakhs to Hyderabad, and Rs. 65 lakhs to Mysore.

## (Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

## OFFICIAL REPORT

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## HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Thursday, 27th November, 1952

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven  
of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-45 A.M.

CINEMATOGRAPH (AMENDMENT)  
BILL

The Minister of Information and  
Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): I beg to  
move for leave to introduce a Bill to  
amend the Cinematograph Act, 1952.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to intro-  
duce a Bill to amend the Cinematog-  
raph Act, 1952."

The motion was adopted.

Dr. Keskar: I introduce the Bill.

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER  
RE INDUSTRIAL FINANCE  
CORPORATION

Mr. Speaker: Then hon. Prime Minis-  
ter wanted to make a statement?

The Prime Minister and Minister of  
External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal  
Nehru): With your permission, I  
should like to say a few words about a  
matter that came up before the House  
yesterday. I was not present then, but  
my colleagues informed me of it. It  
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came up when the House was discus-  
sing the Industrial Finance Corporation  
(Amendment) Bill. I understand that  
some Members of the House desired  
that the names of the industrial con-  
cerns to which the Corporation has  
advanced loans should be communi-  
cated to the House, and my colleague  
who was in charge of that Bill found  
some difficulty in doing so, because of  
the policy thus far pursued in this  
matter. Indeed only a few days ago,  
I think on the 7th November, my col-  
league the hon. Finance Minister in  
answering a question by an hon. Mem-  
ber of the House as to whether a cer-  
tain firm had been granted a loan,  
stated as follows:

"The borrowing concerns are  
entitled to such secrecy which is  
customary between a banker and  
the customer with regard to their  
banking transactions, and it would  
not therefore be in the public  
interest to furnish this informa-  
tion."

Now, I am no expert in regard to the  
conduct of banks, either from the  
borrowing or the other point of view.  
So I tried to bring a fresh layman's  
mind to bear on this question. The  
first thing that obviously struck me  
was this. When we have followed a  
policy and proceeded on the basis of  
that and given certain assurances to  
parties, it would not be fair, regard-  
less of other considerations, for us to  
go behind those assurances, in so far  
as they have been given with the con-  
sent of the parties concerned.

Secondly, when my hon. colleague  
the Finance Minister, who is most inti-  
mately concerned with this matter and  
has been following this policy, I should  
not like without consulting him, to say  
anything definite about this matter.  
Nevertheless, I realise completely that  
there is force in what some hon. Mem-  
bers stated in this House that this  
matter should be considered fully at

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

a little later stage, when, if I may say so, my colleague the Finance Minister is here! It should be remembered that these firms, first of all, this Industrial Finance Corporation is an autonomous corporation, no doubt, responsible to Government. Normally speaking in regard to an autonomous organisation, Parliament does not interfere in their normal day to day activities. Of course, it can wind them up if necessary, or inquire into any serious misfeasance. That is a different matter, but the very idea of putting up an autonomous organisation is that they should have freedom to carry on their businesses, subject to certain overall policy or control of Government or of Parliament. That is one point.

Secondly, in regard to the firms to whom the money has been lent, I understand that they are public limited companies. Now this relationship is somewhat different on the one hand from the relationship, let us say, of the Damodar Valley Corporation and the Government—the Damodar Valley Corporation is a completely Government organisation—on the other hand, the relationship of the Industrial Finance Corporation which lent the money to these people cannot be equated entirely, as far as I can see, with that of a private banker doing it. So this stands in a third category, and because it is an intermediate category, considerations on the other side can be advanced. And for the moment, I do not like to say anything definite as to what the future policy in regard to this matter should be. But I would submit that we should not like, if any undertakings have been given, assurances given, or policies stated, to go behind them so far as the past is concerned, without consulting the parties concerned, and more especially the hon. Finance Minister when he comes back. And then the future policy can also be considered and laid before the House.

It is not merely question of stating the names of those to whom money has been lent, but the question may arise of putting forward the names of those firms to whom money has not been given or whose applications have been rejected. Now that creates a further difficulty. If we publicise that we have not given money to a particular firm, there may be many reasons, and it may hurt their trading. It may be that we did not think it worthwhile, or whatever the reason may be, it may hurt their trading.

Then again, if we discuss the internal affairs of a public limited company to whom we had given money, I submit that it would not be in keeping with the normal practice of this House that we should go into details of this kind, and various difficulties would arise.

I would submit to the House, that these questions having been raised, we hope to take them up and consider them, when the hon. Finance Minister comes back, and we should consult representatives of the House too at that time and have their views and then inform the House too about this matter.

Secondly, if any Member says that he has information in his possession, which leads him to suspect that something wrong has occurred, we shall very gladly inquire into the matter, if he will place that information before us

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee** (Calcutta North-East): May I make a submission, Sir?

**Mr. Speaker:** Not at this stage. We shall take it up when the Bill comes up for discussion.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** May I submit that in view of the Government's attitude in regard to this matter, it might be advisable to postpone the discussion of this Bill till such time as the hon. Finance Minister returns?

**Mr. Speaker:** Unfortunately the Bill is not before the House now.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** In that case, I would like to ask, in view of the Industrial Finance Corporation (Amendment) Bill, as well as certain other Bills dealing with the industrial policy of the Government being pending before the House, would Government consider the desirability of allotting a day or more for discussing industrial policy. As a matter of fact, in the course of the discussion of such Bills as the Sugar (Additional Excise Duty) Bill, the hon. Deputy-Speaker actually suggested that it will be a good thing if the House could have a day for discussion on industrial policy, and that in view of all these questions coming up from time to time, it might very well be advisable for the hon. Prime Minister to agree to the allotment of a day or more for the discussion of the basic points of industrial policy.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar (Tirupati): May I clarify my position, Sir. It is never for the Chair, as you know, to suggest that there will be allotted a day for this purpose. It is the business of the Government, to do so, having regard to the views of the Members of the House. All that I said was, when there was a general discussion started on industrial policy, when the sugar cess Bill was being discussed, if the hon. Member was interested in pursuing it up, he might arrange for a separate day. That does not mean that I wanted that a separate day should be given.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May I say a word, Sir? As the hon. Member has asked me for a day, I am very happy that the House discusses any subject, but it is beyond my capacity to increase the number of days in the year or the month or the number of hours in the day. And we have got not too many days left, we are full up.

On this particular matter that I referred to in my statement, as far as I can see, it has nothing to do with the Bill. It is a separate matter which can be taken up and decided; the question whether information about certain names be given or not does not affect the larger policy of any Bill, or our industrial policy.

#### FOOD ADULTERATION BILL

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further consideration of the motion moved by Rajkumari Amrit Kaur yesterday re Food Adulteration Bill.

I am told that the Mover wants to add the name of the hon. Minister for Agriculture, Dr. P. S. Deshmukh.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (New Delhi): I am glad to have the opportunity to say a few words in support of this Bill. A country like India which is suffering from malnutrition on a very large scale does need a Bill of this nature. How rampant malnutrition is in this country has been admitted more than once, and particularly in the Planning Commission Report I have seen such phrases have occurred. (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: Order order. Let there be no talk, interfering with the debate.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: In the Planning Commission Report they say:

"There is no doubt that malnutrition occupies a prominent position

in the causation of high infantile, maternal and general mortality rate in India..... Our food deficiencies are a very serious public health problem."

We also know that the expectation of life in India is below 30 and that the death rate is as high as 40. In a country like this, any measure that goes to improve the food position is very welcome and this measure has not come too early. It is an overdue measure because the Bhore Committee Report suggested this measure long ago.

Now, what are the causes of malnutrition? The biggest cause is the shortage of food, then unbalanced diet and thirdly, adulteration. As far as shortage of food is concerned, the problem is very big. It has been before us and the Government is trying to do a lot in order to improve the position. We cannot very easily tackle it, but we are trying dealing with it. As far as unbalanced diet is concerned, we have to educate the people to have proper diet and to make available food-stuffs which would balance the diet. The third is adulteration. This is a problem which we can, I think, more easily tackle. If whatever food is available in the country can be had by the people in unadulterated form at least some percentage of the problem of malnutrition can be tackled. Therefore, I am very happy to welcome this Bill. I myself have seen in intense form cases of malnutrition. For instance, I remember what I had seen in the Kurukshetra Camp where 3 lakhs of people had gathered. We could not supply them with proper food, as a result night blindness and scabies became two of the raging diseases there. (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. hon. Members ought not to talk and interfere with the debate.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: During my travelling in the rural areas in different parts of India, I have come across high malnutrition rates. For instance, when I was touring the rural areas of South India, Madras I came across large numbers of children with white marks on their lips. I thought it was some kind of Leucoderma. But when I asked doctors, I was informed that that was a manifestation of malnutrition. I have seen similar cases in Bihar and Bengal. Therefore, it goes without saying that malnutrition is one of the very big problems that this country has to tackle and we might tackle it, to some extent—to a

[Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani]

very small extent—by trying to prevent adulteration.

12 Noon

It is a very deplorable fact that with the advance of civilisation, adulteration seems to have increased. At least that applies to this country. Formerly the producer and the seller was the same man and the chances of passing off unguenuine stuff to the consumer were less. It could easily be detected and the man could be punished. But now when the gap between the consumer and the producer is big, when there is a chain of intermediaries the chances of adulteration are larger, and it is very difficult to detect. And to add to this, scientific knowledge has now been harnessed, not in the cause of removing adulteration, but in the cause of increasing adulteration. Scientists are working and giving us very fine methods of adulteration. It is a well known fact that mustard oil is adulterated to a large extent with Argimona—I do not know what it is. But I remember some years back when beri beri was rampant and it took a heavy toll of life, we were told this was due to adulteration of mustard oil with argimona and also perhaps due to improper storing of rice.

So adulteration can take very serious forms. In Calcutta, for instance, it is well known in what devious forms milk is adulterated. It will be interesting if I remind the House that some time ago no less a person than Rajaji in one of his public remarks mentioned that cowdung has been used in gurr for adulteration. We have heard of glass being used in sugar for adulteration, and not the least, I come to ghee, which is a very popular subject. The controversy between ghee and vanaspati has again and again come to the floor of the House. I am afraid great exponents of purity of ghee like Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava have been defeated here in their attempt to persuade the Government to adopt measures by which pure ghee can be made available to the public. It is very interesting: on the one side, Government has brought this Bill to prevent adulteration; on the other, the adulteration of ghee which is going on on a very large scale all over the country is not stopped—for what reasons I cannot say. Some Members have already referred to it but here I would like again to say some thing about this controversy. Now, whenever we try to impress upon the Government that some steps should be taken to prevent hydrogenation of vegetable oil or to introduce colourisation of vegetable oil, it is not done—

I do not want to use the word 'opposed'—but it is not done and some excuse or other is given. I remember when I was a member of the Congress Working Committee, this issue came before us and we spent hours discussing it. But what is the position? Till today we have not found out any method either to colourise vegetable oil, nor have we made up our mind to stop hydrogenation.

Now, why is it that people have pressed for it? We do admit that the supply of ghee in this country is not sufficient and some kind of vegetable oils will have to be used as its substitute. We are not against vegetable oil as such, but we have opposed this because this is one of the ingredients for the adulteration of ghee. Ghee forms a very important part of the Indian diet. Somehow or other, rightly or wrongly, we feel if there is a little ghee in the diet, it enriches the diet. There is also some kind of religious sentiment attached to ghee. Therefore, people are anxious to have pure ghee in their food. Now, how much adulteration takes place with ghee? I would like to quote a little paragraph from a Government publication. This article was published in the Journal of Scientific and Industrial Research. If the House would bear with me for a few minutes, I would quote it. It is a very highly technical and scientific article and I do not understand much of it. But the little portion that I understood I would like to quote:

"The adulterants, as formerly used, were mostly crude forms of oils and fats of both animal and vegetable origin. With the introduction of hydrogenated oils, these products appear to have found greater favour, because they are cleaner and easier to incorporate and, ordinarily, difficult to detect below certain concentrations. There is increasing evidence on the use of hydrogenated oils for adulterating ghee".

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

"To cite only two instances, an examination of some ghee samples sold in the Calcutta market showed that the majority of them were adulterated with hydrogenated oils. Random samples brought from Mysore and Bangalore markets were tested in the laboratories of the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore."

Now I would like you to mark—

"Thirty-three per cent. of the samples from Mysore contained practically no ghee at all. Of the



Bangalore samples, 25 per cent. were found to be adulterated to the extent of 50 per cent., while 33 per cent. contained only traces of ghee....In most cities and in rural areas too, organised adulteration of ghee seems to have become an established and even flourishing business. In Bombay city alone...

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava** (Gurgaon): Government reports say that 90 per cent. of ghee is adulterated.

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture** (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): That is why they call it vegetable oil.

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani**: That is the biggest ingredient for adulteration of ghee. So, either hydrogenation of vegetable oil should be stopped or some method should be found for colourising vegetable oil. Even today the Deputy Food Minister said that they had not found out an effective method of colourising...

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa**: It is not the Deputy Minister; it is the Minister for Agriculture.

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani**: I beg your pardon. There are so many Ministers, now it is difficult to remember who is a Minister and who is a Deputy!

Even in Europe when margarine was introduced, some controversy arose. What did they do? Margarine was fortified with vitamins and it was introduced to the market as a wholesome food product. Pure butter as well as good margarine were available in the market. One was not allowed to be used as an adulterant ingredient for the other. All that we demand here is that these two, Ghee and Vegetable oil should be separated. We admit sufficient quantity of ghee is not available. Therefore, we will have to use vegetable oil. But vegetable oil should not be available in the market in such form that it could be used as adulterants for ghee. That is all our demand. But we are very sorry that all these years in spite of the eloquence of people like Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava and others and with all the propaganda of the Goraksha people we have not succeeded in making the Government understand this simple point.

Now, let us see what steps the Government have taken so far to prevent adulteration. To start with, the administration of pure food laws were in the hands of local self-governing bodies like District Boards, Corporations and Municipalities. What defect did they suffer from? Their agency was the Health Officer and the Sanitary

Inspector. In some places the Sanitary Inspectors were called Food Inspectors. These officers, first of all, did not have sufficient scientific knowledge to tackle with the problem. When they got samples, they had to be analysed. What facilities did they have for the analysing of these samples? Except in some States and some corporations, the local laboratories were poorly equipped. They were not in a position to analyse these samples properly. Then they also did not have sufficient power to deal with the cases. As Shrimati Renu Chakravarty gave you a description yesterday, usually this Act is enforced on the poor hawkers, the milkmen and the small people and not the big people, the powerful people who really do great harm and earn a lot of money out of it. That is why there is no popular backing for the measure. Any measure which helps to stop adulteration should have full popular backing, but the way these laws are administered in India fail to evoke popular sympathy. I remember, a year or two back, when the hawkers were being removed from the New Delhi pavements, the way the whole thing was being done evoked our sympathy for the hawkers, for the people who were squatting there. Therefore, the Act should be enforced in such a way that the biggest culprits, the real people who are making money out of adulteration of food should first be caught so that there is some social opinion created in favour of it and not created against, as it has happened in India. The Pure Food Laws were administered in the early stages by the local bodies but in the last few years, the Provincial Governments have taken up the matter very seriously and many Provincial Governments have passed very comprehensive enactments. Only yesterday, one hon. Member mentioned that in U.P. they have passed a very elaborate and comprehensive enactment. But what has been the result? The legal or statutory provision is there but the Acts are not properly enforced and adulteration has not stopped. As a matter of fact, in the last few years, in spite of the various Acts, adulteration has been on the increase. Why? Because of soaring prices and because of control. Control has given a fillip to adulteration. Miss Annie Mascarene gave us yesterday some sample of rice which is being distributed by ration authorities. For all you know, that rice might not have been supplied to the ration shops by the Government. The proper stuff supplied by the Government goes away somewhere else, sold in the black market and adulteration takes place, and the adulterated stuff is supplied to the people. In recent

[Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani]

years, adulteration has been going on on a very large scale along with the black market. Legislation is therefore not the only remedy. But there is need to improve the existing law is admitted. The State enactments vary from State to State and give rise to confusion in administration. There are various loopholes. For instance, I learn that the Agmark ghee of U.P. is not acceptable in Bengal because Bengal prescribes certain different standards. In the same way the Agmark ghee sealed in Saurashtra is not acceptable in the Punjab because the Punjab standards are different. There is a great deal of confusion prevailing and a uniform Act is necessary. Therefore an Act on an all-India scale is very vitally needed.

Now, we have to see whether this Act will achieve the object. The main difficulty, as the hon. Minister said while introducing the Bill, has been not in legislating but in the administration of the law. We need an honest and efficient administration to carry out the law and then there must be deterrent punishment provided for the offences. What punishment have we provided in this particular Bill? In this particular Bill, under clause 16 we have provided three months' imprisonment and some fine. What fine, it is not specified. I tried to look into the corresponding Acts of different countries. In the American Act, the provision is as follows. The American Act says:

"Any person who violates any of the provisions of section 301 shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and shall, on conviction thereof, be subject to imprisonment for not more than one year or a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or both. And if the violation is committed after a conviction of such person under this section has become final, such person shall be subject to imprisonment for not more than three years or a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars."

What severe punishment is prescribed by the American Act! Now, the punishment prescribed by our Bill is so low that my fear is that it will pay fraudulent dealers to carry on adulteration because they very easily can earn lakhs and pay a small fine and get out. Therefore, deterrent punishment should be prescribed under this Bill; whether it should be one year or two years, or how much the fine should be, I leave it to the Select Committee. My only submission is that the punishment prescribed is not sufficient.

Then there is another important factor. The effective carrying out of a law lies in its being expeditiously carried out. Here, clause 20 provides that after an Inspector has detected such a case, he will have to take the permission in writing of the Government in order to institute proceedings against the party. I cannot make any concrete suggestion as to how you can improve it. Here too, I would request the Select Committee to go carefully into this; because if I were to make a suggestion that the officers of the department, I mean of high calibre officers as soon as they are satisfied could start proceedings, then you might say that frivolous cases might be started. On the other hand, I do know that in the Anti-Corruption Department, there have been cases where the enforcement branch staff after detecting cases have given up to the department for permission to launch proceedings against the offender, but the necessary permission has been withheld because powerful influences had come into play in the meanwhile. So, I do not want this legislation also to suffer from the same defect. Therefore, we may reconsider clause 20 and see in what way we can improve it in order to facilitate quick institution of cases.

Then, I come to the question of the disposal of cases. Cases are instituted, but they are not disposed of for a long time. For instance, I know of a case in Delhi. It is an Agmark case. Some dealer had taken the 'AGMARK' labels and put them on spurious tins. He was caught and the case was instituted two years ago. Still, the case has not been disposed of. Such long delays in the disposal of cases do not act as a deterrent on the offenders, but on the officers concerned. Some of them have personally spoken to me, that they do not care to launch food adulteration cases. In my opinion, therefore, the efficacy of this whole enactment will lie in the expeditious and quick institution of cases and an equally expeditious and quick disposal of cases.

Then, there is the question of detection. At what stage should we detect? If we want to catch the culprit at the retail sale stage, it would be very difficult. You do not know whether you will reach the right man and, after all, how many people can you chase? Therefore, my opinion is that the emphasis should be placed on the prevention of adulteration at the stage of production and not at the stage of retail selling. Here also, there is one difficulty for us in India, because we have very few licensed centres of food

production. If we had such centres, our task would have been easy, but unfortunately in their absence we will have some difficulty. In spite of that, we should try and see how we can detect adulteration cases at the production stage.

Then, let me come to the question of staff. Unless we have good and honest staff, every legislation is useless. The biggest defect in Indian administration after we achieved freedom is that there is corruption and inefficiency in the administration. We can pass the finest laws—absolutely fool-proof laws—and yet they will be useless if they are not carried out by honest staff. This applies more particularly to this kind of legislation. What steps can we take to see that we have proper staff? If you have very low paid staff to do the work, they are likely to be amenable to influence and bribery. Even in England, they have noticed this tendency. I was rather surprised to see this little section in the British Act:

"Any person who wilfully obstructs...an inspector or other officer in the course of his duties or by any gratuity, bribe, promise or other inducement prevents or attempts to prevent the due execution by the inspector or officer of his duties under this Act shall be guilty of offence...etc., etc."

We all know that British administration is a very honest administration. There also, they have felt that these officers are amenable to bribery and influence. How much more are our officers likely to be amenable to bribery and influence? Therefore, we must have properly paid and good-calibre staff to do the work, and as far as the question of money is concerned I would suggest that the fines realised under this measure should go to this Department in order to make it possible for them to have the type of high-calibre staff we want.

Then, another question that arises is this. It is not sufficient just to pass an Act providing for punishment for those who commit adulteration of food. The positive side of the work for the Government is to make pure food available to the people. Unless they can do that, it is no use our providing severe punishment for adulteration. Government should therefore take steps to see that production is improved and cheaper methods of distribution are devised. I was reading some chapters of the Bhoré Committee Report when I found, even they have emphasised this aspect. If therefore the Government is really serious, if it really wants to

stop adulteration, if it really thinks that malnutrition is one of the very serious and major problems of the country which should be tackled, then it is not just enough to pass this legislation. Government should make provision for honest staff to administer the law; it should make provision for the availability of pure food; and finally, it should make provision for the proper institution of cases and their speedy and expeditious disposal.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Shrimati Jayashri.

**Shrimati Maydeo (Poona South)** rose—

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** One lady-Member is as good as the other.

**Shrimati Maydeo:** I stand up to welcome the measure which has been introduced in the House by the hon. Minister of Health.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Will the hon. Member kindly resume her seat? I thought Shrimati Jayashri was not in the House. I find her name in the list which has been handed over to me. I naturally wanted to give her a chance and called her, but if she does not get up to speak, what shall I do in such a matter? Hereafter, I will not respect any chit that is handed over to me. I do not want to put myself in an embarrassing situation like this.

**Shrimati Maydeo:** I thought it was by mistake you called me as "Shrimati Jayashri". That is why I began to speak. I will sit down.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member may go on.

**Shrimati Jayashri (Bombay—Suburban)** rose—

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Since the hon. Member, Shrimati Maydeo, has already started speaking, she may continue.

**Shrimati Maydeo:** Yes, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Before she does so, let me urge upon even the Congress Party one important matter, namely, the great difficulty of the Chair in such matters. I do not know how the Speaker is managing, but personally as far as I am concerned, I am not able to call the names and then this kind of inconvenience arises. Therefore, as early as possible seats must be allotted even to members of the Congress. It is usual to have a chart here before me. If it had been there, I would not commit any mistake like this. The hon. lady-Member will kindly excuse me. She will go on.

**Shrimati Maydeo:** Thank you, Sir.

Everyone in the House accepts that this Bill is most urgently needed and a uniform legislation like this is required to be enacted as soon as possible. Yesterday my hon. friend Miss Annie Mascarene pointed out that this Bill was rather late in the day. This point has been already replied to by the hon. Minister of Health yesterday when she pointed out that she was anxious to enact this law as soon as possible but she was waiting for the inclusion of some more items in the Schedules to the Constitution. In my opinion, the period of constructive legislation can only be said to have commenced in our country from the year 1947, and when we take this year, this Bill is not at all late.

Then, Sir, I was shocked to see my hon. friend Miss Mascarene holding out a packet of rice and saying to the hon. Minister, "Here is your sin". I do not know whether this kind of language is parliamentary. Apart from that, I very much doubt whether any other democratic country would allow such unbalanced and indecent language to be spoken inside the House.

Then, I would refer to what my hon. friend Shrimati Renu Chakravartty said. She said that the laws existing in the different States were not sufficient to prevent adulteration of food and she asked, "If food articles are produced in unhygienic conditions, what are we going to do?" It is quite true that even after enforcing this legislation, it will be very difficult to check food adulteration, because if we look at the definition clause, we find that a variety of articles are included in the list. As far as the enforcement of this law is concerned, we need not go very far. Even in the capital if we stroll through the narrow streets of Old Delhi city we would find that everywhere food is exposed in insanitary places and if these people are to be punished, then the hon. Minister of Health will have to close almost all the restaurants and hotels and thousands of the citizens in the capital will have to go on a fast. It is quite evident that this Bill is very difficult to be enforced.

Vanaspatti is one of the important present day articles of food. Under clause 22, the Central Government is taking powers to make rules—

"(c) laying down special provisions for imposing rigorous control over the production, distribution and sale of milk and milk products;

(d) laying down special provisions for imposing rigorous control over the production, distribution and sale of vanaspatti and edible oils\* \* \* distribution and sale of vanaspatti and edible oils."

It is evident that Government intends to lay down special stress on these two things. The object which Government has in view would be more easily achieved if good milk and pure ghee is supplied to the people. I feel that one more article should be added to the list. Atta is an important item of food of the rich as well as of the poor. Now sub-clause 1(a) of clause 2 says:

"if the article sold by a vendor is not of the nature, substance or quality demanded by the purchaser and is to his prejudice;"

It should be deemed as "adulterated." If special stress is laid that atta should be supplied of a quality demanded by a purchaser, it will serve a very useful purpose in the operation of this measure.

My hon. friend Mrs. Renu Chakravartty asked: how can we check the insanitary conditions? But even persons who go and buy things do not understand what are sanitary and what are insanitary conditions. I have come across many such instances. In the course of my train journeys, I have often seen small boys selling things, emptying their pan containing small packages on the floor of the railway carriages, counting the packages and putting them back in the pan. But no one objected. The ladies who were in the railway carriages were buying the packages all the same. I have often found women themselves picking up things from the floor of the railway carriage and giving it to their children to eat. So what is necessary is to educate our people in sanitary habits and cleanliness. It is not merely a question of economic standards, as suggested by Mrs. Renu Chakravartty which is responsible for this. It is proper education that is required.

Then my hon. friend Mrs. Sucheta Kripalani pointed out that in spite of the fact that Food Adulteration Acts have been in operation in the States, the adulteration of food has not stopped. But if we make vigorous efforts this can be stopped. I can give instances from where I come. In Poona there are ghee shops in the market. The food inspectors make surprise visits to these shops. If ghee is found adulterated, then these people are punished. If

only we concentrate on milk, milk products and *atta*, a majority of food adulteration cases will be covered.

This is a measure which will be welcomed by all sides of the House and by the people at large and I hope that it will come in an improved form from the Select Committee.

**Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated—Anglo-Indians):** I rise particularly to oppose the motion for circulating this measure to elicit public opinion. I believe several Members have put down a motion for circulating the Bill for eliciting public opinion.

When I was speaking previously on the basic principles of good legislation I myself had asserted that it should be an axiom that normally all proposed legislation should be circulated to the public before it is put on the Statute Book. But to that axiom I had postulated an exception in the case of urgent measures. I believe that this Bill is of a particularly urgent character. As a matter of fact, I believe it is long overdue.

I think it was George Bernard Shaw who said that it is better never than late; but I would congratulate the Health Minister by saying that it is better late than never. I did not have the opportunity of hearing some of the preceding speakers, but I do not think the position has been sufficiently underlined that adulteration has assumed such a nation-wide character that it has become a definite menace to the health of the nation. I was talking to somebody the other day and I gave it as my opinion and that person accepted it, that adulteration like the manufacture of illicit liquor has now become one of our main national industries.

I have no doubt that a good deal of thought and time has gone into the preparation of this Bill and if I criticise some of the provisions, I hope the Health Minister will not think I am pointing a finger at her personally. But I do feel very strongly that at least some of the provisions of this Bill are not only vague, but much too idealistic in character. I feel that this Bill has more or less been extracted from some similar measure which is all very well in its application to a country like America where the standards of living are very different from our own. But I feel strongly that if this Bill is not to become a dead letter such as the legislation in most of our States has become, I think it requires drastic pruning. Above all, it must be given a practical and a realistic bias. I feel at present it has neither real purpose

nor direction. Some of the provisions are of much too omnibus and blanket a character to give, as I said, any real purpose to this measure.

I want to illustrate this by referring to some of the proposed provisions. In clause 2 which is the definitions clause, sub-clause (i) says that an article of food shall be deemed to be adulterated... (e) if the article had been prepared, packed or kept under insanitary conditions whereby it has become contaminated or injurious to health. This is a provision of perfection. The words are "if the article had been prepared, packed or kept under insanitary conditions". Now, Sir, let us not try to be too idealistic; let us try and get our teeth on the iron of realities. Life in India is insanitary. That is not an accusation; it is not a criticism. We are a poverty smitten country, and poverty and insanitary conditions are synonymous. It would be impossible, not to include, but to exclude, most articles of food from a blanket provision of this sort. What article in India has not either been prepared, packed or kept under insanitary conditions? To my mind, as I said, the whole thing is to that extent unreal—because it does not take note of actual living conditions.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If a sweet-meat shop is kept exactly over a nauseating drain, what is the other power which Government has except under the provisions of this Bill to stop it? I am sure this power will be exercised with great caution.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** I am going to try and make it a little more precise. If you think that keeping a sweet-meat shop over a nauseating drain brings it within the mischief of this definition, then immediately all the shops in Delhi will come under the mischief of the definition "insanitary" because they are exposed to heat or dust or flies. Any one makes them insanitary. And immediately you put out of business practically every sweet-meat vendor, in Delhi at any rate.

I now come to clause 2(i) (g). Here again I will make some concrete suggestions. This clause says: "if the article is obtained from a diseased animal...". I am not advocating that we should eat diseased meat. But here again the whole thing is utterly impractical. Only the other day the Minister of Agriculture said that we have no agency for ascertaining how much of our cattle population is or is not diseased. How are we going to tackle this? We have no agency for preventing it. Somebody who poses as a statistician has said that 90 per cent.

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of our cattle are diseased. What are we going to do about it? It is merely an assertion.

How are we going to find out about meat? What about milk? Who is going to pin-point the fact that the milk we get is drawn, ninety per cent., from tubercular cattle—which is a fact. Unless we have first things first, unless we start with the premise or we have an agency for ascertaining that our cattle are tubercular, for labelling them as tubercular and for their segregation, what is the point of having a provision of this sort and saying that any article which is obtained from a diseased animal makes a person liable to criminal prosecution?

Then comes the second part of this sub-clause (g). Frankly, I feel this measure has been largely drawn up by a legalist but who has a sense either of the sardonic or the ridiculous. The provision here is: "or from an animal fed upon unwholesome food". I do not know whether the Health Minister eats animals of any description. I do. You are going at one fell swoop to exclude all animals fed on unwholesome food. What will we exclude? "Unwholesome food"—it is a question of degree. After all, what is unwholesome food? We will immediately exclude all poultry. Is it not a notorious fact that your ducks and your chickens which come from your villages are notoriously dirty feeders, even if we exclude the unfortunate pig, which is a dirty feeder: they normally feed from the garbage heaps.

**Dr. M. M. Das (Burdwan—Reserved—Sch. Castes):** Unwholesome human food.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** Unwholesome food. I do not know whether it is the intention of the Health Minister to immediately exclude from my menu poultry, ducks, chickens, and even pigs. What I am trying to indicate is the absurdity of the proposition when we try and apply refinements which may be applicable to a country like America where we are told that everything that comes out of the kitchen is not even touched by hand. Let us carry it to the logical conclusion. This is a serious definition. It is intended to be applied in order to brand a person as a criminal. Let us take the ducks and fowls which are fed on unwholesome food, and let us apply the logical conclusion. The logical conclusion is that we would have to eliminate—I do not say my friends in this House—but we would have to eliminate 90 per cent. of

the human population in this country. I make the assertion that 90 per cent. of Indians live on unwholesome food. We talk of unwholesome food for the animal population when we are not able to guarantee wholesome food for our human population!

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** This is an attempt.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The only difference seems to be that whereas that animal is eaten, this man is not eaten!

**Shri Frank Anthony:** Man might be more acceptable as an article of food, perhaps; it is a matter of opinion; I have no personal experience of it! But I am appealing to the Health Minister to be a little less visionary and a little more practical. I shall make my suggestions; they may not be accepted. But we have to focus our attention on the most urgent needs and the greatest evils of adulteration. We can do that. I submit, by changing or revising the definition of 'food'. In clause 2(v) it is said that "'food' means any article used as food or drink by man." I say this definition is at large. If we leave it in this vague and inchoate form this measure will necessarily be still-born and dead as all your other grandiose legislation in your States has been.

I say, let us start with first things first. It is only my own estimate. I would say: let us come down and enumerate or specify what we regard as the foods which are the objects of adulteration—place them in an order of priority. Let us in our definition include these objects specifically. Let us not dissipate our attention and energies in trying to get hold of some poor little vegetable vendor whose products may be exposed to heat and flies and an inspector prosecuting him because he cannot get adequate hush-hush money. Let us concentrate on these priorities.

I am not going to discuss ghee as such. But to my mind the first priority should be given to all forms of cooking media, and we should say 'food' which means the following: cooking media of all forms. I submit, and I believe it is a perfectly valid submission, that the health of the country is being destroyed because it is absolutely impossible not only for the average person but perhaps for 90 per cent. of the Members of this House to get anything which approximates to a pure cooking medium.

The Members of the Treasury benches may be more fortunate in getting their supplies from privileged

sources. I have no such source. Today it is quite impossible. In this connection I would elaborate the suggestion made by my hon. friend Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani. First, we should have this list. On that list, the first place should be given to cooking media but we must give some sanctions to this Bill. Otherwise it will be absolutely still-born unless we have some sanctions behind it; that provision will have to be linked up with clause 20. I do not agree at all with clause 20 which deals with the cognizance and trial of offences. According to this clause the cases will be triable by a second class Magistrate. I say that the more serious offences—and we are going to enumerate them—should be triable at least by a first class Magistrate. Then again Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani has read from the American Measure. In this connection so far as cooking media are concerned, if a person is tried for an offence with regard to cooking media, first of all it should be triable by a first class Magistrate. Secondly, if we are not trifling with this Bill—we are serious about it, I believe the Minister is serious about it—let us prescribe a deterrent compulsory jail sentence. There is no other way of dealing with the problem because it has become too widespread, and habitual. If it is left within the discretion of a court to levy fines say from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100, it may be profitable to some concerns which practise adulteration on a large scale and they will continue to incur small fines of this character.

Then I come to the next item. As I have said, I feel that we should first specify cooking media. The next item that I would place in order of priority would be cereals—rice, wheat, *atta*, etc. When my servants have got rationed food in Delhi, they have complained bitterly that the rice, wheat or sugar have been mixed with sand, mixed with all kinds of impure elements many of which are definitely injurious.

Then there is milk. I would place milk as the third item in the list of food. In this connection may I say that I would not have such strenuous objections to getting adulterated milk at least if we could be certain that the water is reasonably clean. We cannot be certain of that. I am a keen shikari and I usually get out at 4 o'clock on a Sunday morning to shoot. I see the milkmen with their cans lined up on the banks of the various canals. I do not know whether you have scrutinised the water of some of these canals.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** First provide themselves with alternatives before they scrutinise these things.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** The next item which I would place on the list is tinned foods, particularly powdered milk and baby foods. I was having lunch with one of our very distinguished Governors not so long ago and I was told on good authority that one of the most popular baby foods in this country, at least a spurious imitation is being manufactured by a concern either in Bombay or Calcutta and is maintaining a huge industry. Tins, labels, all spurious products are produced in this factory and the market is being flooded with them. So, this is what I suggest, Sir. I am not giving this as an exhaustive list.

We have provided in clause 22 for rule making powers for the Central Government. I have only given an example of how I consider this definition of food should be dealt with. Let us categorise it as 1, 2, 3, 4. Give rule making powers to the Government to expand the list if necessary. The Select Committee may expand the list but to have food defined in this inchoate way is dangerous as my friend Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani pointed out. With an underpaid staff, Food Inspectors will be encouraged, will be driven to eke out their niggardly salaries by harassing little people, poor people, by getting hold of some men merely because there are lot of flies on their sweets; but if we specify these objects we will be able to concentrate attention and this measure against these particular types of food.

I would draw the attention of the Minister to three other suggestions. I am not on the Select Committee and I will not be here for the discussion after that. There is a reference to public analysts. I would like to have some amendment to this clause regarding public analysts, ensuring that the analyst will immediately analyse the food that has been sent with report from a private purchaser. Let me give the Health Minister an example which took place in this capital city of ours. A lady bought some meat. She looked at it closely. She found it was obviously diseased. She could not afford a car. She went in a tonga to the Municipal Authorities. They said "We have nothing to do with diseased meat." She then went to some laboratory. The person in charge said "We have nothing to do with diseased meat". She went back to the Municipal Authorities, made a report and left the place disgusted. Her disgust was

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aggravated by the fact that she had to spend Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 on tonga hire. One week later she got a letter from the Municipal Authorities asking her to produce the diseased meat for their inspection. I want some provision to prevent this kind of thing.

Then there is clause 9 about Food Inspectors. Is it the intention of Government to have them as whole time Government servants? This provision leaves the matter in *vacua*. From the provision it would appear that any non-official can be asked to become a part-time Food Inspector. I am not certain of what is intended because the clause says that every Food Inspector shall be deemed to be a public servant. If he is a Government servant I should have thought he would automatically be deemed to be a public servant. And in this connection I would draw particular attention to my fears with regard to the procedure to be followed by Food Inspectors. This procedure again is very unreal. It is mandatory. One third of the article has to be given to the prospective accused, one third kept by the Inspector. Take a perishable commodity like milk. What is the point in keeping one third of that milk product with the prospective accused? By the time he appears, the least that will happen to the milk is that it will have curdled. There will be no evidence to produce. What I am particularly concerned about is that the procedure has placed the Inspector in a position of isolation. This procedure gives him powers to seize and send commodities for examination. I would ask that the provisions in the Criminal Procedure Code be not overlooked. Under the Criminal Procedure Code, if any matter is seized, then that seizure has to be witnessed by two respectable and independent witnesses. And I would say that is a salutary principle. It protects both the Inspector and it protects also the prospective accused. What will happen if it is left entirely to the Inspector to formulate the evidence? It will be the word of the Inspector against that is the accused who may aver that the matter was in fact planted by the Inspector. The Inspector will have no corroboration. If we follow the procedure prescribed in the Criminal Procedure Code—that is two respectable witnesses to every article that is seized—it will enable the Inspector to corroborate of his evidences by that of two respectable witnesses.

An Hon. Member: How do you define respectable?

Shri Frank Anthony: Courts will define it but that is, as I say, a provision which has been hallowed by time and by our courts. Then, it also prevents the Inspectors, who, as I say, may be under-paid, from harassing people and from bringing malicious or frivolous cases.

I entirely agree with the provision in regard to the purchaser of food being able to have the food analysed. It is my opinion that it will be the individual purchaser, the man in the street, who will make this measure a success. At the same time, I think it is very salutary that there should be some sort of a fee, because we do not want purchasers also to start bringing frivolous complaints against the producer who may not sell the goods at the purchasers prices. But, I think some precaution ought to be taken to see that the fee is not prohibitive. It should not deter a purchaser from going to the public analyst.

I will have done with one more reference, that is to clause 19. As I have said, if this Bill is to be made effective and real, then we should categorise what we mean by food. We should also make the alleged offences triable by a First Class Magistrate. We should make the punishment deterrent. At the same time, I do not like the provision in clause 19, in that it is a supersession of the accepted principles of jurisprudence particularly, the provision,

"Provided that such a defence shall be open to the vendor only if he has within seven days of the receipt of a copy of the report of the public analyst, submitted to the Food Inspector or the local authority a copy of the warranty....."

After all, vendors are not people conversant with law. They do not know the provisions of this law. Even lawyers may not be concerned with this provision. If a man has a warranty, if he has acted *bona fide*, why should he be precluded from producing the warranty merely because he was not aware of this provision and has not given notice within seven days of the receipt of a copy of the report of the public analyst? If he has a warranty, let him produce it. All that we want is that he should prove his *bona fides*. He should not be arbitrarily prevented from proving his *bona fides*.

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): I do not think I have anything more to say. I have listened with great interest to and taken note



of all the suggestions that have been thrown out by the various Members who have spoken on the measure. I am also very glad to note the satisfaction evinced by the Members on such a measure as this being placed on the statute book. I can assure them that all the suggestions will be carefully gone into by the Select Committee. I am as anxious as any one of them that this measure shall not be a dead letter, that it shall be rigorously enforced and that it will enable us to deal with what I agree is a growing menace. I hope, therefore, that the motion for reference to Select Committee will now be approved and that we shall go ahead as rapidly as we can.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I will now dispose of all the amendments. Mr. Veeraswami has a motion for circulation. Does the hon. Member press his motion? He is not here. I am bound to place it before the House.

The question is:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon, by the first day of the next session."

The motion was negatived.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That the Bill to make provision for the prevention of adulteration of food, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri Santosh Kumar Dutta, Shri Lokesh Nath Mishra, Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, Shri Kailash Pati Sinha, Shri Hira Singh Chinaria, Shri Amarnath Vidyalankar, Shri Bheekha Bhai, Sardar Raj Bhanu Singh Tewari, Shri K. G. Deshmukh, Shri Vaijanath Mahodaya, Shri T. Madiah Gowda, Shri Halaharvi Sitarama Reddy, Shri K. Periaswami Gounder, Shri Maneklal Maganlal Gandhi, Shri Rajaram Giridharlal Dubey, Shri Hoti Lal Agarwal, Shri Biswa Nath Roy, Shrimati Uma Nehru, Shri Narayan Sadoba Kajrolkar, Shri C. R. Narasimhan, Shri R. V. Dhulekar, Dr. Indubhai B. Amin, Sardar Lal Singh, Shri K. Kelappan, Dr. Ch. V. Rama Rao, Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri, Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani, Shrimati Indra A. Maydeo, Shri Hirendra Nath Mukerjee, Shri Shankar Shantaram More, Dr. Punjab Rao Deshmukh, Shrimati M. Chandrasekhar, and the Mover, with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next session."

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I hereby appoint the hon. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur as Chairman of this Committee.

The House will now adjourn and meet again at 2-30 p.m.

*The House then adjourned for Lunch till Half Past Two of the Clock*

*The House reassembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

#### WEST BENGAL EVACUEE PROPERTY (TRIPURA AMENDMENT) BILL

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the West Bengal Evacuee Property Act 1951, as extended to Tripura, be taken into consideration."

This is a very simple and non-contentious measure. The history of this provision is also very short. On 8th April, 1950, there was an agreement entered into between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan and certain terms were settled as a result of which certain action had to be taken relating to the care and custody of evacuee properties in East Bengal, West Bengal, Assam and Tripura. Accordingly, the West Bengal Evacuee Property Act, 1951 and amendments thereto were passed, and subsequently were made applicable to Tripura by a notification.

So far as the notification was concerned, it was issued by the Central Government on 9-5-51. Then, a question arose as to whether such an act can be extended to Tripura by a notification. Certain rulings of the Supreme Court were to the effect that it was not open to the Central Government or to any Government to extend Acts by a mere notification. When this ruling came out, the House was not in session. Therefore, the President issued an Ordinance, and now after the commencement of this session, the proposal is to have a regular Act. The Act will be known as The West Bengal Evacuee Property (Tripura Amendment) Act of 1952. The terms are almost the same except in two important particulars.

It was agreed that a certain date should be mentioned known as the "appointed day". The agreement was

[Shri Datar]

that those persons or evacuees who returned either to India or to Pakistan before the appointed date would have their lands restored to them. Therefore, a procedure was laid down in the various laws. Accordingly, a period was laid down in Bengal. Subsequently, there was a conference between the Chief Secretaries of these States in India and Pakistan. They came to the conclusion that the West Bengal Act should be made applicable to Tripura and the date or the appointed day should be advanced by two months. So, that was the agreement which ultimately was given effect to. The date that had been originally fixed was 9-5-51. Then, it was settled that in view of the peculiar conditions of Tripura, this date should be advanced by two months, viz., 9-7-1951. Therefore, now, the position is that those evacuees who returned to Tripura before 9-7-1951 would have the advantage of getting their property back provided, as laid down in Section 3, they file an application before the 6th day of November, 1952. That is term number one.

Secondly, it was also agreed at the conference of the various Chief Secretaries that this Act or these provisions should be specifically made applicable to a class of cultivators who are in that part of the country known as *bargadars*. In Clause 3, a definition of *bargadar* is given for the purpose of this Act, as:

“Explanation: For the purposes of this section, a *bargadar* means a person who, under the system generally known as *adhi, barga* or *bhag*...”

*bhag* means share—

“...cultivates the land of another person on condition of delivering a share or quantity of the produce of such land to that person.”

At this stage, it is not necessary to go into the question as to whether a *bargadar* is a tenant or a cultivator. For the purposes of this Act, this particular definition has been given, and the object is to extend the benefit of the provisions of this Act to all *bargadars* so that if they file an application as laid down in Section 5(A), the Collector holds an enquiry and after he comes to the conclusion that they were *bargadars*, he would order that the property be restored to them.

So, in these two respects modifications have been made—one in respect of advancing the date known as the “appointed day” by two months, and secondly, making this Act specifically applicable to what are known as *bargadars*. In other respects, the provisions are the same. Therefore, I submit that this Bill may kindly be taken into consideration.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

“That the Bill further to amend the West Bengal Evacuee Property Act, 1951, as extended to Tripura, be taken into consideration”.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta-South-East): I was surprised to hear the hon. Minister saying that this was a simple and a non-contentious measure, and that it was nothing but an attempt to give effect to the agreement between India and Pakistan arrived at on 8th April, 1950—an agreement known as the Nehru-Liaquat Ali Agreement which, as is known to the House and to everyone outside, is as dead as mutton. There may be some juice in mutton, but there is no life in this particular agreement. And for any Minister now to seriously get up and say that this is nothing but an attempt to implement the terms of the agreement is certainly an insult to his intelligence, and an insult to the intelligence of this House.

What is the scope of this Bill? Undoubtedly some difficulty has arisen regarding some judgment passed by the Supreme Court, and therefore, there may be a technical reason for passing this Bill in order to give longer life to the Ordinance which was passed a few months ago. The whole basis was that if migrants who came away from East Bengal to West Bengal returned to East Bengal, they would get back their properties within a certain date and under certain conditions. And Similarly migrants who went away from West Bengal or from other parts of India to East Bengal, if they returned to their old territory, would get back their property. It was not a unilateral agreement. As is known to this House, it is not something we in the opposition have said, but repeated statements have been made by Ministers including the Prime Minister that one of the main violations of the agreement on the part of Pakistan has been its failure to return the property to those who had gone back to East

Bengal. Only the other day, Mr. Biswas said that a large number of such cases have been brought to the notice of the Government, but Government was helpless Government had drawn the attention of the East Pakistan Government but restoration of such properties had not yet been made. And the other day when we had the debate on East Bengal, Member after Member got up and said that one of the reasons which have led to the conditions of insecurity has been the failure on the part of the Pakistan Government to restore the properties in East Bengal to those who had gone back to East Bengal. You will remember, Sir, I read out a secret circular which had been issued by the Pakistan Government, a directive to the District officers that such properties were not to be restored to the returning evacuees. And, as a matter of fact, this has been deliberately and persistently violated by Pakistan. And today, for the Government to come seriously and ask the House to pass a Bill like this or to declare that the Government of India will fulfil its part of the obligation under this provision though Pakistan has persistently failed to do so, is something which is really amazing.

The other day, the hon. Minister of Rehabilitation—he is just entering the House—Mr. Ajit Prasad Jain made a statement that in the recent exodus about 70,000 Hindus have come from East Bengal to Tripura alone, the particular area which we are now discussing. Only yesterday a statement was issued that this has led to a very serious situation in that small part of Indian territory. Now they have occupied perhaps some of the lands which were deserted by the Muslims who had gone back to East Bengal. There are cases of border incidents which have been reported in this area. Incidents have been reported where the Muslims have entered into Indian territory, within Tripura, and have hoisted the Pakistani flag. Incidents have been reported where they are coming into Tripura and forcibly taking away paddy and other agricultural products. Now, is it to be suggested that Government will enforce this legislation—because there is no sense in passing it, if the Government does not intend to enforce it—and by use of force turn out people who have been occupying all these lands? The hon. Minister did not explain what exactly was the position today.

Now I may refer to Clause 3 of the Bill. The proposal is that any evacuee who has returned and applied before 6th November 1952 in writing to the Collector for being restored to possession as a *bargadar*, will automati-

cally be entitled to repossession. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many such applications have been received on or before 6th November. That would be a practical way of testing the necessity of this piece of legislation. If it appears that there are hundreds of such applications which have already come, and which cannot be considered according to the law as it stands, well, we are prepared to discuss it, for then, that will be a situation which will have to be taken into consideration. But supposing no such application has been received by 6th November or the number of such applications that have come is very small, and especially the number of *bona fide* persons affected is very small, then where is the occasion for this legislation? Here I should make another reference. A similar situation arose in West Bengal, where a large number of Hindus who came from East Bengal had occupied land vacated by Muslims who had gone away to East Bengal and at one time in accordance with the strict interpretation of the Nehru-Liaquat Ali Agreement, an attempt was made to push out these Hindu refugees who had settled there, and offer the land to Muslims who were returning from East Bengal. It created a law and order problem, and it also created fresh problem of re-displacing displaced persons who were somehow rehabilitated. So the West Bengal Government decided that this part of the Nehru-Liaquat Ali Agreement would not be put into operation at once, but after proper arrangements had been made for re-rehabilitating these Hindu refugees who had settled on land deserted by Muslims. I know that that evoked strong protest from Pakistan, but the position was clarified by the Chief Minister of West Bengal, and he stuck to his gun, probably with the support of the Central Government. The situation was already bad enough, and Government was not prepared to allow the situation to deteriorate, by turning out people who had been settled on lands, especially on the eve of the agricultural season. Now, there is no such consideration thought of with regard to this Bill.

If I may draw your attention to sub-clause 2 of the new clause 5A, it is laid down therein as to how the Collector is to enforce...

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There is already a local Act. Where is the need for this?

**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee:** That affects West Bengal. This affects Tripura. Tripura is not under the administrative jurisdiction of West Bengal, but is directly under the Central Government.

[Dr. S. P. Mookerjee]

In this sub-clause it is provided:

"...and for such purpose, the Collector or the officer, as the case may be, may use or cause to be used such force as may be necessary."

That means it contemplates forcible eviction of people who had settled down, merely for the purpose of giving the land back to people who may not exist or who are of doubtful loyalty to our country, and who are already creating sufficient trouble.

So far as the definition of the terms 'bargadar', 'adhi', 'barga' is concerned, as you know, a number of cases have been reported where these people are having the best from both the borders. They are working on their own land in East Bengal, and they are also trying to get some advantage of the land which was supposed to belong to them, or with which they were associated in some way previously. Obviously it is not possible for me to repeat what I have said. The Home Minister has just arrived and I would request him very earnestly to consider whether there was any occasion for this Bill at all now. The ordinance was passed, and it dealt with certain cases then existing. The ordinance has lapsed now, the Nehru-Liaquat Ali Agreement does not exist today. One of the main points in the Agreement was that there would be no passport, and that there would be completely free movement; and because there was going to be free movement, this question of restoring land either to Hindu migrants or to Muslim migrants, as the case may be, had a special importance. But now since this Chinese wall has been created, and the passport system had been introduced, which is now being operated in a very scientific manner, to the detriment of the interests of Hindus either wishing to go back to East Bengal, or of those who wish to come away from East Bengal to India, there could be absolutely no occasion for placing such an Act as this permanently on the Statute book. I would suggest to the hon. Home Minister that there is no special hurry about it, and that we should seriously apply our minds to the new situation which has arisen after the introduction of the passport system, and then after consultation with such Members of the Opposition, who may be specially interested in this piece of legislation, Government might consider the desirability of bringing forward any legislation later on. In my humble opinion,

this is not at all necessary. If we receive any such applications later on, from a large number of cases of bona fide people, who are certified by our Chief Commissioner at Tripura then there will be ample time to consider the matter; either pass another ordinance after this session comes to an end, or do it in some other way. But now to give effect to a part of the so called Nehru-Liaquat Ali Agreement which has been flagrantly violated by Pakistan, especially in respect of this particular matter, where that Government has failed persistently to restore land to those Hindus who had gone back to East Bengal, is really something which seems to me to be most amusing and hypocritical.

We should not proceed with this Bill now. We should have a discussion later on, and then decide what particular course of action we should adopt. With these words, I oppose the Bill as introduced.

Shri Tandon (Allahabad Dist.—West): Tragic and hypocritical.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Thanks to my hon. friend Babu Purushotamdas Tandon, I shall withdraw the word 'amusing', and say 'tragic and hypocritical'.

Shri Gadgil (Poona Central): Comical also.

Shri A. C. Gaha (Santipur): This Bill proceeds from the Delhi Agreement of 1950 between the two Prime Ministers. The relevant clause is clause 6 of that agreement which reads thus:

"(vi) That in the case of a migrant who decides not to return, ownership of all his immovable property shall continue to vest in him and he shall have unrestricted right to dispose of it by sale, by exchange with an evacuee in the other country, or otherwise. A committee consisting of three representatives of the minority and presided over by a representative of Government shall act as trustees of the owner. The Committee shall be empowered to recover rent for such immovable property according to law."

"The Governments of East Bengal, West Bengal, Assam and Tripura shall enact the necessary legislation to set up these Committees".

Accordingly, Sir, the West Bengal Government passed the West Bengal

Evacuee Property Act of 1951 and in clause 11 of that Act it has been laid down:

"The State Government shall by notification in the official Gazette constitute an Evacuee Property Management Committee of West Bengal."

Then—the Committee shall be a body corporate known by the name of the Evacuee Property Management Committee of West Bengal....."

It has also been provided in the Delhi Agreement that this Committee will collect rents and revenues and will send them to the evacuee to whom the property belongs. But in this House on several occasions the question was raised about the rents of requisitioned urban property. We have not been able to elicit any information as to how this urban property which the Government of East Bengal have requisitioned, how the income or revenue accruing from them is being utilised. As far as my knowledge goes no proprietor has yet been able to get any rent or any income out of the urban property left by him. Moreover, it has been alleged that the requisitioning of urban property was done more for a political purpose than for administrative reasons. The purpose was to drive out the middle class town Hindus and to deprive the masses of the necessary leadership and to destroy their morale. So, as for the terms of the Pact, this evacuee property provision has not been respected by the East Bengal Government.

I shall say also that through forces of circumstances it has not been possible also for the West Bengal Government to respect it in all its implications, as has been pointed out by the previous speaker, Dr. Mookerjee. It is not a question of the West Bengal Government being unwilling to do this or that, but it is a question of circumstances and they cannot get beyond those circumstances. When lakhs of Hindu migrants have come and settled on the abandoned lands, it is not possible for them to oust them. It becomes not only an economic issue; but it becomes also an issue of law and order. In the Delhi Pact the date fixed was 31st December 1950 within which a migrant was to return to his own property and then he would get back the property. But according to this Act, now as provided by this amendment, that date has been fixed as 15th June 1951 and the application date will be upto 6th November 1952. So in a way we are extending the life of that period by

near about two years—I do not know for what purpose.

Then there was a joint statement by the two Minority Ministers of the two Governments that every attempt will also be made to derequisition such requisitioned houses. May I humbly ask the hon. the Home Minister in how many cases the Government have been able to derequisition those houses and return them to the real owners. I think they have not been able to cite a single case. If under pressure of certain influence, the East Bengal Government might have been persuaded to derequisition one or two houses, immediately some other occupants must have entered those houses and occupied them either illegally or with the connivance of the officers of East Bengal Government. That being the case I can safely say that this Delhi Agreement, at least the provision regarding evacuee property thereof, has not been respected and has not been properly worked.

Then, I shall also refer to another clause of the joint statement by the two Ministers of the two Governments. As regards rural property, they say: "In all such cases the overriding consideration should be the restoration of all immovable property to the migrant at the earliest possible date". Here also I would ask the Government in how many cases the Hindu migrants who have returned to East Bengal have been able to get their immovable properties restored to them. I know of several cases where not only agricultural property, but even the residential houses which had been occupied by Muslims could not be recovered for the occupation of the returning migrants. Just near about the town of Barisal—a mile off—there is a big village named Khasipur which was a predominantly Hindu village. But after 1950 Khasipur has become nearly 95 per cent. Muslim and all the big houses, some pucca palatial houses, have now been occupied by the Muslims and those who want to return or those who have returned to East Bengal have not been able to occupy those houses.

Then I do not know what is the purpose of this special provision here about the *bargadars*. I think the Hon. Home Minister will remember that in this House on several occasions the question was raised about a sort of tenants—the *jirafi* tenants—who occupy some borderlands in Tripura, but most of whom live in East Bengal. They come and cultivate those areas in Tripura and

[Shri A. C. Guha]

take away the paddy and the crop to East Bengal. It is not only a question of land being restored to this or that man, but it is also a question of our food supply. I think about several lakhs of maunds of rice and paddy are taken away in this way. So why this special provision about these bargadars? The bargadars are to be given a special privilege. The bargadar who holds no tenancy rights stands on a towed footing as compared to the ordinary tenant. I do not know why this special privilege should be given to the bargadar.

Then I would also like to draw the attention of the Home Minister to certain developments in the economic structure of East Bengal. I think he knows that the East Bengal Government has abolished the zamindari system. It has practically affected only the Hindu zamindars. I hold no brief for the zamindari system or the zamindars; but when a particular economic measure or an administrative measure in the garb of an economic measure is directed against a particular community or a particular section, I think this Government should take special notice of that. And when the zamindari system is abolished there, why is this Government going to give certain rights to these bargadars. How the Hindu bargadars on that side are being treated now specially after the abolition of the zamindari system and how the Hindu middle class tenants of East Bengal are faring after the abolition of the zamindari system—all these things should be taken into consideration by this Government before they can propose such a legislation.

Lastly, before I conclude I would seriously ask the Home Minister to consider what would happen to the crop the bargadars may cultivate on the border territory. They will be mostly border territories. But where will the crop go? Will the crop go to East Bengal or will it remain on this side? For these last four years it has not been possible for this Government to retain the crops on the border territories on this side. Mostly they have gone to the East Bengal side. I think that point also should be considered by this Government.

So I do not actually understand what is the urgency of having such a legislation in view of recent developments in communication and economic connection between these two countries and the fate that has befallen the Delhi Pact on which this whole Act depends.

Also, I think this House is entitled to have the report of the Managing Committee both of the West Bengal Government and the East Bengal Government. I do not like that the Muslim migrants on this side should be discriminated against or that the Hindu migrants on that side should be favoured. I think the House should get some idea of the activities and the doings of the Managing Committees of Assam, West Bengal as well as of East Bengal. Only then can this House pass such a Bill with a clear conscience.

3 P.M.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee (Hooghly): To say the least, it is somewhat fantastic in the context of things which have happened for this Parliament solemnly to indulge in statutory effort to further implement the Delhi Pact. Now, Sir, what is that Pact? I hope the hon. Minister, Dr. Katju, has got a copy of that Pact, if it is worth keeping any longer. What is the opening clause? The opening clause is:

"The Governments of India and Pakistan solemnly agree that each Government shall ensure to the minorities throughout its territory, complete equality of citizenship, irrespective of religion, full sense of security in respect of life, culture, property and personal honour, and freedom of movement within its territory and freedom of occupation, speech and worship subject to law and morality."

These strike us as empty words if we do remember what happened in Pakistan since that Pact, and several hon. friends have spoken about it. What is the operative clause of this Nehru-Liaquat Ali Pact? The first clause is, 'There shall be freedom of movement in the two States or countries.' Now, has not Pakistan been unilaterally guilty of violation of the fundamental principle of that Pact? The very system of passport in spite of our protests means a defiance of the basic principle of that Pact. Does it not mean that it is a deliberate violation, that it is going against all canons of decency? It is a deliberate and conscious frustration of this bilateral contract when it says there shall be no freedom of movement between the two countries. What is the use of implementing this Pact, when they have broken the basic and cardinal principles of that Pact? What are you going to do? What clause are you implementing? You are implementing Clause 5. I do not think the hon. Minister has had

time in the midst of his diverse pre-occupations to apply his mind to the position of bargadars at all. If he had, he would not have come forward to this Parliament with this Bill in the present form. What is that clause 5? Rights of ownership in and rights of occupancy of immovable property of a migrant shall not be disturbed. If during his absence such property is occupied by another person, it shall be returned to him, provided he comes back by the 31st December, 1950. The exact words of clause 5 I am quoting:

"Where the migrant was a cultivating owner or a tenant, the land shall be restored to him provided he returns not later than 31st December, 1950."

They know there may be exceptional cases. Therefore they have provided that in exceptional cases if a Government considers that the migrant's immovable property cannot be returned to him, the matter shall be referred to the appropriate Minority Commission for advice. You know, Sir, what has happened to the Minority Commission set up in Pakistan. Even the Government of Pakistan had a sense of humour. They had one Hindu as a member of the Minority Commission. That Hindu has been clapped in prison and he has been kept in jail for one year. And the Pakistan Government has solemnly issued a Gazette notification in which it says that the Hindu member of the Minority Commission constituted under the Delhi Pact has absented himself for more than three meetings, and therefore, it is declared that his seat is vacant. Therefore, it is now a pure "Pak" Commission without any member of the minority community there. Sir, let me read the opening words of clause 5 once more.

"The rights of ownership in or rights of occupancy of immovable property of a migrant shall not be disturbed."

Now what is this bargadar? I hope, when he was the Governor of Bengal, His Excellency—Dr. Katju knew something or heard something of the bargadar system. There is an Act—I do not think my hon. friend has had the time to look it up, called the West Bengal Bargadar Act (Act II of 1950), which got the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the 15th of March, 1950. I do not know whether he read it when he gave his assent to it. According to the definition in section 2(b) of that Act, a bargadar

"means a person, who under the system generally known as *adhi*,

*barga*, or *bhag*, cultivates the land of another person on condition of delivering a share of the produce of such land to that other person".

Now, Sir, he has got no rights of ownership in the land. He has not got any right of occupancy in the land. He is neither settled ryot nor an occupancy ryot; he is really a tenant-at-will. This Bargadars Act of West Bengal describes not merely the rights of bargadars of West Bengal but the same conditions of tenure prevail throughout East Bengal and also Tripura. There is a distinct section, section 5—Termination of cultivation by a bargadar. It says:

"The owner of any land cultivated by a bargadar shall be entitled to terminate the cultivation of such land by the bargadar on one or more of the following grounds—

- (a) that the owner desires to cultivate the land by himself or by members of his family or by servants or labourers, and
- (b) that the bargadar has misused the land or has wilfully neglected to cultivate it properly."

Therefore it is in effect a mere licence for one season which may be repeated or which may not be repeated. It may be repeated only if the owner does not cancel his licence and he does not want to cultivate it himself. And if he wants to do it, then the bargadar has no right whatever. I may respectfully submit for the hon. Minister's consideration that he is really going or trying to go much further than what Mr. Liaquat Ali wanted the Government of India to implement. Why are you bothering yourself to confer certain rights on the bargadars when they really do not come within the purview of this agreement? If you do not accept our contention that it is dead, only to pursue a policy of appeasement or what is euphemistically now called the policy of the 'healing touch', if you want to gladden the heart of Pakistan, you can do it. What I am submitting is this; even if you want to do it, you are doing something which is not expected or warranted or demanded in justification of this clause 5. This clause itself says that in certain exceptional cases if this property cannot be restored, you can go to the Minority Commission. Has Pakistan Government implemented this clause? My hon. friend, Mr. Guha has given you instances where they have not done it. Then why this hurry? Apart from anything else, you should not do it in the

[Shri N. C. Chatterjee]

case of bargadars. I shall tell you why. This is not merely a legal point. This is not merely a point of construction of a statute. In the year 1940 there took place the Dacca riots. Then came the Raipura riots, then the Methikanda riots. I visited those affected parts of the Dacca district. Thousands and thousands of people left their hearths and homes and crossed the Meghna near Bhairav and came to Tripura. Tripura, my hon. friend will come to know when he goes there is only about 6 miles from Akhaura station. Now, they all went there and took refuge. In 1950 when there was the great carnage in Dacca and Mymensingh and there was a big scale massacre near about Bhairav, thousands of people went and took shelter in Tripura and they have actually been cultivating the lands which had been left there. Sometimes, they were cultivating them as bargadars or sometimes the Hindus who were not cultivating the lands themselves while living in East Bengal, were letting out the lands to non-Hindus who were bargadars cultivating on the seasonal licence basis. Now, these people have been squeezed out. They have been deprived of their land in East Bengal and they have been cultivating the lands in Tripura either by themselves or through their servants or through hired labour. How can you say that any Muslim bargadar who was there or any man who was a bargadar before the creation of Pakistan and had left that place, if he now comes back he will be immediately handed over that land? That would not be fair. That would be detrimental to hundreds and hundreds of people who are the owners of the land and who have started cultivating it themselves during the last three or four years. Why should you do it?

The other point is about clause 6 of this wonderful Nehru-Liaquat Pact. That clause says:

"In the case of a migrant who decides not to return the ownership of all his immovable property shall continue to vest in him and he shall have unrestricted right to dispose of it by sale or exchange with any evacuee in the other country or otherwise."

Unfortunately, this clause has been deliberately violated by the Government of Pakistan. This is not my opinion alone. I shall read to you the editorial of a Congress paper in Calcutta, whose editor was himself a resident of East Bengal.

An Hon. Member: What is the name of the paper?

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Amrita Bazar Patrika. I hope the hon. Minister remembers it.

Dr. N. B. Khare (Gwalior): It does not matter whether it is Congress or non-Congress.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Anyhow, it is a Congress paper and a paper of standing with a certain amount of responsibility. It says:

"So far as the evacuees from Pakistan are concerned, many obstacles are being placed in the way of the disposal of their property. In some cases permission for sale or exchange is not given at all. In many other cases where a transaction for sale is concluded, then evacuees from Pakistan often get only a fraction of the sale proceeds. A deduction is made on behalf of the Pakistan Government, as income-tax. There again in many places in Pakistan so-called "Welfare Committees" have been instituted, who also realise a portion of the sale proceeds. In the case of a non-Muslim evacuee he is often unable to get his account registered in Pakistan. The result is that property left in Pakistan has to all intents and purposes come to be owned by the Pakistan Government or has been allowed to pass into the hands of Muslim refugees."

This is what is happening to the poor refugees or evacuees from Pakistan in deliberate violation of clause 6 of the Delhi Pact. The hon. Minister is shortly going to Agartala and Tripura. Let him get the facts for himself. The Statement of Objects and Reasons clearly states that "the Chief Commissioner of Tripura did not think that these modifications were necessary or feasible." What is his present report? Why did he say so? What was his ground? His ground was that thousands and thousands of people had been squeezed out of East Bengal and were coming back to their lands left by the evacuees and they were actually cultivating the lands and that was the only means of their subsistence. The Chief Commissioner, a man responsible for the lives of this uprooted and disturbed humanity, had said that these modifications were not necessary or feasible. Then the Chief Secretaries' Conference took place in pursuance of the Delhi Pact and Pakistan complained that we were not doing our part and



that we must pass an Act. Therefore, an Ordinance was passed to please Pakistan and to please them still further we are going to make it an Act now.

I want to ask the hon. Minister: has the Chief Commissioner stated anything now? Has he been consulted? Has he said that this is now feasible or possible? Has he gone back on what he solemnly said some time ago? What is his latest report? Let the hon. Minister consult him and find out the facts. Let him find out what will be the effect of this legislation. I tell you, Pakistan will never mend its ways, whatever we may do to placate her or the ruling elements there. The only effect would be that thousands of evacuees who have come from East Bengal and who are actually living on these lands and whose only means of sustenance are these lands would be seriously disturbed.

डा० ऐन० बी० खरे : महोदय, मैं भी इस विधेयक के विषय में . . . . .

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : अंग्रेजी में ।

डाक्टर ऐन० बी० खरे : नहीं, नेशनल लेम्बेज में । महोदय, मैं भी इस विधेयक के विषय में अपने विचार थोड़े से शब्दों में प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ । हुजूर, आप को मालूम है कि ८ अप्रैल सन् १९५० के शुभ मुहूर्त पर इस इंडिया की राजधानी में इंडो पाकिस्तान का निकाह हो गया जिस को बोला जाता है नेहरू लियाकत पैक्ट और इंडो पाकिस्तान पैक्ट । उस निकाह की जो शर्तें हैं वे बहुत सी हैं । वे शर्तें अभी हमारे सम्माननीय मित्र श्रीयुक्त चैटर्जी ने हाउस के सामने पढ़ कर सुनाई हैं और आप ने उन को सुना है । उन को सुन कर हमें ऐसा मालूम होता है कि वे शर्तें ऐसी ही हैं जैसी कि हमारे हिन्दुओं के वैदिक विवाह में हैं :

“धर्मै च अर्थै च कामै च नाति चरामि,  
आति चरामि, नातिचरामि ।”

तो ऐसी हमारी यह सरकार है । सब दुनिया जानती है कि यह जो निकाह है यह टूट गया है । पाकिस्तान ने निकाह की शर्तें तोड़ कर, ठुकरा कर हिन्दुस्तान यानी भारत को तलाक दे दिया है, यह दुनिया जानती है । मगर इस हालत में भी हमारी सरकार ऐसी उत्सुक है कि उस निकाह की जो शर्तें हैं उन को पूरी करने के वास्ते वह इस विधेयक को हाउस के सामने लाने के लिये तैयार हुई है । हम को इस में ताज्जुब मालूम होता है । हमारी इस सरकार में बड़े बड़े देश भक्त हैं, इस में जगत्मान्य व्यक्ति हैं, सब तरह के होशियार व्यक्ति हैं । यह होते हुए मैं इस को कैसे कहूँ कि यह सरकार की नालायकी है, नादानी है य नामर्दगी है, ऐसा मैं कभी नहीं बोलूंगा ।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : नामर्दगी तो जरूर है ।

डाक्टर ऐन० बी० खरे : अजी, जरा सुनिए तो क्या है । सुन कर आप की तबियत खुश हो जायेगी । मैं यह कहूंगा कि इस में इस सरकार ने अपनी हिन्दु भावना का पूरा परिचय दिया है । आप जानते हैं कि हिन्दुओं में नारियों के पतिव्रता धर्म का बड़ा महत्व है । पति कुछ भी करे, चाहे लात मारे, फटकारे, खाने को न दे, छल करे, फट करे, सब कुछ करे, तो भी पतिव्रता नारी ऐसी होती है कि वह उस पति की सेवा ही करती जाती है । पति लात मारता है तो वह उस का पांव दबाती है । वह मुक्का मारता है तो भी लजीज अच्छे अच्छे खाने बना कर वह उस को खिलाती है, न जाने वह क्या क्या करती है । तो हिन्दु समाज में पतिव्रता नारी जैसा काम करती है उसी तरह इस सरकार ने और सब बातों में हिन्दुत्व का त्याग करते हुए भी उस हिन्दुत्व को नहीं त्यागा है, इस के लिये मैं उस को बधाई देता हूँ ।

[ डाक्टर एन० बी० खे ]

फिर इसके आगे चलिये । नारी क्या करती है कि वह चाहती है कि ऐसा ही पति आगे के सात जन्म में मिल जाय । इस के लिये पतिव्रता नारी व्रत भी करती है, सावित्री त दगैरह करती है, ज्येष्ठ सुदी पूजिमा को वह व्रत होता है । तो मेरे क्वाल में आज ज्येष्ठ सुदी पूजिमा के व्रत क ही यह सरकार पालन कर रही है, इसलिये मैं सरकार को इस के लिये बचाई देता हूँ ।

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat):** The tragic part of the question that is under discussion is that it is the ordinary man—both Hindu and Muslim—that has suffered. As far as bargadars go, both Muslims and Hindus are suffering. This Bill seeks to make out that we are going to give the bargadars a very good deal, but what actually have we done for those bargadars who have come over from East Bengal? In the last few months or even a year, a big proportion of the refugees have been bargadars and peasants and we also know of cases where these people have been given some kind of land. We have gone to the hon. Minister and taken up the cases where land which is unfit for cultivation has been given to them. They have been unable to grow any crop there and have had to abandon the lands, and they have been considered as useless people by government and they have been told they are not going to be given any further help. Now over here this Bill is seeking to throw out those bargadars who have already settled themselves. Now before we bring this Bill, it is necessary to clarify that we are not going to throw out any bargadars who have settled themselves on land without giving them alternative cultivable land. That is absolutely essential, because we feel that it is necessary for both the bargadars, Hindus or Muslims, to be re-settled.

A few days ago during Question Hour this point was raised as to whether there was land which could be given over for the rehabilitation of the refugees, especially rural refugees in Tripura, but I am afraid there was no satisfactory answer to that. We have been told by certain Members here that there are large tracts of land which can be given to them. Therefore, what I should like to say is that that we must make a provision that any bargadar who has to give up his land should within a specified time limit be

given alternative cultivable land without which he cannot be thrown out. I lay particular stress on the time-limit. I do not think we should make the Muslim bargadar who generally is very poor suffer because certain things have been done by the Government of East Bengal. Therefore we must be very clear about this before we pass this Bill.

While on this subject, I should like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister and of this House the case of many colonists who are being ejected from their homesteads which they have built up on land which happens to belong to very big, rich and influential people. For instance, I have got before me the ejection notices given to Bandhabnagar colonists because that land belongs to Manguram Bangur, one of the biggest Marwari landlords of Bengal. It is no use your saying that you are trying to do this for this person and that for the other person. Before we bring in any legislation we must be clear that no ordinary man is made to suffer, whether he be Hindu, or Muslim.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore):** I have certain doubts about the operation of this Bill when it becomes enacted. The Statement of Objects and Reasons says that this measure emerges out of certain agreements arrived at at the Chief Secretaries' Conference held sometime in 1951. I would like to know what are the reasons that weighed with the Secretaries and the Government to extend special facilities to evacuee bargadars from Tripura alone and why no corresponding facilities have been extended to bargadars who have migrated from West Bengal or Muslim bargadars who have migrated from West Bengal or Assam and came back subsequently.

Now, so far as bargadars are concerned in West Bengal they do not enjoy the benefits conferred on evacuees by the West Bengal Evacuee Property Act. But here Muslim evacuee bargadars from Tripura who return would be restored to the possession of their cultivable land and if necessary force will be applied by the Government to restore to them the possession of their lands. There is no mention in the Bill about bargadars who are already in possession of those lands. May be they have come from East Bengal; they in possession of those lands. Maybe local people. They have been actually cultivating those lands. Where will these people go? Under the West Bengal Evacuee Property Act, evacuees have some protection. Restoration or

delivery of the possession of property to returned evacuees is not possible when some other person is occupying that particular land or that particular property. It is not always possible to turn him out. The case has to be referred to the Minority Commission. But when the West Bengal Evacuee Property Act is extended to Tripura no such protection is afforded and persons who are actually cultivating these lands may be turned out and the lands restored to *bargadars*. I would like the hon. Minister to make this position clear. Otherwise, the Bill as framed would work havoc on the Hindu cultivators. All of them are not migrants from East Bengal; many of them are local people. But they it is who are now actually cultivating the land. They have no rights under the Tripura law and they will simply be thrown out which is intolerable. This matter should not be looked upon from the communal point of view or from the point of view of India versus Pakistan. We should look at it from the human point of view and also from the point of view of the economy of that small State. Where will these people go and what would be the condition of the state of cultivation and agriculture in those areas in which you intend to bring in Muslim evacuees and restore them the possession of their *barga* rights and throw out the Hindu *bargadars*? These questions should be clarified before this House can agree to the enactment of this Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Dr. Katju.

Shri Meghnad Saha (Calcutta—North-West): Sir, we want to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Any hon. Member coming from Tripura?

It is like the snow-ball gathering momentum!

Shrimati Beena Chakravarty: Sir, it is a very important Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members, when they are interested in speaking, they very often rise at the earliest opportunity. But as the debate goes on and when the debate is expected to close—not that I am in a hurry—somebody just takes a hint and rises. I am not casting any aspersions against any hon. Member. But I was looking to various people and when I call upon the hon. Minister, two or three people get up. Let them stand up in the first instance, so that I may know all who want to talk, what time it will take and I may tell the hon. Minister.

Dr. S. F. Mookerjee: Has the end of the snow-ball touched the heart of the Minister?

Shri Meghnad Saha: As I come from East Bengal and have knowledge of

the rural conditions, I can add something to this debate.

I think the Bill which the Government is bringing forth here is a very hasty one. So far as Tripura is concerned, the Hindus have migrated into Tripura from the neighbouring districts for ten years. My hon. friend Mr. Chatterjee referred to a riot that took place in 1940 when hundreds and thousands of Hindus were driven out from their homes and homesteads in Raipura and other places—more than a hundred thousand—and they took shelter in the State of Tripura. And the Maharaja of Tripura at that time braved the British Government and gave them shelter for a long time and supplied them with the necessities of life.

After that this Hindu migration from East Bengal has been going on into Tripura for over a long time. I was there for about a week just six months ago. We found that the number of migrants in the Tripura State exceeds the local population. Most of them are Hindus and many of them have taken to agriculture, because land is available in Tripura and as they have no other means of livelihood they are cultivating the land which they could occupy themselves.

Under these conditions, to bring out a Bill like this which will throw thousands of refugees from their only means of livelihood is a great cruelty. The name of the *bargadar* always evokes here a certain amount of sympathy. The *bargadar* has no rights at all in our part of the country, in East Bengal the *bargadar* is a tenant-at-will. He may cultivate the land for one year; he may not cultivate it the next year. He is simply a labourer. Now, we are talking here of the rights of the *bargadars*. But what are the rights? He has no rights. Up to this time even the Pakistan Government has not taken any steps for recognizing any right of the *bargadar*. The *bargadars*, who used to come from the neighbouring district of Comilla, are mostly Muslims, and they used to be employed as labourers. What is the right they are asking for?

In the course of the last three or four years all this land is being cultivated by the Hindus, and it is their only means of livelihood. Now, without providing for them, you are trying to throw them out. Sir, this I consider is the working of the Nehru-Liaquat Ali Pact in one direction. But there is no reverse probability. You are not doing anything for the Hindus who will be completely deprived of their only means of livelihood.

[Shri Meghnad Saha]

Coming to this point about the question of evacuees, this only shows that the mind of the Government, when they want to operate the Nehru-Liaquat Ali Pact, is working only in one direction. Now, take the city of Dacca, the biggest city in Eastern Pakistan. It had a population of 200,000 before partition, 70 per cent. of it were Hindus—1,40,000. They owned 80 per cent. of the houses there. Now there are only 5,000 Hindus left there, and they have been completely forced out of their houses in Dacca. I know it because I come from Dacca. Most of my relatives are inhabitants of Dacca, and they have come to Calcutta. When you pass on the streets of Calcutta you find shops springing up on both footpaths. Who are these people? They are the people who have been forced out of their homes and hearths in Dacca. In spite of the fact that four or five years have passed I know that in almost 99 per cent. of the cases they have not been able to recover their homes in Dacca, and in the urban areas. And they are living in the streets of Calcutta. There may be a few rich men who have been able to find a house here and there. But most of these people who had left their hearths and homes in the city of Dacca—1,40,000 inhabitants—they are living in the streets of Calcutta.

Please do not be generous in one direction only. It will create a revolution after some time if you do that. I would therefore request the hon. the Home Minister that he should drop this Bill. He should make enquiry on the spot; he should make enquiry about the conditions of these refugee inhabitants who are leading a sub-human existence in the streets and suburbs of Calcutta. And some of the ladies of these houses who were settled near about Asansole are committing suicide. You should not add to their misery. Study their conditions properly, and after that bring a Bill which may be acceptable to this House.

In the mean time I do not think you should be over-generous towards Pakistan. If you want to be generous to the inhabitants of Pakistan I do not object; but charity begins at home and you should also remember the people who have lost their hearths and homes which they have worshipped and adored for thousands of years and which they cannot yet forget.

Shri Gidwani rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think there has been enough discussion. Dr. Katju.

Dr. Katju: I had the benefit of reading that portion of the speech, which I did not actually hear, of my hon. friend, the Member for South-East

Calcutta. It was on the usual lines, and the other speeches proceeded much along the same way.

Now, having seen the misery of the evacuees and the people who have come from East Bengal, it would be wrong on my part to say that I sympathise with them: I share their joys and sorrows. The sorrows predominate. And it is not a question of lacking in sympathy. But I respectfully suggest that in this type of sentimental sympathy we have overlooked the very simple provisions of this Bill. I am very sorry that I was not here—I was engaged elsewhere—to move the Bill for the consideration of the House. But you will please remember what actually happened. There was that Pact in April 1950.

It had to be implemented at that time. Now followed conferences on Governmental level,—Chief Secretaries' level. There was a conference on the 2nd or 3rd December 1950. Then there was one in March 1951 and then followed another in December 1951. Now, in pursuance of the March 1951 conference, it was agreed that there should be legislation in East Bengal, West Bengal, Assam and Tripura. In West Bengal legislation was enacted. In East Bengal the same thing happened and in Assam followed the same thing. In Tripura which was then under a Chief Commissioner, the Act could not be enacted and it had to be done by a notification. Now in this Act, the Bengal Act, or the Assam Act, there was an appointed date; "appointed date" meant that an evacuee must return home before he was entitled to make any application. I want to make it clear it is not a case of an evacuee from East Bengal or an evacuee from West Bengal walking over to Dacca or going over to Dacca or *vice versa*. He must return by an appointed date. There are two things to be considered. The return of an evacuee to Tripura, to West Bengal, to Assam, by a particular date. Similarly the return of an evacuee from East Bengal or to East Bengal by an appointed date. Now the House will notice that the "appointed date" was formerly given as the 15th of June, 1951. It has now been made 9th of July, 1951. This extension by about three weeks was done at the express instance of the Chief Commissioner who pointed out that there was some administrative difficulty. The result is that anyone who wants to take advantage of this Bill, must have returned to Tripura and settled there again as an Indian citizen by the 9th of July 1951. It is not a case of anyone returning at any time and then making an application and saying "please give me this relief or that relief or third relief".

You must come and settle down. That being so, the other date is the date of the application. Now that has been extended from time to time. We put it down in the Ordinance as 6th of August and that has now been changed, because of this Bill, to 6th November. I submit, Sir, that it makes really no difference. Of course, I saw refugees with my own eyes, in those terrible days of 1950, the opening days. Things happened of which we were all ashamed, Hindus and Muslims of East Bengal were ashamed, we were ashamed in West Bengal, Howrah and everywhere. Many people ran away. The others simply fled. Those who came back home on the 9th July 1951 say "We want our property." What is the answer? My hon. friend referred to what has been done in Bengal, in Calcutta about rehabilitation and all that. I am aware of it. But supposing a person who had been evacuated in this fashion returns from Dacca or anywhere else and returns to Calcutta or returns to Dacca and says "This house is mine, I want to get it back". The person in possession is a trespasser. Under the Civil Law, my hon. friend Mr. Chatterjee will tell you, the period for recovery of possession is twelve years. If I leave my house in Delhi unoccupied—but the legal title is in my name—and somebody in my absence walks into the house for any purpose, very humanitarian purpose, and I am hard-headed, I come back, I do not go to the Civil Departments, I go to a Civil Court and say "I want my house back." The Civil Judge is entitled to adjudicate upon that case. If he does give a decree, I am entitled to be restored to possession. Similarly, therefore, please remember that after that pact—I am not concerned with the other provisions of the pact—so far as this particular item is concerned, the only fact is this, that property should be restored.

Please remember one thing more. This is only an amending thing. Therefore attention has not been drawn to it. The parent Act is a big one. There is section 24 in it and section 24 proceeds on these lines. You are an evacuee, you come back; if you make an application within the period allowed, then the property will be returned to you and the civil authorities will assist you, but supposing you do not make an application by that time. Then the period given is, I believe, middle of June 1953. He can make an application by that date and it should be taken notice of.

Another point. Either the land will be returned and he will be back in possession or compensation would be given to him or the rents of the property which have been collected will

be given to him. My respectful submission to you, Sir, is that all those points which have been made—I may be pardoned for saying that—have been made in a sort of retaliatory way which I easily appreciate having seen Calcutta for myself, having seen the refugee camps I appreciate the spirit underlying it but so far as this Bill is concerned, it deals with a very minor matter. Legislation is there, it is working in West Bengal, it is working in Assam. Nobody has suggested that it should be overruled. So far as Tripura was concerned, we first had the Bengal Act extended. Then it was said "Well, this is not quite regular". Then the Central Government issued a notification.

There have been some decisions of the Supreme Court where it is said that parliamentary legislation should intervene in regard to Tripura and not an executive notification. A point was made that the Chief Commissioner of Tripura should be consulted. It was at his instance that it was considered proper to move an Ordinance to be enacted. Then, under the Constitution, we have got to do this. Speaking with all humility, most of the speeches which had been made had been influenced with the events which occurred in September, October, the passport system and all those sentiments (*interruption*). I shall deal with the points which my lady friend, Shrimati Renu Chakravarty made some time back but so far as this particular legislation is concerned, that has nothing to do with either the passport system or any others. I mean, I repeat myself again, it applies to persons who have returned before the 9th of July 1951.

People have settled in Tripura, in Calcutta, in Dacca. They are not the persons who are coming backwards and forwards. But, the thing has simply washed itself out, so far as that particular clause of the Pact is concerned. As regards the other conditions which remain to be executed, you may make any argument you like. But, for the clauses which have spent themselves out, which have been worked out, I submit, any arguments based upon these subsequent developments are not applicable. The vital date is 9th July 1951. That has passed 18 months back. There is no answer to his claim. That is my short submission on that point.

Then, comes the *bargadari* business. I know something about *bargadari*, having studied it, though not as carefully as my hon. friend Mr. Chatterjee and other people. But, I did my best and I know something about the tenure. The question is this. If a man left owing to the disturbances in January, 1950 or February, 1950, if by his tenure

[Dr. Katju]

he had got no title and his title was washed out, if he had remained in Tripura, he would not have got back possession, this Bill does not give it to him. It all depends on his title. It is not as if the Act was intended to confer some additional title upon any one. The object was that instead of taking lengthy proceedings in civil courts and doing this, that or the other thing and spending money and running from pillar to post, he goes to the Collector, and the Collector looks into the matter and gives relief.

Thirdly, in spite of the feelings which have been shown on that side of the House, I do make a strong appeal—that is what we have been taught on this side of the House at least—that we must carry out our undertaking. This undertaking was given that this sort of legislation will be passed; not only given in the Pact, but it was repeatedly given, as I said, in December, 1950, in March 1951, and December, 1951. Legislation has taken place. Good or bad, people have benefited from it or suffered from it in Assam; people have benefited from it or suffered from it in the whole of West Bengal. Here is a tiny little place, Tripura. Because of technical difficulties, we had to pass an Ordinance and we have to bring this Bill. The whole question is this. Are we to say that, because of the events that have taken place in September, 1952, October, 1952, and troubles arising out of passport disputes, we will not carry out our pledged word, which was repeatedly given and emphasised in the whole of 1950 and 1951, and we will back out? I submit that this will not be the proper thing to do. This will not advance our own credit. We will not very much elevate in our own eyes. I should like to assure the House that so far as my information goes, and the papers go, this thing had to be done because we wanted to put the undertaking, 'ship-shaped', in proper legal phraseology.

As regards the point made by hon. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty that people should not suffer and there should not be any large scale removals.....

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Alternative land should be given.

Dr. Katju: There is other land available. I shall see to it. I hope it to be there.

We have given our undertaking. That has been acted upon in Assam. That has been acted upon in West Bengal. We must do our job. We must stand by our plighted word. In the first place, from the papers I have seen that the number of removals or dispossession is not very large. Secondly, it

has already taken effect. Applications must have been made. Please remember that the Ordinance was passed in August or September. That gives a date. By that date applications must have been made and finished.

Shri V. G. Deshpande (Guna): May we know the number of cases that have so far been disposed of?

Dr. Katju: I cannot give you the exact figure. But, from the Chief Commissioner's report, I gather that the number is not very large. This is what I gather. Secondly, it is the bargadari system itself; if there is no right, there is no right. I ask the House in all humility not to take this matter as if it is a sort of a vehicle for wreaking vengeance and giving them a blow; for what you have done, we are going to do this. There are people suffering in Calcutta and so on. Everybody knows that. But, this is not the remedy.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA in the Chair]

The remedy lies elsewhere, in other ways. Tripura men are very few. Now, I repeat again—I have repeated it three times—speaking as a lawyer, what remedy have you got? If the courts of justice are functioning, if a man says, I went to Dacca, I have returned after three years, two years, or three months, there is my house in Chowringhee or Burrabazaar or Harrison Road, I find some man occupying it, he has no title whatever, I never sold it, I never gifted it, he is a trespasser, I want it back, what answer would you give? No answer. Similar is the case here. If there is no title then, it is a clear matter. I hope this explanation would appeal to hon. Members and I do suggest respectfully that there is really not much foundation for the criticism that has been made. I can quite understand their feelings and appreciate it very much. So far as the alternative land is concerned, we will do our best.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: May I ask one question, Sir? The hon. Minister just now said that all that was being done was to give to the returning evacuees certain rights which already they had under the law. But, the wording here is that the bargadar will be entitled to re-possession of the land "notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force or any contract to the contrary..." which means, even if their right had been extinguished, what is now attempted to be done is to nullify the provisions of any such existing law. That is one question. The other question is, so far as I can interpret, the

Nehru-Liaquat Ali Pact of 1950, *bargadars* really are not covered by clause 6 of that Agreement. In fact, this was not included previously. At the instance of the Chief Secretaries' Conference, *bargadars* are being included. What I am asking is this. Has similar legislation been passed in East Bengal, even in theory recognising the right of *bargadars* to get back whatever interests they had in the land which they had vacated? So far as I know, such a law has not yet been passed in East Pakistan. I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister.

**Dr. Katju:** The answer to that is this. I may just read a para. from the Chief Secretaries' Conference proceedings:

"As regards Tripura it was agreed (by all the Secretaries) that while adopting the West Bengal Bill for that State, specific provision shall be included to confer the same rights on *bargadars* as to restoration of property as had been provided in the Assam law, and would be provided in East Bengal and were implicit in West Bengal....."

**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee:** Has that been passed in East Bengal? I know that a resolution has been passed. Has East Bengal passed a law? That is what I am asking.

**Dr. Katju:** I cannot give a definite answer.

**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee:** That is an important point. Before our Parliament proceeds to give effect to a bilateral agreement, we should know what the other Government has done.

**Dr. Katju:** If you want a specific answer to that question, I shall give. Not today, but tomorrow. But supposing they do not pass it, you have done it in West Bengal, you have done it in Assam. We must set an example that we are prepared to carry out our undertakings.

4 P.M.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this Government has got any idea about the working of the Evacuee Property Management Committees in West Bengal, Assam and East Bengal; how they have been functioning and whether any revenue or rent coming from these properties have ever been handed over to the evacuees as provided in the Delhi Pact?

**Dr. Katju:** That goes deeper. I have not the information as to how far these Managing Committees have been able to tackle the question. My hon. friend knows much better that in Calcutta it is very difficult to get rent from the refugees who have settled down in different parts. Presumably, it is the same thing in Dacca.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Several times this question was raised, and every time the Government has been saying that they have not got the information. We are passing a law and setting up certain committees, and if we do not know how these committees have been functioning and how the property rights of the evacuees have been maintained by these Committees, what is the purpose of passing this law? Government must try to secure some information about the working of these committees and place it before the House.

**Dr. Katju:** May I deal with that? They are two different questions. If you apply on or before a specific date, then you get back the property.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** That is not the question. Evacuee Property Managing Committees have been set up in West Bengal, East Bengal and Assam. The Delhi Pact is now two years old, and information ought to be available as to how these Committees have been working, whether they have got possession of any of the evacuee property, whether they have been able to hand over any rent or revenue to the evacuees etc.

**Dr. Katju:** I was trying to answer that question when you repeated it. If you apply before a certain date, you get back the property. If you do not, then there is the Managing Committee. The Managing Committees are in Calcutta, in Dacca—in West Bengal and East Bengal. My hon. friend knows very well what is the condition of the Managing Committees in West Bengal.

**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee:** And in East Bengal? No one knows?

**Dr. Katju:** Worse probably. Let us take it that way if it pleases you. The Committees have nothing to do with the business here. That is a separate complaint. Nobody is taking rent from these properties because this Act has come into operation. Please remember that so far as 1953 is concerned, that Act is functioning. I suggest that really there should be no difficulty about this Bill.

**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee:** With reference to the question Mrs. Renu Chakravarty has put, may we take it that if this Act is put into operation, the Government does not intend to evict refugees who have settled on land, by force unless and until alternative land has been made available to them? The hon. Minister said that he would look into the matter, but we would like to get an assurance from him.

**Dr. Katju:** I shall do my best. I do not want to be tied down, but I shall do my best. The contingency may

[Dr. Katju]

never arise. I would beg you to remember what you are seeing in Calcutta.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** The hon. Minister says that already this is being put into operation in West Bengal. What has happened in West Bengal? We would like to have some information about it. What has happened to these *bargadars* who have already come there, and have now been thrown out? Have they been given alternative land?

**Dr. Katju:** My hon. friend will consider how that point arises. If they were returned land in 1951 in pursuance of the Pact, and then they are turned out again in 1952, say in August, well, a new situation arises. Take other steps; either enter into another pact, or do what you like.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** But those that fall within the purview of this Bill?

**Dr. Katju:** I shall bear that in mind. I am going to make a specific enquiry. I shall look into it.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty rose—**

**Mr. Chairman:** All these questions do not relate to this Bill directly.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Yes, it does.

**Mr. Chairman:** After the hon. Minister has given an assurance, I think it should satisfy everybody. These matters are irrelevant to this Bill, and have an ancillary importance.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** It is very relevant. It is a question of what we are going to do.

**The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** In fact, the practice in West Bengal has been that nobody, whether he has been settled according to law or he has taken forcible possession of an evacuee land, is evicted unless alternative land is given to him. That is the practice which we have been following.

**Dr. Katju:** It will be the same in Tripura.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** But a time limit has to be put, because we know how Government functions. You

go on from year to year saying that you have not yet got the necessary land, and both the migrant and the incoming refugee suffer.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** The time limit is there. The man must have come before 9th July, 1951, and he must have made an application before 6th November, 1952. So there is no necessity of fixing any further limit.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** The hon. Minister has not understood my question. My question is this: from the time that orders are issued that the land will be returned, is there any fixed period of time within which the alternative rehabilitation is given, and the original land is returned to the original possessor?

**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee:** I think they will not be evicted until alternative land is provided.

**Mr. Chairman:** This point has been disposed of. The hon. Minister has already replied that he will do his best if such cases arise in which such alternative land is not given.

**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee:** Does that fall within the portfolio of the hon. Minister? He is only for law and order.

**Dr. Katju:** This is a State subject.

**Mr. Chairman:** The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the West Bengal Evacuee Property Act, 1951, as extended to Tripura, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. Chairman:** Now, I take up the clauses.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

**Dr. Katju:** I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

**Mr. Chairman:** The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The House divided: Ayes: 149; Noes: 41.

#### Division No. 2]

Abdus Sattar, Shri  
Achal Singh, Seth  
Achint Ram, Lala  
Achuthan, Shri  
Akarpuri, Sardar

Amrit Kaur, Rajkumari  
Asad, Maulana  
Balasubramaniam, Shri  
Bakshi, Shri  
Barman, Shri

Barupal, Shri  
Basappa, Shri  
Bhagat, Shri B. B.  
Bhargava, Pandit Thakur Das

AYES

[4.20 P.M.]



Bhawanji, Shri  
 Bhonsle, Major-General  
 Bidari, Shri  
 Birbal Singh, Shri  
 Bogawat, Shri  
 Bose, Shri P. C.  
 Brajeshwar Prasad, Shri  
 Buragohain, Shri  
 Charak, Shri  
 Chaturvedi, Shri  
 Chaudhary, Shri G. L.  
 Chavda, Shri  
 Chaudhri, Shri M. Shaffee  
 Dabhi, Shri  
 Das, Dr. M. M.  
 Das, Shri B.  
 Das, Shri B. K.  
 Das, Shri K. K.  
 Datar, Shri  
 Deb, Shri S. C.  
 Desai, Shri K. K.  
 Deshmukh, Dr. P. S.  
 Deshpande, Shri G. H.  
 Dholkia, Shri  
 Digambar Singh, Shri  
 Dwivedi, Shri D. P.  
 Ebanezer, Dr.  
 Elayaperumal, Shri  
 Fotedar, Pandit  
 Gandhi, Shri Feroze  
 Ghandhi, Shri M. M.  
 Gandhi, Shri V. B.  
 Ghose, Shri S. M.  
 Giri, Shri V. V.  
 Gounder, Shri K. P.  
 Guha, Shri A. C.  
 Hazarika, Shri J. N.  
 Hem Raj, Shri  
 Ibrahim, Shri  
 Iyyani, Shri E.  
 Iyyanni, Shri C. R.  
 Jagjivan Ram, Shri.  
 Jain, Shri A. P.  
 Jajware, Shri  
 Jayashri, Shrimati  
 Jena, Shri K. C.

Jena, Shri Niranjan  
 Jha, Shri Bhagwat  
 Joshi, Shri Jethalal  
 Kajrolkar, Shri  
 Kakkan, Shri  
 Kala, Shrimati., A.  
 Karmarkar, Shri  
 Kasliwal, Shri  
 Katju, Dr.  
 Keshavaiengar, Shri  
 Keskar, Dr.  
 Khongmen, Shrimati  
 Krishna Chandra, Shri  
 Krishnamachari, Shri T. T.  
 Krishnappa, Shri M. V.  
 Kureel, Shri B. N.  
 Laakar, Prof.  
 Lingam, Shri N. M.  
 Madiah Gowda, Shri  
 Mahodaya, Shri  
 Majhi, Shri E. C.  
 Malliah, Shri U. S.  
 Malviya, Pandit C. N.  
 Malaviya, Shri K. D.  
 Mandal, Dr. P.  
 Maydeo, Shrimati  
 Mehta, Shri Balwant Slnha  
 Mishra, Shri Bihuti  
 Mishra, Shri L. N.  
 Mishra, Shri Lokenath  
 Mishra, Shri M. P.  
 Mohiuddin, Shri  
 More, Shri K. L.  
 Nanda, Shri  
 Nehru, Shri Jawaharlal  
 Nehru, Shrimati Uma  
 Pannalal, Shri  
 Pant, Shri D. D.  
 Raichiah, Shri N.  
 Raghunath Sahal, Shri  
 Raj Bahadur, Shri  
 Ram Das, Shri  
 Ram Subhag Singh, Dr.  
 Ramanand Shastri, Swami  
 Ramaswamy, Shri S. V.  
 Ranbir Singh, Ch.

Rane, Shri  
 Reddy, Shri H. S.  
 Sahu, Shri Rameshwar  
 Saigal, Sardar A. S.  
 Sakhare, Shri  
 Samanta, Shri S. C.  
 Sanganna, Shri  
 Shah, Shri B. B.  
 Shahnawaz Khan, Shri  
 Sharma, Prof. D. C.  
 Shobha Ram, Shri  
 Shukla, Pandit B.  
 Siddhannajappa, Shri  
 Singh, Shri D. N.  
 Singh, Shri H. P.  
 Singh, Shri T. N.  
 Singhal, Shri S. C.  
 Sinha, Dr. S.  
 Sinha, Shri B. P.  
 Sinha, Shri Jhulan  
 Sinha, Shri N. P.  
 Sinha, Shri S.  
 Sinha, Shri Satya Narayan  
 Sinhasan Singh, Shri  
 Sodhia, Shri K. C.  
 Somana, Shri N.  
 Subrahmanyam, Shri T.  
 Suresh Chandra, Dr.  
 Suriya Prasad, Shri  
 Tandon, Shri P.  
 Telikar, Shri  
 Thimmalah, Shri  
 Thomas, Shri A. M.  
 Tripathi, Shri K. P.  
 Tudu, Shri B. L.  
 Upadhyay, Shri Shiva Dayal  
 Upadhyaya, Shri S. D.  
 Vaishnav, Shri H. G.  
 Vaishya, Shri M. B.  
 Venkataraman, Shri  
 Vidyalankar, Shri  
 Vyas, Shri Radhelal

## NOES

Ajit Singh, Shri  
 Amin, Dr.  
 Bahadur Singh, Shri  
 Banerjee, Shri  
 Basu, Shri K. K.  
 Chakravartty, Shrimati Renu  
 Chatterjee, Shri N. C.  
 Chaudhuri, Shri T. K.  
 Chowdary, Shri C. R.  
 Chowdhury, Shri N. B.  
 Damodaran, Shri N. P.  
 Das, Shri Sarangadhar  
 Deogam, Shri  
 Deshpande, Shri V. G.

Gidwanl Shri C. P.  
 Hukun Singh, Sardar  
 Jaisoorya, Dr.  
 Kelappan, Shri  
 Khare, Dr. N. B.  
 Mangalagiri, Shri  
 Mascarene, Kumari Annie  
 Mishra, Pandit S. C.  
 Mookerjee, Dr. S. P.  
 Mukerjee, Shri H. N.  
 Murthy, Shri B. S.  
 Nathani, Shri H. E.  
 Pandey, Dr. Natabar  
 Punnoose, Shri

Ramnarayan Singh, Babu  
 Randaman Singh, Shri  
 Rao, Shri P. R.  
 Rao, Shri P. Subba  
 Reddi, Shri Ramachandra  
 Saha, Shri Meghnad  
 Singh, Shri B. N.  
 Soren, Shri  
 Swami, Shri Sivamurthi  
 Trivedi, Shri U. M.  
 Veeraswami, Shri  
 Verma, Shri Ramji  
 Waghmare, Shri

The motion was adopted.

**INFLUX FROM PAKISTAN (CONTROL) REPEALING BILL**

**The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle):** I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the repeal of the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act, 1949, be taken into consideration."

**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta South-East):** Please speak up.

**Shri J. K. Bhonsle:** As the House is aware, traffic between India and Pakistan since the middle of 1948 was regulated by a system of permits. The Indian law which regulated the permit system was the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act, 1949 (XXIII of 1949). In practice, exemptions were issued to facilitate freedom of movement on the eastern zone. Those persons coming from East Pakistan were exempt from being in possession of a permit except in the case of those displaced persons from West Pakistan requiring permission to come via East Bengal. In April this year the Government of Pakistan for the first time informed the Government of India of its intention to introduce a passport system instead of permits. This proposal was considered by us on merits and, as the House is aware, we were averse to raising in any degree the hardship of the people who have to move from one country into another for *bona fide* reasons. Especially we were averse to the introduction of restrictions for the first time on traffic.....

**Dr. N. B. Khare (Gwalior):** This is what I call *talak*.

**Shri J. K. Bhonsle:** ..between East Bengal on the Pakistan side and the Indian States bordering on East Bengal. Such traffic had been free of all restrictions till then, and restrictions which the introduction of the passport system would impose on them amounted to a negation of the freedom of movement granted to these persons under the Prime Ministers' Pact of April 1950. The Pakistan Government could not see eye to eye with the view of the Government of India.

**Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru):** They can never.

**Shri J. K. Bhonsle:** In the circumstances, the Government of India could only think in terms of minimising the hardship of people who have to move from one country into another for *bona fide* reasons as far as possible. It was agreed with the Government of Pakistan that the permit system be replaced by a passport system w.e.f. 15th October 1952. The repeal of the permit law was a necessary corollary to the

introduction of the passport system and hence Government promulgated the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Repealing Ordinance 1952 which repealed the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act, 1949. This Bill now before the House is designed to convert the provisions of the Repealing Ordinance into an Act. The Bill itself is a simple one containing the usual repealing clause. The only feature of the Bill which might call for any comment is the 'savings' clause. This is designed to continue in force the penalty attracted under the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act in respect of those persons who having come into India on a permit system before the 15th October 1952 continued to stay on in India and committed or may commit a breach of the permit conditions.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the repeal of the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act, 1949, be taken into consideration."

**Shri A. C. Guha (Santipur):** This is a very short Bill and in a sense a simple Bill also. But this Bill practically seeks Parliament's recognition of the introduction of the passport system. It may also be interpreted as the formal and official burial of the Delhi Pact. The entire Delhi Pact rests on certain clauses, the main clause being 'that there shall be freedom of movement and protection in transit'. With that clause, I think, the entire Delhi Pact goes down. In the course of replies to some questions, even the Prime Minister admitted that the introduction of the passport system would mean the virtual repudiation of the Delhi Pact.

Sir, I am not so much concerned about the Delhi Pact or any other pact. I do not attach any sanctity to any Pact. So many pacts have been signed in the international world and so many pacts have been disregarded either unilaterally or after joint deliberation of the signatories. So it is not a big point that this Bill is a formal repudiation and burial of the Delhi Pact. But I would like to request this House to consider this Act from the point of view of the common men's sufferings. On the western side, there was almost a complete cessation of communications, but that was not the case on the eastern side. Every day Government were publishing figures of so many thousand Hindus and Muslims going into East Bengal and so many thousand Hindus and Muslims coming from East Bengal into West Bengal.

Every day, up to the 14th of October, thousands of people were coming and even now I can say that, this division

of Bengal has not been effected in economic or cultural fields. Thousands of East Bengal students are reading in West Bengal and I know of some West Bengal students also reading in East Bengal. Thousands of East Bengal men are earning their livelihood in West Bengal and Assam and there are many cases of some Indian citizens earning their livelihood in East Bengal. I think, some time ago in this House, a question was raised whether some of the tea gardens and some other industrial concerns and sugar mills in East Bengal were not able to start work due to the operation of the passport system, as the intending workers from the Indian side were not able to go to East Bengal. I know thousands of people have been waiting in queues for passport and visa and I also know what corruption is going on. It is not one-sided traffic. Corruption and inefficiency in issuing passports and visas are more or less common to both sides. There may be a difference of degree but it is all the same to the sufferings of the common man on this side or on that side.

When this partition was accepted, I remember on the 14th and 15th June, 1947, in this very city of Delhi, the All India Congress Committee, while accepting the partition passed a resolution and that resolution contains the words:

"The Congress has consistently upheld that the unity of India must be maintained. Congress has laboured for the realisation of a free and united India and millions of our people have suffered for this great cause. The long course of India's history and tradition bear witness to this essential unity. Geography and the mountains and the seas have fashioned India as she is and no human agency can change that shape or come in the way of her final destiny. Economic circumstances and insistent demands of international forces make the unity of India still more necessary. The picture of India, we have learnt to cherish will remain in our minds and hearts. The A.I.C.C. earnestly trusts that when the present passions have subsided, India's problems will be viewed in their proper perspective and the false doctrine of two nations in India will be discredited and discarded by all."

When responsible leaders passed this resolution, they had to invoke the blessings of Mahatma Gandhi also. In spite of his definite opposition to partition, he was persuaded to come to the A.I.C.C. meeting and to bless this resolution.

I do not mean to suggest that they had been making any false claim when they passed that resolution with these noble words. Now, the Government, headed by leaders who were responsible for passing this resolution, have come before this House to put the seal of this Parliament on the partition of India as more or less final and as more or less taken for granted, if I may say so, for all time to come.

We started, at least I can say I started, my political life in and through the agitation against the partition of Bengal in 1905-1906. That partition of Bengal was annulled. When this time in 1946, through forces of circumstances, through manoeuvrings of international politics, we had to accept this partition, I at least believed that during our life-time this partition also would be annulled. That partition was annulled by one force but this partition can be annulled—and even now I expect that it will be annulled—by another force, by the force of democracy, the force of the common man asserting his own right.

Sir, even after the partition I had occasion to go to East Bengal several times and on one occasion I had to go on a Goodwill Mission with the present Chief Minister of East Bengal as one of the members of that Mission. I toured several districts of East Bengal, with some Muslim and some Hindu leaders of both West and East Bengal. I know the feelings both of the Hindus and Muslims of both Bengals and I can say that if both the Governments had behaved properly, things would never have come to this pass. There may be a question of difference; but I cannot say that our Government have behaved properly as regards Pakistan. We started with the theory propounded by some academic economists that Pakistan is an economic absurdity and it will crumble in a year or two. We started with that theory and proceeded on that basis and we committed several mistakes. While dealing with Pakistan we have always taken into consideration the set of people who are at the helm of affairs; we have not taken into consideration the common man who really forms the nation, who really forms the backbone of the country. We have not taken into consideration the feelings and sentiments that prevail at least in East Bengal side amongst the common men. Now, I think the leaders of the Congress will not proclaim their political bankruptcy by asking this House to pass this resolution. Only the other day, the Leader of the House, the leader of my party, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru reiterated, of course in guarded terms due to his official position, his confidence and firm belief in essential unity of India and that this position was not a permanent feature of India.

[Shri A. C. Guha]

Sir, only two days ago, the Pakistan Constituent Assembly passed a similar Act and there was a cry that the passport system should be scrapped. Here also I should like to raise the cry that the passport system should be scrapped, not from the point of view of any official or administrative difficulty but from the point of view of the common man and the suffering imposed on him.

On the 14th of October, I had occasion to go to the border territory which demarcates East Bengal from West Bengal. I have seen the miserable lot of the people and I have seen what separates East Bengal from West Bengal. Hundreds of miles, without any demarcation, without any natural boundary separate these two. Can you separate these two Bengals permanently by imposing this passport system? It is just like following King Canute of England, 'Thus far and no farther.' As the waves did not hear the King's command, so I think the common man of Bengal and the common man of India will not hear this Government command and will assert his right to be united. I know the risk and the danger in making this claim. But I think I owe it to myself and to my political conviction that I should raise this voice that the common man of the two Bengals must assert his right to be united. It is impossible to separate these two Bengals permanently or hermetically. No passport system can operate between East Bengal and West Bengal.

I think in the same Bill passed by the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan or in another Bill, there was a clause that anybody in possession of an illegal or bogus passport should be prosecuted. It is very difficult for the common man to distinguish between a real and a bogus passport. Some days ago, it was reported in some papers and it was also referred to here that a man applied for a passport by registered post and he got back an acknowledgment receipt and that poor man thought that that was the passport. He wanted to travel with that and he was caught by the Pakistan authorities and he was belaboured; and the report says that he died due to that. This is the lot of the common man under the passport system—which will create new crimes and offences for him—ingenuous as he is. The people on the border must have their traffic if they are to have any means of livelihood. The East Bengal Muslims come over to this side to sell their fish, egg, vegetables, jute etc. and people from this side go over to the East Bengal side to sell their articles. I think Mr. Tripathi referred to the ban put some time ago on the

Cachar oranges passing over to East Bengal and as a result the orange sellers of Cachar had been put to great economic difficulty. Therefore, in view of the economic and cultural ties that exist even now between the two Bengals, our Government should take the initiative and persuade the Pakistan Government to terminate this passport system.

I know that in the circumstances which have developed the Government will have to pass a law like this. I know their obligations. Even so, they might have tried and allowed Pakistan acting unilaterally in this matter. I am not well versed in international etiquette, and therefore I cannot say how that arrangement would have worked. Now that the Government has decided to introduce the passport system, they will have to pass this Bill. But even now I would request the hon. Prime Minister, who is the leader of my party, to take the initiative so that the Pakistan Government may be persuaded to terminate the passport system. Let not false prestige stand in the way.

लाला अचित राम (हिंसर) :

माननीय उपाध्यक्षजी, यह बिल बहुत छोटा सा है और इस पर कुछ ज्यादा कहने की जरूरत नहीं है। लेकिन एक आध बात जो मेरे दिल में आई, मैं समझता हूँ कि वह उरा साफ़ कर दूँ तो अच्छा हो। इस बिल का इतिहास तो आप को पता ही है कि सन् १९४९ में पहले एक ऐक्ट बना, उस के बाद १५ अक्टूबर, १९५२ को यह आर्डिनंस हुआ और अब यह ऐक्ट बनने जा रहा है। जो रेफ्यूजीज (Refugees) के इनफ्लक्स (Influx) को कंट्रोल करने का आर्डिनंस था, अब उसकी जगह यह मौजूदा-ऐक्ट, जो पेश किया गया है, लेने जा रहा है। इस का इतिहास तो आप जानते ही हैं और जैसा कि प्रो. इम. मिनिस्टर साहब ने फ़रमाया कि उन्होंने इस बात की बहुत कोशिश की कि पासपोर्ट सिस्टम (Passport System) जारी न हो, लेकिन पाकिस्तान ने इस बात पर इतरार (आग्रह) किया कि पासपोर्ट सिस्टम जारी करना है। बाद में उस ने यह भी कहा कि पन्द्रह दिन और मुलतवी कर दें,

लेकिन हमारी गवर्नमेंट ने कहा कि मुस्वी करना मुनासिब नहीं है, क्योंकि इससे बर्ह कर जो हिन्दू हैं उन के दिल में एक मसमसा और चबराहट रहेगी, इसलिये जितनी जल्दी यह पासपोर्ट सिस्टम जारी हो जाय, उतना अच्छा होगा। वहाँ से लोग नहीं आयेँगे। और तसकीन से रहेंगे। मतलब इसका यह है कि हम नहीं चाहते थे कि यह पासपोर्ट सिस्टम जारी हो।

अगर ऐसा हुआ तो यह हमारी मर्जी के खिलाफ हुआ, और बेहतर होता कि यह जारी न होता और सारा काम ऐसे ही चलता। हमारे दिल में यह सवाल पैदा होता है कि आखिर कौम सी बजह हुई कि ऐसा हुआ? यह बात क्यों हुई कि इन्फ्लक्स पाकिस्तान से बैस्ट बंगाल में आये या बैस्ट बंगाल से ईस्ट बंगाल को जाय। यह हमारी पालिसी नहीं है। हम अपनी तरफ से हर प्रकार की कोशिश करते हैं कि ऐसा न हो, जैसी कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट की पालिसी है, मैं भी इसके खिलाफ हूँ कि एक्स्चेन्ज आफ पापुलेशन (Exchange of Population) हो। मैं इस के खिलाफ हूँ कि हिन्दू वहाँ आयेँ और मुसलमान वहाँ से पाकिस्तान जायें। लेकिन बाज बातें हमारी कोशिशों के बावजूद भी हो जाती हैं। तो फिर हम क्या करें? मैं पूछता हूँ कि अगर इन सब कोशिशों के बावजूद भी इन्फ्लक्स हमारे वहाँ आ जाता है तो हम क्या करेंगे। क्या हम इस बात को बुरा समझेंगे और कहेंगे कि आप लोगो ने कानून तोड़ा है, हम आप को सबा देंगे। मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट का ऐसा खैया नहीं होगा कि वह उन से कहे कि तुम मुजरिम हो, तुम ने ऐक्ट को तोड़ा है, तुम को सजा होगी या कैद होगी या जुर्माना होगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस ऐक्ट का यह मतलब नहीं है और न हमारी गवर्नमेंट का यह मतलब हो सकता है। अगर ऐक्ट

के खिलाफ भी यह बात पाती हो तो भी परवाह नहीं है। हम ऐसे क्वत में यह कमी नहीं सोचेंगे कि उन्होंने क्वत काम किया है। मैं तो कहूँगा कि जैसे गवर्नमेंट अब तक करती रही है उन के बसाने का इन्तजाम करेगी उन के खाने का इन्तजाम करेगी, उन के गुनाहों को नहीं देखेगी। अगर इस बास्ते कोई यह सोचे कि यह अच्छा नहीं हुआ तो भी मैं कहता हूँ कि हम इन्फ्लक्स नहीं चाहते, लेकिन जब वह आ गये तो उन का इन्तजाम तो हमें करना ही है। हमें उन के साथ हमदर्दी रखनी है, इसलिये इन्फ्लक्स को कंट्रोल करने की बात करने से तो वह ऐक्ट चलेगा ही नहीं। हमारा इंटरप्रेटेशन (interpretation) दूसरा होगा। इसलिये इस बारे में वहाँ से आनेवालों के रास्ते में कोई मजबूरियां न हों। ऐसी हालत में तो उन आदमियों की मुसीबतों को देख कर हमें उन के साथ हमदर्दी होगी। हम कोशिश करेंगे कि यह इन्फ्लक्स न हो और हमारी गवर्नमेंट, हमें उम्मीद है, इस में अवश्य कामयाब होगी कि हिन्दू हों या मुसलमान किसी को तंग या ज्यादती करने का मकसद हमारी गवर्नमेंट का नहीं होगा।

इतनी बात बाजेह कर के मैं इस बिल की ताईद करता हूँ।

**श्री बी० जी० बेसपांडे (गुना) :** उपसभापति महोदय, इस प्रस्ताव का विरोध हमारे सम्माननीय मित्र श्री गुहा ने किया है, इसके लिये मैं उन को बधाई देता हूँ। मुझे इस का पता नहीं कि समर्थन किया या विरोध किया परन्तु जो उन्होंने अखंड भारत की जयजयकार की उस के लिये मैं उन को ठादिक बधाई देता हूँ और यदि इस प्रस्ताव के साथ ही साथ सरकार की तरफ से जेड्ड लियाकत पैक्ट की समाधि बनाने का

[श्री श्री० जी० देवपांडे]

प्रस्ताव भी आता तो अच्छा होता, ऐसा उन्होंने कहा। मेरी समझ में इस बात में एक ही बात बुरी है और वह यह कि उन्होंने अकमाने की बात कही है। यह जो प्रचा है वह पाकिस्तान की और ईसाइयों की है, हिन्दुस्तान में तो पिता में जलाया जाता है। अगर इस पैक्ट को स्मशान में जलाया जाता तो बहुत अच्छा होता, ऐसा मैं समझता हूँ।

उपसभापति महोदय, जब मैं इस प्रस्ताव को देखता हूँ तो जिस प्रकार की भावनायें मेरे सम्माननीय मित्र श्री गुहा जी के हृदय में आई, इसी प्रकार की भावनायें मैं समझता हूँ कि सभी सदस्यों के हृदयों में आई हैं चाहे वह किसी पक्ष का सदस्य हो। इस देश के टुकड़े होने के पश्चात् जैसी भावनायें आईं उसे देखते हुए तो मैं समझता हूँ कि देश का विभाजन भी देश का दोह था। लेकिन उस समय में आशा करता था कि शायद सब विपत्तिग्रस्त लोगों को बचाया जावेगा। मुझे स्मरण है कि पंजाब में जब हत्याकांड हो रहा था, दिल्ली में जब हत्याकांड हो रहा था तब हमारे प्रधान मंत्री यहां बांदनी चौक में खड़े हो कर यह कहने लगे कि यदि दिल्ली और पंजाब में अत्याचार न होता तो मैं पश्चिमी पंजाब में क्रौजों को ले कर चला जाता और यहां के हिन्दुओं को बचाता। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि उन के विचार को बंगाल के हिन्दुओं ने माना, उस सलाह के एक एक अक्षर का वह पालन कर रहे हैं जो कि नेहरू-लियाकत पैक्ट में दी गई थी। पाकिस्तान का तरफ से यह पैक्ट तोड़े जाने के पश्चात् भी जब इस समा में हमारे मंत्रिगण आते हैं तो हम देखते हैं कि बंगाल के हिन्दुओं के साथ इतने अत्याचार किये जाने के बावजूद भी उन की रक्षा या कोई प्रयत्न नहीं करते। हम ने इन अत्याचारों के पश्चात् नेहरू-

लियाकत पैक्ट किया। और उस पैक्ट करने में कहा गया कि भारत में जो सम्प्रदायवाद है उसके कारण पाकिस्तान में इस प्रकार की बातें हुईं। इसलिये इसके बारे में हम कुछ नहीं कर सकते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि पाकिस्तान सरकार तो हमारे खिलाफ है ही, हमारी सरकार भी हमारे खिलाफ है। पाकिस्तान में क्रियाकृत अली खां ने कभी नहीं कहा कि मुसलिम लीग के कारण यह सब हो रहा है, नाजिम उद्दीन भी ऐसा कभी नहीं कहते, लेकिन पंडित नेहरू को जो भ्रम सेकुलरिज्म (secularism) का है, जो उन के दिल में धर्मनिरपेक्ष राष्ट्रवाद का भ्रम है, उसके कारण हम देख रहे हैं कि बंगाल में जो ७० लाख हिन्दू जनता है उस को बचाने के लिये कहना उस से सहानुभूति प्रकट करना यह भी उन को साम्प्रदायिकतावाद की बात मालूम होती है।

हम समझते हैं कि यह धर्मान्विता है, साम्प्रदायिकता है, फिरकापरस्ती है। इस का विवेचन करने के लिये मैं यहां नहीं आया हूँ। मैं सोचता हूँ कि आज पूर्वी बंगाल के ५० या ६० लाख हिन्दुओं के जीवन की कोई सुरक्षितता नहीं है, उन की सम्पत्ति की सुरक्षितता नहीं है। हमारी देवियों के सम्मान और सतीत्व की सुरक्षितता नहीं है। उन को बचाने के लिये हम क्या कर सकते हैं यही हमारा सबाल है। अभी तक कम से कम एक सुविधा थी कि वहां से जो भाग कर यहां आना चाहता था वह जा सकता था लेकिन अब वह भी नहीं रही। पाकिस्तान ने मांग की कि परमिट सिस्टम (Permit System) हटा कर पासपोर्ट सिस्टम (Passport System) जारी कीजिये और हमारी सरकार ने इस को स्वीकार किया, और आज हमारी सरकार इस खतम में

यह घोषित करने आई है कि इस के पश्चात् पाकिस्तान से आने के लिये पासपोर्ट लेना होगा। इस का अर्थ यह हुआ कि इस के पश्चात् पाकिस्तान में जो हिन्दू जनता रहती है उस का बचाव हम नहीं कर सकेंगे। हमारे मित्र अंबितराम जी का हृदय बहुत कोमल है। उन्होंने बतलाया कि सेविंग क्लॉज (saving clause) के अन्तर्गत जो लोग यहां आयेंगे उन को सजा नहीं दी जायेगी। लेकिन हम को पता नहीं कि सरकार के हृदय में क्या है। पाकिस्तान के साथ तो हमारी सरकार दुःखहारक, सुखकारक कोमल स्पर्श करने के लिये उत्सुक है, लेकिन जो हमारे हिन्दू धरणाधीन यहां आयेंगे उन को उसी प्रकार से सरकार का कोमल स्पर्श मिलेगा या नहीं इस का हम को पता नहीं है। चूंकि मैं सम्प्रदायवादी हूं इसलिये मैं यह मांग करता हूं कि कम से कम जो हिन्दू यहां आयें उन को सजा न दी जाय। मुसलमानों के लिये मैं कुछ नहीं कहूंगा क्योंकि आप क धर्मनिरपेक्ष राष्ट्रवाद में यह बात गलत हो सकती है। मैं सिर्फ यह कहूंगा कि सेविंग क्लॉज के अन्तर्गत हिन्दुओं को सजा न दी जाय। मैं ने देखा कि पंडित नेहरू ने उच्च स्वर से यह घोषणा की कि चाहे कोई भी मुझे दोष दे लेकिन मैं ऐपीजमेन्ट (appeasement) करूंगा, मैं मुस्लिम तुष्टीकरण की नीति अपनाता रहूंगा। पाकिस्तान चाहे कुछ भी करे लेकिन मैं ने जो बचन दिया है उस का प्रतिपालन करूंगा, रामचन्द्र और सत्य हरिश्चन्द्र के अनुसार जिस न स्वप्न में भी दिया हुआ अपना बचन पूरा किया था, जो जो बचन मैं ने दिये हैं उन का पालन करूंगा। कहा जाता है कि अब पाकिस्तान से हिन्दुओं का आना बन्द हो गया है। पर मुझे पता है कि ऐसा क्यों हुआ है। पाकिस्तान ने बीट आफ ड्रम

(beat of drum) से यह प्रचार किया था कि जो लोग हिन्दुस्तान में जायेंगे वह क्रैड कर लिये जायेंगे इसी कारण वह कोमल बर्हा अब नहीं आ रहे हैं। हमारे यहां के प्रधान मंत्री और कांग्रेस के सदस्य यह स्वीकार करते हैं कि वहां पर हिन्दुओं का जीवन, उन की सम्पत्ति और सम्मान सुरक्षित नहीं है। इसलिये मैं अपनी सरकार से यह चाहता हूं कि वह केवल यही घोषित न करे कि जो हिन्दू पाकिस्तान से यहां आयेंगे उन को सजा नहीं दी जायेगी, बल्कि यह भी घोषित करे जो जो हिन्दू यहां आयेंगे उन को आने का खर्चा दिया जायेगा और उस के पश्चात् उन को बसाने की सारी जिम्मेदारी हम लेने को तैयार हूं। सरकार को यह घोषित करना चाहिये। पाकिस्तान के पासपोर्टों की कोई शर्त ऐसा करने में आप के रास्ते में नहीं आ सकती। उपसभापति महोदय, हमारे विरोधी पूछेंगे कि इतने आदमियों को आप कैसे बसा सकेंगे, इस काम के लिये पैसे कहां से आयेंगे? पर यह पैसे का सबाल भेरे सामने नहीं है। मैं तो समप्रदायवादी हूं। मैं तो उन मरने वालों को बचावा चाहता हूं। यह कहना मेरे लिये पाप समझा जा सकता है, लेकिन मैं कहूंगा कि यदि वहां उन का जीवन, सम्पत्ति और सम्मान असुरक्षित है तो उन को बचाने के लिये आप को करोड़ों रुपया खर्च करना चाहिये। खादी के लिये आप एक एक गज कपड़े पर तीन तीन पैसे कर लगाने को तैयार हैं लेकिन उन लोगों का जीवन बचाने के लिये आप टैक्स लगाने को तैयार नहीं हैं। चूंकि आप की देशभक्ति दिखाई दे और देश पर खादी का राज्य रहे इसलिये आप गरीब आदमी पर एक गज कपड़े पर तीन पैसे कर लगाने को तैयार हैं परन्तु इन लोगों का जीवन बचाने के लिये कोई खर्च न पड़े ऐसा आप चाहते हैं। लेकिन इस के

[श्री वी० जी० देशपांडे]

जिसे मेरे पास एक रास्ता है और वह रास्ता बहुत साफ़ है। लोग पूछेंगे कि इतना पैसा क्यों ले जायेगा? मेरा रास्ता तो यह है कि अगर वहाँ से ७० लाख हिन्दू आते हैं तो ७० लाख मुसलमान वहाँ से पाकिस्तान खेज दिने जायें और जो उन के मकान, दुकानें, और सम्पत्ति हो उस पर उन हिन्दुओं को बसाया जाय। यह रास्ता साफ़ है और मैं इसलिये इस को आप के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ कि यही शान्ति का रास्ता है। पंडित नेहरू का और पाकिस्तान वालों का जो रास्ता है उस से खून की नदियाँ बह जायेंगी। इतिहास हम को इशारा दे रहा है। हम न बहुत कुछ अपनी भाँखों से देखा है। जब पंजाब का विभाजन हुआ था तो डाक्टर अम्बेडकर और दूसरे लोग भी महात्मा गाँधी जी के पास गये और बताया कि जब एक जनसंख्या का विनिमय न हो जाय और सम्पत्ति का विनिमय न हो जाय आप पाकिस्तान को स्वीकार न कीजिये। महात्मा जी ने और पंडित नेहरू ने कहा कि यह तो हम सोच भी नहीं सकते, इस का तो हम विचार भी नहीं कर सकते। उन्होंने इस पर विचार नहीं किया। उन के धर्मनिरपेक्ष राष्ट्रवाद की विषय हुई लेकिन इतिहास ने बदला ले लिया और हम ने देखा कि पंजाब में क्या हुआ और महात्मा गाँधी के कहने के बावजूद भी जनसंख्या का विनिमय हो गया। आज भी मैं इतिहास का यही इशारा पंडित नेहरू को और कांग्रेस को देना चाहता हूँ। पंजाब का इतिहास आप ने देख लिया। आप यह क्यों समझ रहे हैं कि जो पंजाब में हुआ था वह बंगाल में नहीं होगा। यह आप के अस्तिष्क में क्यों आ रहा है मुझे पता नहीं। इतिहास ने आप को सन् ४७ में चेतावनी दी। सन् १९५० में दूसरा इशारा आप को दिसा गया, सन् ५२ में तीसरा इशारा आप

को मिला। लेकिन बुरायान के बारे में वेंसा कहा जाता था *They have learnt nothing and they have forgotten nothing* व उन्होंने कुछ सीखा है न उन्होंने कुछ भूला है। पंजाब के इतिहास की पुनरावृत्ति होने वाली है यह हम देख रहे हैं। हम जानते हैं कि यहाँ धर्मनिरपेक्ष राष्ट्रवाद है। पंडित नेहरू इस देश में शान्ति रखेंगे और मैं भी चाहता हूँ कि शान्ति रहे। आप ने शान्ति रखने का व्रत तो लिया है, पर मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यदि पाकिस्तान भी यह व्रत न ले तो आप कब तक शान्ति रख सकेंगे। आपने देखा है कि पाकिस्तान में एक योजना के अनुसार हिन्दुओं का दमन हो रहा है। उस के फलस्वरूप हम देखते हैं कि एक बार २७ लाख हिन्दू यहाँ आये, फिर १० लाख आये। इसी प्रकार से लाखों और आते जायेंगे। जब पाकिस्तान में इस प्रकार का आतंक चलता रहेगा और जब लाखों लोग यहाँ आ जायेंगे तो मैं नहीं समझता कि पंडित नेहरू का धर्मनिरपेक्ष राष्ट्रवाद कब तक चलता रहेगा। मुझ से एक बार एक पुलिस अफसर ने पूछा कि बताइये कि पंजाब में मुसलमानों का कत्ल किस ने किया? मैं ने जवाब दिया कि कांग्रेसवादियों ने किया। और दूसरा कौन करने वाला था . . . .

**The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** On a point of order, how is all this relevant to the Bill under discussion?

**Shri V. G. Deshpande:** I do not yield Sir.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** I have raised a point of order and seek your ruling whether all these matters are relevant to the present Bill under discussion.

**Shri V. G. Deshpande:** It is relevant.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The migration of X or Y is not the point at issue here.



The Influx from Pakistan (Control) Repealing Ordinance was promulgated to repeal the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act, 1949. The Bill now under discussion seeks to convert the provisions of that Ordinance into an Act. I thought the hon. Member, whatever he might have said, was drawing to a close. I take it he has concluded.

**Shri V. G. Deshpande:** I will take two minutes more.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** But he will speak relevantly.

**Shri V. G. Deshpande:** I shall submit to your ruling, Sir.

मैंने उन को जवाब दिया कि सन् १९४५ के निर्वाचन के अन्दर इतने लोगों ने कांग्रेस को बोट दिया। और बताने के लिये आप कहते हैं कि पंजाब में और हिन्दुस्तान में ९० फी सदी जनता हमारे पीछे है। आप कहते हैं हिन्दू सभा तो जनता तक पहुँची नहीं है और देहात के अन्दर हिन्दू सभा पहुँची नहीं है। तो देहात के लोगों ने आकर कल्ल किये और खून की नदियां बहाई हैं जो आप के पीछे हैं। कहने के लिये आप कहते हैं कि हिन्दू सभा और झार० ऐस० ऐस० संस्थायें इस के लिये जिम्मेवार हैं। शायद लियारकत अली खां, वह तो अल्लाह के घर गये, लेकिन नासिमुद्दीन साहब और

भाकी दुनिया के सामने बताने के लिये आप कहते हैं कि . . . .

**Mt. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member is carrying on an electioneering campaign!

**Shri Gadgil (Poona Central):** There is some rule about relevancy here in the House also!

**श्री बी० बी० देशपांडे :** मैं एक मिनट में समाप्त करता हूँ। मैं यह इशारा इतिहास का दे रहा था कि आप इस प्रकार से वह काम नहीं करेंगे और खाली धर्मनिरपेक्ष राष्ट्रवाद की बात बलाते रहेंगे तो जो क्षान्ति आप रखना चाहते हैं वह निर्माण नहीं होगी। इस के लिये मेरी प्रार्थना है कि यह जो सेविंग क्लॉज है, यह जो लोग अपनी जान बचाने के लिये आ रहे हैं उन पर कहीं लगना चाहिये। आने वाले लोगों के लिये भी आप को उचित प्रबन्ध करना चाहिये। जो गरीब लोग वहाँ से यहाँ अपनी जान बचाने के लिये आते हैं उन का आप को प्रबन्ध करना चाहिये। खाली रिपील (Repeal) करने से यह कार्य नहीं होगा।

इतना ही कह कर मैं इस विषय पर अपना मत प्रकट करता हूँ।

*The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Friday, the 28th November, 1952.*